

Honorary Fellow A Citation

Dr Yu Yui-chiu, LLD (Hon), BSc, LLB

‘Think cautiously and discriminate wisely. Keep studying and learning. Be tough and rise to the challenge. Do not fear the long rough road. Gain knowledge through observation. Be virtuous and enlightening, and harbour lofty aspirations. And spare no effort to better mankind at a young age.’ These are the lyrics of the Shaw College song, written by Professor Chen Char-nie, founding head of the College, and Professor DC Lau, the late prominent sinologist and authoritative translator of China’s ancient books. These lyrics stress the importance of differentiating between right and wrong, of actively striving for progress, and of making the most of one’s youth to contribute to society. Dr Yu Yui-chiu, a member of the Board of Trustees of Shaw College who studied English under Professor Lau in England as a child, possesses a greater insight into this than most.

Dr Yu was born into an illustrious family. A gifted child, he received a good upbringing, and grew to become a quietly industrious man in contrast to his family background. In 1963, he graduated from the University of London with distinction, receiving a bachelor’s degree in Economics. A man of discretion and wise thinking, Dr Yu believed in the Western legal system, and reckoned that the rule of law is vital to keeping a country or society running. He was adamant that only through the study of the law could one uphold justice, discriminate between right and wrong, and contribute to mankind. And he rose to the challenge of these aspirations, with no fear of the long rough road ahead of him. After receiving his economics degree, Dr Yu went on to study law in hopes of making the most of his youth and fulfilling his aspirations. In 1966, Dr Yu again graduated from the University of London with flying colours, this time with a bachelor’s degree in Law. Since that time, Dr Yu has acquired numerous legal qualifications, including solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and the Supreme Court of Hong Kong and, since 1974, Notary Public of Hong Kong. He was admitted to the Supreme Court of Victoria, Australia in 1977, and acquired the qualification of solicitor of Singapore in 1992. Dr Yu began serving as an associate of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in 1982, and became a member in 1999. In the same year, he was awarded Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa* by the University of Liverpool, United Kingdom, for the remarkable contributions he has made to the legal profession.

A high-aiming, virtuous and disciplined person, Dr Yu is also just, selfless and considerate. He has earned high regard from his peers and is deemed a role model in his profession. He served as a member of the Disciplinary Committee of the Law

Society of Hong Kong between 1980 and 1993, and was a member of Board of Review (Inland Revenue Ordinance) Hong Kong between 1988 and 2000, a testament to his ability to make fair, proper and precise judgments.

Dr Yu has been a senior partner of Messrs Yu, Tsang & Long, Solicitors and Notaries Public, since 1971. While his career took off and his business prospered, he remained appreciative and loyal to those who helped him along the way. Dr Yu felt particularly indebted to Professor DC Lau, who was his English teacher in England, where he benefitted from a solid foreign language foundation. When Professor Lau passed away in 2010, Dr Yu expressed his gratitude to his teacher by donating numerous scholarships to Shaw College in 2011, leading to the establishment of the Professor DC Lau Memorial Scholarships. Awarded to distinguished students for the research in Chinese ancient works and translation, these scholarships mark Dr Yu's respect for and admiration of his teacher. The scholarships that Dr Yu helped establish have had far-reaching influence, enabling countless students from the Department of Chinese Language and Literature as well as the Department of Translation to succeed and excel in their academic pursuits.

A kind-hearted and charitable person, Dr Yu takes education seriously and is enthusiastic about the growth and development of young people. Over the years, he has made generous donations to several Hong Kong and mainland China institutions, helping a large number of students complete their tertiary education. In 2000, he donated a significant sum to Tsinghua University towards the establishment of the School of Public Policy and Management Library, as well as the Research Fund for the School of 21st Century Development Studies and several other scholarships and bursaries. Dr Yu has also been very supportive towards the development of Shaw College. His generous donations to the College have benefitted a large number of students by supporting many causes, among them scholarships, bursaries, amenities and facility renovation, art and culture, as well as environmental sustainability. After being elected a member of the Board of Trustees of Shaw College in 2005, Dr Yu has devoted himself to the College, offering invaluable ideas and making tremendous contributions towards its development.

Dr Yu is an active champion of charitable causes. He is a trustee of the University of Liverpool Graduate Association (Hong Kong) Scholarship Fund, as well as The Yu Lee Mo Fan Charitable Foundation. Having devoted a massive amount of effort and made generous donations to educational causes, his contribution to society is immeasurable.

Dr Yu is a solicitor in England, Australia, Singapore and Hong Kong. For his professionalism and immense contributions to the legal profession, he is held in high esteem by his peers. As a member of the Board of Trustees of Shaw College, Dr Yu has made generous donations not only financially, but through his selfless commitment to cultivating the young generation, a reflection of the spirit of Shaw College. Mr Chairman, it is my great honour to present to you Dr Yu Yui-chiu for the award of an Honorary Fellowship of the University.

