



Mr Dieter Yih, JP, *Honorary Fellow*

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Council Chairman Dr David Wong, members of the Council, President Professor Stephen Cheung, distinguished guests, staff and friends of The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK),

Thank you very much for inviting me to deliver the thank-you address today.

Joining the Hall of Fame of EdUHK's Honorary Fellows is a great privilege, for which Ms Pau and I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude.

It is very humbling for me to receive such recognition together with Ms Pau, a well-respected figure who is so dedicated to preserving Chinese cultural heritage. She helps ensure that it remains relevant in the hearts and minds of young people, so that they may be guided and enlightened through the often confusing and complex world in which we live today. Her great commitment to education and promotion of Chinese culture is highly admirable. As a beneficiary of education, I feel greatly honoured and proud to stand here next to her, and in front of so many distinguished educators in this theatre.

One may say that practising as a lawyer is not the most likely stepping stone into education. Some years ago, I started my public service in education through the Standing Committee on Legal Education and Training. One thing seemed to lead to another, and education has become a part of my public service ever since.

On reflection, though, perhaps education has never really left me. It is such an integral part of everyone's lives that perhaps it never actually leaves any of us. Along with the influence of our parents and family, our experiences in full-time education form the cornerstone of our growth. Indeed, my mother who is here today to witness this happy occasion, graduated and started her career as an early childhood teacher!

Education goes much further than merely preparing us for examinations. It helps us develop our characters. It teaches us to have a sense of responsibility and integrity, to show kindness and generosity, to be empathetic and respectful, and to remain humble and open to learning throughout.



I joined the then Institute in 2012, shortly before Professor Stephen Cheung took up the presidency. Time certainly flies, and he is now about to pass on the torch. In my time as a Member and then Deputy Chairman of the Council, and Chairman of the Staffing Committee, I was privileged to witness the transformation of the then Institute into what it is today. It seems like only yesterday that we were toasting the passage of the amendment bill to change the then Institute's name to University.

In my encounters and interactions with EdUHK faculty members over the years, what has struck me most is the care they have for students and the passion they have for teaching and research. I have seen for myself how teachers can make a difference in students' lives. And I have no doubt that teachers are irreplaceable, even in the face of technological advances.

As a staunch supporter of EdUHK, I am glad to witness its significant transformation and impressive growth on different fronts in recent years, from programme offerings, research and knowledge transfer to regional and international collaboration. I have every confidence that the University will continue to go from strength to strength.

When I stepped down from the Council in April last year, it was a sad moment for me as it marked my departure from the EdUHK family. I am very happy today that as an Honorary Fellow, I am again a member of the EdUHK family, through which I hope I can contribute more to the University and its work. May I wish you all the very best in your endeavours. Once again, Ms Pau and I thank you very much for this honour.

校董會主席黃友嘉博士、各位校董會成員、校長張仁良教授、各位嘉賓、教職員、各位大學友好：

非常感謝校方邀請我今日作為代表致謝辭。

能夠與鮑俊萍女士一同躋身香港教育大學（教大）榮譽院士之列，實屬榮幸。我謹代表本屆的榮譽院士，由衷表達我倆的深深謝意。

鮑女士致力傳承國學，教化年輕人秉持及踐行中華文化精神價值，在世情複雜紛擾的當下，為莘莘學子指引路向。她對教育的承擔與熱忱，對弘揚中國文化的念茲在茲，令人敬佩。時雨春風，嘉惠殊深，我今天有幸在此，與鮑女士及眾多教育家聚首一堂，著實與有榮焉。

或許在大家眼中，由法律界進身教育界，並不常見。數年前，我透過法律教育及培訓常設委員會，開展與教育有關的公職工作，自此便與教育結下了不解緣。

轉念一想，其實教育一直與我密不可分，也是我們每個人生命中不可或缺、不可切割的一部分。我們的成長，離不開家庭教育和學校教育。事實上，今天到場見證這重要時刻的家母，本身亦是幼兒教育學系畢業生，並曾擔任過幼稚園教師呢！

我想，教育之所以意義深遠，是因為教育從來並非單純只為了應對考試。教育助我們建立品格，教會我們承擔責任，做一個正直善良、心胸寬廣、情理兼備的人，由是懂得易地而處，尊重他人，始終保持謙遜，以開放態度終身學習。

回想我在二零一二年加入當時的教院，張仁良教授稍後才接任校長一職；彈指一揮，他已任滿十年，準備交棒。其間，我十分榮幸能以校董會成員、副主席兼人事委員會主席的身分，見證教大轉型，茁壯成長。當日立法會通過教大正名修訂草案，大家舉杯慶祝的畫面，如今依然歷歷在目。

過去多年，在與教大學者和教職員交流互動的過程中，我深深感受到他們對學生的關懷和對教研工作的熱誠。我親睹生命如何影響生命，深信在科技發展的浪潮裡，教師仍然無可替代。

本人一直十分支持教大，很高興見證大學近年在學術課程、研究和知識轉移、區域和國際夥伴協作等方面，皆取得長足發展。我相信，教大將繼續蓬勃發展，實力更見強盛。

去年四月，當我在校董會的任期屆滿後，因有感自此便要離開教大這個大家庭，難免有點失落。今天，我十分高興以榮譽院士的身分，再次成為教大的一分子，並由衷希望能繼續為教大的發展，貢獻一己綿力。在此，我謹祝在座各位生活愉快，並再次感謝教大向我和鮑女士授予這個榮譽。多謝各位！