

Honorary Fellow A Citation



Professor Liu Yingli, MEng

The cooperation between Hong Kong and Shenzhen has been gradually enhancing in a wider arena and at higher levels, which helps to drive the development of the wider Pearl River Delta economic region. Therefore, as soon as the concept of a Shenzhen-Hong Kong Innovation Circle was put forward several years ago, it was immediately endorsed by the state and all parties, and the governments of both cities signed a cooperation agreement in 2007 and began investing significant resources. Joint venture projects that have been launched to date include those in areas such as communications technology, lighting technology, robotic manufacturing systems and the testing and certification of Chinese medicines, all of which suit the developmental needs of the science and technology industries in the Pearl River Delta. One person who was a pillar of strength in promoting the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Innovation Circle in that year was the Executive Vice-Mayor of Shenzhen Municipal Government, Professor Liu Yingli.

In 2006, Professor Liu Yingli led a delegation of around 70 people on a visit to The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). The delegates included Shenzhen Municipal Government officials responsible for trade and industry, education, science and technology, human resources, and finance, as well as figures from the high-tech, higher education and business sectors in Shenzhen. During this visit, Professor Liu represented the Shenzhen Municipal Government to sign a memorandum of cooperation with CUHK in which both sides agreed to fully develop their respective strengths and promote cooperation in education, scientific research and human resources development in the two cities, and to accelerate the establishment of a regional innovation system and a Shenzhen-Hong Kong Innovation Circle. In a speech he delivered on the occasion, Professor Liu elaborated on the positioning and objectives of the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Innovation Circle. The Shenzhen-Hong Kong Innovation Circle aims to comprehensively drive and strengthen the cooperation between Shenzhen and Hong Kong in fields including science and technology, economics, education, and trade and industry, and to establish an active Pearl River Delta-wide economic community. Its core business is science and technology. It is led by the governments, based in the community and answers to the market. The education and R&D clusters in Hong Kong and the manufacturing clusters in Shenzhen will form its axes, with a full coverage in the Pearl River Delta region.

The cooperation between Shenzhen and Hong Kong has historical and epochal import. Professor Liu has dedicated himself and made significant contributions to this end, as can be seen from the many relevant positions he has held in the Shenzhen Municipal Government, including Director of the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Cross-Border Large-Scale Construction Project Coordination Committee, Director of the Shenzhen Committee for Attracting Monumental High-Tech Projects, and Director and Commander in Chief of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Western Corridor Construction Project. Professor Liu Yingli graduated from Jilin University



of Technology, with an Applied Mechanics professional qualification, after which he gained a Master degree in Computational Mechanical Engineering and became an engineer. He participated in scientific R&D at the Shenzhen Electronic Research Institute in the mid-1980s, during which period he went to Canada to engage in software development work for two years. He joined the Shenzhen Municipal Government in 1992, where he became involved in high-tech industrial research and management work, and served as Deputy Director, Director, Assistant Secretary and Deputy Secretary of the Shenzhen Municipal Government Science and Technology Bureau from 1992 to 1996. In 1996, Professor Liu was promoted to the position of Vice Secretary-General of the Shenzhen Municipal Government, where he was responsible for organizing and establishing the Shenzhen High-Tech Industrial Park, and also served as its Director. Professor Liu became Deputy-Mayor of the Shenzhen Municipal Government in 2002 and served as both a standing member of the Shenzhen Municipal Government and Executive Vice-Mayor of Shenzhen from 2005 to 2008. He was both Deputy Secretary of the Shenzhen Municipal Government Party Committee and Science and Technology Adviser to the Mayor of Shenzhen, and Director of the Shenzhen Innovation Investment Guiding Fund Management Committee.

Despite Professor Liu's busy official schedule, he has also actively participated in social services, carrying various responsibilities for the community. These include being the Director of the International Association of Science Parks. The International Association of Science Parks is a leading organization which promotes international exchanges on innovative high technologies. Its 370-strong membership comes from over 70 countries in the world and comprises 200,000 enterprises. Within the core management of this organization, Professor Liu is the only Chinese representative. In addition, Professor Liu had been Vice-President of the China National Association of High-Tech Parks, a member of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Innovative Technology Committee and Mainland Collaboration Committee, President of the China Academy for SciTech Development, Deputy Director of the Steering Committee for the Chinese Academy of Sciences Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology which was jointly developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences and CUHK, Director of the Shenzhen Tsinghua University Research Institute, and Adjunct Professor at many universities including Tsinghua University, Nankai University, Wuhan University, the Harbin Institute of Technology, the Huazhong University of Science and Technology, and the China University of Geosciences. In 2008, Professor Liu was also appointed Honorary Professor of the Faculty of Engineering and Special Adviser to the Vice-Chancellor at CUHK.

Professor Liu has received many awards over the years. In 1995, the Shenzhen Information System under the auspices of Professor Liu earned the Guangdong Science and Technology Progress Third Class Award and the Shenzhen Science and Technology Progress First Class Award. Professor Liu himself obtained in 1998 the Individual Prize for Advanced Technology and in 2001 the prize for his Outstanding Contribution to National High-tech Zones, and the honorary title of "Trailblazer", all of which were awarded by the Ministry of Science and Technology. In 2006, the International Association of Science Parks awarded him a prize for his



outstanding contribution to the development of science and technology in Asia and for helping the International Association of Science Parks to promote the knowledge economy. In 2007, the Hong Kong SAR Government gave him a commendation for his work as Commander in Chief of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Western Corridor. In 2008, he received a Ministry of Science and Technology award for his outstanding individual contribution to advanced technology to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the National Torch Programme.

During his term as Shenzhen's Vice-Mayor, Professor Liu had the vision to proactively recruit overseas returnees for the city. He was so committed that he accepted the appointment as President of the Shenzhen Foreign Students Association, during which his charisma had successfully attracted many returning students to Shenzhen to become entrepreneurs. Professor Liu places great emphasis on independent innovation, believing the key of innovation lies in an innovative environment, an innovative culture and an innovative management, at the core of which is outstanding talent.

Professor Liu is erudite, seasoned, revered, a hero of the Shenzhen-Hong Kong cooperation. He has consistently given his full support to the development of CUHK on the mainland, and is an esteemed and respected mentor and friend to CUHK. Mr Chairman, in view of his considerable contributions to the cooperation between Shenzhen and Hong Kong and to The Chinese University of Hong Kong, may I present Professor Liu Yingli for the award of an Honorary Fellowship of the University.