

**美東華人學術聯誼會** 

*Chinese American Academic & Professionals Society (CAAPS)*

**2011 CAAPS Awards**

**美東華人學術聯誼會 2011年會獎**

**Dr. James S.C. Chao 趙錫成博士**

Founder and Chairman, Foremost Group

for

**Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award**

**卓越終身成就獎**

**Greeting Remarks by the Honorable Elaine L. Chao**

**On the occasion of**

**Dr. James S. C. Chao receiving the  
Inaugural Distinguished Lifetime Achievement  
Award, 卓越終身成就獎**

**The Chinese American Academic and Professional  
Society (CAAPS)**

**36th Annual Convention**

**Sheraton LaGuardia East Hotel**

**Flushing, New York**

**Rescheduled Friday, September 16, 2011**

# Greeting Remarks

Good evening! How wonderful it is to be here for the 36th annual Convention of CAAPS. Since its founding 36 years ago, CAAPS has been a mainstay of the Chinese-American community. Your members are all such accomplished, educated, multi-talented professionals in your own right who have contributed much to our country and to Society.

There are so many respected people here tonight that I cannot mention everyone. Originally, this Convention was to take place on Sunday, August 28, 2011. But, Hurricane Irene caused the Convention to be rescheduled. Chairman of CAAPS, Jerry Cheng, the President of CAAPS, Dr. Spencer Kuo and everyone who worked so hard to make this the successful event it is tonight need to be applauded and thanked. I want to also acknowledge Ambassador Andrew J.C. Kao and CCBA President Jack K. Eng for their presence.

Since its founding in 1976, my parents, Dr. and Mrs. James S. C. Chao, have been enthusiastic supporters and participants of CAAPS. In the past, I have also had the great pleasure of attending programs and conventions hosted by CAAPS.

Tonight is very special because my father, Dr. James S. C. Chao, will be receiving CAAPS Inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award. As a loving daughter who has received so much counsel, guidance and influence from my parents, nothing could please me more.

My father is a very humble man whose guiding principle throughout his life has always been to contribute to Society and his family. I am very gratified that his many achievements and contributions to our country, to the world are being recognized and noted. Tonight's award in recognition of his innovation and excellence in the global shipping industry; dedication to education; and for being an inspiring, and visionary role model to immigrants and all Americans is truly noteworthy!

Throughout their life, despite the adversities they faced, my parents always had a forward-looking, optimistic, "can-do" attitude - this despite the fact that they had to leave their homeland, like many in this room, under heart-wrenching circumstances and to have the courage to establish a better life for their family in a totally new land. In CAAPS bestowing this award, we hope that my father's life story will serve as a unique inspiration and encouragement to everyone that hard work, perseverance, vision, love of family and faith will lead to great personal and professional triumphs.

Finally, I want to extend a very warm congratulation to all the other deserving and distinguished awardees as well! Thank you very much for being here tonight to support CAAPS.

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# Citation

*Distinguished  
Lifetime  
Achievement  
Award*

**Dr. James S.C. Chao  
&  
Mrs. Ruth Mulan Chu Chao**



*For innovation and excellence in the global shipping industry;  
for dedication to education; for being an inspiring,  
and visionary role model to immigrants and all Americans.*

*Dr. James S.C. Chao has led the global shipping industry in incorporating environmentally friendly designs and technology into his company's new vessels, some of the world's largest bulk carriers. Dr. Chao and his wife, Mrs. Ruth Mulan Chu Chao, are groundbreaking philanthropists having established one of the first charitable foundations dedicated to enhancing US-China relations subsequent to the reopening of China in 1979. Together they have devoted a lifetime of service and generous funding to make quality education accessible to thousands of students in America and China, helping to groom future generations of world leaders. Recognized by the US government and many domestic and international organizations for his outstanding accomplishments and courageous success story, Dr. Chao is a pioneer in that generation of Chinese-Americans who have contributed to create the America of today. Dr. Chao has served as a unique inspiration and encouragement to people around the world that hard work, perseverance, vision, love of family and faith will lead to great personal and professional triumphs.*

美東華人學術聯誼會



Chinese American Academic & Professional Society (CAAPS)



# Biography--Dr. James S.C. Chao



Born in Shanghai, China, James S.C. Chao has dedicated his life to shipping, trading and finance beginning with his study of navigation in China. As a young cadet, he completed his college coursework in 1949 and by the mid-1950's had advanced with remarkable rapidity through the ranks to become one of the youngest ocean-going marine masters up to that time. In 1958, he shattered all previous records in the Republic of China by achieving the highest score ever on the national Master Mariner Examination. This honor singled him out for further government-sponsored studies in the United States. Not only was Dr. Chao

honored as the first “Zhuang Yuan Chuan Zhang” (狀元船長), namely “Number One Captain,” he personified an important example to everyone, especially to young people, that in an era marked by war and strife, our futures can be forged through our own efforts and advancement, even in the most difficult of times.

