

葉毓強教授 Professor Albert IP Yuk-Keung

A luminary in international banking and real estate, Professor Albert IP Yuk-Keung has charted a remarkable 35-year career through perseverance and profound insights. He has earned wide respect not only for his personal and professional achievements, but also for his commitment to giving back to society through steadfast dedication to public service, with a specific focus on elevating higher education.

Prof. Ip's tenacity shone through from a young age. Born as the eighth child in a large family in Macau, his academic journey initially stumbled when he transitioned from a Chinese to an English school. With his father unwittingly enrolling him in a higher class, he endured failures in all subjects and ranked near the bottom of his class for the first two years. Inspired by these adversities, he dedicated extra hours to studying, transforming his failures into an impressive record of straight As. His metamorphosis eventually won him a full scholarship at Washington University in St. Louis, where he graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Mathematics & Computer Science. He continued his educational journey at Cornell University and Carnegie-Mellon University, obtaining master's degrees in Applied Mathematics and Accounting & Finance, respectively.

Drawn to the strategic challenges of banking, Prof. Ip started his career at Citibank in New York City. Recognizing the potential of Hong Kong as Asia's financial hub, he relocated to the city in the late 1980s and served as the bank's Real Estate Head for Hong Kong. Despite a challenging local property market at the time, he decisively closed a deal to invest in the development of a prime site in Central for Citibank, resulting in a profit of approximately HK\$2.5 billion by 2001. His business acumen and dedication led to his promotion to Managing Director of Citigroup in 2003. Subsequently, he held prominent roles as Managing Director of Investments at Merrill Lynch Asia Pacific from 2008-2012, and CEO of Langham Hospitality Investments from 2014-2019. He currently sits on the boards of four listed companies under New World, Cheung Kong, and Great Eagle groups.

Notwithstanding his demanding work schedule, Prof. Ip has been devoting his time and effort to serving the community in various capacities on government-appointed advisory boards and non-profit institutions. In 2021, he assumed the Chairmanship of the World Green 葉毓強教授是跨國銀行及房地產業界翹楚,憑著 其不懈進取的精神與卓越遠見,開創長達35年的輝 煌事業。他不但個人及專業成就非凡,更透過公職 積極回饋社會,尤其熱衷於提升高等教育質素,深 得各界敬重。

葉教授在澳門出生,家中排行第八。他堅韌不拔 的性格,自小已顯露無遺。當年他從中文小學轉讀 英文小學時,因父親無意間為他報讀了高一年級, 令他求學之路格外艱辛。其學業成績在轉校首兩年 一落千丈,所有科目皆不合格,班上名次幾乎排在 末席。面對挫折,他毫不氣餒,時常挑燈夜讀,急 起直追,最終以亮麗的成績完成中學課程,並獲美 國聖路易斯華盛頓大學頒發全額獎學金,遠赴彼邦 攻讀應用數學及計算機科學理學士學位,並以最高 榮譽畢業。他其後繼續深造,先後於康奈爾大學及 卡內基梅隆大學取得應用數學及會計與財務碩士學 位。

由於對銀行業務的戰略性部署深感興趣, 葉教授 在紐約市加入美國花旗銀行開展其事業, 及後因看 好香港作為亞洲金融中心的潛力,遂於80年代後期 遷調來港, 出任集團的香港區房地產業務主管。斯 時正值本地物業市場風高浪急,獨具投資慧眼的葉 教授果斷決定參與中環黃金地段的一個發展項目, 為花旗銀行於2001年帶來時值約25億港元的利潤。 憑藉個人敏銳的商業觸覺以及沖天幹勁, 他在2003年 獲晉升為花旗集團董事總經理, 及後再於其他企業歷 任要職, 包括2008至2012年擔任美林(亞太)投資部 資深執行總裁, 以及2014至2019年出任朗廷酒店投資 有限公司行政總裁。葉教授目前為新世界、長江及鷹 君集團旗下四家上市公司董事。

儘管工作繁重,葉教授一直不忘服務社會,在百 忙中抽空加入多個政府諮詢委員會及非牟利機構, 貢獻所長。2021年,他出任世界綠色組織主席,大力 Organisation, a role in which he actively promoted the integration of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) priorities into corporate strategies, underscoring his commitment to the greater good beyond business success.

