

Madam Chancellor, allow me to present Dr. James Chi Ming Pau, an SFU alumnus and humanitarian of the highest order who has dedicated the past five decades to helping improve the quality of life for people in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside—his own home since 1975.

Dr. Pau arrived in Canada from Hong Kong where he had trained as a nurse in western medicine and as a doctor in traditional Chinese medicine. In B.C., he began his career nursing the frail and elderly at Vancouver General Hospital's Banfield Pavilion—an experience that led him to volunteer as a home visitor for vulnerable seniors through the multicultural organization, SUCCESS. He has been a tireless volunteer in his neighbourhood ever since, serving the very young and the very old, and advocating for at-risk populations on dozens of boards and advisory committees. Indeed, his interests and endeavors are as diverse as the community he serves.

Dr. Pau follows the Buddhist path—he is the founder and president of the North American Buddhist Order. Deeply committed to peace, harmony, and "doing meritorious deeds for the benefit of others," he believes that "love is the best medicine." Enacting that philosophy, he launched a by-donation clinic in the 1980s. Through compassionate Chinese and Western medicinal practices, the clinic helped seniors and individuals struggling with issues such as addiction, mental health and HIV/AIDS. A strong believer in the need to build a more inclusive society, he also co-founded the HIV/IDU Consumers' Board, which operated a needle exchange, and which was instrumental in getting acupuncture recognized as a legitimate medical treatment in B.C.

For his efforts, Dr. Pau has received numerous awards for community service, including the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, the B.C. Community Achievement Award, the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award and Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers, SFU's Thakore Visiting Scho ou confer upon him now.