CONGRATULATORY NOTES

Dr Su-vui LO
Guest of Honour
Chair Chief Executive, New Territories East Cluster
Hospital Authority

I would like to convey my warmest congratulations to all outstanding teachers and students of the Faculty of Medicine at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Health Science is a life-long subject demanding passion and perseverance from its practitioners. I am delighted to see these qualities in the community of this young and thriving Faculty. It is my wish that all the awardees in the Faculty will continue to triumph over challenges with courage and determination and, as the Faculty motto says, "transform your passion into perfection".

Professor Joseph J Y SUNG, SBS, JP
Vice-Chancellor and President
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate the teacher and student awardees on their academic success. The Teachers’ and Students’ Awards Presentation Ceremony is an annual occasion to recognize our dedicated teachers for their efforts in nurturing our youth. This is also an opportunity to commend our diligent students for their hard work. Let's continue to scale new heights together.

Professor Francis K L CHAN, JP
Dean, Faculty of Medicine
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

My heartfelt gratitude and appreciation go to all teachers in the Faculty. They are good examples and serve as role models by devoting themselves to the profession. Honouring our outstanding teachers signifies CUHK Medicine’s commitment to nurturing generations of outstanding students and ultimately outstanding graduates to serve our society.

Each year it is most gratifying for me and those present at this ceremony to celebrate academic, research and service achievements of our brilliant students. Your beloved teachers including myself, parents and those who have unflaggingly supported you over the past years, will be proud of you. I appeal to you to be an ambassador of your achievements, positively influencing others for greater results.
As a student during the preclinical years in the Faculty of Medicine of CUHK, I was deeply inspired by the teaching of various professors, especially those from the Department of Anatomy. I once dreamed of becoming one of their teaching staff. And my dream came true a decade after my graduation when I met Professor Chan Wai Yee at a prize-giving ceremony dinner event, and he invited me to help teach head and neck anatomy at CUHK. I accepted the job without hesitation.

In addition to teaching head and neck anatomy to preclinical students, I also helped teach head and neck dissection for Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) fellows and ran mock anatomy exams for ENT trainees. Therefore, I felt a very strong bond with the Basic Medical Sciences Building and felt like I had never left school after all these years.

Many would think that teaching anatomy as a volunteer would be a heavy burden, considering the hectic schedule of a clinical doctor. However, I enjoyed teaching and sharing knowledge with the students very much. It was my honour to be teaching alongside Professor Chan Sun On, who was one of my favourite teachers. I believe that teaching juniors is the highest level of learning, and I am still learning and improving my own anatomy knowledge and surgical dissection skills through teaching. Moreover, I believe that it is my responsibility to pass on all my skills and knowledge to the students such that, one day, some of them can become better surgeons than I, and to help as many patients as possible. It is my hope that my teaching can motivate and inspire them to become passionate and selfless doctors who will devote their hearts to their medical career.

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I am deeply honoured to have been selected as a recipient of the Teacher of the Year Award (Education Award). This award came as a great surprise and was completely unexpected since there are so many very dedicated teachers in this Faculty who deserve this prize. I am, nevertheless, grateful for this recognition, and I believe that this achievement is a direct reflection of the hard work and efforts of all of my colleagues at the Kai Chong Tong Clinical Skills Learning Centre.

Seven years ago, I switched roles from that of a paediatrics professor to Director of the Clinical Skills Learning Centre. My duties changed from conducting research, teaching and clinical work to focusing on updating and streamlining the clinical skills teaching programme for undergraduate students. With the challenges of admitting an increased intake of medical students, together with the revamping of the medical curriculum and incorporating the rapid development of technology and new teaching methods, my team and I were tasked with finding the space and the staff to teach these students. We were also charged with pursuing further refinements of the teaching content based on the new curriculum and feedback from students and teachers. This involved frequent communication with the various year coordinators of the Biomedical Sciences and clinical departments. Indeed, carrying out my job at the Clinical Skills Centre would not have been possible without the important contributions of all of those who engaged with us in detailed discussions regarding teaching methods and learning outcomes prior to teaching sessions. I would especially like to thank my colleagues in the busy clinical departments who took the time to participate in the actual teaching sessions.