In 1964, Dr. Chao founded Foremost Maritime Corporation, developed it to the current Foremost Group, and remains as Chairman to this day. Today, Foremost Group, its headquarters located in New York City, is a well-established, much respected international organization with activities in international shipping, trading and financing. The company enjoys a sterling reputation worldwide for professionalism and high ethical standards under Dr. Chao's leadership. In May 2004, Dr. Chao became one of the very few to be inducted into the International Maritime Hall of Fame at the United Nations.

Dr. Chao helped to develop and establish China's shipbuilding industry's advancement in science, technology, and capacity as early as the 1980's. Currently, China is recognized as having surpassed Japan and Korea in the last few years as the world's largest shipbuilding country in term of shipbuilding orders.

And, China is on course to achieve the prediction of becoming the world's leading shipbuilder by 2015. The technology that goes into building the world's largest bulk carriers for delivery to Foremost is a hallmark of China's shipbuilding industry. Furthermore, the technologies promoted by Dr. Chao and used to construct the vessels utilize the latest environmentally friendly designs, making them part of the new "green transformation" in global commerce. Dr. Chao's contribution to and promotion of these technologies not only accelerated China's rise in the international shipbuilding market, but also will undoubtedly lead to a much "greener" more environmentally sensitive overall world fleet of ships in the years to come.

Active philanthropists and volunteers throughout their lives, Dr. Chao and his wife, the late Mrs. Ruth Mu-Lan Chu Chao, through their Shanghai Mulan Education Foundation and other charitable contributions, have awarded more than five thousand scholarships to students in the United States and China. A strong and dedicated champion of higher education, he has served as an advisor, adjunct professor, and member of the St. John's University Board of Trustees for decades. St. John's bestowed upon Dr. Chao as early as in 1981 its much respected and prestigious Medal of Honor, the highest honor that the University can confer upon any alumnus, and Dr. Chao is now its Trustee Emeritus. Internationally and academically, in 1995 he has been named as Honorary Trustee of Shanghai Jiao Tong University and also Honorary President and Professor of Shanghai Maritime College. In 1998, the Dalian Maritime University conferred upon him its Honorary Professorship. He has been named as a special advisor for the Wuhan Municipal Government since 1998. Dr. Chao has served for more than a decade as Chairman of both the Chiao-Tung University Alumni Association in America and the Chiao-Tung University Alumni Foundation of America from 1988-1999. He has also served in various leadership roles in his church throughout his life.

Dr. Chao has also served as a Board Director for various multinational corporations. He is the recipient of numerous awards for his professional accomplishments and community service. Dr. Chao has also served as a Board Director for various multinational corporations.



He is the recipient of numerous awards for his professional accomplishments and community service. Among his many awards and honors, Dr. Chao is the recipient of an honorary Doctor of Law Degree from Niagara University in 1992. In 2005, James and his daughter, the Honorable Elaine L. Chao, the 24th U.S. Secretary of Labor, were the first father-daughter recipients to receive the Ellis Island Medal of Honor simultaneously. He also received the Sing Tao Daily Newspaper's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2005. In 2006, the Asian Pacific American community of Kentucky presented Ruth and James Chao with a Special Recognition Award for their Life Accomplishments. Dr. Chao was named among the Top 50 Asian American Business Persons of the Year in 2007. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security recognized him in February 2008 as an Outstanding American by Choice. In 2008, the New York Community Times awarded him the Outstanding Life Achievement Award, Nyack College conferred upon him the honorary Doctorate of Letters Degree and he received the Lifetime Legacy Award from the International Leadership Foundation. In 2009, he was selected and presented with the well-known, highly respected and prestigious nationwide Horatio Alger Award at the Supreme Court of the United States. In 2010 the Museum of Chinese in America honored Dr. Chao with the inaugural Outstanding Achievement Award for the Chao Family; the first time ever such an honor has been awarded in its 130 years. In April 2011, Shanghai Jiao Tong University awarded Dr. Chao “傑出校友思源貢獻金獎” the unique and highest award offered to its alumni.

A resident of Harrison, New York since 1974, Dr. Chao was married to the late Mrs. Ruth Mu-Lan Chu Chao. Together they have six children and six grandchildren.

