

Honorary Fellow – Citation
Mr Gordon William Ewing Jones *BBS*

Mr. Gordon Jones was born in Harrow, UK in 1951. In 1973, he graduated from the University of Oxford with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Modern History. From the same university, he acquired a Master of Arts degree in 1983.

Mr. Jones joined the Hong Kong Government as an Administrative Officer straight from university in October 1973. In the following decade, he served in a number of key positions in the then Colonial Secretariat, the New Territories Administration, the Environment Branch, the Social Services Branch, the Urban Services Department, and the City and New Territories Administration. When he was the District Officer of the Kowloon City District from 1983 to 1986, he played a key role in planning the clearance and demolition of the Kowloon Walled City in 1986, an operation which he considers to have been one of the best kept secrets of the Hong Kong Government.

From 1986 to 1989, Mr. Jones served as Assistant Financial Secretary in the Finance Branch, where he was head of one of the four divisions responsible for Government expenditure. Having briefly served as Principal Assistant Secretary for Transport in 1990, he joined the then Registrar General's Department later that year as Head of the Companies Division, the first-ever Administrative Officer to fill an operational post in that department. He played a key role in the establishment of the new Companies Registry and became head of the new department on 1 May 1993.

As Registrar of Companies, Mr. Jones was the driving force behind the Companies Registry's modernization and computerization, and was responsible for implementing many initiatives which significantly improved the department's enforcement and public service delivery capability. This culminated with the launching of Phase I of the Integrated Companies Registry Information System in February 2005, which fully computerized the Companies Registry's internal document processing and public search operations. This enabled the department to provide a vitally important public service on a paperless and highly efficient

basis 24 hours a day. Another very significant part of Mr. Jones's responsibilities as Registrar of Companies was legal, corporate governance and regulatory reform. As well as piloting a large number of companies amendment bills through the Legislative Council, he was very heavily involved with the major Overall Review of the Companies Ordinance in 2000 and the Corporate Governance Review in 2001 and 2003 by the Standing Committee on Company Law Reform, and the establishment of the Financial Reporting Council in 2007. His work in company law reform culminated with his taking the lead in initiating and planning the rewrite of the Companies Ordinance, the largest and most complex law reform exercise ever undertaken in Hong Kong, which commenced in 2006. Mr. Jones hopes that the new Companies Bill, which is scheduled to be introduced into the Legislative Council later this year, will go a long way to modernizing Hong Kong's company law and provide a key element in ensuring Hong Kong's future as a major international commercial and financial centre.

As Registrar of Companies, Mr. Jones represented the Financial Secretary on the Council of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants for 14 years. In addition, he developed very close professional links with the Hong Kong Institute of Chartered Secretaries, the Hong Kong Institute of Directors and the Hong Kong Securities Institute. In recognition of his work in the area of company law reform and corporate governance in Hong Kong, Mr. Jones became one of the first Honorary Fellows of the Hong Kong Institute of Directors in 1996, a Fellow of the UK and Hong Kong Institutes of Chartered Secretaries in 2000 and an Honorary Fellow of the Hong Kong Securities Institute in 2007, becoming only the third person to receive such recognition. He retired in 2008 after a career of 34 years in the civil service in Hong Kong, a city which he calls home.

Mr. Chairman, for his remarkable service to the community and his contribution to the major reform of Hong Kong's Company Law and Corporate Governance, may I now present Mr. Gordon William Ewing Jones to you for the conferment of an honorary fellowship.

English citation written and delivered by Dr Lau Chi-pang

榮譽院士贊辭 鍾悟思先生

鍾悟思先生 1951 年出生於英國哈羅市，1973 年取得牛津大學近代史文學士學位，1983 年於同校獲文學碩士學位。

1973 年 10 月，鍾先生大學畢業後隨即加入香港政府任職政務主任，其後十年曾出任多個重要職位，包括當時的殖民地司署、新界民政署、環境科、社會事務科、市政總署及政務總署。1983 至 1986 年出任九龍城區理民官時，在策劃 1986 年的九龍城寨清拆行動中扮演重要角色。他認為此項清拆計劃，實為香港政府保守得最好的秘密之一。

1986 至 1989 年，鍾先生任財政科助理財政司，掌管負責政府支出的四個部門的其中一個。1990 年曾暫任首席助理運輸司，同年加入當時的註冊總署任公司科主管，為該部門首位擔任管理運作職務的政務主任。鍾先生參與成立新的公司註冊處，功不可沒，於 1993 年 5 月 1 日成為該處處長。

成為公司註冊處處長後，鍾先生致力推動現代化和電腦化改革，亦擔起了推行多項新措施的重任，大大提高了該處執行職責及提供公共服務的能力。該處於 2005 年 2 月更開始推行第一階段的「公司註冊綜合資訊系統」，將內部文件處理及公眾查詢系統全面電腦化，使大眾可以 24 小時使用這項重要的公共服務，高效率而不費紙張。當時，該處的法律事宜、企業管治及監管制度改革亦是鍾先生作為處長的主要職責。除了透過立法會試行多份公司修訂條例草案外，他亦積極參與幾個主要的項目，包括 2000 年《全面檢討公司條例》、2001 及 2003 年由公司法改革常務委員會修訂的《企業管治檢討》以及 2007 年成立香港財務匯報局。鍾先生於 2006 年著手籌劃修訂《公司條例》，是香港有史

以來最大型、最複雜的法制改革活動。新修訂的公司條例草案將於今年年底提交立法會，鍾先生希望能藉此成功將香港公司法現代化，為香港未來作為主要的國際商業和金融中心奠下重要的基礎。

出任公司註冊處處長 14 年間，鍾先生一直代表財政司司長出席香港會計師公會理事會。此外，他亦與香港特許秘書公會、香港董事學會及香港證券專業學會保持非常緊密的聯繫。鍾先生對香港的公司法改革和企業管治貢獻良多，榮獲多個學會表揚，於 1996 年成為首批香港董事學會榮譽資深會員，2000 年又成為英國及香港特許秘書公會資深會員，2007 年更成為全港第三位證券專業學會榮譽資深會員。鍾先生以香港為家，任職公務員達 34 年，於 2008 年正式榮休。

主席先生，為表揚鍾先生對香港社會及對改革香港公司法和企業管治制度的傑出貢獻，本人謹恭請 閣下頒授榮譽院士銜予鍾悟思先生。

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