



陸恭蕙博士
Dr Christine LOH Kung-Wai

大學學會會士
Honorary Fellow of HKUST

For many of us in Hong Kong, Christine Loh personifies a host of important causes, from democracy, freedom, and gender equality, to environmental protection, multiculturalism, human rights, and the rule of law. She has introduced to our city a variety of modern, post-modern and post-materialist values from the West. Over the years, she has fought to achieve a Hong Kong that is more just, more open, more democratic, more multidimensional, and more beautiful. Above all, in whatever she does, Dr Loh spares no effort to promote these values.

She obtained her Bachelor's degree in Law from the University of Hull in the United Kingdom, and her Master's degree in Chinese and Comparative Law from the City University of Hong Kong. In 2001 she was also awarded an Honorary Doctor of Law from the University of Hull.

During her 14-year career in the business sector, Dr Loh rose to become the managing director and directors of multinational corporations. While her ability to engage with society on a political level benefited greatly from her mix of professional training, business experience and extensive networks, it was her dedication to public affairs, her sophisticated manner of thinking and her nuanced analysis of public policy that really enabled her to shoot to public prominence in Hong Kong.

As early as the 1970s, when political awareness was generally low, Dr Loh became very active with the Hong Kong Observers, a group of like-minded individuals who would study and publicize their views on various public issues. As its chairperson from 1982 to 1984, Dr Loh was particularly vocal about the future of Hong Kong, and she urged her fellow citizens to speak up about the draft Basic Law as well as to fight for both a representative political system and an independent judiciary.

In 1992 Dr Loh began her brief but spectacular career as a politician when Governor Chris Patten appointed her to the Legislative Council. Who could forget the furor she caused up by championing and finally amending the New Territories Land (Exemption) Ordinance to give indigenous women equal rural land inheritance rights? Despite resistance from traditional rural bodies, despite vicious verbal attacks and even threats to her personal safety, Dr Loh pressed on with what she believed was the correct action. She succeeded, and the subsequent amendment to the Ordinance marked a significant step towards greater gender equality in Hong Kong.

Known as the "green conscience" of Hong Kong, Dr Loh has twice chaired Friends of the Earth. She is also a co-founder of the Society for Protection of the Harbour. She chaired the Legislative Council's Panel on Environmental Affairs from 1995 to 1997 and again from 1998 to 2000. In 1997, she initiated a private bill to restrict excessive reclamation, which was finally enacted as the Protection of the Harbour Ordinance. As chairperson of the Society for Protection of the Harbour, Dr Loh continues to campaign for the protection and preservation of Victoria Harbour.

對很多香港人來說，陸恭蕙象徵了民主自由、男女平等、環境保護、多元文化和人權法治。她把不少西方的現代、後現代以至後物質價值觀引進香港，並且在不同領域持續推廣這些價值。無論身處任何崗位，多年來一直努力不懈，為打造一個更美麗、更公平、更民主、更開放、更多元的香港而奮鬥。

陸恭蕙博士任職商界14年，曾出任跨國公司董事及董事長等要職，主理中國地區貿易。陸博士分別擁有英國赫爾大學法學學士學位及香港城市大學中國法與比較法法學碩士學位，並於2001年獲英國赫爾大學頒授榮譽法學博士學位。雖然如此，陸博士最為香港人熟知的卻不是她在商界的成就和專業知識，而是她參與公共事務的熱忱；她的專業訓練、商界經驗及廣泛接觸面也正好讓她在參與社會事務時，得以從多方面多角度思考問題，以及對公共政策有更立體的分析，為她的政治參與建立了良好基礎。

早在七十年代，當香港人的政治參與意識還是普遍偏低之際，陸博士已積極參與論政團體香港觀察社，聯同志同道合之士就香港社會問題進行研究及發表意見。1982至1984年間，她出任觀察社主席，積極就香港前途問題發表意見，包括呼籲港人踴躍就基本法內容表達意見，爭取代議政制及司法獨立等。

1992年，陸博士獲港督彭定康委任為立法局議員，正式開展了她短暫而燦爛的從政之路。在她從政過程中，相信最令人印象深刻的是1994年有關新界婦女繼承權的爭論。當年她提出修訂《新界土地(豁免)條例》草案，建議以法律確認新界婦女的合法繼承權。雖然當時傳統鄉事團體反對激烈，有人甚至對她進行人身攻擊以至恐嚇，但她仍然據理力爭，最後法例成功獲得通過，令香港女性的平等權利踏出重要一步。

陸博士以“環保之星”的形象深入人心；曾兩度出任地球之友會主席，亦是保護海港協會的創辦人之一。此外，她先後於1995年至1997年及1998年至2000年，擔任立法會環境事務委員會主席，並於1997年提出非官方議員條例草案《保護海港條例》，對香港的填海工程列出限制，條例最後獲得通過。時至今日，陸恭蕙仍是保護海港協會主席，繼續為保護維多利亞港而奔走努力。

Her advocacy of human rights, democracy and open government by no means pales in comparison to her environmental protection work. In 1995 Dr Loh's Access to Information bill forced the government to introduce its own Code of Access to Information, bringing the administrative machinery to a higher level of transparency.

