

HONG KONG ACADEMY OF MEDICINE
Citation for Honorary Fellowship
18 December 2009
Professor Grace W.K. TANG

Professor Grace Tang is Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of the University of Hong Kong, an organization she has worked in since her graduation. Currently she is Chairman of the Board of the Faculty of Medicine. She is a Specialist in Obstetrics & Gynaecology, majoring in the area of human reproduction.

She was first elected a Council member of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine in November 1997. After serving at the Academy Council for 3 years, she was elected Vice President (Education & Examinations) in December 2000, and became the Academy's President in December 2004 until she stepped down in December 2008. But Professor Tang's contribution to the Academy was long before she joined the Academy Council – she was one of the performers in the Chinese Opera “*The Fighting Bride*”, which was the big hit of March 1992 raising a sum of about \$1.4 million for the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Foundation Fund.

During her tenure as Vice-President of the Academy, she has made continuing medical education (CME) evolving to continuous professional development (CPD) for the specialists. As President of the Academy, she was committed to the maintenance of standard in medical practice, in life-long learning, and in knowledge translation. Under her leadership, the Academy has worked with various organizations to achieve these goals locally, nationally and internationally. She and the Academy have been invited by the Ministry of Health to assist in the development of Specialist Training, Accreditation and Registration in the People's Republic of China. For this, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed in April 2006 between the Ministry of Health and the Academy. And she has been appointed a Principal Member of the Preparatory Committee of Specialist Registration, Ministry of Health of the People's Republic of China. The standard of specialists in Hong Kong and the status of the Academy have been endorsed by Mainland through this MOU. This is a significant milestone in the history of the Academy, with the great effort of Professor Tang. Her dedication, commitment and efforts during her 4-year presidency have improved the Academy's networking with overseas counterparts, and especially the Ministry of Health in mainland.

Professor Tang has expanded her interest and responsibility in postgraduate, professional and specialist education in medicine. Her accomplishments in medical education and continuous professional development are numerous. She played a key role in the Medical Curriculum Reform while she was the Dean of Medicine of the University of Hong Kong, and her motto for the daunting task was “Failure is not an option”. As Dean, she also built up the infrastructure of the School of Chinese Medicine which was attached to the Faculty of Medicine at that time. Together with a number of enthusiasts, she formed the Asian Medical Education Association (AMEA) consisting of over 70 medical schools in its membership. She has been the AMEA's Management Committee chairman since its inception in 2001. She has been the Chairman of the Education & Accreditation Committee of the Medical Council of Hong Kong since 2000, and has successfully introduced a voluntary CME scheme for all non-specialist doctors in Hong Kong. She was the Chairman of the International Committee of the 2008 CPD Congress in Vancouver, bringing experts worldwide together to share experience for lifelong learning. She is now representing the Academy on the Planning

Committee of the 2nd CPD International Forum on CPD Accreditation to be held in March 2010 in Sydney.

Professor Tang's other pursuits in the service of the Community include her Membership and Chairmanship of the Nursing Council (previously the Nursing Board), the Hong Kong Family Planning Association, the Social Worker Registration Board, the Veterinary Surgeons Board, the Supplementary Medical Professions Council comprising Medical Laboratory technologists, occupational therapists, optometrists, physiotherapists and radiographers, the Governing Board of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital, the Women's Commission, the Human Reproduction Technology Council, the Admission & Budget Allocation Committee of the Community Chest and the Advisory Committee on Admission of Quality Migrants & Professionals.

Despite her heavy commitment in professional and community services, Professor Tang maintains her interest in academic research. Her research related to Women's Health is the first in Hong Kong on a number of areas, including longitudinal study of menarche, of menopausal symptoms, bone mineral density and bone loss in Chinese women, Chinese Medicine in the treatment of menopausal women, and Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in the prevention of precancerous lesions of the vulva. She has published over 100 papers in peer-reviewed journals and served on a number of local and international editorial boards.

Professor Tang was awarded Justice of the Peace in 2001. In recognition of her distinguished public service and outstanding contribution to the medical and health sector, particularly her contribution in promoting the professional standards of medical practitioners in Hong Kong, Professor Tang was awarded the Silver Bauhinia Star by the Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in 2008. She has also been bestowed with honorary fellowship of various institutions in Australasia, Ireland, Malaysia, Singapore, and the United States. She has been recipient of the Young Scientist Award, Asia-Oceanic Federation of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists in 1991 and Outstanding Women Professionals and Entrepreneurs Award in 2005.

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