



新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

To New Editors
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52nd Congregation of CUHK

The Chinese University of Hong Kong held its 52nd Congregation today (Thursday, 12 December, 1996). The Right Honourable Christopher Patten, Chancellor of the University and Governor of Hong Kong, presided at the ceremony.

The total number of graduates was 3,655, of which 3,123 received their Bachelor degrees. 463 were awarded Master degrees, 68 received degrees of Doctor of Philosophy and one received degree of Doctor of Medicine. The number of PhD was increased by 70% compared with last year and was greatest in number since the inception of the University. Among them are the first PhD in Music.

The University also honoured three distinguished persons who have attained remarkable success in their own field. Sir Michael Atiyah, OM, FRS, a famous mathematician, immediate past President of the Royal Society in the United Kingdom, Fields Medallist and Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, was conferred the degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*. Dr Lee Hon-chiu, JP, Chairman and Managing Director of Hysan Development Company Limited and the Honourable Rosanna Wong Yick-ming, CBE, JP, Convenor of the Executive Council, received the degrees of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

Dr Lee comes from a well-established and distinguished family which has witnessed and contributed to Hong Kong's prosperity for well over half a century. As a leading entrepreneur and staunch supporter of higher education development, Dr Lee has made invaluable contributions to the University, the tertiary education sector and the community-at-large.

The Honourable Ms Wong is an eminent social welfare administrator. Further involving herself in the local community by taking up many public duties, among which is the chairmanship of the Hong Kong Housing Authority, Ms Wong has contributed significantly to local legislation, housing, youth service, and social welfare.

Sir Michael Atiyah was originally scheduled to attend and address this Congregation. However, he had to cancel his trip to Hong Kong for health reason. His speech was delivered by Professor Andrew Parkin of Department of English, The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

In his speech, Sir Michael emphasized the importance for a university to maintain close links with the local community and the world-wide community of academic learning. He wished the strong ties between the United Kingdom and Hong Kong, particularly in the university context, would continue to be very close in the future.

"It is well known that Hong Kong is the door to China. Financial and commercial expertise enters via this route, to the mutual benefit of all concerned. This has been happening for many years and there may well be increased opportunities after July 1997."

"But other things besides money and goods can flow through Hong Kong. Ideas are just as important and I can foresee an exciting role in the future for the universities of Hong Kong interacting with those in the rest of China. I know that good relations already exist at the academic level and I hope that the political changes of the future will enhance them," he emphasized.

Attached are the citations for the three Honorary Graduates and Sir Michael Atiyah's speech. For enquiries, please call Ms Cheung Man-yi of the University's Information and Public Relations Office at 26098896.