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**Honorary Fellowship Presentation Ceremony 2019**

**Address by the President Professor Stephen Cheung Yan-leung, BBS, JP,**

**Officier dans l’Ordre des Palmes Académiques**

Council Chairman and Members, distinguished guests, colleagues, students, ladies and gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to address you on this joyous occasion. Today, The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK) is paying tribute to four distinguished individuals: Ms Amy Chan Lim-chee, Mr Chu Tsz-wing, Mr Fok Woo-ping and Ms Sarah Lee Wai-sze.

Hailing from different backgrounds, they share in common the renown and respect they deserve through their devotion to, and excellence in, their respective fields of endeavour. They have also won recognition for their services that benefit the community, selflessly giving back to the society that nurtured them.

They are truly role models for the next generation, embodying the positive qualities that have not only been instrumental to their success but are also the characteristics we seek to instil in our students. For example, Ms Amy Chan has applied her knowledge and love of sports to help provide athletes with different careers through education; Mr Chu Tsz-wing has been unyielding in his efforts to find solutions and adopt technology to advance education; Mr Fok Woo-ping remains committed to education after changing his career from an educator to a lawyer; and Ms Sarah Lee’s positivity and resilience saw her rise to become one of Hong Kong’s most successful athletes, despite setbacks that would have defeated many others. Earlier this month, she made history in the Hong Kong sports world when she won two gold medals at the Track Cycling World Championships.

Very shortly, our orators will deliver their citations, which highlight their commitment to, and passion for, education and their chosen fields.

This year, we are celebrating the University’s silver jubilee with a series of high-profile events and activities, including our distinguished-leader lectures. This anniversary marks our significant transformation and growth in the past 25 years, built upon our century-old heritage in teacher education. Over the decades, we have nurtured generations of professional, caring and committed educators, who in turn, make a positive impact on our future generations. Together with the alumni of the former Colleges of Education, our graduates represent a major force in Hong Kong’s teaching profession, especially in the primary and early childhood sectors. Over the years, they have received most of the Chief Executive's Teaching Awards. In addition to learning and teaching, we have excelled in knowledge creation, dissemination and application, through the many innovative education research projects we have undertaken. Outside Hong Kong, our scholars have worked closely with leading universities, multilateral organisations and international agencies, such as the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and UNESCO, to advance teacher education.

EdUHK is a young and thriving university. What differentiates us from other local universities is our primary focus on teacher education. We drive educational research, development and innovation that will benefit both the education sector and the community, not only in Hong Kong, but also across Asia. We look forward to working with all of you to fulfil our core mission.

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