Lastly, I sincerely thank Professor H K Ng and Professor Paul Lai for their continuous encouragement and unflagging support. I would also like to thank again all my colleagues in the Clinical Skills Learning Centre for helping me reach a stage where I can receive this award as a mark of our achievement. Thank you.
Miss AU Pik Kwon, Susanna (Chinese Medicine)

My five years of university life have nearly come to an end. I am so grateful that in these five years I have experienced many things, including an exchange in America and service trips, which broadened my horizons and challenged my limits. These experiences helped me to develop into a better person.

I want to thank my parents for supporting me financially and spiritually to pursue my dream of becoming a Chinese medicine practitioner, although it took seven years with a two-year associate degree. I also want to express my appreciation for my teachers who led me over all these years. I will try hard to be a kind-hearted Chinese medicine practitioner to repay them.

I believe that one should try their very best whatever they encounter instead of giving up easily. I will always uphold this belief in my future career.

Mr. CHOI Chun Ho, Joseph (Medicine)

I would like to express my gratitude to my respected doctors, teachers, distinguished scholarship donors and the Faculty. I am also grateful to have had true friends to support me whenever I was in need and to have had my study group mates with whom I shared beautiful memories of teamwork. Most importantly, I am lucky to have had the unconditional love of my mother and partner.

Being eager to learn from books and teachers was the key to success in my studies. Teachers who have worked in the same field for years offered us insights we could never find in books. Stay humble and curious, and we will find lectures and tutorials more rewarding.

In late January we lost our greatest teacher, Professor S F Leung, whom we used to greet and congratulate every year in this ceremony, Sir, we shall always remember your sunny smiles and words of wisdom.

The five years of training at CUHK has not only set a solid foundation for my future practice but also inspired me to pursue the path of internal medicine. I would like to contribute to the development of my alma mater in the future.

Miss SUNG Wing Yan, Winnie (Medicine)

Success is nothing without passion, a grateful heart and good company to share the experience with. The endless hours of studying would not have been endurable if not for our inspiring teachers who, each in their unique way, gave us a map to guide us through the study of Medicine. My thirst for knowledge deepened as I connected with patients and understood their suffering. In our final year, study group meetings pulled us back to sanity and became a weekly dose of fun. It is indeed true that "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." Studying is but a small part of life, and I always try to keep my balance especially through stressful times, because it is often yoga, hangouts or an evening run that rejuvenates the mind best.

Miss LAW Wing Yi, Maggie (Nursing)

I would like to thank the School, Faculty, College, teachers, my family and friends for their ongoing support. Your encouragement paved the way to my success.

It has been a bittersweet year for me. Being the Master of Ceremonies for various school events, going to Shanghau to do voluntary teaching and even having a summer exchange in the Netherlands — all these memories are still vivid. I am grateful that I have been given so many opportunities, not only to understand myself and the world, but more importantly to reinforce my aspiration to strive for a better me and a better world.

Miss MOK Hoi Ying, Anna (Pharmacy)

I am sincerely honoured to have received these scholarships, which serve as recognition of my hard work. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the donors for their generosity, which has alleviated my financial burden and allowed me to concentrate on my schoolwork.

Moreover, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the teachers and staff. Being conscientious, passionate and caring, they have equipped me with professional knowledge and guided me to become a competent pharmacist. My parents also inspired me a lot, and their love and tremendous support are of great importance to me. Despite all the difficulties, I endeavoured to reach my goal.

Miss WONG Tsz Yuen, Angel (Public Health)

I would like to express my gratitude to my supervisor, Professor Ho Kim Fai, for his continuous guidance and constructive feedback during the course of my research investigating the association between ground-level ozone and acute respiratory effects among cyclists. I would like to thank the research team for lending measurement instruments and providing technical support, which were vital to the success of our data collection. I am thankful to Dr Johnson Lau for his statistical advice and encouragement. I would also like to thank Cindy Hoi, my project group mate, who gave me a lot of motivation. I hope to pursue a career in epidemiology focusing on research in non-communicable disease prevention.