

於崇光先生 Mr. Daniel YU Chung-Kwong

榮譽大學院士 Honorary Fellow of HKUST

Founder of Maxwell Electronics Limited, Mr. Daniel YU Chung-Kwong is a renowned Hong Kong entrepreneur and unstinting supporter of deserving philanthropic and educational causes. Having lived through multiple major health challenges in Hong Kong over the past five-plus decades, he remains very passionate about such issues and is a generous donor to an extensive range of important medical and other scientific research initiatives.

Mr. Yu began showing an aptitude for science and electronics from a very early age. By the time he was just 15, he was so skilled in electronics he could assemble a working radio using nothing but spare bits and pieces of equipment. At 16, the future industrialist began aspiring that he would one day establish his own electronics enterprise.

Mr. Yu embarked on his tertiary education as a Physics student at the renowned St. John's University in his home city, Shanghai. Following the closure of the facility in 1952, Mr. Yu briefly moved to Hong Kong before journeying to the US to continue his studies. After living in New York for an extended period, Mr. Yu returned to Hong Kong, eventually settling here to realize his youthful ambition of building up an electronics empire.

Leveraging the unique business and cultural perspectives his Chinese background and American education had equipped him with, Mr. Yu set up Maxwell Electronics in 1966. Always a scientist at heart, he named the company in honor of renowned Scottish physicist, James Clerk MAXWELL. Having paved the way for the eventual mass marketing of color photography, the 19th-century physicist's pioneering visual studies were reflected in Maxwell Electronics' early focus on camera flash units for export.

Mr. Yu's innovative designs and savvy business strategies proved so successful that Maxwell quickly became a major source of the export earnings that fueled Hong Kong's economic expansion. To cope with ever-increasing demand for its electronic products, the company subsequently took its success to new heights after expanding to the Mainland.

於崇光先生為麥士威電子廠有限公司創辦人,這位香港知名實業家一直襄助善舉及教育發展,不遺餘力。逾半世紀以來,他與香港一起經歷多番疫症考驗,慷慨捐助各類重要醫學及科學研究,對公共衛生的關注至今未變。

於先生自幼已顯露他在科學及電子方面的天分, 年僅15歲,已懂得利用零碎機器配件組裝收音機; 到了16歲時更萌生創業念頭,渴望終有一天建立 自己的電子工廠,成為工業家。

於先生祖籍上海,獲當地著名學府聖約翰大學 錄取,主修物理。1952年,聖約翰大學停辦,他 南下香港,再轉赴美國繼續學業,並在紐約生活一段 時間後,回流香港追夢,建立自己的電子王國。

於先生集中、美教育精髓於一身,商業及文化 視野別樹一幟,於1966年創辦麥士威電子廠。他心繫科學,以19世紀蘇格蘭物理學翹楚 James Clerk MAXWELL為公司命名。Maxwell乃視覺科技研究的 先驅,為彩色攝影術得以普及奠下重要基礎,而 麥士威電子廠開業初期,亦以生產及出口相機閃光燈 為主。

於先生製造的頻閃閃光燈設計新穎,加上經商 策略得宜,使公司成功打開相機閃光燈的龐大出口 市場,同時成為當時香港出口收入的重要來源之一, 推動本地經濟增長。有見市場對電子產品的需求 不斷增加,麥士威電子廠亦將業務擴展至內地,生意 蒸蒸日上。 Over the course of a successful career, Mr. Yu has seen many changes in both Hong Kong's society and business sector. He has also been unflagging in his support of the city's efforts to navigate its way through several economic crises and viral pandemics. The latter range from the H5N1 Avian Influenza of the late 1990s and the SARS outbreak of 2003, to the more recent spread of COVID-19.

Mr. Yu's fervent desire remains to safeguard the populations of Hong Kong and the Mainland against the threat of microbial pathogens and virus threats. His commitment to positively impacting lives through scientific research and medical breakthroughs is probably most evident in the endowed professorships he has helped create at leading local universities, and his sponsoring of various influential research projects.

Since he made his first visit to our campus in 2013, Mr. Yu has become a generous supporter of our University. Impressed by HKUST's research endeavors and achievements, he made a HK\$1 million donation to support research work in the Division of Life Science. Apart from public health, physics is the passion that retains the strongest pull at his heartstrings. In 2015, Mr. Yu established the Daniel C K Yu Professorship in Science at HKUST by donating HK\$10 million to advance scientific knowledge and discoveries. He has also played a major role in ensuring our University's successful future development via a generous donation of HK\$10 million in 2021 for a research matching grant scheme launched by the HKSAR Government, and another pledge of HK\$10 million in 2022.

Mr. Yu remains active in overseeing the many philanthropic projects in which he is involved after he semi-retired. He also loves to indulge his love of top-of-the-range cars, cameras and state-of-the-art A/V equipment.

Today, HKUST is both proud and privileged to salute Mr. Yu for his incalculable contributions to Hong Kong's economic growth and scientific research endeavors.

在建立事業王國的旅途上,於先生見證本地社會與商界無數轉變。香港不僅在經濟上經歷高低起伏,亦數度飽受疫症衝擊:先是90年代末H5N1 禽流感,然後到2003年SARS,及至最近的新冠疫情更是於今未止。多年來,他始終伴隨和支持香港奮力前進,從不動搖。

於先生以香港及內地人民的健康為念,渴望保障 民眾免受病原體及病毒威脅。他堅信科學研究及醫學 新猷能造福人群,並身體力行,於本地主要大學捐款 設立冠名教授席支持多個影響深遠的研究項目。

2013年,於先生首度參觀科大,對大學的科研和成就留下深刻印象,決定捐款100萬港元支持生命科學部的研究工作,自此一直鼎力支持科大的發展。除了關注公共衞生問題,情牽物理學的他於2015年捐出1,000萬港元,於科大設立「於崇光基金理學教授席」,鼓勵追求科學知識和開拓嶄新科研領域。另外,他文響應香港特區政府的研究配對補助金計劃,於2021年向科大捐贈1,000萬港元,翌年再作另一筆同額捐款。於先生多番慷慨解囊,對科大的持續發展意義重大。

於先生半退休後,仍積極監督有份參與的眾多 慈善項目,並鑽研自己熱愛的頂級汽車、照相機和 尖端影音器材。

於崇光先生對香港經濟及科研發展貢獻良多, 付出的努力難以估量,科大謹此衷心致敬及表揚。