Mr. Stephen A. SCHWARZMAN

Citation

One of the most influential figures shaping the global financial landscape, Mr. Stephen A. SCHWARZMAN is venerated for his astute insights and bold vision. As the Chairman, CEO, and Co-Founder of Blackstone, his exceptional leadership has propelled the alternative investment firm to unparalleled prominence, overseeing over US$1 trillion in assets under management. In addition to his exceptional success in business, Mr. Schwarzman also dedicates himself to philanthropic endeavors, championing initiatives across education, culture and the arts, athletics, and more.

Mr. Schwarzman's vision holds sway over global developments. In 2015, while on a bus en route to an advisory board meeting at Tsinghua University, he unexpectedly found himself seated next to the founder of Alibaba, Mr. Jack MA. That serendipitous encounter sparked fruitful discussions on the transformative power of artificial intelligence (AI). An adventurer in the vanguard of new opportunities, Mr. Schwarzman hired Blackstone's first data science team that same year and advised his portfolio companies to become "first movers" in anticipation of the approaching AI era.

This encounter exemplifies Mr. Schwarzman's approach to both work and life: daring, strategic, and unapologetically opportunistic. In 1985, he founded Blackstone alongside former US Secretary of Commerce Mr. Peter G. PETERSON, growing the business from a single strategy to now one with over 85 strategies, including private equity, real estate, credit and insurance, infrastructure, special situations, secondary fund investing, and hedge fund investing. What once seemed a daring venture has evolved into the world's largest alternative investment firm with an outsized impact on both the individual retail investors and institutions it serves, including endowments, sovereign wealth funds and pension funds that provide retirement benefits for over 100 million teachers, firefighters, nurses and others around the world.

Mr. Schwarzman's business acumen and entrepreneurial spirit have been evident since his childhood in Philadelphia. Working in his father's linen store, the young Schwarzman envisioned expansion beyond Pennsylvania, with a presence throughout the country. Although his ideas were dismissed by his father, this may have unlocked his business ambitions. At the age of 14, he launched his own lawn-mowing business, employing his younger twin brothers.

After graduating from high school, Mr. Schwarzman attended Yale University, where he pursued a degree combining social sciences, including psychology, sociology and anthropology. He would later obtain an MBA from Harvard Business School.

Mr. Schwarzman's career on Wall Street began at Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette, a US investment bank. Following business school, he joined then industry giant Lehman Brothers, rising through the ranks to become a partner at the young age of 31 and later, Chairman of Mergers & Acquisitions. These experiences laid the foundation for the iconic career he would build at Blackstone over the next four decades.

Mr. Schwarzman is also a global leader in philanthropy, having committed over US$1 billion to various initiatives. Included among them are a £185 million donation to Oxford to create the Schwarzman Centre for the Humanities, uniting all humanities under one roof for the first time in Oxford's history; a US$350 million gift to establish the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Schwarzman College of Computing, which addresses the opportunities and challenges presented by the rise of AI; and a gift of over US$160 million to Yale to establish the Schwarzman Center, a first-of-its-kind campus center.

In 2013, Mr. Schwarzman announced the founding of the Schwarzman Scholars Program at Tsinghua University in Beijing, a top, globally recognized graduate fellowship program modeled after the Rhodes Scholarship. Aimed at educating future leaders about China and fostering mutual respect, understanding, and collaboration between East and West, the program has raised around US$575 million, including over US$120 million from Mr. Schwarzman, and represents the single largest philanthropic initiative in China's history primarily funded by international donors. It has also become one of the most prestigious graduate fellowship programs in the world.

Here at The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), we take great pride in seeing our own faculty, graduates, and current students thrive as Schwarzman Scholars. They drive innovation, lead conversations, and build bridges across industries worldwide, making their mark as the future leaders the program is designed to cultivate and creating a ripple effect of positive impact that reflects well on both HKUST and Mr. Schwarzman's visionary initiative.

Mr. Schwarzman's contributions to business and philanthropy have earned him many awards, including the Légion d'Honneur and Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Commandeur level) from France, the Order of the Aztec Eagle, Mexico's highest honor for foreigners, and an appointment as an Honorary Knight of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (KBE), among others. He was named one of *TIME*'s "100 Most Influential People" in 2007, topped *Forbes'* list of "Most Influential People in Finance" in 2016, was ranked among the top 50 on *Forbes'* list of the "World's Most Powerful People" in 2018, and was named one of *Barron*'s "World's Best CEOs" in 2019. Starting January 1, 2026, Mr. Schwarzman will become the longest serving CEO of a Fortune 500 company following the retirement of Warren Buffet.

Mr. Schwarzman believes in the power of technological advancement and innovation and once remarked: "The consequences of AI are as profound as what occurred in 1880 when Thomas Edison patented the electric light bulb." As a world-leading institution in the AI field, HKUST highly appreciates Mr. Schwarzman's steadfast support for higher education, which is instrumental in our ongoing pursuit of research excellence.

Pro-Chancellor, on behalf of the Council of The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, I have the high honor of presenting to you, Mr. Stephen A. Schwarzman, Chairman, CEO, and Co-Founder of Blackstone, for the award of Doctor of Business Administration *honoris causa*.

