

## President Simon S. M. Ho

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### **Welcome Remarks at the Inaugural Public Lecture of the “Visionary Wisdom – HSUHK Honorary Doctorate Lecture Series”**

16 March 2023

Lee Ping Yuen Chamber, Lee Quo Wei Academic Building, Yuen Campus, HSUHK

Professor Christopher Hood, Colleagues, Students, Alumni, Honourable Guests,

Welcome to the inaugural lecture of our new Honorary Doctorate Lecture Series. We have initiated this lecture series for a noble purpose, that is, to learn from our distinguished Honorary Doctorates and be cognisant of their visionary wisdom into what we can expect in the near future.

It gives me great pleasure to extend our heartiest welcome to Professor Christopher Hood of Oxford University, our Honorary Doctorate in Social Science, to deliver the inaugural lecture on our 43rd Founders’ Day, i.e. 16 March today.

Professor Hood is a world-renowned scholar in the fields of public policy, administration and politics. Public policy and politics play a crucial role in forming the social contract and principles of a society. It is also one of the focuses of Hang Seng University’s social science discipline, in which we offer a bachelor’s degree programme in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) and a master’s degree programme in Public Policy and Risk Governance. In 2021, we established the Centre for Public Policy Research, which provides a platform for academics and policy practitioners from diverse backgrounds to exchange ideas and carry out pressing public policy research projects.

As the world began its recovery from the pandemic, it was also marked by global inflation, monetary tightening, political turmoil from an ongoing war in eastern Europe, global climate changes and geo-politics disputes. At the same time, the lack of adequate control over government expenditure remains a problem for many countries.

To share his knowledge and provide insight on what we can expect from modern governments, Professor Hood has chosen a vehemently debated topic focused on public spending control.

I am sure that Professor Hood's words of wisdom will add much value and scholarship to the University as we collectively build the bridge between us and the wider community, in the understanding and deliberation of policy issues.

Thank you.