

Honorary Fellow A Citation



Ms Mok Sau Hing, BA, MA, DipEd

For many intellectuals, educating the young is a sacred calling, and a lifelong career of choice. Ms Mok Sau Hing, a lady of great intelligence and wisdom, chose early in her life to devote herself to educational work. She has applied herself with the greatest enthusiasm to the educational enterprise for decades, and has nurtured the growth of countless students. In 1982 the Government presented her with the Badge of Honour in recognition of her significant service to the community, especially in education and social service.

Ms Mok graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) from the University of Hong Kong in 1958. She obtained her Certificate in Social Work in 1959, and a Master of Arts degree in 1961. Ever an arduous student, Ms Mok completed the Diploma in Education at The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1971, and in 1973 she became the founding Principal of the Buddhist Sin Tak College. A new school with the motto “To illumine wisdom and manifest compassion; to pursue excellence and be a caring person with good values”, the College aims to provide secondary education in the Buddhist tradition and has its emphasis on both the practical and the ethical aspects of education, producing generations of pupils with high moral standards and substantial knowledge. Ms Mok retired from the headship of the school in 1988. During her 15 years at its helm, Ms Mok held steadfast to her values and principles, and discharged her duties with the utmost dedication. Her efforts have built a solid foundation for the new school, and her achievements have come to be admired and appreciated by peers in the education community.

The alumni of The Chinese University of Hong Kong have long been known for their contributions to society and their support to their alma mater. Ms Mok was keenly aware of the strength that could be generated when alumni come together; so even while still studying in the School of Education, she already nurtured the thought of an alumni association for graduates in education, for coordinating their efforts and improving the communication of information. Her idea was soon translated into action and, in 1973, The Chinese University of Hong Kong School of Education Alumni Association came into being, with Ms Mok as its founding President. The Association joined the Federation of the Alumni Associations of CUHK in 1978, an umbrella organization set up to consolidate the efforts and influence of CUHK alumni in their service to the community, especially in the promotion of basic education services. In 1982 a company known as Education Development Limited was formed under the CUHK Federation of Alumni Associations; it was renamed The Education Foundation of CUHK Federation of Alumni Associations in 1998. This body has been set up to coordinate matters pertaining to the founding and management of schools. Applications were soon made to the Government for launching new schools, and Ms Mok was Vice-Chairman of this body for as long as 20 years, giving her time and effort generously to the various projects involved. At present she is still a Director of the Foundation.



To further its objectives, the Education Foundation of the CUHK Federation of Alumni Associations has been active in raising funds, and its efforts have been well supported by both alumni and the community at large. In 1987 the first subvented primary school operated by the Federation, known as the CUHK FAA Thomas Cheung School, opened its doors. Ms Mok volunteered to be a Director of the School Management Committee and was eventually elected as its Chairman and Supervisor of the school in 2002. Meanwhile the Federation has gone from strength to strength in its school building programme, and the CUHK FAA Thomas Cheung Kindergarten and the CUHK FAA Thomas Cheung Secondary School were established in 1991, followed by the CUHK FAA Chan Chun Ha Secondary School in 2000. Ms Mok sat on the Management Committee of all these schools from their inception, and it was only in the recent years that she gradually retired from these leadership positions. The Federation also operates schools on the Mainland, and Ms Mok made a donation to endow a primary school in Fengkai District in the west of Guangdong, in support of the Federation's laudable objectives.

Ms Mok also takes a keen interest in social service, and has held a number of important public offices, including member of the Social Security Appeal Board and the Tsuen Wan District Board, and a non-official member of the Tsuen Wan Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee and the District Advisory Committee. She is the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Tsuen Wan District Community Youth Club, the Management Board of the Kwai Shing Community Hall, and the Hiring and Programmes Committee of the Tsuen Wan Town Hall.

Some years ago Ms Mok took part in academic projects on the early history of Hong Kong, and her articles were incorporated in *Hong Kong and Its Communication With the Outside World Before 1842* edited by the late Professor Lo Hsiang-lin. The book has long been acknowledged as a classic on the study of Hong Kong's early days. Later on Ms Mok also published an article entitled *A Brief Study of the Civil Examinations in the Ming Dynasty* which was an exemplary work in terms of research and scholarship.

Ms Mok has devoted herself to educational enterprises for over 40 years. She has taught not only through words, but by example. She has worked tirelessly for the betterment of the younger generation. Her work speaks of her benevolence and wisdom, and her name is revered in the realm of education, and respected in the community. Mr Chairman, may I now present Ms Mok Sau Hing for the award of an Honorary Fellowship.