Over the years, Dr Loh has striven to accelerate the democratization process in Hong Kong. Back in 1989 she was already lobbying the British Government to draft a human rights bill for Hong Kong and she even visited the United Nations to draw international attention to Hong Kong's human rights situation. Later, Dr Loh would help found the Citizens Party, which she chaired until 2000.

Dr Loh's decades-long public participation has earned her several honorary awards, including the Outstanding Young Persons Award in 1988 and inclusion among *Business Week's* "Stars of Asia" in 1998 and 2000. She has recently been awarded the Peter Brice Award in April 2004 in recognition of her achievements in fostering civic values and social responsibility.

In 1995 and 1998 she ran for and won a directly elected seat on the Legislative Council. However, by 2000 she felt increasingly frustrated by the constraints of the political system and sensed a severe deficiency in the area of public policy research. To surmount these shortcomings, Dr Loh set her eyes on the prerogatives enjoyed by the more mature political systems of the West and established a non-profit independent think tank, Civic Exchange. Civic Exchange aims to promote civic education and policy studies. During the past few years, despite a modest budget, Civic Exchange has published dozens of reports and established itself as a significant influence in the public policy sphere.

Although no longer on the political frontline, Dr Loh has continued to expand her interest base. Indeed we are fortunate that the education sector fell under her wider scrutiny because, since 1999, she has been an invaluable member of our own University Council.

Today, she remains a fervent writer and commentator on current affairs, and is also a committed campaigner for stronger public participation by non-government organizations. Let me quote some prose written during the Song Dynasty, which, roughly translated, advises: "When you are in the high temple of power, concern yourself with the people. When you are at the grassroots level, concern yourself with the ruler." Dr Loh's experience demonstrates how public and political participation should not be constrained by the position one holds. Hong Kong has come to a critical moment in the development of its political system. It requires political talents and policy research; it demands whole-hearted participation as well as cool-headed debate. Simply stated, Hong Kong needs more talent of Dr Loh's caliber to work for that brighter future to which she aspires.

Mr Pro-Chancellor, I have the honor to present to you, on behalf of The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Dr Christine Loh, Chief Executive of Civic Exchange, for the award of Honorary Fellowship.

陸博士對推動香港的人權、自由、民主發展和開放政府，以及其他領域亦有相當貢獻。她曾於1995年提出有關資訊自由的法案，成功推動政府替政府部門設立“資訊公開守則”，提高了政府的透明度。多年來她一直支持加快香港民主步伐，早在1989年已游說英國政府為香港制訂人權法，並曾到聯合國游說各國關注香港人權問題。她在1997年創立了民權黨，並出任主席至2000年。自1999年起，她出任香港科技大學校董，為香港的大專教育作出貢獻。

陸博士多年的社會參與為她帶來不少社會榮譽。她在1988年獲選為香港十大傑出青年，並分別於1998年和2000年兩度獲《商業週刊》選為“亞洲之星”。本年4月，陸博士獲頒Peter Brice大獎，以表揚她在推廣公民權益和社會責任的成就。

陸博士在1995年和1998年兩度參加立法局／立法會地區直選，均成功獲選。直至2000年，有感於當時政制對立法會議員局限太大，才毅然宣布放棄參選立法會，然而這絕不代表她的社會參與就此終止。她有感香港的公共政策研究嚴重缺乏，尤其是缺乏西方成熟政體下的獨立智庫機構，因此以極有限的預算，創辦獨立的非牟利智庫“思匯政策研究所”，並出任行政總裁至今。思匯政策研究所成立目標為推動公民教育，及對公共政策進行研究，數年來已就不同政策作出數十項研究報告，對政府政策有一定影響力。

雖然不再走在政壇的最前線，陸博士仍然積極地公開撰文及發表演說，評論時局，並且推動民間團體的社會參與。中國的知識分子從來崇尚“居廟堂之高，則憂其民；處江湖之遠，則憂其君”。陸博士的經驗正好表明社會和政治參與從來不受崗位所限。香港正值政制發展的關鍵時刻，對參與政治的人才、公共政策的研究、社會事務的投入參與和理性討論，都有熱切的需求。香港正需要更多像陸博士這樣的政治人才，為香港的未來作出貢獻。

副監督先生，本人很榮幸能夠代表香港科技大學，恭請閣下頒授大學學會會士榮銜予香港思匯政策研究所行政總裁陸恭蕙博士。