HONG KONG UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF BOSTON-NEW ENGLAND

波士頓 - 新英格蘭香港大學校友會

Spring 2019 e-News
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From The Editor

A belated happy New Year and wishing our members a healthy and prosperous year of the Pig. This is my first issue of the e-News and I have to thank the inputs and contributions from our members and especially from Sau-Fong Siu and Monica Wong (Director of HKU Mentorship and Associate Director, Alumni Affairs).

In this spring semester there are five exchange students from HKU and only two join the mentorship program. I would like to thank the mentors Son-Mey Chiu and Sau-Fong Siu in their effort to mentor these exchange students.

There are about 109 member including spouses in our organization, of which about 97 of them are HKU graduates. The exchange student number varies from 5 to 12 every semester. Our policy is to include all HKU exchange students in our association. The following table shows the graduating years of our members.

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Usually, we have two gatherings in a year, a spring luncheon and a fall dinner gathering. One of the feedback I got from the mentees is that they want more interaction and activities with the mentors other than just lunch or dinner. Although in the Chinese culture, food is always important, I think we can also include other participatory activities such as bicycling, hiking, canoeing, ball games, going to concert etc. Physical activity is always a good way to connect and develop rapport. With the energetic youth among us, I hope there will more suggestions and participation in our futures events.

Our membership has a somewhat even age distribution from seniors to recent graduates. This is a perfect setup to have discussion in our gathering for the seniors to tell their experiences or the recent graduates to tell about the new inventions and developments. This kind of discussion will make our gathering more interesting.

In the last part of the e-News, a new item “Life in New England” is added and I hope to see contributions on things we care about like health care, recent changes in laws and regulations, or things we did to share with our members. It could be about the places we visited, a performance, a concert, an exhibition, a hiking or a bicycle trip.

Our spring lunch gathering will be on April 27 and I’ll send out more details in March.
I. University News

A. Interim Provost Appointed

The University of Hong Kong's council appointed 67-year-old economist Richard Wong Yue-chim 王于漸 as interim provost and deputy vice-chancellor effective April 1, 2019. He succeeds Paul Tam Kwong-hang, who resigned despite his contract expiring in 2020. Wong, who occupies the chair of economics, is also a Philip Wong Kennedy Wong professor in political economy and was deputy vice-chancellor from 2004 to 2010. He received his AB, AM, PhD in Economics from the University of Chicago. He was Founding Director of the School of Business, Founding Dean of the Faculty of Business and Economics, and Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost.

His son, Michael Wong 王柏林, a Ph.D. student in economics at MIT, attended one of our HKUAANE alumni gatherings several years ago.

B. HK Law Students Won the 2018 Global Legal Hackathon

Five students from the University of Hong Kong and two from the Chinese University of Hong Kong have developed a computer program to help anyone involved in a legal dispute navigate the challenges of interpreting the law. In the process, the team in April 2018 won the grand prize in New York in an event billed as the first Global Legal Hackathon. The finals drew 14 teams, with earlier rounds drawing 40 teams of competitors from 22 countries and 40 cities. With the help of machine-learning technology, the five students teamed with four developers and created “Decoding Law” by building a browser plug-in that puts legislation into simpler terms for online users. Specific clauses can be located while “chatting” with a chatbot. The three HKU team members, Alison Li, Edelweiss Kwok, and Sally Yiu are currently studying in Year III of the combined law and business degree programme (BBA(Law) & LLB) 1) SCMP coverage: https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/community/article/2145843/hong-kong-students-develop-web-browser-chatbot-helps-you and coverage from

From left to right: Li, Edelweiss Kwok and Sally Yiu

Edelweiss Kwok 郭悅夷 is doing an exchange at Boston University this semester. She wants to share her perspective on her participation in the Hackathon.

It is my belief that everyone is born equal. As a law student, I reckon that in Hong Kong or other parts of the world, there are apparent inequalities in access to justice. For instance, in Hong Kong, the legislation is too hard for layman to read and understand their rights. If the underprivileged who are involved in litigation cannot afford to have a lawyer, nor eligible to legal aid/duty lawyer services, they will be deprived of getting a fair trial due to their incompetence and lack of knowledge in law. Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. This has been a fuel for me to join this competition to explore innovative solutions to tackle problems in access to justice field.
Attending the final in NYC not only paths us to our dream to win the competition but also provides us with inspirations in global legal-tech development from all the elites from different parts of the world. Learning from a broader palette of experts would definitely break the constraints in various aspects in Hong Kong. In terms of legal knowledge, we were able to connect with legal professionals from different jurisdictions around the world. It was definitely an eye-opening experience for us and in turn beneficial to our legal study journey. The competition has served as a remarkable start for us to further develop the field of legal-tech and access to justice in Hong Kong. After the competition, we have the ambition to bring the knowledge back to Hong Kong and promote the use of technology in the legal industry’s future, or even cooperate with various organizations to improve access to justice in Hong Kong.