This same spirit of service extends to his passion for education. Recognizing the doors that quality education has opened for him, he is dedicated to advancing similar opportunities for others. He has served on several university governing councils and advisory committees in the cities of Hong Kong and Macau, as well as the United States, including HKUST, Cornell University, and Washington University in St. Louis as a member of the board of trustees.

Prof. Ip had a distinguished tenure as an HKUST Council Member from 2016 to 2022. Harnessing his wide network of business leaders and philanthropists, he mobilized over HK\$250 million in private sector donations to benefit the University as well as the Schools of Business and Management, Engineering, and Science. These donations have funded endowed professorships, the "30 for 30" Talent Acquisition Campaign, the Cheng Kar-Shun Robotics Institute, joint laboratories with industry, executive education, blockchain research, overseas exchanges, and student scholarships. After the completion of his term on the Council, he was appointed as Senior Advisor to the President and Special Advisor to the Dean of Business and Management.

Alongside fundraising, Prof. Ip has also worked tirelessly to broaden students' educational and career opportunities. Drawing on his own experiences studying abroad, he has fostered collaboration between the engineering schools of HKUST and his alma mater, Washington University in St. Louis, culminating in the HKUST-WashU Joint Education Program. In 2022, he founded the Career Development Advisory Council for HKUST's School of Business and Management. Using his extensive network, he invited top-tier business leaders to join the Advisory Council and guide students on their professional paths. As Chairman, he generously devotes time to counseling students, helping them discover their potential, advising on their career trajectories, and even offering pro bono tutoring for underprivileged youth. His greatest satisfaction lies in success stories like that of a student, who, following his advice and referral, transitioned from a mismatched job to a fulfilling career.

Today, we are pleased to honor Prof. Ip for his significant contributions to the business sector, higher education, and society. His commitment truly epitomizes the profound impact of wisdom and selfless giving.

提倡將環境保護、社會責任及公司管治元素優先納 入企業發展策略,突顯他不僅具有商業才華,也兼 備關顧社會福祉之心。

葉教授亦將其服務社會的熱誠投入於作育英才。 他以身作則,努力為現今年青人籌謀,希望新一代 跟他年輕時一樣,能夠受惠於優質教育所帶來的種 種機遇。為了實現這個目標,他先後出任科大、康 奈爾大學等港澳地區及美國學府的校董會及顧問委 員會成員,以及聖路易斯華盛頓大學董事會成員。

在2016至2022年間,葉教授擔任科大校董會成 員,作出多項貢獻。他憑著廣闊的人脈,促成多位 商界翹楚和慈善家大筆捐助科大及其轄下商學院、 工學院和理學院,善款用於設立冠名教授席、科大 傑出學者延攬計劃、鄭家純機器人研究所、多所與 業界合辦的聯合實驗室、行政人員教育、區塊鏈研 究、海外交流及學生獎學金,總額多於2.5億港元。 卸任校董後,他繼續服務科大,現為校長資深顧問 及工商管理學院院長特別顧問。

籌款之餘,葉教授亦身體力行,為學生開拓學習 和就業機會。他憑藉早年留學外地的背景,促成其 母校聖路易斯華盛頓大學與科大兩校工學院的合作, 設立「科大——華盛頓大學聯合課程」。2022年,他 為科大商學院成立「職業發展顧問委員會」,廣邀 商界領袖加入,為同學在事業路上導航解惑。身為委 員會主席,他不僅抽空輔導學生,幫助他們發掘潛 能,給予就業指導,甚至為家境清貧的學生義教。曾 有一名畢業生憑著葉教授的提點和推薦,成功轉職, 最終找到適合自己的道路。這類成功故事就是葉教 授最大的滿足泉源。

葉毓強教授對商界、高等教育及社會貢獻良多, 其智慧與無私奉獻精神堪稱典範,科大今天衷心予 以表揚。