

## **2011 LLB opening ceremony**

**31 August 2011**

Professor Chan, Professor Arner, teachers, distinguished guests and students, new and old:

I congratulate the new students for having joined the premier law school in Hong Kong.

You all know that the University was founded a century ago. Its function is not simply to inculcate knowledge, but to train young people to become responsible members of society, to manifest virtue and to exhaust by examination the principles of things and affairs. Its Latin motto means “wisdom and virtue”.

Our law school is in its 42<sup>nd</sup> year. It has an excellent reputation, not only for its specialist teachers, quality intake and alumni support, but also for producing graduates with dignity and integrity. There is a general feeling of pride in being a HKU law graduate.

It has been difficult to be admitted to the LLB or mixed or double degree programmes. You must have done really well to be here to-day.

The LLB programme is very demanding. You must work really hard if you wish to obtain a high grade point average for admission to our PCLL curriculum.

At the same time, please bear in mind that qualifying as a lawyer is not the only career choice open to an LLB graduate. Some have, for example, become performing artists, journalists or regulators and are leaders in their fields.

Working hard does not mean confining yourself to matters which count in your grade point average. I encourage you to

take part in broadening activities in order to benefit in full from university education.

The Faculty Office is on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of K.K. Leung Building. How many of you know the location of the stairwell?

It is difficult to build but easy to destroy, whether on an institutional or personal level. You have put in a lot of effort over the years to be here to-day. Please do not lose sight of the importance of dignity, honesty and integrity. I am sure you will not tarnish your standing as a HKU law student or graduate by doing anything which brings the University or the Faculty into disrepute. If you play your part properly, I am sure you will come out of the curriculum a much better person and bring honour and glory to yourself, the Faculty and the University.

I wish you every success in your pursuits here. Thank you.

Kenneth Kwok (LL.B. 1972, P.C.LL. 1973, Hon. University Fellow 2009)  
President  
The University of Hong Kong Law Alumni Association