

Acknowledgements

I wish to express my deep gratitude to the individuals who accepted my interview requests. These individuals include: Mr. Ip Kwok Him of the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment of Hong Kong, Dr. Anthony B. L. Cheung of the City University of Hong Kong and the Democratic Party, Ms. Emily Lau of the Frontier, Mr. Frederick Fung Kin Kee of the Hong Kong Association for Democracy and People's Livelihood, Mr. David Chu Yu-lin of the Hong Kong Progressive Alliance, Mr. Allen Lee of the Liberal Party, Legislative Councillors, Dr. Leong Che-hung and Mr. Andrew Wong, Drs. Lo Shiu Hing, John P. Burns, and Professor Yash Ghai of the University of Hong Kong. Their insight into the issues examined in this dissertation have greatly strengthened the analysis made here.

I am especially grateful to Dr. Charles T. Goodsell, my dissertation committee chair. Dr. Goodsell's helpful advice and constructive criticism made possible the analysis presented here. This dissertation could not have been completed without his able guidance, encouragement, and the numerous hours he spent with me from the stages of topic formulation to the conduction of the research and the analysis of the findings.

Thanks also go to other members of my dissertation committee, Drs. Karen M. Hult, Joseph V. Rees, John A. Rohr, and Gary L. Wamsley. Their questions, comments and advices is greatly appreciated. Dr. Eliza C. Tse read the whole draft of my dissertation, corrected my English, and made constructive suggestions. I am deeply indebted to her for her generous time spent with my dissertation.

I would also like to thank Drs. Hon S. Chan, Ahmed S. Huque, Jermain T. M. Lam, Mr. Cheung Chor Yung and Mr. Jack W. C. Yue of the City University of Hong Kong for sharing their views on Hong Kong's political and administrative issues with me. The help of Mr. Ivan C. K. Choy of the City University of Hong Kong in setting up some of my interviews is greatly appreciated.

Finally, I must thank my family. Their patience, support, and love have always been my inspiration. Without their support and understanding, it would have been impossible to overcome so many difficulties in competing this dissertation.

The responsibility for the contents of this dissertation, of course, rests with me.