PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

More bachelor degree choices for DSE graduates
Gratia Christian College born today to produce new breed of professionals

(Hong Kong, 14 July, 2015) Gratia Christian College (GCC) was launched today under the Post-Secondary Colleges Ordinance and Regulations (CAP 320). Led by reputable community and academic leaders as Board of Governors and College Council members (a full list of membership enclosed), the College was founded by a group of devoted Christians presided by Dr Hong Sheung CHUI, former president of Hang Seng School of Commerce and founding president of Hang Seng Management College. Gratia Christian College is committed to undertaking the twin tasks of professional and character development of students. This independent, non-profit-making Christian College offers three full-time 4-year Bachelor degree (Honours) programmes in Social Work, Psychology, and Business Administration (Service Marketing and Management). All programmes have been approved by the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ). The first year intake is 180 students.

GCC’s academic programmes offer students a broad education in theoretical knowledge and service learning, combining the Christian faith with academic learning seldom found elsewhere in Hong Kong SAR. With the mission of integrating the philosophy of servant leadership with practical needs of Hong Kong, Gratia Christian College aims to breed new professionals who genuinely care about the world by putting public interest before self-interest. “Corporations and organizations around the world are fully aware of the critical need for integrity and humanity in their corporate fabrics. Therefore, employers attach great importance to recruiting graduates with good character to match their professional competence,” said Dr CHUI, President of Gratia Christian College. The distinctive edge of Gratia Christian College is that “we strive to inspire students to develop themselves into servant leaders who embody professional knowledge, good character and the core values of “CHRIST” (Commitment, Humility, Resilience, Integrity, Service, Teamwork).” “This unique quality in producing all-round professionals will definitely be a complement to Hong Kong’s tertiary education landscape,” added Dr CHUI.

Development of internationally recognized professional competence is another key cornerstone of Gratia Christian College. The curricula of all programmes are designed to answer the unmet needs of respective industries and accredit students with necessary qualifications for further studies and career development.
Bachelor of Social Work (Honours) Programme

Embracing the community as its campus, the social work programme of Gratia Christian College is devoted to educating students who will pursue a professional career that pragmatically serves the community in need and society as a whole. This programme has already undergone qualification recognition assessment by the Social Workers Registration Board and is waiting for its endorsement. Graduates are qualified for taking up frontline posts as professional social workers at the equivalent rank of Assistant Social Work Officer.

Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) Programme

Students in the Psychology programme will develop a scientific understanding of and meaningful insights into how and why individuals, alone or in the presence of others, behave, think and feel the way they do. Such knowledge has proven to be useful to many professions and service sectors such as health, education, counselling, marketing, human resources, management and training. Church organisations, police and law enforcement agencies, as well as think tanks have increasingly recognised the value of psychological knowledge to their work, thus further widening the employment prospects of psychology graduates. The curriculum is designed in line with internationally-recognized programmes. Graduates are eligible for Graduate Membership of the Hong Kong Psychological Society, as well as basic membership of some overseas psychological societies such as the British Psychological Society and the Australian Psychological Society.

Bachelor of Business Administration (Honours) in Service Marketing and Management Programme

The edge of Gratia Christian College’s business programme is its unique insight in answering the unmet needs of the service marketing industry. Problems like burnout of service industry workers and high turnover rate have been haunting the industry. This programme is designed to train a group of servant leaders that moves organizations toward service excellence with humanity and resilience. Other than service management, courses in accounting, business statistics and finance are available to develop students’ business capacity.

Gratia Christian College is supported by a strong team of academic leaders with proven track records including:

- Dean, School of Social Work - Professor Alex Y H Kwan, Former Head of Department of Applied Social Studies, City University of Hong Kong and Chairman of Social Workers Registration Board
- Dean, School of Psychology - Chair Professor Sik Hung Ng, Academician (Fellow of The Royal Society of New Zealand) and former Professor of Psychology, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand
- Head, School of Business - Dr Kokin Lam, Former Head of Department and Academic Director, Tung Wah College
- Head, School of General Education - Dr I Wah Pang, Former Associate Dean, Faculty of Education & Human Development, Hong Kong Institute of Education

Gratia Christian College accepts applications for enrolment now. DSE students who have met the basic university entrance requirements are qualified to apply. Non-standard entrants and exemptions will be considered on a case by case basis. College Scholarships are available to assist students with financial difficulties.
Encl:
1. Board of Governors
2. College Council members
3. Promotion pamphlets

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