Dr. Chao says of his marriage, “Ruth and I were married for 57 years before she returned to the Lord on August 2, 2007. My wife is the love of my life and soul mate. Together we had an extraordinary life. Because Ruth devoted her life to providing scholarship assistance to promising and deserving youths, and dedicated herself to supporting and promoting excellence and the highest level of professionalism in education, she embodied the spirit of this association, and I accept this Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award in her honor.”

Dr. Chao is one of the original supporters to establish CAAPS. He was invited to give a speech at the first Convention in 1976. Dr. Chao's speech is shown in the following two photographs which witness the history and Dr. Chao's tie to CAAPS as well as CAAPS's appeal to both intellectuals and the general public from the beginning.



Professor James S.C. Chao giving a speech at CAAPS's Grand Opening Conference at the Hilton Hotel, New York City, on December 4, 1976.



Professor James S.C. Chao (standing at the podium) giving a speech at the first Grand Opening Conference of CAAPS on December 4, 1976. The then Minister of Economics from the Republic of China, Mr. Yunxuan Sun (孫運璿先生) sits in the front row (third from left); and Mrs. Ruth Mulan Chu Chao (趙朱木蘭女士), devoted supporter of education and wife of Dr. James S.C. Chao (趙錫成博士), sits in the fourth row (first from the right).

**Remarks by the Honorable Elaine L. Chao**

**On the occasion of presenting to**

**Dr. James S. C. Chao**

**The Inaugural Distinguished Lifetime Achievement**

**Award, 卓越終身成就獎**

**From The Chinese American Academic and  
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# Presentation Remarks

Thank you very much. I am very honored to be back on stage with Mrs. Sophia Kuo, wife of the President of CAAPS Dr. Spencer Kuo, to jointly present the Inaugural Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award on behalf of CAAPS to my father, Dr. James S. C. Chao.

I am particularly touched that Mrs. Sophia Kuo is presenting this award as Mrs. Sophia Kuo is my mother's very dear friend. My mother so enjoyed Sophia's company and friendship as they joined in so many Chiao Tung alumni activities together over the years.

My father, as mentioned is a very modest and humble person. As his daughter, I am very grateful to CAAPS that you have made the effort to note my father's many contributions to our community and Society.

My father always wants to do better, to improve more, to contribute more. As you all know, he's undoubtedly a very successful entrepreneur but what is even more important is that he is a successful human being – he has been a loving and devoted husband; a nurturing, encouraging, and engaged father; an active and caring philanthropist who believes in helping his fellow human beings; a leader who believes in serving the people; a person of integrity and principles.

SinoVision, the well-known and established television station that does such an outstanding job providing news to our community has very kindly compiled a video tribute to my father, Dr. James S. C. Chao for this occasion. We hope you will enjoy it.

Thank you very much.

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# Presentation Remarks by Ms. Sophia Ping Kuo

我非常榮幸，有機會站在這裡，與我們的華人之光，趙小蘭部長，一同來介紹我最敬佩趙博士。

今天我以交通大學校友的身份來表達我們的敬意。我將為大家放幾張輕鬆的照片。在我們的心目中，趙博士和夫人都是極為誠懇，非常謙虛和低調的人，雖然他的成就很高，但是他的名氣沒有趙部長響亮。

第一張照片是1990年交大美洲校友大團圓，在 Steven Institute 舉行。共有五百位校友參加。從那時候開始，在趙學長的領導下，我們不斷向他學習了作事的精神與方法。他們兩位特別念舊，今天在座的交大校友都參加了1990年大團圓。



第二張照片-趙博士和夫人兩人感情特別好。你們看他們即使在比賽 Air Hocky，也是相敬如賓。他們永遠都是客客氣氣。兩位的愛情故事，可以媲美瓊瑤的小說。有機會我們將會作個專訪。



下一張，這是在我們家裡餐後的餘興節目。他們兩位第一次下海唱 KALAOKE. 原先他們不肯唱，我們勉強把兩位請上台，後來放了他們非常熟悉的歌曲，包青天的主題曲“新鴛鴦蝴蝶夢”。這下好了，他們唱了一遍又一遍，欲罷不能，都不肯下臺了。最後我們連麥克風都搶不過他們。



In case you didn't know Dr. Chao can sing, here is the picture!  
Next year, we are going to invite him to perform singing for us.  
Thank you.

