



## Sir Albert Rodrigues

(MBBS 1935; Hon LLD 1962)

**“In the field he was always sure and set an example of keenness to his men.”**

– *HKU Students' Union Magazine (1933)*  
on Captain Albert Rodrigues of the  
University Cricket Eleven, First Division  
League Champion 1932.

All members and alumni of The University of Hong Kong mourn with heavy heart the passing of Sir Albert, distinguished alumnus and head of the University family of the longest standing, on February 5, 2006, at the age of 94.

Born on Guy Fawkes' Day (November 5) in 1911, the same year of the University's founding, Albert Maria Rodrigues proved to be “a quiet and lasting light rather than...sporadic and many-coloured...fireworks” (citation on his conferment of Hon LLD in 1962). He was a child prodigy at St Joseph's College, winning the Inez Soares Scholarship to read Medicine at HKU at the age of fifteen in 1927 and had to do a gap year before admission in 1928. Since then he had excelled himself in leadership, as leading student and leading alumnus/Officer at this University, and as leading citizen in the Hong Kong community. Having led the University teams to top of the league in cricket and hockey in his undergraduate days, he had gone on to play hockey for the Hong Kong team. That has been a recurring pattern throughout his long and brilliant career: sterling service to the University community and the Hong Kong community.

Graduating as MBBS in 1935 with flying colours as Chan Kai Ming Prize Winner and establishing his practice as specialist in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, he went on to become the medical officer of the Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps. He was interned in Sham Shui Po War Camp from 1942 to 1945 and there made memorable contributions in treating fellow prisoners-of-war, notably in fighting a diphtheria epidemic in the camp, for which he advanced from Lieutenant rank to Major and received his military MBE. Resuming his practice he rose to be Medical Superintendent of St Paul's Hospital, delivered some 2,000 of the post war baby boom, and contributed to the dramatic lowering of infant mortality in the territory.

He was Chairman of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the University in 1961, and served for decades on the Urban Council in the 1940s, the Legislative Council from 1954 onwards, and the Executive Council from 1960 onwards. He retired from the Legislative and Executive Councils in 1974 as Senior Member, having been knighted in 1971 for distinguished services to the Hong Kong community.

Thereafter, he proceeded to concentrate on serving and leading the University, as its longest-serving Chairman of Council from 1967 to 1985, and longest-serving Pro-Chancellor from 1968 to 1994, thus becoming head of the University family of the longest standing. In that last capacity he presided over the University's 80th Anniversary Celebrations again in 1992 and conferred an honorary degree on Mother Teresa “who I admired so much for the great humility and humanitarian attitude shown by her life and good works.” (from “A Hong Kong Doctor in War and Peace” by Albert Rodrigues, collected in *Dispersion and Renewal*).

The University will always remember and dearly miss this shining paragon of a truly selfless and dedicated alumnus, for his distinguished services as a leader in the University and the Hong Kong communities, whose string of honours he had received over the years occupied two typed lines after his name and posed headaches for designers for University invitation cards every time.

Together we cherish Sir Albert's lasting memory, in the comforting certainty that he has joined Mother Teresa his own idol in the realm of eternal peace.

**“And flights of angels sing thee to thy rest!”**

by Rupert Chan 陳鈞潤 (BA 1971)

## Dr Fang Zhao-ling 方召馨

(BA 1955; Hon DLitt 1996)

**“The road of art is beset with thorns and brambles. One must be undaunted by setbacks, must keep moving ahead and must strive for change and innovation.”**

*Dr Fang Zhao-ling, London, June 1988*

As in art, so too in life. When Dr Fang joined the University in 1954 to study Chinese philosophy and literature, she had already endured the ravages of war and much turmoil in her life. Dr Fang graduated from HKU in 1956 with a BA and went on to further studies at Oxford. She subsequently developed a highly personalised and internationally celebrated style of painting and calligraphy. Her paintings reflected her lifelong sense of engagement with the community and interest in social issues and this, in turn, developed into a Fang family tradition of supporting the University's endeavours and working for the benefit of society.

In 1996, the University paid tribute to Dr Fang for her contributions to the arts, to academia and to society by conferring on her the degree of Doctor of Letters *honoris causa*. There is also a gallery named in her honour at the University Museum and Art Gallery, which is home to many of the works she has graciously donated to the University.

