

Professor Simon S. M. Ho

President's Welcome Remarks at the Inaugural High Table Dinner of HSMC Jockey Club Residential Colleges and Old Hall

28 October 2015 College Hall, Block M, HSMC

Dear Ms. Rose Lee, Mr. Martin Tam, Colleagues and Students,

Good evening. My warmest welcome to all of you for attending the Inaugural High Table Dinner of our 4 Residential Colleges and the Old Hall. With the move-in of over 1,000 student residents to the 4 Residential Colleges by mid-October, we have started a new page of the Residential College System in the history of HSMC. This is really a remarkable milestone for the College.

First, I would like to introduce to you our Guests and other staff members here tonight including the new College Masters and Associate Masters. They are:

Ms. Rose Lee

- Chairman, Board of Governors of HSMC and Guest Speaker tonight

Mr. Martin Tam

- Member of Board of Governors of HSMC and Chairman, Steering Committee on Campus Expansion

Prof. Gilbert Fong

- Provost and Dean of School of Translation

Prof. Y V Hui

- Vice-President (Academic and Research)

Dr. Karen Chan

- Vice-President (Organisational Development)

Dr. Tom Fong

- Associate Vice-President (Student Development and Campus Services)

Prof. Raymond So

- Master of Mosaic College and
Dean of School of Business

Dr. Paul Fung

- Master of Wellness College and
Assistant Professor of English

Dr. Ben Cheng

- Master of Amity College and
Associate Professor of Economics and Finance

Dr. Howard Song

- Master of Evergreen College and
Associate Professor of School of Communication

Mr. C K Man

- Old Hall Warden and
Registrar

Mr. Leon Liu

- Student Union President

Mr. Chan Kwan Ming

- Student Resident Representative

Prof. Scarlet Tso

- Associate Vice-President (Communications and Public Affairs) and
Dean of School of Communication

Ms. Ada Leung

- Associate Vice-President (Advancement and Industry Liaisons)

Prof. Thomas Luk

- Dean of School of Humanities and Social Science

Prof. P C Wong

- Director of Information Technology

Ms. Rebecca Chan

- Director of Student Affairs

Ms. Josephine Liu

- Assistant Director of Student Affairs Office

Mr. H K Chiu

- Building Services Engineer

Dr. Choy Siu Kai

- Associate Master of Mosaic College and
Head of Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Dr. Chan Chi Kit

- Associate Master of Wellness College and
Assistant Professor of School of Communication

Ms. Cheung Pui Sze

- Associate Master of Evergreen College and
Lecturer of Social Science

Ms. Maggie Wong

- Old Hall Assistant Warden and
Lecturer of Social Science

Ms. Joyce Lee

- Student Residential Halls Management Committee Member and
Lecturer of English

Dr. Ng Ka Yi

- Tutor of Mosaic College and
Lecturer of Chinese

Ms. Claudia Sin

- Tutor of Mosaic College and
Student Services Officer of Student Affairs Office

Mr. Denny Kan

- Tutor of Mosaic College and
Executive Assistant of Student Affairs Office

Mr. Fun Ho

- Tutor of Wellness College and
Physical Education Officer of Student Affairs Office

Ms. Ashley Lam

- Tutor of Wellness College and
Executive Assistant of Accountancy

Ms. Serena Leung

- Tutor of Wellness College and
Executive Assistant of Accountancy

Dr. Linsey Chen

- Tutor of Amity College and
Assistant Professor of Accountancy

Dr. Ivan Chen

- Tutor of Evergreen College and
Assistant Professor of Chinese

Ms. Kitty Wong

- Tutor of Evergreen College and
Teaching Assistant of Social Science

With its unique “Liberal + Professional” education model, HSMC firmly believes that the primary intrinsic value of its undergraduate education lies on the development of our students as a whole person which facilitates their future life pursuits. To this end, we require our students to learn broadly while at the same time inviting them to study more deeply in their chosen discipline. We also encourage on-campus residential learning because as the only private institution in Hong Kong with a Residential College System, our goal is not only to teach students to think and learn well, but also to attain happiness in life. This is achieved most effectively when living and learning happen together in a vibrant community.

The Residential Colleges provide a robust platform to further empower and nurture intellectual interflow, inter-personal interaction, personal development, self-management, and social engagements. Promoting daily life interactions among faculty members and fellow students, the Residential College System complements and supplements our formal curriculum.

To achieve our objective of sustainability education, the new Residential Colleges create an ambience and dynamic environment that contribute to resident students’ green learning and practices. In recognition of our green efforts, the HSMC Jockey Club Residential Colleges were awarded the provisional “Platinum” rating (BEAM Plus Version 1.2) by the Hong Kong Green Building Council. HSMC is the first tertiary institution in Hong Kong to receive such recognition, which manifested the College’s commitment on environmental protection and campus sustainability.

Let me also say a few words about High Table Dinner as many of you may be attending such event for the first time. The HSMC High Table Dinner is based on the British tradition of formal academic dining, a style of dining that has taken place at Oxford and Cambridge for many centuries. In this traditional event, students, faculty members, administrators and guests dine in a dining hall together over a formal, served meal. The dinner atmosphere is academic in nature as attendees are required to wear their gowns along with formal attire.

The physical layout of the dining hall is also unique, featuring an elevated High Table as you can see here. It is considered as a great honor to receive an invitation to sit at the High Table, and most Oxford colleges deny undergraduates of such privilege. But here at HSMC, we decided to break this tradition and we are so proud to have 2 Student Resident Representatives sitting at our High Table on this stage. We hope that this dinner will provide a unique platform for our guests, faculty members, administrators and students to dine and interact.

It is also our great honour to have Ms. Rose Lee as our Guest-of-Honour and Speaker tonight. As you all know, Ms. Lee is the Chairman of Board of Governors of our College and Vice-Chairman & Chief Executive of Hang Seng Bank. You will find the distinguished professional and public service records of Ms. Lee in the programme leaflet on your table. I would also like to mention a few of her latest achievements here. Ms. Lee has been ranked among Top 10 Most Powerful Women in Asia Pacific region by the *Fortune* magazine in September 2015. Among the 25 women listed in Asia, only two Hong Kong businesswomen made it to the league. Quoting from *Fortune*, under Ms. Lee's leadership, Hang Seng Bank has emerged as one of the safest banks in the world. The Bank has also been rated as the Best Bank in Hong Kong 2015 by the *Global Finance* magazine. You may not be surprised by the fact that over half of the adult population in Hong Kong has an account at the Bank.

With such distinguished achievements, Ms. Lee will be talking on the topic "Embracing Change: Lessons from the Transformation of Hong Kong's Financial Industry". Please join me in welcoming Ms. Rose Lee with our big hands. Thank you and enjoy the Dinner.