

Citation for
Tsung-Dao LEE, Ph.D.

The eminent scholar who is being presented for conferment of an honorary degree is not only a man of the world but of the universe. In collaboration with his close associate, Dr. Chen-Ning Yang, Dr. Lee successfully challenged the long-accepted law of conservation of parity, thus making an historic contribution to the knowledge of the universe and opening up new frontiers of science. In recognition of his genius, he was awarded, as a co-recipient, the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1957, at the age of 31.

Professor Lee was born in Shanghai, China and received his higher education at the National Chekiang University in Kweichow from 1943 to 1944 and at the National Southwest Associated University in Kunming from 1945 to 1946. He then pursued advanced studies in physics at the University of Chicago and was awarded the degree of Ph.D. in 1950.

Dr. Lee has a distinguished academic career. After graduation from the University of Chicago, he was immediately appointed a research associate in astronomy by his university. He later joined the University of California as research associate and lecturer in physics, and subsequently became a member of the prestigious Institute of Advanced Study at Princeton. He was appointed by Columbia University to be assistant professor of physics in 1953, associate professor in 1955 and full professor in 1956. He has remained at Columbia except from 1960 to 1963, when he was a senior academic member of the Institute of Advanced Study at Princeton. He had the unusual honour of being the Loeb Lecturer at Harvard University in 1957 and again in 1964. He is a member of the American National Academy of Science and recipient of the Albert Einstein Award in Science at Yeshiva University in 1957.

Dr. Lee is a close friend and adviser to The Chinese University of Hong Kong. He has served on its Advisory Board on Natural Sciences since 1964, and has been generous in giving advice and guidance in the development of our academic programme in physics. This University owes him a debt of gratitude, and as a token of appreciation for his invaluable services, is commending him to Your Excellency for the conferment of the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.