

The Lord Oxburgh of Liverpool
Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*
Address

Dr The Hon Leung Chun-ying, President Edward Chen, Graduates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am sure that I can say that anyone on whom Lingnan has bestowed an honorary degree is both delighted and honoured to have been recognised in this way. It is a particular honour to be recognised by a university whose roots extend back into the nineteenth century and which over that time has fostered its own, and in some ways unique, approach to education. We wish to express to you our sincere gratitude.

Over its long history Lingnan has existed in many forms and different places and it is a great pleasure to see Lingnan in its present reincarnation in the twenty first century in this campus in Tuen Mun. Having watched this campus being built during the mid nineties I still think of this as the 'new campus' but of course that is wrong because the University has now been here for more than ten years.

The unique property of universities is that they have students. The majority of those students arrive as unconfident school-leavers and it is the responsibility of the university to do all it can over the next three or four years to help them develop into confident, accomplished young adults who think for themselves, have their own values firmly established and are ready to make their own way in the world.

All universities do this to a greater or lesser extent but I believe that it would be hard to find another institution that devotes itself more single-mindedly to the 'whole person' development of its students than Lingnan. What does this mean? It probably means different things to different people. But to me it means that alongside the formal disciplines of the degree course students learn to be responsible members of a community; they learn to respect differences in points of view, in background and in ways of living. They learn to work together and to collaborate in the myriad of student activities on and off campus. From their work in the local community they also learn how fortunate they are to be Lingnan students and that many of the really tough problems of the real world are not solved as easily as those on campus.

I believe that the emphasis that Lingnan places on the development of the rounded individual is valuable in many ways. Hong Kong is above all a city of business and only too often have I heard employers complain that a new employee has the training that is needed for the job but that they are hopeless when it comes to dealing with others. They cannot communicate their ideas, or hold their own in a committee discussion firmly but without causing offence to those with whom they disagree. Or employers may complain that in spite of their other abilities a particular individual is unlikely to be promoted simply because they have not learned how to work in a team or to be a team leader. The message is very clear: technical ability and training are very important but of limited value if they are not accompanied by personal skills as well.

These skills are exactly what the very special environment of Lingnan seeks to foster in all its students. The university is small enough for people to know each other, small enough for the teaching staff to know their students as people and not just as part of a sea of faces in a massive lecture theatre - it is possible for students to flourish as individuals and each to develop his or her own talents.

I commend Lingnan for remaining true to its traditional ideals even in the environment of 21st century Hong Kong where the need for well rounded, thoughtful and responsible members of society are as great as it ever was but where financial pressures make this kind of education difficult to maintain. In closing I would like to pay particular tribute to your President Edward Chen without whose determination Lingnan would certainly not be the institution that it is today.

I offer you all and Lingnan University itself my very best wishes for the future and again express the gratitude of your honorary graduands.

奧斯栢勳爵
榮譽法學博士
致謝辭

梁振英主席、陳坤耀校長、畢業同學及各位嘉賓：

我深信，每個嶺南大學榮譽學位領授人士，會因如此獲得表揚而感到欣喜和榮幸，特別是嶺大的根基可以追溯至十九世紀，淵源流長。多年來，嶺大一直以獨特的教學方針培育人才，我們能獲此殊榮，感到無比榮幸。在此，我們謹對嶺南大學表示衷心的感激。

在嶺大的悠久歷史中，一直以不同的模式在不同地方辦學。我們實在很高興見到，嶺大能於二十一世紀在屯門校園再生。我親睹這校園於九十年代中期興建，迄今我仍然覺得這是一所新校園。當然，這並不完全正確，因為校園在此矗立已逾十年了。

大學的特殊資產就是她們的學生。入學時，大部份的學生都是一群剛畢業於中學而缺乏自信的學子；大學的責任就是要讓他們在往後的三、四年間，培育他們成為具有自信心、能思考，並具有清晰價值觀的有成就青年，以自己的方式貢獻社會。

儘管所有大學在大小程度上都如此做，但我深信沒有其他大學能夠比嶺大更一心一意專注學生的“全人發展”。這說明了什麼？不同的人可能有不同的看法。對我而言，這表示同學在本科課程以外，更學習成為對社會具有承擔的人。他們學會尊重具有不同的觀點和背景的人及其生活方式。在各種學生活動中，他們學會與人合作和相處。在參與社區活動時，他們更能體會，在現實世界中遇到的困難，往往遠比他們在校園中所面對的難題艱鉅得多，進而明白到，能夠在嶺大接受教育是何等的幸運。

我相信，嶺大著重學生的全面發展，在很多方面都是有其價值的。香港是一個商貿之都，但我經常聽見僱主投訴，他們新聘任的僱員，在專業方面有足夠的訓練，但與人相處則無所適從。他們不能清晰表達自己的意見，或者在委員會中討論時堅守立場，在過程中不會冒犯持不同意見者。有僱主會投訴，有些僱員儘管擁有其他才能，卻因不擅與同事合作或作為一個團隊的領袖，以致未能晉升更高的職位。這項訊息很清楚，專業技能固然極其重要，但如不能與人際關係的技巧相配合，其所能發揮的作用始終有限。

以上的陳述，正是嶺大以其特殊的氛圍培育學生具備這些技能。大學規模精細，使學生容易互相認識。同時，教師了解學生是生命的個體，不是大講堂中面貌海洋中的一部份。只有如此，才能使每一位學生展現所長。

處於二十一世紀，當今的香港社會，比以前任何一個時期更需要全面、有理念及具有社會承擔的人才。在財政壓力下，辦理博雅模式的教育不易為，我衷心讚揚，嶺大在此環境下，仍能堅守固有的教學傳統與理念。最後，我謹向校長陳坤耀教授致以崇高的敬意，沒有

陳教授的決心和信念，嶺大必定不是今天這麼一所具有崇高理想的高等學府。

我謹向各位及嶺南大學致以最佳的祝願，並代表所有榮譽博士學位領授人再次表示衷心感激。