She will be dearly missed by all whose lives she touched.

**“Mother's capacity for hard work and her ability to create under adversity was truly amazing. When she was at work, she let nothing distract her... Although she is gone, we will always remember her teachings and keep her memory alive in our hearts.”**

Eulogy by Philip Fang 方順生, second son

**“I once asked my grandmother to write the word “honest” (坦率) in Chinese calligraphy when I was 18 years old. I did not explain to her why I picked the words. I want to say it today that I think she is an honest person and unpretentious.”**

Eulogy by Arnold Fang 方欣浩, grandson



*“Peace in the world”, a painting by Dr Fang*

## Dr Peter Choy 蔡惠鏞 (MBBS 1952)

Dr Choy passed away peacefully on February 4, 2006.

Dr Choy was very active in student activities during his days at HKU. And this involvement in the University continued after his graduation in 1952. As well as building a reputation as a distinguished practitioner, Dr Choy had also been a keen supporter of alumni activities and was a key convenor of alumni gatherings. In 2002 he organised the MBBS Class 1952 Reunion at which classmates from all over the world gathered to celebrate their 50th anniversary.

## Dr Stephen Leung 梁泳釗 (MBBS 1957)

Dr Stephen Leung peacefully passed away on December 21, 2005 at the age of 78.

Dr Leung was a staunch supporter of the University and of St John's College. The "Leung Wing Chiu Steps" (梁泳釗徑) at St John's College was named after him in 1992 as acknowledgement of his contributions to the College. He was the Founding Honorary President of the HKU Foundation at its inception in 1995 and a Member of the Foundation's Board of Directors since 1996.

Dr Leung was an experienced specialist in paediatrics and a highly respected member of the medical profession. In 1987 he was elected Honorary Life Member of the Hong Kong Paediatric Society and since 1994 had been Vice-Patron of the Federation of Medical Societies of Hong Kong.

A quiet man who lived out of the public eye, Dr Leung carried out his good works discreetly. He helped establish kindergartens and schools, in both Hong Kong and on the Mainland, and contributed significantly to the Lok Sin Tong Benevolent Society.

For 45 years, Dr Leung devoted himself to the care of children. He never officially retired and chose to continue treating his patients till his final days.



## Dr James Wu 胡文瀚

(Engineering Student 1940-1941; HonLLD 1992)

“James Wu’s engineering education at The University of Hong Kong and Zhongshan University laid a solid foundation for innovative enterprises in engineering, education and industry. His achievements were recognised by the Government in the 1960s and 1970s when he served on the Urban Council, the Legislative Council, the Trade Development Council, the Vocational Training Council and the Productivity Council. International recognition of his work included Permanent Membership of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers in 1987 and Honorary Citizenship of Guangzhou in 1991.

Dr Wu’s staunch belief in human capital investment led to two decades of total devotion to the development of the Hong Kong Polytechnic when he served as Deputy Chairman... Support for engineering education is one of his priorities and three engineering departments benefited from funding for the purchase of equipment,” – an extract from the citation of the Congregation held in 1992, at which Dr Wu received the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, from the University.

## Francis Kong 江之鈞 (BA 1960)

Francis Kong, a highly respected teacher, passed away on December 12, 2005, at the age of 69. An English teacher for 45 years, Kong never taught from a textbook. Instead, he spoke impromptu about current issues, and other topics, and asked students to write down everything he said. He taught the first student to obtain 9As and the first student to obtain 10As in Hong Kong.

Mr Kong was dedicated to education and was deeply attached to his students. He will be fondly remembered by his students at Wan Yan College, Kowloon and all who knew him.

## Stephen Chu 朱敏初

(BA 1962; CertEd 1975; AdvDipEd 1981; MEd 1982)

Stephen Chu, a Morrisonian and a respected educator, passed away peacefully on November 8, 2005, at the age of 69. Better known as “Principal Chu”, he was Principal of Newman Catholic College from the 1970s till his retirement. He was also Chairman of the Hong Kong Association of Heads of Secondary Schools, an Executive Committee Member of the Hong Kong Council For Educational Administration and sat on the management committees of various secondary schools.

He loved reading, astronomy, archaeology and photography, and served as the chairman of the Hong Kong Archaeological Society and adviser to several photography clubs.