

## Honorary Fellow A Citation

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### **Mr Lam Wing-tak, Bill, B.B.A., M.B.A.**

The *Book of Rites* strongly advocates the idea of being grateful, of never forgetting to repay a debt of gratitude. This commitment to honouring the sources of your life stream and forgetting not where the water comes from, is a fundamental principle of the spirit of Confucian orthodoxy on piety. The mission of New Asia College is to promote Chinese culture. Her graduates forge ahead in the face of hardship and adversity. They embrace gentleness in times of weariness. Then they return to their source, recall the grace and heritage of their *alma mater*, and become determined to foster the younger generation. The earth embraces everything with virtue and tolerance, while the grace of wise men benefits mankind. What the graduates are representing is exactly New Asia's vision; 'The earth is vast and rich, the sky is high and clear'.

Mr Lam Wing-tak, Bill graduated from New Asia College of The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1975, with a degree in Bachelor of Business Administration. He was then awarded a degree in Master of Business Administration by the University of Macau. From 1992 to 1998, Mr Lam served as the Executive Director of Fountain Set (Holdings) Limited, a company listed on the Main Board of Stock Exchange. He then joined another listed company, Pacific Textiles Holdings Limited, and served as the Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director. He is responsible for sales and marketing, as well as the formulation of corporate development plans and business strategies. Pacific Textiles provides integrated services of knitting, dyeing, printing and finishing, with an annual production capacity of approximately 87 million kilogrammes. More than 6,500 staff are employed, and the company has collaborated closely with leading brands worldwide to design fabrics, and its finished fabrics are sold to the markets globally.

Mr Lam keeps his business abreast with the changing times. He is involved with the new technology needed in the industry, and at the same time he also creates an environment beneficial to the development of the company in the community, allowing it to work harmoniously with the natural environment. It is well-known that industrial development is occasionally in conflict with environmental issues, especially in the textile and dyeing industry. The dyeing industry consumes large quantities of water, which threatens the natural environment and clean water sources. Pacific Textiles is involved in the upstream textile business. When the business started in 1997 and environmental issues were less of a hot topic, the group decided to invest more than 100 million dollars in equipment for environmental protection at the factory in Panyu, including sewage systems and environment friendly power plants. With progressive insight and judgment, Mr Lam and the management made timely arrangements and implemented the concept of environmental protection into industrial production, becoming the pioneers of this process in the textile industry. The investments made by Pacific Textiles in environmental protection were clearly effective and their clients' recognition of the company's performance in environmental protection, as well as the subsidies

provided by the government for it, have benefited the business of the company. Mr Lam once said, 'The textile industry is closely related to water sources, therefore the company has chosen its location to be near the river, so as to bring down operation costs. The company has used a brand new wastewater recycling system, allowing 40% of waste water to be recycled, which saved water.' The environmental protection system used by Pacific Textiles in the factory in Panyu was later implemented at the new plant in Vietnam and has achieved the same significant benefits, which are acclaimed by industry peers and praised by society. Industrial development can coexist with natural water sources. They are not mutually exclusive.

Following the motto, 'When drinking water, think of its source; when thinking of the source, repay it,' Mr Lam, with his many accomplishments during his career, has always thought of contributing to his *alma mater*. Throughout the years, he has shown great consideration and supported The Chinese University of Hong Kong and New Asia College. Since 2008, Mr Lam has served as a member of the Board of Trustees of New Asia College. On numerous occasions, Mr Lam has made donations to establish various scholarships, sponsoring students to study abroad and exchange knowledge so as to acquire an international perspective and to develop a broader mind.

In 2007, Mr Lam liaised with other alumni to generously donate to and establish the '1975 NABA Alumni Scholarships' Foundation to pay for scholarships for New Asia students out of the annual interest generated by the Foundation. The hope is that alumni from the 1975 class of New Asia College's business administration programme will be encouraged to work together to strengthen the Foundation and open up more scholarship resources for students and benefit the younger generation.

In 2012, Mr Lam donated to support the College in constructing the New Asia History Gallery and developing an online history archive of the College. The Gallery displays a collection of rarely seen exhibits from the early periods as well as old furniture from the Kweilin Street period, allowing visitors to experience the learning environment of the old days. Through the Gallery, students, teachers, alumni and the public can strengthen their understanding of the origin, development and educational goals of the College.

Mr Lam was the resident of the student hostel, Chi Hsien Hall, when he studied in CUHK, and he believes in the importance of hostel life to non-formal education. Therefore, he donated a very large sum in support of the New Asia College's fifth student hostel. His benevolence is widespread, and has benefited many.

Mr Lam has also personally participated actively in college and alumni matters and has provided valuable advice on the College's development. To help prepare for the anniversary celebrations of the University's golden jubilee year in 2013, Mr Lam served as a member of the CUHK 50th Anniversary Celebration Committee on Alumni Activities. With his outstanding musical talent, Mr Lam also led the 'New Asia 1973 Band' and performed at the CUHK 50th Anniversary Carnival. As well as this, he helped organize the 'Alumni Reunion Music Fair'

at the Alumni Homecoming 2013. His music has touched alumni of many classes. Many celebrated the golden jubilee of their *alma mater* through music, and embraced the bond of love between teachers and students. They were all united, and the contributions made by Mr Lam have been greatly applauded.

Mr Lam has made exceptional contributions to Hong Kong's textile industry and, as an outstanding alumnus of our University, he is benevolent and has always remembered his roots with gratitude. He has dedicated himself selflessly to the University to foster the younger generation, and as a person of many achievements, he has also assisted others to achieve, which represents the spirit of New Asia College. Mr Chairman, it is my great honour to present to you Mr Lam Wing-tak, Bill for the award of an Honorary Fellowship of the University.