



Local / Education / Business page editors

Press Release

Hong Kong 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017

## **Nobel Laureate Welcoming Luncheon and Award Presentation Ceremony Government and communities come together to create social care**

The “Nobel Laureate Welcoming Luncheon and Award Presentation Ceremony”, which hold collaboratively by the Social Enterprise Research Institute (SERI) and Asian College of Knowledge Management (ACKM) in the Ritz-Carton Hong Kong on 5th June, gathered over three hundreds politicians, entrepreneurs and academic leaders together, for cultivating future leaders and industries to contribute their expertise to the growth of social responsibility.

Social Caring Pledge Scheme Awards mainly divided into individual honors and corporate honors. SERI awards include Asian Social Caring Leadership Award, Outstanding Social Caring Organization Award, Outstanding Social Caring Brand and Socio-Cultural Innovation Award.

The hosts were honoured to have invited two Nobel Laureates Professor Shuji Nakamura and Professor Arieh Warshel, Mr Paul Chan Mp-po, GBS, MH, JP, Financial Secretary, Professor Sophia Chan, JP, Under Secretary for Food and Health and Mr Simon Wong, JP, Chairman of the Hong Kong Brand Development Council as officiating guests.

The honorable awardees include Professor Way Guo, the President of the City University of Hong Kong, Yvonne Lo, the Vice-president of Crystal Group, Mr. Cheng Kong, the Chairman of the Board of PrimeCredit Limited and Mr. Brooke Greville, the Chief Executive Officer of G Entertainment Group.

### **Sustainable Development relies heavily on Innovative Technology**

Financial Secretary Mr. Paul Chan Mp-po was present to give the opening speech. During the opening speech, mentioned that innovation and new technology are recognised as cornerstones of the sustained economic development in Hong Kong. In 2017-2018 Budget, the Treasury has set \$10 billion aside to support Hong Kong's innovation development and to project a blueprint for the process of re-industrialization in Hong Kong. Mr. Chan has foreseen a number of governmental measurements that launched this year, including the expansion of the Science Park, the granting of applied research for universities, the establishment of the project “Inno Space” and “inno-tech fund” and an Innovation & Technology Venture Fund to co-invest in local start-ups with private venture capital funds on a matching basis, which involving estimated 18 billion of funds.

The Research Institute was honored to have invited Professor Guo Way, the President of the City University of Hong Kong as officiating guests and to have welcomed him as Honorary Directors. SERI has also presented the innovative development proposals, titled “Advocate social



innovation to narrow the rich-poor gap in Hong Kong”, to the presence political, business and academic leaders. The proposal has suggested six principles to actively encourage and promote

Hong Kong's social innovation and remediate the long-standing disparity between the rich and the poor, including to establish social enterprise stock exchange, to facilitate the development of Social Enterprises, to promote affordable cooperative housing, to restart land reclamation projects, to develop social impact bond and to facilitate green finance development. SERI hopes that the new SAR Government will be able to develop social capital, promote sustainable socio-economic and environmental development, and make more effective use of public finance to resolve the social problems.

**“If you try your best, you shall achieve.”**

In addition, the Award Ceremony has invited two Nobel laureates, the “father of blue LED” Professor Shuji Nakamura and the awardee of Nobel Prize in Chemistry, Professor Arieh Warshel. Professor Shuji Nakamura is a professional electronic engineer and inventor specializing in the field of semiconductor technology. He is the awardee of the 2014 Nobel Prize in Physics "for the invention of efficient blue light-emitting diodes, which has enabled bright and energy-saving white light sources". In the speech given by Professor Shuji Nakamura, he mentioned when he started his research in the eighties, he has been repeatedly told that blue LED was impossible. Yet, the perseverance of his team marked the success of the invention, "If you work hard, you shall achieve.”

In retrospect to the experience of Professor Shuji Nakamura, Professor Ariel Wahhel of Israel also felt the same. During his speech, he pointed out that the road to innovation is never easy, especially when everyone is saying that your idea is impossible. "Everyone told me that my idea was absurd and impossible, but I had to hold on, and now my research was providing new insights into the interaction between the drug and its patients." As long as there are potentials and strong desires, you turn impossible possible.

**Reference webpage :** <http://www.seriasia.org>

**Photo download:** <https://www.sendspace.com/file/vzg37b>

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## Pledge Scheme recognised by Nobel Laureates and UN Global Compact

Thanks to the long-standing supports from various sectors, this year marks the 6th Social Caring Pledge Scheme for businesses that are committed to a voluntary set of ethical standards in social responsibility. The Pledge Scheme is endorsed and approved by Honorary Life Chancellor Nobel Laureate Professors Harald zur Hausen and Kurt Wüthrich, and is also supported by the United Nations Global Compact Network President Mr. Gustavo Pérez Berlanga. In endorsement of the principles advocated in UN Global Compact, and in encouragement of social caring and sustainable development, the Social Caring Pledge Scheme promotes Asian enterprises for their contributions to environmental and social protection, human rights, labour standards, anti-corruption, and customer care. With the support from over 300 members from political, academic, and business communities who strive for promoting awareness of social betterment, the Ceremony is surely an industry-wide, well-received biannual occasion

### About Social Enterprise Research Institute

Social Enterprise Research Institute (SERI) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the continual development, promotion and application of corporate citizenship principles, models and technique in Asia. SERI is the first professional body in Asia to have developed the Social Caring Pledge Scheme for businesses that are committed to a voluntary set of ethical standards in the areas of social care and responsibility. Social Caring Pledge Scheme is endorsed by Nobel Laureate Professor Harald zur Hausen, who is the Honorary Life Chancellor of SERI.



### About Asian College of Knowledge Management

Asian College of Knowledge Management (ACKM) was set up in Hong Kong in 2001 as a non-profit organization dedicated to the continuous development, promotion and application of knowledge management principles, models and techniques in Asia. ACKM is the first professional body in the world to have developed a series of certification standards specific to the field of knowledge management. These standards are the key to the widespread of knowledge management practices in Hong Kong. ACKM also builds worldwide partnerships with universities, professional bodies and organizations to accelerate knowledge transfer that promises significant benefits for Asian businesses.



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