

DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, *honoris causa*

Mr Anthony Chow Wing-kin, SBS, JP

Mr Pro-Chancellor,

The lawyer and popular writer Robin Sharma once wrote:

Leadership is not about a title or a designation. It's about impact, influence and inspiration. Impact involves getting results, influence is about spreading the passion you have for your work, and you have to inspire team-mates and customers.

This quote not only describes the leadership style of Mr Anthony Chow Wing-kin, but also perfectly pinpoints the secret to his success and long list of achievements which can be attributed to that key word: passion.

Mr Anthony Chow was born in Hong Kong in 1950, and was educated at St. Joan of Arc Secondary School before moving to the United Kingdom for further studies. Although he was gifted in the sciences and was geared to embark on a study in the medical profession, he listened to his heart and pursued law instead. The rest, as the saying goes, is history. Mr Chow was admitted as a solicitor first in England and Wales in 1979 and then in Hong Kong in 1980. He has been a practicing solicitor in Hong Kong for over 38 years and is a Senior Consultant and Global Chairman of the law firm Guantao & Chow Solicitors and Notaries.

Despite his impressive record of achievements and distinguished service in the legal profession, Mr Chow remains modest and said: (and I quote)

"I have never regarded myself as having achieved anything over the course of my career. Looking back, most of my 'achievements' are a result of my not knowing how to say 'no'.

I always felt grateful for being given the opportunity to learn something new. There is never an end to learning or putting one's experience to good use."

His "not knowing how to say no" is in fact a reflection on the deep influence that his alma mater, St. Joan of Arc Secondary School, had on him. He still recalls his school motto, Civic Responsibility, with pride and affection. This motto became his life's guiding force and provides the motivation that sustains his passionate devotion to contribute to the society.

Saying yes to the Hong Kong Law Society opened two doors: one was the door to the world of public service, the other eventually led to the presidency of the Law Society. Mr Chow served on the Council of the Law Society of Hong Kong between 1994 and 2004 and as its President between 1997 and 2000. During his term at the Society, Mr Chow has made tremendous contribution in laying the foundations for professional exchange and development between lawyers in Hong Kong and Mainland China. As China celebrates its 40 Years of Reform and Opening-up, there is no doubt that the professional exchange that Mr Chow facilitated, coupled with his strong sense of responsibility to uphold the integrity of the profession had made a huge impact on the practice and management of the legal profession in the mainland, without which the phenomenal growth in business and trade would not have been possible.

Besides his devotion to the legal profession, Mr Chow has extensive community involvement. He was Chairman of the Process Review Panel for the Securities and Futures Commission (2004–2012), Vice-Chairman of the Estate Agents Authority of Hong Kong (1997–2006), member of the Law Reform Commission of Hong Kong (2001–2007), member of the Legal Aid Services Council of Hong Kong (1996–2002), member of the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee of Hong Kong (1998–2003), member of Personal Data (Privacy) Advisory Committee (2007–2013), Council Member of The Hong Kong Institute of Education (now The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK)) (2003–2009) and Member of Hong Kong Housing Authority (2005–2006). Mr Chow is currently Chairman of the Process Review Panel for the Financial Reporting Council, Member of the Exchange Fund Advisory Committee (EFAC) of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and the National Committee of the 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). He is also serving as a Non-Executive Director/ Independent Non-Executive Director for a number of listed companies in Hong Kong.

As a child, Anthony was fascinated by horses, a passion that was instilled in him by his father. His passion lies not so much in racing but in all aspects about horses, including training, equestrian sports, and breeding. Moreover, he was able to integrate this passion for horses with his passionate promotion of civic responsibility, thus leading very naturally to his long standing association with the Jockey Club since 1981, and was elected as its 24th chairman this year. Mr Chow is committed to keeping on developing the Club's performance across every aspect of its business model, and in particular, he aspires to drive the charity work of the Club to be even more proactive so as to ensure that donation funds can be spent effectively and efficiently to achieve maximum impact for the betterment of the society.

In recognition of his valuable contribution in promoting Hong Kong's legal professional service and his meritorious public and community service, Mr Chow was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1998 and awarded the Silver Bauhinia Star in 2003 by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. He was admitted to the Honorary Fellowship of The Hong Kong Institute of Education in March 2010, the Honorary Fellowship of King's College London in July 2013, and was admitted on the list of Roll of Honour of Law Society in 2015.

Mr Pro-Chancellor, in recognition of Mr Chow's distinguished contributions to the legal system in the Hong Kong SAR, his commitment to public service, and his passionate devotion to charity causes, may I invite our President to present Mr Anthony Chow Wing-kin for the conferment of the degree of Doctor of Social Sciences, *honoris causa*.

