

## Speakers' Biographies

### Keynote Speakers



**Ms Margaret BELL, AM**

Patron, Volunteering Australia  
Chairperson, 23rd IAVE World Conference on Volunteering,  
Australia, September 2014

Margaret has a background as a social worker and educational psychologist. She has worked for some years in countries throughout South-East Asia. She was the founding President of Volunteering Australia and the World President of The International Association for Volunteer Effort (IAVE). She was also a founding Director of CIVICUS, the world alliance for Citizen Participation.

Margaret is currently the Patron of Volunteering Australia and the Conference Chairperson for the IAVE 23<sup>rd</sup> World Conference on Volunteering to be held in Australia in 2014. The recipient of many awards, Margaret is a member of the Order of Australia and has been acclaimed by two Secretaries General of the United Nations as a world leader in volunteering and community development.

**Hong Kong Institute of Volunteers  
Inauguration Ceremony**  
cum  
**Forum on Building Impact in Volunteering**  
2013.3.21



**Dr Justin DAVIS-SMITH, CBE**

Executive Director, Volunteering and Development  
National Council for Voluntary Organizations, England

Following its merger with Volunteering England, Dr Justin Davis Smith was appointed Executive Director, Volunteering and Development at National Council for Voluntary Organizations (NCVO). He was previously Chief Executive of Volunteering England and formerly Director of the Institute for Volunteering Research. He has over 20 years in the volunteering movement and has advised the UK Government, the World Bank and the United Nations on the development of volunteering policy. He worked with the Government and the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) with the development of the 2012 volunteering strategy and has recently joined the board of Join-In to help deliver a lasting volunteering legacy from the Games. He is a member of the committee for the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, an advisor to the Queen's Anniversary Prizes for Higher and Further Education, and on the governing body of the Economic and Social Research Council.

He was a member of the Russell Commission on youth volunteering and the Commission on the Future of Volunteering, and a former chair of the Nationwide Foundation and trustee of the youth volunteering charity, "V". He has written widely on volunteering and is a Visiting Professor at Birkbeck, University of London. He joined the Board of Watford FC's Community Sports and Education Trust in January 2013. In his earlier career Justin was political assistant to the Rt. Hon Sir James Callaghan MP. In 2011, he was awarded the CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours in recognition of his work on behalf of volunteering and the voluntary sector.

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**Plenary Speakers**



**Dr John CHAN, GBS, JP**

Non-executive Director and Chairman of RoadShow Holdings Limited

Dr John Chan is an Independent Non-Executive Director of several publicly listed companies in Hong Kong and a Director of the Community Chest. He has previously held many leadership positions in the Government, business and voluntary service sectors in Hong Kong. These included the positions of Secretary for Trade and Industry, Secretary for Education and Manpower, Official Member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, Managing Director of Kowloon Motor Bus, Chairman of the Hong Kong Jockey Club, Executive Committee Chairman and First Vice-President of the Community Chest and Chairman of the Council of the Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fund.

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**Prof Joseph LIAN Yi-zheng**  
Economics and Demography,  
Akita International University, Japan

Professor Lian obtained his B.A. magna cum laude in Mathematics from Carleton College and his PhD in Economics from the University of Minnesota. He had taught at the University of California and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, served as senior policy advisor at the Central Policy Unit of the Hong Kong SAR Government, and was chief editor and lead writer of the Hong Kong Economic Journal, the city's premier business newspaper. He is currently professor of economics and demography at Akita International University, Japan.



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**Mr SHIH Wing-ching, JP**

Founder of Centaline Property Agency Limited

Mr Shih was born in Shanghai and brought up in Hong Kong. In 1978, Mr. Shih established Centaline Property Agency Limited, which has now evolved as one of the largest property agencies in the country, employing more than 30,000 staff and involving in a great variety of businesses including property agency, surveying and valuation, personnel consulting services, wealth management, and information technology development on property data. In 2005, Mr. Shih launched the free newspaper, am730 and is now a columnist giving comments on current issues of the world, sharing insights as an entrepreneur and even life experiences. Mr. Shih also hosts radio programs and frequently delivers speech in tertiary institutions on all sorts of topics about philosophy, economics, management, and even natural science. As Mr. Shih has diversified interests and his analysis is always based on a macroscopic view, he has become one of the most popular commentators in the Hong Kong community.

With keen enthusiasm for the society's development, Mr. Shih participates in various community services and charity works. He was the Member of Task Force on Economic Challenges and the Member of Commission on Strategic Development.

(Names in alphabetical order)