

### Welcome Remarks at the HSUHK Joint-RCs High Table Dinner

15 April 2025

Yip Kit Chuen and Yuen Yuk Hing Hall, Yuen Campus, HSUHK

Board Chairman Ms Diana Cesar, Council Chairman Dr the Hon Moses Cheng, Dr Yip Kit-chuen, RC Patrons Dr. Patrick Fung, Mr. Thomas Liang, Dr. Patrick Poon, distinguished guests, faculty, and students,

Welcome to the Joint-RCs High Table Dinner!

This year marks the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of HSUHK and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Residential College (RC) system. I am filled with joy and gratitude as we gather here tonight not just for the traditional HDT but also to celebrate these significant milestones of the University.

Since the HSSC era, the University has been upholding its founding motto “Erudition and Perseverance” 博學篤行, which advocates a combination of knowledge and practice, encouraging us to apply academic knowledge to real-world life and advance the learning outcomes through practice. Guided by the belief, “The essence of education lies in perseverance, strong foundation beget proper ways” (學貴有恒，本立道生), we have spent the past 45 years nurturing generations of talent on their whole-person development, who have contributed to Hong Kong and the nation. Today, as we witness our students’ growth and their vibrant campus life, we are confident that we have been on the right path.

As the first and only self-financed degree-granting institution in Hong Kong to adopt a full residential college system, RCs serve as one of the important pillars of the University’s “Liberal + Professional” education model. Apart from being places to live, they are also dynamic communities of learning, building connections, and growth. Here, students have the unique opportunity to engage with faculty members and peers with diverse backgrounds in their everyday lives, fostering bonds and a sense of belonging that last a lifetime.

To celebrate its 10th anniversary, RCs have organized a variety of events that reflect our commitment to cultural enrichment, wellness, community engagement and environmental sustainability.

Lee Yick Hoi Lun Mosaic College has brought us a captivating drama performance, “我們的荊軻 - WoMen De JingKe,” which beautifully promotes traditional Chinese culture and folk arts.

S H Ho Wellness College has invigorated us with a relay run competition, promoting physical, mental and social wellness while enjoying the fun of running.

Patrick S C Poon Amity College has fostered connections through an "Go Spring Hiking - 春季健行", where alumni and current residents came together to explore the great outdoors.

Fung Yiu King Evergreen College has initiated the Evergreen Community Involvement Program, connecting the residents of Kwong Yuen Estate with our HSUHK community through environmentally friendly initiatives.

I am particularly excited to highlight a groundbreaking initiative: RCs' first overseas service-learning program to Kyushu, Japan, jointly organized by Patrick S C Poon Amity College and Fung Yiu King Evergreen College. This program offers students a unique chance to engage with local experts and community members in Japan, applying their academic knowledge to real-world challenges while fostering a deep appreciation for Japanese culture and environmental stewardship.

As we celebrate these achievements, we must also acknowledge the invaluable support of our Patrons and all those who have contributed to our mission. Your generosity has created an environment that feels like a second home to our students, where they can learn, grow and prepare to become leaders of tomorrow.

This evening, we are particularly honoured to welcome Dr. Yip Kit-chuen, a visionary leader and our Honorary University Fellow, who will share his insights on "Pursuing Innovation: Bringing Positive Change and Energy to the World." His journey, marked by resilience and creativity, will undoubtedly inspire us as we embark on our own personal and professional pursuits.

In closing, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all those who have helped HSUHK grow along the way, including our Founders, the Government, Board of Governors, Council members, faculty, staff, students, alumni, donors and friends. Building on our fine tradition and our unique "Liberal and Professional" education model, HSUHK will remain steadfast in our commitment to nurturing future responsible leaders with critical thinking, innovativeness, human caring, moral values and social responsibilities.

Thank you all for being here tonight. Let us embrace the spirit of fellowship that binds us, engage in meaningful conversations, and look forward to a future filled with possibilities.

Enjoy the evening!