



黃嘉純先生
Mr Lester Garson HUANG

榮譽大學院士
Honorary Fellow of HKUST

There are many reasons to like Lester Garson Huang, not least because he was Trinidadian-born. Trinidadian Chinese are a special tribe of happy-go-lucky islanders who have no quarrel with the world or with life itself. There is music in their souls and moral goodness in their hearts. Despite the seriousness of his legal profession and his long years of living in highly urbanized Hong Kong, Mr Huang's Trinidadian roots remain robust. He is a wonderful living oxymoron braiding two divergently different cultures – the warmth and backslapping friendliness of Caribbean people and the efficiency of the hard-driving Hong Kong Chinese.

Mr Huang has an advocate's silver tongue and a social reformer's heart of gold. His domestic pedigree is impeccable. His mother is a highly respected retired educator. Most people know her as the former principal of Maryknoll Convent School in Kowloon Tong – a beacon of educational excellence in Hong Kong. His father made his mark as a civic-minded barrister. From these parental ingredients emerge Mr Huang's own unique brew of passion for educational excellence in the broadest sense.

As a dean of practicing lawyers, his first crusade was for the quality of legal education. In this, he was ahead of the times. He foresaw the need for reform in the education of lawyers. During his tenure on the Legal Education Committee, he helped establish benchmarks which resulted in qualitative improvements in the legal profession. In a move that foreshadowed the proposed "3-3-4" system, Mr Huang helped turn a previously 3-year legal education into a 4-year program. That extra year, he firmly believes, has added intellectual breadth and depth to an education that was otherwise narrow or shallow. As a member of the Law Society's Standing Committee on Standards and Development, he also pushed for prescribing a higher English standard for legal practitioners. He also serves as a Board member of the Faculty of Law at the University of Hong Kong.

In the last 16 years, Mr Huang has been acting as the custodian of our future through his work in a myriad of committees, including the Law Society's Community Relations Committee, its Legal Education Committee, and its Continuing Professional Development Committee. Today he leads the Law Society of Hong Kong as its President.

In the non-legal sector, his many pro-bono posts oversee the running of schools and the delivery of good teaching. As a La Salle old boy, he became a member of the La Salle Primary School Redevelopment Committee, and now serves as the Chairman of the La Salle Foundation. For all his overscheduled life, he still throws himself into the role as school manager of one of Hong Kong's most venerated educational institutions, La Salle College.

黃嘉純先生廣受稱譽，理由很多，他出生於千里達的獨特背景，只是其中之一。千里達的中國人，是獨特的一群島民，他們樂天知命，與世無爭，兼且生性良善，酷愛音樂。雖然黃先生從事嚴肅的律師行業，又長年居於現代化的香港，但他的根，依然深深植於千里達的土壤裏。兩個截然不同的文化背景，孕育了他獨特的性格 – 既有加勒比海人奔放熱情的友善特質，又具備香港中國人勤奮高效率的優點。

黃先生雄辯滔滔的辯才、改革社會的古道熱腸，可追溯到他優良的家庭背景。他的母親是知名學校 – 瑪利諾修院學校的前任校長，是一位備受敬重的教育家，久享清譽。至於他的父親，則是著名的律師，向來熱心公務，關心社會。黃先生自幼深受父母薰陶，對教育充滿熱誠，並以臻致優秀教學成效為己任。

身為律師界翹楚，他的首要目標，是提升法律教育的質素。他高瞻遠矚，很早已看到法律教育改革的需要。在服務法律教育委員會期間，已然支持設立行業基準，協助法律專業提升質素。早在「三三四」學制改革建議之先，他亦倡議將法律專業培訓課程由三年制改為四年制。他深信：額外一年的培訓，會加強法律專業培訓課程的廣度和深度，否則課程難免流於膚淺狹隘。此外，作為香港律師會專業水準及發展常務理事委員會委員，他非常關注業界的語文能力，是以大力主張提高法律工作者的英語水平。

過去十六年，黃先生一直擔任多項公職，積極地為社會福祉努力不懈，例如，他參與香港律師會旗下的教育委員會、持續專業發展委員會、社區關係委員會等工作。黃先生從二零零七年五月起出任香港律師會會長，更可一展所長。

在法律事務以外，他十分關注教育，並擔任多項與監察學校運作及確保優質教學有關的公職。他畢業於喇沙小學及喇沙書院，因此順理成章地出任喇沙小學發展委員會成員，亦擔任喇沙基金會的主席。在緊密的工作日程中，黃先生仍抽出時間，擔任喇沙書院的學校經理。

黃先生熱心參與教育事務，因為他堅信青少年是社會的未來棟樑。他參與多方面的青少年服務，現為香港青年協會主席、教育統籌委員會委員，可說是為教育年輕一代殫盡心思。

Mr Huang's educational activism flows from his unalterable belief that the young are the future of our society. His interest in the future of the young takes many forms, including the current presidency of the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups, and membership in the all-important Education Commission, where he generates ideas for better ways to educate the younger generation.