C. Accolades (not a complete list)

Professor Gabriel Leung 梁卓偉 was elected Member of the US National Academy of Medicine for leadership in global health, medical education, infectious disease epidemiology and control.

HKU President & Vice-Chancellor Professor Xiang ZHANG 張翔 was awarded Eriingen Medal from the Society of Engineering Science

Professor Ron Hui 許樹源, is the only representative from a Hong Kong university to be named in the 2018 class of Fellows of the US National Academy of Inventors

II. HKU Mentorship Program

HKU Mentorship Inauguration Ceremony

A brief history of HKU Mentorship program: The Mentorship program was established in 1997 and was designed to provide students with opportunity to have a relationship with distinguished alumni and members of the community to establish a personal network in the development of the students. By year 2000, the program was extended to include Outbound Exchange Students and the oversea HKU alumni associations served to match the mentees and the oversea mentors. In year 2003, the program has been extended further to include Inbound Exchange Students to provide them with an understanding of Hong Kong community. The foreign students in the university will imbibe the mentorship concept and eventually be part of the oversea program when they return home. At the beginning, in 1997, 187 pairs of mentors and mentees were matched and by 2015 school year, more than 500+ were matched.

Last year when I was in Hong Kong I was invited to attend the HKU Mentorship Inauguration Ceremony meeting on October 22, 2018 at Loke Yew Hall. There were about three hundred people attending that ceremony- mentors and mentees. Most of the mentees are undergraduate and the mentors are alumni from various walk of life. I also met my HKU classmate there not knowing he has been a mentor all along. I also met the Director of the Mentorship program and her team (Ms. Monica Wong (Director of HKU Mentorship and Associate Director, Alumni Affairs), Ms. Bernadette Tsui (Director, Development & Alumni Affairs Office) and Ms. Pauline Liu, (Senior Manager, Alumni Affairs)
A touching moment at the Inauguration was that the HKU President and Vice-Chancellor Xiang Zhang 張翔 came together with the brothers and classmates of his mentor, the late IBM scientist & Riccian Andrew Ching Tam 譚正, whom he met in the US in the 1990s. It really shows the lasting relationship between the mentee and the mentor.

View of all the people attending the Mentorship Inauguration Ceremony

Dr Albert Wong with (from left) Ms. Monica Wong, Ms. Bernadette Tsui and Ms. Pauline Liu
III. HKUAANE Events

A. HKU Alumni Met the New Commissioner for Economics and Trade Affairs in the U.S. 香港駐美總經濟貿易專員

Eddie Mak 麥德偉, JP, a HKU graduate with a first-class honors degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering, was appointed on July 3, 2018 as Hong Kong Commissioner for Economic and Trade Affairs to the United States, the most senior representative of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government in North America. As Commissioner, he directs the Hong Kong government’s efforts in promoting U.S.-Hong Kong economic and trade ties, and constituency-building activities in the U.S. He also oversees the work of the three HKETO offices in Washington, D.C., New York, and San Francisco. On October 16, 2018 HKU alumni were invited to a welcome reception organized by Joanne Chu, Director of the New York HKETO. The reception was held at the Harvard Club in downtown Boston. Here is a group photo of HKU alumni (Son-Mey Chiu 趙洵美, Anson Kinsang Cho 曹健生, Amy Pui-Keung Leung 梁佩瓊, Tatfong Ng 吳達方, Albert Ma 馬澄濤, Mendy Chan 陳博文, Albert Wong 黃祐慈, Yum-Tong Siu 蕭蔭堂, Sau-Fong Siu 黃秀芳), Commissioner Eddie Mak, Director Joanne Chu 朱瑞雯, and other guests who are originally from Hong Kong.
B. HKUAANE Fall Dinner at Jumbo Seafood Restaurant, September 15, 2018

It was well-attended by 12 HKU exchange students, 1 graduate student and 29 alumni/family. All newcomers were given a chance to introduce themselves. Convener Tatfong Ng 吳達方 introduced Albert Wong 黃佑慈, who will assume the position of convener of HKUAANE as of January 2019. The program for the evening concluded with a short talk by an exchange student Sheheryar Naveed on the Muslim Students' Society at HKU, followed by Bingo game and lucky draw.