# Remarks by Dr. James S. C. Chao on receiving the Inaugural Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award, 卓越終身成就獎

## CAAPS 演讲稿---趙錫成博士

9/16/2011

尊敬的各位来宾，各位朋友们，晚上好！

今天能够得到深孚众望的“美东华人学术联谊会”（CAAPS）颁授给我的“卓越终身成就奖”，使我非常高兴及感激；尤其这是CAAPS首次颁发的“终身成就奖”，更让我感到无比的荣幸！

在此，首先感谢郑向元董事长，郭思平会长及CAAPS的各位负责人。您们对我这样的抬爱及鼓励，使我倍受感动。

其次，我也非常高兴及荣幸的见到今天的盛会，新知故旧，欢聚一堂，同贺CAAPS成立三十六周年大庆。您们都是各业精英的代表，我对于您们在自己领域及对社会所做出的卓越贡献，表示崇高的敬意。不过今天我更该确切地说，正因为您们的友谊及启发，加上传承的精神，我才会有今天的荣誉，因此，我向您们特别表示衷心的感谢。

最后，我还要特别郑重感谢CAAPS，除了董事长及会长亲自颁奖外，又特别邀请到两位可爱可敬的陪奖人。一位是赵小兰 - 我亲爱的大女儿，另一位是郭会长的夫人钱萍女士 - 是我尊敬的更是我内人赵朱木兰女士的好朋友。这使我联想起三十六年前，正如刚才影片中所显示的，当本会创建时，内人木兰便跟我就是积极的拥护者。木兰喜爱文学，终身勤学不倦，积极赞助及推广教育，设立奖学金等，一再遵奉并发扬本会的宗旨及精神。因此，我的这次获奖对我及我的家人来说具有特别深长的意义。所以，今天除了大女儿（赵小兰），小女儿（赵安吉）在这里外，我的三女儿（小美）及女婿（黄蔚祺），内弟（朱明志先生）及其女儿（朱玉如博士），和姨妹（朱淮北女士）也都在座。我相信假使内人木兰在世，她一定也会很高兴地在这里，我们全家一致支持CAAPS，我更愿将这次的荣誉，献给一向支持CAAPS，但已息劳归主四周年我的太太赵朱木兰女士。

多谢各位！



# **Simultaneous Translation**

## **By daughter, Ms. Angela A. Chao**

Honorable Guests and Friends - Good evening!

Tonight, it is truly an honor to receive such an esteemed and prestigious award from such a distinguished and well-respected organization such as CAAPS. This is especially so since this is the first inaugural Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award ever conferred. It is really an honor of a lifetime.

For this first, I wish to thank Chairman Jerry S. Y. Cheng and President Spencer Kuo and all of the leaders of CAAPS. For you to give me this kind of honor and encouragement touches me deeply.

I am so happy and honored to be here tonight. It is really wonderful to see so many new and old friends gathered here together in this room to celebrate the 36th anniversary of CAAPS. I greatly admire you all for being such outstanding professionals and experts in each of your fields, and for all the contributions that you make to society as a whole. However, this evening, it would be more appropriate for me to say that it is because of all of your friendship, inspiration and the spirit of professionalism and excellence in your fields that you share with others like me that makes it possible for me to have this great honor tonight. Therefore, I need to say a special heartfelt thanks to you all.

Lastly, I want to again respectfully thank CAAPS. Above and beyond the Chairman and President, you also were kind enough to invite two lovely and respected presenters to present this award to me. One is Elaine Chao, my eldest daughter. The other is President Kuo's wife, Sophia Kuo, who is my respected and my wife Ruth Mulan Chu Chao's good friend. This reminds me of 36 years ago at the first CAAPS convention, a photograph of which was displayed during the video introduction and is in the program, when my wife, Mrs. Ruth Mulan Chu Chao, came here as an act of support. My wife Ruth loved classical literature and had a passion for learning. She was always quietly supporting education behind the scenes establishing scholarships. Her passion for learning and support of education embodies the spirit of CAAPS. Therefore, this award has very special personal meaning to my entire family and to me. So other than my eldest daughter and my youngest daughter, Angela Chao, who are on the stage with me tonight, my third daughter May Chao and her husband, Jeffrey Hwang are here. Additionally, my wife's sister, Bess Tieh, and brother, James Chu, and our niece, Dr. June Chu, are all here tonight. I believe that if my wife were able to be here with us still, she would have been very happy to return here tonight to be with you all. Our entire family supports and believes in CAAPS, and because of this history, CAAPS holds special meaning to us. So while I thank you all again for this honor, I would like to dedicate this award to my beloved wife, Mrs. Ruth Mulan Chu Chao.

Thank you, everyone!



CHINESE AMERICAN ACADEMIC  
& PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY

*Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award*  
卓越終身成就獎

*Presented to*

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*For innovation and excellence in the global shipping industry;  
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Jerry S.Y. Cheng, Chairman  
Spencer Kuo, President

*August 28, 2011*