

方文雄先生 BBS, JP Mr David FONG Man-Hung, BBS, JP

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Born into the family that founded the prominent Hong Kong property development company Hip Shing Hong (Holdings) Company Limited, Mr. David FONG Man-Hung feels it is his duty to continue the family's legacy and philanthropy, yet his curious and grounded personality means he is always bringing the company in new innovative directions.

After completing an Economics degree in Canada in 1980 and an MBA in Hong Kong two years later, Mr. Fong cut his teeth in the family's property business in the United States, working in San Francisco and the Bay Area for a decade. In 1994, he returned to Hong Kong to join Hip Shing Hong, partly upon his father's call to "see what was going on" as the Hong Kong handover was approaching, and also his own conviction to bring about changes in the family company.

However, adapting to the family-type business culture proved to be challenging for Mr. Fong at first. He tried his hand working in different departments and projects while gradually bringing in new impetus with the experiences and insights acquired from his time in the US. During this time, he was also involved in joint ventures with other developers to explore the burgeoning mainland property market.

In 2009, when Mr. Fong became the Managing Director, he led the company to upgrade its 200 properties with new and smart technologies to boost their competitiveness, and to branch out into serviced apartments and hotels to diversify the company's real estate portfolio. At the same time, he set about helping his father to revamp and modernize the company, upgrading staffing operations and the IT system. The company's governance and culture were also overhauled and improved under Mr. Fong's leadership and guidance.

Over the years, Mr. Fong has maintained the highest standards of the company's output, and is particularly proud of a development project in Wong Chuk Hang, where he led a team to revitalize a former large industrial building to create a new quarter for the arts called Genesis. Mr. Fong had the idea of driving occupancy by attracting artists with offers of studio space at below-market rate, something that was a great boost for creatives in a city where rents had become increasingly unaffordable. The endeavor drew praise from former HKSAR Chief Executive Mrs. Carrie LAM and eventually inspired a wider government scheme, the Space Sharing Scheme for Youth.

方文雄先生乃香港知名地產發展商協成行發展 有限公司的家族成員,自感肩負傳承祖輩遺訓與慈善 事業的重責,其破格而不失務實的性格,驅使他持續 為集團引入創新意念。

方先生於1980年在加拿大取得經濟學學位, 兩年後再在香港修畢工商管理碩士學位課程,此後 開始涉足家族在美國的地產業務,於三藩市灣區 工作達10年之久。1994年,適逢香港回歸在即, 他選擇回港,既是遵循父命「親身見證此重要時刻」, 亦為一抒抱負,革新祖業。

加入協成行初期,方先生花了不少努力去適應家族式經營文化。他先後於不同部門工作和參與各類項目,運用留美所累積的經驗與見解,推陳出新,並積極夥拍其他發展商,開拓發展蓬勃的內地物業市場。

方先生於2009年出任董事總經理後,帶領集團應用嶄新智能科技,提升旗下200幢物業的競爭力,又進軍服務式公寓和酒店業務,令協成行的房地產投資組合日趨多元化。與此同時,他協助父親推行現代化改革,更新人事管理及資訊科技系統,集團的管治和文化在其引領和指導下得到全面提升。

方先生對集團旗下業務和服務的質素一絲不苟, 貫徹始終;集團在黃竹坑的一個發展項目,尤其讓 他引以自豪。這個由他親自策劃的「創協坊」大樓, 將一幢前大型工廈轉化成嶄新的文藝空間,並以低於 市價的租金吸引藝術家進駐。由於香港的租金已達到 藝術創作人無法負擔的水平,此舉對他們來說毋疑 是莫大喜訊。項目不僅贏得前特首林鄭月娥女士讚揚, 最終更啟發政府推出大型的「青年共享空間計劃」。

Charity has been an important plank of Hip Shing Hong's activity since the 1960s when Mr. Fong's father, Dr. Henry FONG, a major influence on the younger man and who passed away earlier this year, committed 10-15 per cent of profits to charitable work through the Fong Shu Fook Tong Foundation and Fong's Family Foundation, a commitment that remains in place today. Over the past 40 years, the two foundations have been involved in about 600 projects - building schools, supporting technology and medical research and provision of medical services - in Hong Kong, the Mainland and overseas. Mr. David Fong is currently the Chairman of the two foundations, continuing his father's philanthropic legacy. Meanwhile, Mr. Fong also served as the Vice-Chairman of UNICEF Hong Kong and retains as an Honorary Council Member, and he is also an Executive Council Member & Trustee of WWF Hong Kong.

Mr. Fong believes no charity is too small to make an impact. He insists that only by involving himself in individual projects and connecting with people from all walks of life can he understand more about the real world and ensure the foundations' projects remain grounded in grassroots concerns.

Mr. Fong's commitment to education is also reflected in his own work as a member of the council of several Hong Kong universities. Here at HKUST, he sat as a Council Member from 2016 to 2021 and is currently an Appointed Court Member. He has helped oversee the earlier stage of planning and development of HKUST(GZ), laying the foundations for future generations of cross-disciplinary learning in the Greater Bay Area.

A man of unstinting civic duty, Mr. Fong has served on numerous other public bodies; he is currently a Member of the Hospital Authority Board, an Honorary Advisor to Our Hong Kong Foundation, Chairman of Hong Kong Strategy, and the Life Honorary Chairman of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Fong is also a National Committee Member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. For his many contributions to Hong Kong, Mr. Fong was appointed a Justice of Peace and awarded the Bronze Bauhinia Star by the HKSAR Government in 2008 and 2011 respectively.

It is our great pleasure to honor Mr. Fong for his lifelong commitment to the development of Hong Kong and his efforts to improve the lives of his fellow citizens. We are also delighted to recognize his dedication to helping HKUST nurture emerging talents in the Greater Bay Area.

協成行在上世紀60年代起已致力發展慈善事業。方先生尊翁方潤華博士當時決定透過方樹福堂基金及方潤華基金,將集團百分之10至15的利潤用於公益。這位在方先生生命中舉足輕重的父親雖已於年初去世,但承諾至今不變。過去40載,兩個基金合共參與約600個項目,如興建學校,支援科技發展及醫學研究,資助醫療服務,受惠機構遍及香港、內地及海外。方先生承繼父志,積極行善,服務社群,現為上述兩個基金的主席。此外,方先生也曾出任聯合國兒童基金香港委員會副主席,現時為榮譽委員,同時也是世界自然基金會香港分會董事委員會成員兼理事。

方先生堅信「勿以善小而不為」,唯有親身參與 不同項目,接觸各行各業各階層的人,才可加深 瞭解民生,確保基金會的工作持續緊貼普羅市民的 脈搏。

重視教育的他同時兼任香港多家大學包括科大在內的校董會成員。方先生於2016至2021年擔任科大校董,現時為顧問委員會委任委員,期間協助統籌港科大(廣州)的早期規劃及發展事宜,為大灣區年輕人提供融合學科教育奠下基礎。

方先生擔任無數公職,現為醫院管理局成員、團結香港基金名譽顧問、群策學社主席及香港中華總商會永遠榮譽會長,也是全國政協委員。方先生不遺餘力回饋社會,於2008及2011年分別獲香港特區政府委任為太平紳士及頒發銅紫荊星章,以資嘉許。

方文雄先生畢生致力促進香港發展及改善民生, 鼎力襄助科大培育大灣區未來才俊,貢獻卓越,我們 謹此衷心予以表揚。