IV. Members' News

A. Sad News

HKU Alum Yan Ming Li 李潤明 of Cambridge, Massachusetts passed away on Sunday February 3, 2019 at the age of 66. Yan Ming was born February 23, 1952. Beloved husband of Dr. Chin Peng Lee 李之朋. Visitation on Saturday, February 9 from 10AM to 12PM at St. Michael Cemetery, 500 Canterbury St., Boston, MA 02131 Tel: 617-524-1036. A cremation on the same will be followed after viewing. Yan Ling graduated from HKU in 1975 with a B.S. in Physics and has worked as a physicist until his retirement.
Chi-Sang Poon 潘志生 conveyed HKUAANE's condolences to Yan Ming's wife Chin Peng. Chi-Sang who knew Yan Ming when they were undergrads at HKU shared his memory of Yan Ming:

Some forty five years ago, as hall-mates in the legendary Old Halls (明原堂) at Hong Kong University, we had the good fortune of sharing our vibrant young lives and dreams together ever so exuberantly under the Halls' inspiring motto:

**明眼有滄浪，憑欄欲共鯤鵬起**
**原心皆坦蕩，對客何妨門闥開**

With an eye for the world, we aim far and wide and to fly high like eagles
With a heart of gold, we reach out nobly and welcome people of all kinds.

This is what defined Yan Ming. My dear brother, your thoughtfulness and kindness to all will be sorely missed.

**B. Wedding Bells- Congratulations!**

a. Alum Christopher Lee 李浩天 got married on January 6, 2019 in St. Stephen's Church, Bonham Road, Hong Kong. The ceremony was followed by a lunch reception in the church. They are postponing their honeymoon until this summer and have chosen Maldives (a country in the Indian Ocean) as their honeymoon destination. The bride Gogo Hon 韓敏凝 is a teacher at St. Stephen's College, Stanley, Hong Kong. Chris received his bachelor's degree B.Eng.2009 with first class honors and Ph.D. from HKU in 2011 and was a resident of Wei Lun Hall. The picture below was taken in front of the Main Building of HKU.

Chris, who spent the last two years at MIT as a Croucher Fellow, is now an Assistant Professor in the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Nanyang Technological University.
b. Alum Kira Zhongjie Fu 傅中捷 got married to Brian Zappella on August 3, 2018. Here is their picture taken in the Boston Common. Kira is Senior Research Associate at Boston Children's Hospital and Instructor in Ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School. She received a Ph.D. from HKU in Ophthalmology in 2012.

C. Artwork for the Holidays

Alum Dr. Son-Mey Chiu 趙洵美, a renowned artist of the Ling Nan 嶺南 school, had her works accepted by the Lexington Arts and Crafts Society for their annual holiday marketplace, November 30 to December 23, 2018. This annual fair features beautiful handcrafted creations in many different mediums made by local fine artists and craftspeople. Here is a picture of
V. Mentors, Mentees and Exchange Students

A. Exchange Students Come and Go

In December we said good-bye to ten exchange students: Carol Liang 梁詠彤 (Bentley), Zhuo Yu Chen 陳卓裕(Bentley), Yuhao Howard Yang 楊宇豪 (Boston College), Yuepeng Adward Bi 畢越芃(Boston College), Betty Chen 陳涵(Boston College), Lim Dominic Co (MIT), Bingying Bingo Xu 許冰瑩(Northeastern), Wing Yiu Yoyo Chan 陳穎瑤(Tufts), Sheheryar Muhammad Naveed (Tufts), and Liang Sunny Tan 譚靚(Wellesley). Joshua Ching 程景濤 decided to extend his exchange at MIT for one more semester. This semester we welcome four new exchange students, Hilda Wong 王映詠 (Northeastern University), Edelweiss Kwok 郭悅夷 (Boston University), Zack Chu 朱敬識 (Bentley University) and Daisy Zheng 鄭君倩 (Bentley University). Hilda and Daisy are in the Mentorship Program. Hilda's mentor is Sau-Fong Siu and Daisy's mentor is Son-Mey Chiu.

Here is a picture of a farewell Christmas afternoon tea party hosted by Yum-Tong and Sau-Fong Siu 蕭蔭堂夫婦 in their home for the Fall Semester 2018 exchange students and their mentors (Albert Wong 黃佑慈, Connie Louie 楊國莉, Shu-Tim Lai 黎樹添, Son-Mey Chiu 趙洵美). After enjoying sweet and savory treats, Yoyo Chan 陳穎瑤 entertained us with her clarinet performance. Then the "older" generation sang Christmas carols while the students played ping-pong in the basement.
B. Apple Picking

In October 2018, Shu-Tim and Dorcas Lai took YoYo Chan, Adward Bi, and Howard Yang to pick apples.

C. A Field Trip to Concord, MA

In November 2018, Shu-Tim and Dorcas Lai took Joshua Ching and YoYo Chan to the historical US monument at North Bridge, Concord, MA. We also visited the North Bridge Museum, where they were glad to learn
some short history of the US revolution. Afterwards, the Lais treated the students to lunch at Chipotle.

