

# A wider field of vision

## 改善視力 無遠弗屆

(Photo on left)  
Prof. George Woo (left)  
was presented the Essilor  
Award for Outstanding  
International Contributions  
to Optometry.  
(左頁圖片)胡志城教授(左)  
獲頒Essilor Award for  
Outstanding International  
Contributions to  
Optometry。

(Photo on right)  
Prof. Woo  
(右頁圖片) 胡教授



The Essilor Award highlights Emeritus Professor's outstanding contributions to optometry around the world.

榮休眼科視光學教授獲頒Essilor Award，以表揚他對全世界眼科視光學的傑出貢獻。

Prof. George Woo, Visiting Chair Professor of Optometry and Emeritus Professor of the School of Optometry, is a man with a singular vision. He wants to unite optometrists and related professionals to treat and prevent blindness all over the world. A strong advocate and pioneering leader in the promotion of primary eye care in Hong Kong, he nevertheless has his sights set further afield.

Commenting after receiving the American Academy of Optometry's Essilor Award for Outstanding International Contributions to Optometry on 25 October in Seattle, USA, Prof. Woo said that "not all parts of the world are fortunate enough to have primary eye care, never mind optometrists, but you can all play a part in alleviating this by volunteering for various humanitarian initiatives or exchange programmes". There was, he warned, "a dire need for quality eye care services, especially in developing countries".

Prof. Woo received the Essilor Award for his significant contributions to the development of optometry in the Pacific Rim and promoting optometry throughout the world. He began his career as an optometrist with the Canadian Red Cross Society after graduating with a Doctor of Optometry degree from the University of Waterloo in 1964. He later moved to Indiana University, where he obtained a PhD in Physiological Optics in 1970.

After serving at various prestigious universities in Canada, the USA, UK and Australia, Prof. Woo joined the Hong Kong Polytechnic in 1987, where he led the development of one of the best optometry programmes in the world. In 1997, he was appointed Chair Professor of Optometry and Dean of the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences at PolyU. He later decided to relinquish the deanship, but felt the call of duty again in 2008, when he resumed the position.

All the while, Prof. Woo developed his research interests in vision rehabilitation, the psychophysics of vision, myopia, contrast sensitivity function, visual optics, vision in the aged and photometry. His highly respected expertise also led to presidencies and chairmanship of several professional bodies and membership of numerous committees in Hong Kong, the Chinese mainland and worldwide.

Prof. Woo has served as President of both the World Council of Optometry and the Asia Pacific Council of Optometry. Few places around the globe are never within this optometrist's ever-watchful gaze.



理 大眼科視光學院客座講座教授兼榮休教授胡志城教授向來將眼光集中於團結眼科視光師和有關專業人員，以在世界各地治療及預防失明為己任。作為在香港推動基本眼睛護理的先驅，胡教授理想宏大，早已把目光投向更廣闊的領域。

胡教授在十月二十五日於美國西雅圖接受美國眼科視光學院頒發 Essilor Award for Outstanding International Contributions to Optometry 獎項。獲獎後，他表示：「並非世界每個角落的人都能夠享用基本眼睛護理服務，更莫說視光師服務，但是我們可以透過自願參與人道計劃或交流活動，來改變現狀。」他亦提醒道：「目前對於高質素眼睛護理服務的需求，已達到一個很嚴重的程度，在發展中國家的情況更甚。」

美國眼科視光學院頒發 Essilor Award 予胡教授，是為表揚他在推動亞太地區以至全世界眼科視光學發展方面的重大貢獻。胡教授在一九六四年於加拿大滑鐵盧大學修畢眼科視光學博士課程後，在加拿大紅十字會擔任眼科視光師一職，其後在一九七零年獲印第安納大學頒發哲學博士學位。

胡教授曾於加拿大、美國、英國及澳洲等地多間世界著名學府從事教學及研究工作，一九八七年加入當時的香港理工學院，發展現時已於國際享負盛名、並為全港獨有的眼科視光學講座課程。一九九七年，胡教授獲委任成為理大醫療及社會科學院院長與視光學講座教授，雖然他曾一度卸去學院院長之職，但其後重拾使命，於二零零八年再獲委任為院長。

多年來，胡教授的研究主要集中探討視力復康、視覺心理物理學、近視、對比敏感度功能、視覺光學、長者視覺及光度測定等範疇。憑藉其專業知識及資深地位，他曾先後擔任多個本港、國際、中國內地及專業組織的會長及主席職位。

胡教授亦是世界眼科視光學會及亞太眼科視光學會的前主席。環顧全球，只有少數地方未納入這位視光學專家的視野中。❖