New Convocation Chairman — Wendy Gan (BA 1987)

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“Mary Rodrigues will be quite an act to follow,” says Ms Wendy Gan (顏金施), who has enthusiastically taken on the role of Convocation Chairman for the next three years up to the 2004 Ordinary General Meeting. Wendy was elected *ipso facto* at the Ordinary General Meeting on May 8, 2001. She is currently Marketing Director of Cyber-Port Ltd., a subsidiary of PCCW, which is the developer of the Cyberport project at Telegraph Bay in the Southern District of Hong Kong Island.

During Mary’s tenure Convocation activities blossomed. The launch of innovative networking projects such as the HKU Graduate Credit Card, which helps to generate funds for the HKU Foundation, the Home Mortgage Purchase Loan Scheme, the revival of the Convocation Poll and a myriad of other ventures ranging from luncheon talks to Sports and Fun Fiestas.

Following up on these successes, Wendy feels one of her important initial tasks for Convocation is to network the younger generation and she finds it very encouraging that the Standing Committee welcomed a graduate from the class of 1999 this year. “Communication is the key to fostering relationships and I feel that Convocation’s use of email can be increased.” Since the class of 2000, all graduates are automatically given a graduate email address when they leave the University.

She also points out, “There are over forty affiliated groups of Alumni worldwide; Convocation can only gain from the potential synergy that exists between these groups of active individuals.”

As Clerk of Convocation since 1999, and a member of the Standing Committee since 1996, Wendy has had a good chance to see the workings of the group and challenges it faces. What challenges does Wendy’s new role hold? “One of the key tasks is to serve as a channel of communication between the University and its graduates. Move towards more two-way communication. The University has proved in the past to be a very good-listener – the Convocation wants to hear what the members want to say.”

Wendy can be contacted at wendygan@graduate.hku.hk or convocat@www.hku.hk. (By Alison Carter)