Mr Huang's involvement with the community is octopus-like. He may be the only man to simultaneously sit on the Transport Advisory Committee and the Midwives Council of Hong Kong, not to mention the Advisory Committee on School-Based Management. Yet, incredibly he still finds time to help the Hong Kong Blind Union, the Spastics Association of Hong Kong and the Junior Police Officers' Association as their respective honorary legal advisor.

Centrally pertinent to today's proceedings, he has served six years as a member of HKUST's University Council. Away from the glare of public spotlight, Mr Huang has provided yeoman service for five years as a member of the University's Tender Board, ensuring the provision of quality facilities and services to the University. Ingeniously, as a member of the University's Biotechnology Research Corporation Limited, he helped keep it throbbing and thriving with his wise counsel and professional guidance. Currently, Mr Huang is an Honorary Member of the University Court.

For a non-educator, he is intimately knowledgeable about cutting-edge educational ideas. Mr Huang, for example, believes in the efficacy of continuous assessment in education and the educative value of thoughtful feedback. Outcome-oriented and forward-looking, he wisely advocates the development of research skills, writing abilities, and self-education capabilities against a rapidly changing world.

Hong Kong lawyers have an increasingly international practice, serving a global citizenry in trade and trust matters. Professionally, Mr Huang inhabits different time zones and jurisdictions. He jokingly says that his work as a legal professional really starts daily after dinner when international firms open their doors for business on the other side of the globe. He is the consummate modern man whose global practice crosses different boundaries and disciplines. Yet he remains firmly rooted in Hong Kong, enriching local life with his global vision and regional knowledge.

Mr Pro-Chancellor, I have the honor to present to you, on behalf of The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Mr Lester Garson Huang, a partner of P C Woo & Co and a former member of the University Council, for the award of Honorary Fellowship.

黃先生亦積極地投入其他公共事務，遍及社會多個範疇。他的超卓能力，足以勝任多個不同性質的委員會工作，包括交通諮詢委員會、香港助產士管理局及校本管理諮詢委員會，他服務社會的精神，實在難能可貴。此外，他仍能在百忙中抽出時間，義務為香港失明人協進會、香港癱瘓協會及香港警察隊員佐級協會，擔任榮譽法律顧問。

在黃先生眾多的公職之中，有多項與科大關係密切，這是我們邀請他出席今天的頒授典禮的緣由。其中至為重要的是他曾擔任科大校董會成員達六年之久。較鮮為人知的，是他出任大學的大額標書審批委員會成員經已五年，一直默默地為大學辛勤工作，以確保大學的設施及服務質素。此外，作為科大的生物技術研發公司的成員，他不時向該機構提供良好意見及專業建議，以推動其蓬勃發展。黃先生現在是大學顧問委員會榮譽委員。

雖然黃先生從未全職從事教育工作，但他對教育新知領域的熟悉程度，卻儼如行內人。例如，他深信教育持續評估的效能，並十分重視學生的學習成果。他態度務實，又目光遠大，提出多項適切的教育主張，例如，要求學生學習如何做研究工作、提高他們的寫作及自學能力，以應付瞬息萬變的世界。

香港律師的服務不斷國際化，為世界各地的顧客提供有關貿易及信託的法律服務。黃先生從事法律專業，工作涵蓋不同的時區及司法系統。他笑言，每天要在晚餐後，剛好也就是海外客戶開始辦公的時間，他才正式展開律師事務所的工作。他是現代專業人士的典範，其業務跨越國界及各個專業領域。但是，他依然以香港為家，以他的國際視野及跨區知識，令他在香港的工作及生活更為豐盛。

副監督先生，本人謹代表香港科技大學，恭請閣下頒授榮譽大學院士予胡百全律師事務所合夥人及前香港科技大學校董會成員黃嘉純先生。