



**Opening Ceremony of
VTC-ITE International Student Seminar 2019
17 June 2019 (Monday)**

**Dr Roy CHUNG, GBS, BBS, JP
Chairman of VTC**

Bob (Chairman of ITE),
Andrew (Deputy Chairman of ITE),
Ms Low (Chief Executive Officer of ITE),
ITE Friends, VTC Colleagues, Students, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Good morning! I hope you enjoy the performances by VTC students just now. On behalf of the VTC, it is my pleasure to welcome you all to the opening ceremony of the VTC-ITE International Student Seminar 2019, especially students and teachers from the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) Singapore, Shenzhen Polytechnic and the North West Regional College of the UK.

Held alternately in Hong Kong and Singapore every two years, the International Student Seminar is aimed to provide our youths with a constructive platform to reflect on current global issues and contribute ideas for shaping a better world. Since 2007, the seminar has become a major event in the calendar of both VTC and ITE, benefitting over 3,500 students.

Smart city development is high on the government's agenda with Hong Kong's Smart City Blueprint and Singapore's Smart Nation Initiative in the pipeline in the two cities. It is timely to have the seminar theme on "A Smarter Generation for 2020+", exploring ways to support better living with smart technologies and smart talent. Three sub-themes, namely "Smart Living", "Smart Environment" and "Smart Economy", have been thoughtfully designed to encourage exchange of perspectives on how smart technologies can improve people's daily life. I believe our student participants will showcase their talent and creativity, which are the important attributes required of future leaders.

This year, we further encouraged co-creation efforts of VTC and ITE students. They have developed their digital skills, design thinking as well as collaboration skills and will share with us their ideas on how mixed reality (MR) technology can be used in caring solutions for the elderly.

Another exciting highlight of the programme will be the insightful sharing by three distinguished speakers on the seminar sub-themes. We are pleased to have today Mr Billy Lam, Chief Operating Officer and Co-Founder of Farm66, who will share with us the latest technology for sustainable farming in Hong Kong. In the next two days, Mr Rickson Chow, President of International Unmanned Aircraft Systems Association and Mr Eddie Lee, Managing Partner of Limestone Network from Singapore will talk about the use of drones and blockchain technology in creating a smart city.

Dear students, I hope that this four-day programme will bring you inspiration and help you develop lifelong friendships and networks. Technology is universal, while culture is unique. You are encouraged to learn more from your peers about different cultures and get your horizons broadened.

Before I close, I would like to thank again our great partner ITE for their full support to this seminar, and of course all students for your active participation. All of you deserve a big round of applause. I wish you a very fruitful and enjoyable social and learning experience.

Thank you.