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Alumni Make Historic HK\$10 million Gift

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) has received its largest-ever alumni gift - a HK\$10 million donation establishing a scholarship fund to recruit students from developing countries.

The gift comes from Mr Liu Sing Cheong, a homegrown entrepreneur, and his wife, Ms Wong Po Yuk. Mr Liu is a graduate of the University's first MBA class, while Ms Wong took postgraduate degrees from HKUST in both business studies and social science.

"My wife and I are very proud to be associated with this world class institution. The education we received here has been an invaluable asset in our careers. HKUST reinforced for me the notion that education is the key to success, not only for individuals, but also organizations and countries," said Mr Liu during the donation ceremony held at HKUST today (2 November 2005).

"I hope that the scholarship fund will help talented students from the Mainland and other developing countries benefit from the best in education. These students will become members of Hong Kong's vast squad of talents in an appropriately global context. Wherever they are based after graduation, they will help Hong Kong create and strengthen its links with a wide array of countries and regions," Mr Liu added.

Thanking the couple, President Prof Paul Chu said: "Mr and Mrs Liu exemplify the finest qualities of HKUST's graduates. They are dedicated professionals and entrepreneurs who are eager to share the joy of their success by giving back to society and their alma mater.

"Mr and Mrs Liu share our vision of creating an internationalized student body at HKUST. The University's goal is to increase the percentage of non-local undergraduate students to 25% and the recruitment of more students from the developing world is part and parcel of this internationalization drive," said Prof Chu.

A chartered surveyor, Mr Liu's success story began in the early 1990s when he started his local real estate consulting business. In a far-sighted move, he ventured into the uncharted waters of the Guangzhou market in 1993 with the establishment of the Guangzhou Pearl River-Hang Cheong Real Estate Consultants Limited. He later founded MyTopHome, which has grown into the biggest property agency company in Guangzhou. His fast expanding group of companies now employs more than 2,000 staff members, offering professional and wide-ranging services to leading developers and government departments.

Mr Liu has long been a staunch supporter of HKUST. He is a Corporate Advisor to the HKUST Business School and Director of the HKUST R and D Corporation. In 2001, the University conferred an Honorary Fellowship upon Mr Liu in recognition of his innovations in business management.



Cheque presentation: (from left) Prof K C Chan, Dean of Business and Management, Mr Liu Sing Cheong, President Paul Chu

