In Memoriam

Professor Ralph Lerner 壹華飛 1949 – 2011
Dean of Architecture (2006 – 2011)

“Professor Lerner was instrumental in instituting reforms within the Faculty, and brought world-renowned professionals and educators to HKU. He also had the vision to establish a Study Centre in Shanghai that he saw not only the possibilities that China could offer the Faculty, and ultimately the University, but also the importance of initiating Knowledge Exchange activities throughout the Mainland.

The University is grateful to Professor Lerner for his dedication and leadership, and the enormous achievements he made during his too short time as our Dean of Architecture. He will always be remembered as being an important member of the University family.”

Professor Lap-Chee Tsui, Vice-Chancellor

Danny Ho 何定邦 1947 – 2011  (BSc(Eng) 1969)

A St Johnian, Danny contributed to HKU however he could. He had been a Council Member since 2003, a member of the Convocation Standing Committee (2003-2007) and a mentor with the HKU Mentorship Programme (2003-2008), giving his time and support to students, alumni and the University as a whole.

“He was the main driving force behind the steadfast growth of the Association, steering the revival and expansion of the Association premises in Central, leading policies that resulted in a tremendous increase of members in recent years and promoting a healthy diversity of Association activities. In addition, he was a guiding light for many young alumni, and a respected mentor to alumni leaders whom he willingly nurtured.”

An excerpt from the obituary by the Hong Kong University Alumni Association

Arthur Charles Yau Meng-choy 邱明才 1929 – 2011  (MBBS 1956)
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (1977-1978)

“Prof Yau was affectionately called ‘Choy Suk’ by everybody in the profession although no one would ever address him as such in front of him. We would still call him Professor Yau or Prof simply because of our deepest respect for this great teacher. Those of us who are old enough would know the character ‘Choy Suk’ in the old Hong Kong cartoon who symbolised integrity, bravery, dexterity and foresight. This is indeed the most appropriate nick name for Prof Yau.

Among the senior Professors in his days, ‘Choy Suk’ was one of the most amiable and approachable professors. Very often during the grand ward rounds, he was the one who would defend the junior doctors when they encountered surgical complications. I recall a couple of his famous sayings: ‘doesn’t matter, it must have been a very difficult procedure, the surgeon knows best’; or he would say ‘don’t worry, if you don’t get into trouble that means you haven’t done enough yet’. You would agree with me that these are the most reassuring and encouraging words a resident in training would like to hear.”

Professor Keith Luk
Head, Department of Orthopaedics & Traumatology

Luk Siu-hung 陸兆熊 1947- 2011  (BA 1968; MPhil 1972)

Dr Luk left a mark in the field of geography which he dedicated his life’s work to. He was an Old Hallite when he studied geography and geology at HKU. After he graduated, he went to the University of Alberta where he acquired his doctoral degree in 1975, after which he started his teaching life at the University of Toronto.

Lorene Yeung 楊甘月珍 1938 - 2011

Mrs Yeung was a woman with caring heart. In addition to serving as a mentor for HKU students, her unceasing support of her husband, Dr Nicolas Yeung 楊澍人 (BSc(Eng) 1971; DipManStud 1974; MBA 1981) with his work on the Ming De Projects was widely recognised. On numerous occasions she rode the overnight train and took long-haul coaches to Guangxi with engineering students where they redeveloped the primary school, Ming De Lou, and a vocational school’s dormitory, Ge Wu Lou.