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Citation written and to be delivered by Professor Tong Chong-sze

榮譽社會科學博士學位

周永健先生

副校監先生：

著名律師及暢銷書作家羅賓·夏瑪曾經寫道：

領導並非關乎名銜或職位，而是在乎有關的領袖能否取得成果、能否影響別人，以及能否為其他人帶來啟迪。在引領團隊取得成績之餘，領導者亦必須施展影響力，使他的工作熱情能感染別人，並啟發團隊成員以及所服務的對象。

上述引言不單描述了周永健先生的領導風格，而且一語道破其成功之要訣。簡而言之，周先生的成功以及其一系列突出的成就，可以歸納為「熱情」一詞。

周永健先生一九五零年生於香港，在聖貞德中學接受教育，其後負笈英國進修。周先生在數理方面從小獨具天賦，不少人都認為他入大學時必定修讀醫學，但原來法律才是他真正的興趣。當日的決定遂成就了周先生今日的事業。周永健先生於一九七九年獲英格蘭及威爾斯的執業律師資格，一年後亦在香港取得相關資格。他於香港成為執業事務律師超過三十八載，現為觀韜律師事務所（香港）之高級顧問及環球主席。

周永健先生於法律領域取得超卓成績，為此專業努力不懈，貢獻尤大。對此成就，周先生相當謙虛，自言：

「我並不認為自己在事業上取得甚麼過人成就。回望過去，我大部份的所謂『成就』都是緣於自己不懂『拒絕』其他人。對於有機會學習新東西，我心存感恩。學習是永無止境的。我很高興能夠與其他人分享自己的經驗。」

他所指的「不懂拒絕其他人」，反映了其母校聖貞德中學對他的深遠影響。事實上，對於聖貞德中學的校訓「公民責任」，周先生現在說起來仍然非常自豪。在過去的許多日子裏，這個校訓成為了他的生活指引，令他的熱情持久不熄，並驅使他全心全意服務社會。

不懂拒絕、正面迎接挑戰的精神，使他多年來一直投入不同範疇的社會服務，並肩付起香港律師會的會長一職。在一九九四年至二零零四年期間，周先生出任該會理事會成員，並於一九九七年至二零零零年擔任會長。在出任會長期間，他為香港及中國內地律師的專業交流和發展奠定了堅實基礎。當此中國慶祝改革開放四十年之際，回顧周先生一直以來推動的專業交流，以及他非常強調的專業誠信，這一切對於中國內地法律專業的實踐與管理，的確具有舉足輕重的作用。在四十年改革開放的道路上，商業及貿易的增長十分迅速，而法律專業在當中的角色實在至為關鍵。

除了對法律專業的貢獻外，周先生亦積極參與其他不同領域的社會服務。例如，他曾是證券及期貨事務監察委員會程序覆檢委員會主席（二零零四年至二零一二年）、香港地產代理監管局副主席（一九九七年至二零零六年）、香港法律改革委員會委員（二零零一年至二零零七年）、法律援助服務局成員（一九九六年至二零零二年）、基本法推廣督導委員會委員（一九九八年至二零零三年）、個人資料（私隱）諮詢委員會委員（二零零七年至二零一三年）、香港教育學院（現稱香港教育大學）校董會成員（二零零三年至二零零九年）以及香港房屋委員會委員（二零零五年至二零零六年）。周永健先生現為財務匯報局程序覆檢委員會主席以及香港金融管理局外匯基金諮詢委員會委員以及第十屆、第十一屆、第十二屆和第十三屆中國人民政治協商會議全國委員會委員。此外，他亦擔任本港多間上市公司的非執行董事 / 獨立非執行董事。

周永健先生自少就是愛馬之人，此一愛好來自其父親的影響。不過，他最感興趣的並非賽馬，而是有關馬的種種，包括訓練、配種及馬術運動。另一方面，周先生亦能將他對馬匹的熱情與公民責任結合得完美無瑕。他自一九八一年起就與香港賽馬會結下不解之緣，並於本年獲選為第二十四屆主席。周先生積極參與賽馬會不同營運模式的範疇和工作，致力推動該會的發展，特別是慈善的相關工作。未來，香港賽馬會在有關方面將扮演更積極的角色，確保其慈善信託基金能夠更加用其所，有效地推進社會福祉，以期取得最佳成果。

為了表揚周先生對香港法律專業以及公共和社會服務的重大貢獻，他於一九九八年獲委任為太平紳士，並於二零零三年獲香港特區政府頒授銀紫荊星章。周先生其後在二零一零年三月獲當時的香港教育學院頒授榮譽院士銜，於二零一三年七月獲英國倫敦國王學院頒授榮譽院士銜，並在二零一五年獲列入香港律師會的榮譽名冊。

副校監先生，為表揚周永健先生對香港特別行政區法律制度的超卓貢獻，以及在公共事務和慈善工作的熱情投入，在此本人謹恭請校長引介周永健先生接受本大學的榮譽社會科學博士學位。

英文贊辭由唐創時教授撰寫及宣讀