

# 榮譽大學院士

## Honorary University Fellows

### 譚偉豪博士

Dr Samson Tam Wai-ho, JP

譚偉豪博士是權智有限公司創辦人，2008至2012年為香港特區立法會資訊科技界別議員。

譚博士從小喜愛探索和創作，熱衷把一個個創意變成商業理念。早期發明包括可發聲的盲人用計數機，以及不用敲打鼓面、只需搖動即可發出鼓聲的鼓棍。雖然這些產品未能成為主流，但以它們為基礎的「快譯通」電子詞典卻一鳴驚人，旋即成為家喻戶曉的品牌。

研發「快譯通」電子詞典的基地是譚博士與兩位夥伴集資二十萬港元開設的小型公司，創業時他剛剛在香港中文大學工程學院畢業了兩年。當時二十四歲的譚博士只有兩年當工程師的經驗，對營商所知不多。他必須努力邊學邊做，面對夥伴移民外地、產品遭抄襲等眾多問題，譚博士都一一處理。譚博士的商業才能不久便得到讚許，1992年獲香港工業總會頒發香港青年工業家獎。他未滿三十歲，公司已在香港交易所上市。1997年，公司獲頒香港工業獎科技成就大獎。

資訊科技發展一日千里，經濟有起有跌，譚博士的商業生涯也時有高低。無論順境逆境，他一直堅守自己的座右銘前行：「我不能改變風向，但可以揚帆降帆，總能達至終點。」譚博士並繼續進修，2005年獲香港理工大學頒授哲學博士學位。

譚博士近年積極參與發展天使投資，幫助本地嶄露頭角的資訊科技創業者，希望締造一個良好的生態環境來培育初創企業。他現時是香港天使投資脈絡主席、英諾天使基金合夥人。譚博士勉勵年輕人要有遠見及勇於行動，不要因失敗而氣餒。

譚博士致力推動科技發展，加強香港與內地的科技合作。他現時是香港科技協進會名譽會長、香港產學研合作促進會會長、香港工業總會珠三角工業協會副主席。

此外，譚博士現時是香港中文大學聯合書院校董，曾任香港生產力促進局副主席和禁毒常務委員會成員。他於2011年出任香港公開大學校董，以及本校財務委員會成員及學生貸款管理委員會主席。

譚博士於1997年獲選為香港十大傑出青年，2006年獲香港特區政府委任為非官守太平紳士，2007年獲香港理工大學選為傑出校友，2008年獲香港科技大學頒授榮譽大學院士銜。

為表揚譚偉豪博士對香港及本校之貢獻，現恭請副校監頒授榮譽大學院士榮銜予譚偉豪博士。



Dr Samson Tam Wai-ho is a founder of Group Sense Limited. He was a member of the HKSAR Legislative Council representing the information technology sector between 2008 and 2012.

Eager to explore and invent from a young age, Dr Tam has always been keen on turning creative ideas into business conceptions. While his early products such as a talking calculator for low vision users and drum sticks that could emit sounds by shaking had not made it into the mainstream market, they were the building blocks for 'Instant-Dict', a brand of electronic dictionaries which became a household name immediately.

The launch pad of the dictionaries was a small company he set up with two partners with a total investment of HK\$200,000, just two years after graduating from the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) with a Bachelor of Science degree. It was a bumpy road for the 24-year-old young man who had worked as an engineer for just two years. He had to learn fast to gain business and management experience, as one of his partners pulled out after emigration and copycat products emerged. Dr Tam tackled all these issues and before long his business acumen was recognized by the Young Industrialist Award of Hong Kong in 1992. Before Dr Tam turned 30, his company had been listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong. In 1997, the company won the grand award for technological achievement in the Hong Kong Awards for Industry.

More ups and downs would follow in his business career over the years, as information technology progressed rapidly and there were peaks and troughs in the economy. Dr Tam has always been guided by his motto: 'I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can always adjust my sails to reach my destination.' He continued to study and obtained a PhD degree from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) in 2005.

In recent years, Dr Tam actively participated in angel investment to help out local budding IT entrepreneurs, hoping to create a good eco-system to nurture startups. He is the Chairman of Hong Kong Business Angel Network and a team member of the Innoangel Fund. His advice to young people is to be bold to act out their vision, and not be discouraged by failures.

Dr Tam has been committed to promoting scientific technology development and strengthening scientific collaboration between Hong Kong and mainland China. He is an Honorary President of the Hong Kong Association for the Advancement of Science and Technology, the Chairman of the Hong Kong Industry-University-Research Collaboration Association as well as the Vice Chairman of the Pearl River Delta Council of the Federation of Hong Kong Industries.

Dr Tam is a Trustee of United College at CUHK. Other past community services of Dr Tam included serving as Deputy Chairman of the Hong Kong Productivity Council and a Member of the Action Committee Against Narcotics. He was a Council member of the OUHK and a Member of its Finance Committee and Chairman of its Student Loan Management Committee.

Dr Tam was elected as one of the Ten Outstanding Young Persons in 1997 and appointed Non-official Justice of the Peace (JP) by the HKSAR Government in 2006. He was honoured with the Outstanding PolyU Alumni award in 2007, and presented with an Honorary Fellowship by the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology in 2008.

In recognition of Dr Samson Tam Wai-ho's contributions to Hong Kong and the University, may I invite the Pro-Chancellor to present him with the Honorary University Fellowship.