

劉鳴煒先生 Mr Ming-Wai Lau 榮譽大學院士 Honorary Fellow of HKUST

Where to begin to encapsulate Ming Wai Lau, who is just 35 years old, yet already has a list of accomplishments that stretch beyond the limits of several regular lifetimes. These achievements range from PhD prowess in the field of law to leadership roles in numerous governmental and community bodies to business acumen as chairman of Chinese Estates Holdings Limited, one of Hong Kong's largest property development companies.

It did not always appear his journey would generate such an exhaustive itinerary. Arriving at Crescent School in Toronto for a single year of study in the mid-1990s, he described himself as having "fairly low marks" and only "moderate interest in academics" in a later school publication. By his graduation as part of the Class of 1997, he had evolved into a dedicated student, who valued inspirational teachers and had a support network of lifelong friends. Crucially, he had also been personally awakened to the power of education to fundamentally impact the course of a life, the pricelessness of new experiences in shaping what we can become, and individual responsibility in seeking change. Mr Lau's super-active CV began to evolve.

He studied law at King's College London, where he received his LLB and PhD. His thesis was later published by Oxford University Press under the title *The Economic Structure of Trusts*. In between these two degrees, he squeezed in an LLM at the London School of Economics. Working experience arrived in the form of jobs in the finance and legal sectors, and Mr Lau is currently a Visiting Lecturer at Harvard Law School. He is also qualified as an Attorney and Counselor-at-Law in New York State and a Chartered Financial Analyst.

Mr Lau has worked equally hard to use his material good fortune to help education empower others. Under his leadership, the Lau family's Joseph Lau Luen Hung Charitable Trust has made many major donations to schools and higher education institutions in Hong Kong, Mainland China, and overseas. At HKUST, the Trust donated HK\$10 million to support a named professorship

年僅35歲的劉鳴煒先生年輕英發,擁有一般人即 使窮盡數段人生也未必能獲得的成就—持有法律哲學 博士學位、出任多個政府與社會團體的領導角色,以及 本港最大地產發展商之一華人置業集團主席等,劉先 生游刃於不同範疇,卓爾不群。

然而,他的人生歷程並非如大眾所想的不平凡。 九十年代中期,劉先生負笈加拿大多倫多Crescent School接受為期一年的教育,他於學校刊物中形容自己「成績普通」、「對讀書興趣一般」。及至1997年 畢業之際,他已搖身一變成發奮用功的學生,對啟蒙 老師心存感激,並與同窗好友建立畢生友誼。更重要 的是,他恍然明白到教育對改變人生的重要性,塑造 我們個人特質的經驗實屬無價之實,而且每個人均有 責任去主動尋求改變。自此,劉先生的履歷逐漸變得 璀璨多姿,青雲直上。

劉先生於倫敦大學國王學院攻讀法律,先後取得法律學士及法律哲學博士學位,其博士論文更獲牛津大學出版社以《The Economic Structure of Trusts》為名刊印出版。此外,他亦於倫敦經濟及政治科學學院取得法律碩士學位。劉先生曾於財經及法律界工作,現為哈佛大學法律學院訪問學者。同時,他是美國紐約州的註冊律師及法律顧問,並持有特許財務分析師的資格。

施比受更為有福,劉先生一直在興學育才方面不 遺餘力。在他的領導下,其家族的「劉鑾雄慈善基金」 多次鉅額捐助本港、內地與海外的學校及高等院校。 基金亦慷慨捐助香港科技大學合共五千萬港元,其中 一千萬港元為支持工商管理學院成立冠名教授席,另 in the School of Business and Management while a HK\$40 million endowed scholarship fund has enabled more than 300 outstanding undergraduates to benefit from a HKUST degree program. Mr Lau does not just write a check. Once a year at a special University gathering, he meets awardees for an exchange of views. He also encourages these top students to engage in community service.

He himself is an exemplary participatory citizen, be it sitting on the Council or Board of higher education institutions or chairing Hong Kong's Commission on Youth. Other wide-ranging roles locally include serving on the Commission on Poverty, Deputy Chairman of the Ocean Park Board, and Vice Chair of the Bauhinia Foundation Research Centre, a public policy think tank. In the Mainland, he is a member of the Sichuan Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

Indeed, in seeing and searching out new knowledge all around him, Mr Lau is continually energized to do more: from meeting and talking to people with different perspectives and from different backgrounds to acquiring a pilot's license, testing out new culinary creations, and trying to add Icelandic and Arabic to already formidable language skills. It is perhaps no surprise either to find ultra-demanding triathlons among his favorite sports.

While a comfortable material life has never been in question for Mr Lau, wealth does not and cannot shelter anyone from the shattering emotional vicissitudes that equalize us all: how to handle the divorce of parents just ahead of becoming a teenager; how to cope with the early demise of your mother following her long battle with cancer. In facing such heart-wrenching challenges, new knowledge is acquired at a cost even a billionaire finds hard to bear. But it is how you set such piercing experiences to work – in yourself and on behalf of others – that is the true personal test.

This is what Mr Lau seeks to share in all his different guises. This is why HKUST honors him today.

外四千萬港元成立獎學金,讓三百多名科大傑出本科 生得以受惠。劉先生並非只在金錢上作出支持,他每 年都會親自出席大學的特別聚會與獎學金得主會面交 流,鼓勵這群明日之星積極參與社會服務。

劉先生默默為社會貢獻力量,無論出任高等院校的校董會、董事會,還是作為香港青年事務委員會主席,均盡心盡力。此外,他於本地擔當多項公職,包括扶貧委員會委員、海洋公園董事局副主席、公共政策智囊團體智經研究中心副主席等;他亦是四川省政協委員。

事實上,越去了解及認識劉先生,就越會發覺他 積極上進,孜孜不倦嘗試各種新事物:與持不同觀點 及來自不同背景的人士交流、考獲飛機師執照、自創 各種新穎菜式、精通多國語言並進而學習冰島語和阿 拉伯文等,從這一切可見其止於至善的精神,難怪他 會迷上極富挑戰性的三項鐵人運動。

縱然劉先生生於富裕家庭,財富並不會讓任何人 免受情感的傷痛,在這方面基本上是人人平等的。年 少時面對父母離異、摯愛的母親長期與癌症搏鬥後於 壯年早逝,即使是億萬富翁亦難以承受這些揪心切膚 之痛,卻成為他成長的印記。這些刻骨銘心的經歷, 無論發生在自己或別人身上,同樣是個有血有淚的考 驗。

這就是劉鳴煒先生希望以不同身分、在不同層面 與大家分享的故事及精神,也是香港科技大學今日向 他頒授榮譽的原因。