



## Representatives Remarks



### Eugene Wang

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As the director of Harvard CAMLab, I am glad to be here to join our global partners in the inauguration of the Yin-Cheng Distinguished Lecture series on Buddhism. Under the current stewardship of Venerable Cheng Yen and in the spirit of her mentor, the Venerable Yin Shun, the Tzu Chi Foundation has made a difference in the world. It does so in part because of the broadly conceived Humanistic Buddhism it espouses and its conviction of the relevance of Buddhism to the modern and contemporary world. As such, it captures the spirit of Buddhism in its most appealing part, namely, that it is not a religion beholden to a single god, but a spiritual practice centered on each individual's path of discovery and awakening.

We are in a world of great uncertainty. The growing tension and distrust between groups and nations is tearing us apart. The ecological crisis is looming large. Technology is fast changing the way we live, behave, and think. Even the very notion of what it means to be human faces new challenges.

The four missions of Tzu Chi--charity, medicine, education, and cultural humanity--are precisely the areas that increasingly speak to our global needs. As educators, we share the same mission. We also have a strong sense of urgency. High education in the 21st century faces new challenges. In the age of big data, open resources, and easy availability of knowledge, classroom teaching and learning can no longer be conducted in the same way.

It is with this sense of urgency that I founded the Harvard CAMLab. CAM stands for many things, among them, Cognition, Aesthetics, and Media technology. We want to create humanistic technology, or humanism with a technological edge. We want to speak to the young genera-





tions, the digital natives, who may soon outstrip the print media, whether we like it or not. In any case, we want to be at the frontier of education, exploring ways of education that can be still relevant to the future generation.

Many of CAMLab's projects share Tzu Chi Foundation's vision of "humanistic Buddhism." Harnessing digital technology, we stage Buddhist mindscape, showcasing how the meditative mind works and visualizes. We want to create experiences in ways that learners and practitioners of meditation in the world can experience what it is like to visualize the way early and medieval Buddhists did. Like Tzu Chi, we hope we can bring our work to the world to be shared by the global audience.

Clearly, we share the same bandwidth or wavelength with Tzu Chi Foundation. The Yin-Cheng Distinguished Lecture series is our first collaborative effort. We hope our collaboration grows exponentially in breadth and depth in future. Today is the beginning. Congratulations!

