

Honorary Fellow A Citation



Professor Leung Ping Chung, SBS, OBE, DSocSc (Hon), MB BS, MS, DSc, FRACS, FRCS (Edin), FHKCOS, FHKAM (Orth), JP

The outstanding achievements of the Faculty of Medicine of The Chinese University of Hong Kong are well known far beyond the medical community, and many of the top-notch figures of the Faculty are familiar to the medical profession and beyond. Such figures are not only at the height of their professional power and command immense respect among their peers, but they are also known for their selfless dedication to services in education, medicine, and community health. Professor Leung Ping Chung, a member of The Chinese University for 26 years, is a leader among the top-notch figures in our Medical Faculty, a worthy successor to Hua Tuo, a second-century sage doctor in China.

It is no exaggeration to refer to Professor Leung as a modern-day Hua Tuo, as he is in possession of the skills and the charitable benevolence for which the ancient sage has been revered. In 1979, Professor Leung published the first book on acupuncture by a practitioner of Western medicine in Hong Kong.

Guests today who are familiar with the *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* might ask, at this point, whether Professor Leung could, like Hua Tuo, “remove the poison from General Guan Yunchang’s arm by scraping his bones?” Of this there can be little doubt, for Professor Leung is an eminent expert in microsurgery and hand surgery, and was the founding Chairman and Professor of Orthopaedics and Traumatology of The Chinese University. He was appointed the Director of the Institute of Chinese Medicine at the University in 2000. He became a Fellow of the Hong Kong College of Orthopaedic Surgeons and a Fellow of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (Orthopaedic Surgery) in 1993. Professor Leung is on the editorial board of 15 international medical journals and has, to date, 15 books and over 450 academic papers to his credit. Among these papers over a hundred relate to Chinese medicine. Thus, if one could travel in time and if General Guan Yunchang had been wounded with the poison-tipped arrow in Hong Kong, he would no doubt seek out Professor Leung at his clinic in the Prince of Wales Hospital in the first instance.

Of course medicine has progressed by leaps and bounds since Hua Tuo’s days almost two thousand years ago. Professor Leung Ping Chung, in the glorious Hippocratic tradition, has integrated Western and Chinese medical knowledge to introduce new medical practices that would certainly be beyond the imagination of Hua Tuo, who lived at the end of the Han Dynasty.

Professor Leung Ping Chung completed his secondary school education at Wah Yan College, Hong Kong, in 1961, and obtained his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (1966) and Master of Surgery (1983) degrees from The University of Hong Kong. In 1970 he received the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and the Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, and in 1994 he received the first Doctor of Science degree ever



conferred by the Chinese University. In 2001 he was honoured by his alma mater, the University of Hong Kong, with the Doctor of Social Science degree, *honoris causa*.

The achievements of Professor Leung in academic research and in the practice of medicine are distinguished and extensive, covering areas such as surgery, orthopaedics, microsurgery, education, public health, Chinese medicine and Chinese pharmacology. He was President of the Hong Kong Orthopaedics Association and the Hong Kong College of Orthopaedic Surgeons, and a Regional Representative of the British, American and Japanese Orthopaedic Associations. He was also the organizer of the Chinese Speaking Orthopaedics Surgeons Association. In 1990 he was presented with the Liston Victoria Jubilee Prize by the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh in recognition of his outstanding achievements in surgical practice. Since 2000 Professor Leung has been the Director of the Institute of Chinese Medicine at The Chinese University, in which capacity he has spearheaded the development and modernisation of Chinese medicine, achieving breakthroughs especially in the treatment of leg ulcers suffered by diabetes patients through the promotion of healing, thereby preventing the need for amputations. In 2000 the Far Eastern Economic Review presented the Asian Innovation Silver Award to Professor Leung and, in 2001, the Chinese Medicine Research and Further Development project led by Professor Leung was funded by the University Grants Committee as an Area of Excellence, the research grant was subsequently extended for another three years in 2008. In 1995 Professor Leung was made an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, and he was appointed as a Justice of the Peace in 1999. His contributions to tertiary education in Hong Kong were illustrious and fruitful. In 2002 he was presented with the Silver Bauhinia Star, and in 2003, The Chinese University received US\$2 million from the National Institutes of Health of the United States for the “Mr OS Project”, a large-scale study on male sufferers of osteoporosis, and Professor Leung was head of the research team for the project.

Whether in terms of local education, overseas education, the development of The Chinese University or service to the community at large, Professor Leung has been a significant contributor. He has been a member of the University Grants Committee since 2003 and, since 1982, an External Examiner for the Royal Colleges of Surgeons, Edinburgh and Australia. Professor Leung has sat on many of the Council and Senate committees of the Chinese University, and was the Head of New Asia College from 1992 to 2002. The many contributions he had made to the College have earned him the respect and esteem of its members. Since 1994, Professor Leung has successfully organised alumni from New Asia College to team up with orthopaedic surgeons and paramedical professionals in Hong Kong to provide treatment and care services to people with disabilities in remote, mountainous regions of China, in a project known as “Operation Concern”. In 2006, in recognition of his outstanding services for industrial safety and for the rehabilitation of sufferers from occupational hazards, he was presented with the Gusi Peace Prize of the Philippines. He was a Hong Kong Affairs Advisor from 1994 to 1997, and served as a Deputy of the National People’s Congress of the People’s Republic of China from 1998 to 2003, and from 2006 to 2008, and has been re-elected for a further term this year.



Professor Leung Ping Chung is keen on the literary arts and, as a member of the Arts Development Council from 1998 to 2000, spared no effort in promoting cultural and literary activities in Hong Kong. He is also a writer: when not occupied with the lancet and the scalpel, he is given to the writing of essays and novels, a feat much envied by his friends in academe.

Upon his retirement in August 2006, Professor Leung was awarded an Emeritus Professorship of Orthopaedics and Traumatology by The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

In recognition of his distinguished achievements in medicine, his outstanding contribution to the Community and the Nation, and the numerous services he has rendered to the poor, the underprivileged and the physically disabled, as well as his charitable, generous and selfless spirit, Mr Chairman, may I present to you Professor Leung Ping Chung for the award of an Honorary Fellowship of the University.