蘇世民先生

讚辭

蘇世民先生是金融界舉足輕重的領袖，其精闢的洞察與宏大的視野，不僅備受尊崇，更對全球金融格局影響深遠。作為黑石集團的掌舵人——主席、行政總裁兼聯合創辦人，他憑藉卓越的領導力，將這家另類資產企業推向業界翹楚地位，管理資產規模超過一萬億美元。而在金融領域的非凡成就之外，蘇世民先生亦積極投身慈善，大力推動教育、文化藝術、體育等多個領域的發展，以實際行動回饋社會。

蘇世民先生的遠見卓識，助力全球發展的格局。2015年，他前往清華大學參與顧問委員會會議；途中，於接駁巴士上巧遇阿里巴巴創辦人馬雲先生，兩大商界風雲人物就在巴士上展開一場有關人工智能變革力量的深度對談，迸發出無窮的思想火花。向來勇於開拓新局的蘇世民先生早着先機，同年即為黑石集團成立首支數據科學團隊，並建議旗下投資組合企業把握先機，於人工智能時代來臨前成為引領趨勢的「先行者」。

這次偶遇展現了蘇世民先生對生活和工作的態度：果敢決斷、運籌帷幄、並能精準把握時機。1985年，他與前美國商務部長彼得·彼得森共同創辦黑石集團，由單一投資策略起步，逐步發展為今天涵蓋私募股權、不動產、債權保險、基礎設施、特殊情況投資、私募股權二級基金投資及對沖基金等85種策略的投資王國。當年的果斷決策，如今成就了全球最大的另類投資巨擘，對其服務的個人投資者及機構具有巨大影響力，管理資產涵蓋捐贈基金、主權財富基金，以及為全球過億教師、消防人員、護士等提供退休保障的養老基金。

蘇世民先生的商業頭腦與創業精神，早在童年時，他在美國費城長大已見端倪。年少時他在父親的紡織店幫忙，當時已萌生將這盤家族生意衝出賓夕法尼亞州，甚至推展至全國的念頭。雖然父親未有採納其建議，卻無阻他實踐抱負。年僅14歲，蘇世民先生已嶄露頭角，創辦了自己的剪草公司，更聘用兩位學生弟弟協助經營。

高中畢業後，蘇世民先生升讀耶魯大學，主修綜合了心理學、社會學及人類學的學士學位，其後轉赴哈佛商學院攻讀工商管理碩士。

蘇世民先生在華爾街的職業生涯始於美國投資銀行帝傑證券公司。完成哈佛商學院畢業後，他加入了當時的行業巨頭雷曼兄弟公司，事業平步青雲，年僅31歲便榮升合伙人，後來更出任併購部主席。這些歷練為他日後創立黑石集團打下良好根基，譜寫往後40載的輝煌事業。

蘇世民先生熱心公益，是全球知名的慈善家。迄今為止，他向各類慈善項目投入的總額已超越10

億美元，其中包括向牛津大學捐贈1.85億英鎊，創立「蘇世民人文中心」，該中心是牛津大學歷史上首個集合所有人文學科與設施的學術樞紐。另外，他亦向麻省理工學院捐贈3.5億美元，成立「蘇世民計算機學院」，專門研究人工智能崛起帶來的機遇和挑戰。對於母校耶魯大學，他同樣不忘回饋，捐款1.6億美元成立「蘇世民中心」，是耶魯校園內首個集教育與文化功能於一身的綜合設施。

2013年，蘇世民先生宣布在北京清華大學設立「蘇世民學者計劃」。此項享譽全球的研究生獎學金參照羅德獎學金的模式創立，旨在培育熟悉中國的未來領袖人才，促進東西方彼此尊重、理解與合作。此項計劃已籌得約5.75億美元捐款，當中蘇世民先生個人捐出1.2億美元，創下中國歷史上國際捐贈者單筆捐款的最高紀錄。這項計劃現已發展成全球享負盛名的研究生獎學金。

更令香港科技大學（科大）與有榮焉的是，多位我們的師生與校友學生已成為蘇世民學者的一員。他們在全球各界推動創新、促進交流，並在各行各業之間搭建橋樑，成為該計劃致力培育的棟樑之才。他們的卓越表現不僅為科大增光，亦彰顯蘇世民先生設立該項目的遠見卓識及其對教育和社會所帶來的積極影響。

蘇世民先生在商業及慈善領域貢獻良多，享譽國際，獲得多項殊榮，包括法國榮譽軍團勳章及藝術與文學勳章（司令官勳位）、墨西哥授予外國人的最高榮譽阿茲特克雄鷹勳章，以及大英帝國最優秀勳章榮譽爵位等。2007年，他獲《時代》雜誌評選為「百大最具影響力人物」；分別在2016及2018年榮膺《福布斯》雜誌「最具影響力金融人物」榜首及「全球50大最具權力人物」；2019年入選《巴倫周刊》「全球最佳行政總裁」之列。自2026年1月1日起，蘇世民先生將成為《財富》全球500強企業中任期最長的行政總裁，是繼已退休的華倫．巴菲特後創下此項紀錄。

蘇世民先生深信科技與創新的變革力量，曾提出：「人工智能的深遠影響將可媲美1880年湯瑪士．愛迪生為電燈泡申請專利之舉。」科大作為人工智能領域的全球領先學府，對蘇世民先生鼎力支持高等教育深表欽佩，為大學追求卓越研究增添強大動力。

大學副監督，本人謹代表香港科技大學校董會，恭請閣下頒授工商管理學榮譽博士予黑石集團主席、行政總裁兼聯合創辦人蘇世民先生。