D. Pakistani Food - Anyone?

Tatfong Ng 吳達方 treated his mentees Sheheryar Naveed and Dominic Co, and two exchange students Joshua Ching 程景濤 and Yoyo Chan 陳穎瑤 to dinner in a Pakistani restaurant.
E. Celebrating Thanksgiving Day

In November 2018, Yum-Tong and Sau-Fong Siu 蕭蔭堂夫婦 hosted a Thanksgiving dinner for exchange students Joshua Ching 程景濤 and Sunny Tan 譚靚, and alumni Constance Chung 鍾朝暉, Florence Yang 楊曉玲, Victor Lo 老瑞欣, Milly Lau 吳妙麗, and Tianshi Fang 方天石 and their families.

F. 2014 Exchange Student's Visit to Boston

In January 2019, former exchange student (at Tufts) Helen Zeng 曾樹烜, now a Ph. D. candidate at Carnegie Mellon, visited Sau-Fong Siu. Helen received a master’s degree from Columbia University before enrolling at Carnegie Mellon.
G. Celebrating the Year of the Pig

On February 16, 2019 Yum-Tong and Sau-Fong Siu 蕭蔭堂夫婦 hosted a Chinese New Year Dinner to welcome a new crop of exchange students: Hilda Wong 王映詠 (Northeastern), Daisy Zheng 鄭君倩 (Bentley), Edelweiss Kwok 郭悅夷 (Boston U) and Zack Chu 朱敬識 ((Bentley). Also present were Joshua Ching 程景濤, who is continuing last semester's exchange study MIT, alum Christopher Lee 李浩天, who is visiting Boston from Singapore, alumni George Hsu 徐理強, Vivienne Hsu 龍綺玲, Albert Ma 馬澄濤 and his wife Lucia 劉錦玲, and two non-HKU friends Yick-Wah Fong 方奕華 and Billy Ng 吳灝龍. 王映詠 (Northeastern University), Edelweiss Kwok 郭悅夷 (Boston University), Zack Chu 朱敬識 (Bentley University) and Daisy Zheng 鄭君倩 (Bentley University).

VI. Life After Exchange Study

A. A Philosophy Major Working in Films Now

Luna Fang 房璐 came to Wellesley College as a HKU exchange student but then transferred to Wellesley College as a regular student. She graduated over a year ago and is now in China. When she attended our gatherings in the past, she usually brought her HKU teddy bear to place on our reception table. She recently wrote to Sau-Fong Siu, "I miss you and our HKU Alum family! I've been working in film production in Beijing this past year and will be here for the coming year. I majored in Philosophy and took some film courses at Wellesley, including screenplay writing, video production and some film history courses. I am trying to find my way in the film industry, although I know it's not easy anywhere, so I'm still planning to pursue further education in film production (maybe in Beijing, or in LA), while getting more on-set
experience. I've been working mainly as an assistant to the director and I've worked for two feature films (both narrative fictions) by far. It appears to be a quite unstable career, but stability is not something of a high priority for me, at least for now, so I'm happy with my situation now. Outside work, I'm writing my own screenplay and getting ready to pitch it to the investors. I don't know how long it takes before it works out, but I will just try. I hope I can see myself more clearly and decide what I should do/change in the end of 2019!

B. Former Exchange Students in Hong Kong

I met up with my Mentee Apple Pang (彭素明) and her friend Vien Cheng (鄭沛琛 – Tatfong’s mentee) for dinner last November to get their feedback after staying in Boston for a semester and their aspirations after graduation. They all enjoyed the stay in Boston and they felt that the learning process in US University is quite different from HKU. There are more tests and reviews but the stress level is definitely not as severe. Since they are in the final year in HKU, I ask them what they would like to do after graduation and their answers are really interesting. Apple is in the Civil Engineering Department and she would like to work at the construction site. I started my career as Civil Engineering and I know the condition at construction site which could be rough, unaccommodating and strenuous. I asked her why, and she said she loved the excitement of seeing things built. I can relate to that since I have gone through it myself and I can see the soul and mind of a builder in her. Vien major in Psychology and Ecology and she want to do her graduate study in Europe and her motto is “go, see, learn and excel” – we all should follow. After dinner, they insisted to pay for the dinner and I gladly accepted that. After dinner, Apple had to go to a Karate lesson and I walked Vien back to the University MRT station. When I reflect on our conversations, I am happy to see the new generation of graduates pursuing their dreams and reaching out to world. They are our next generation strong women (未来女强人).
VII. Articles

This section is to encourage our members to publish their works (developments, arts, innovations etc.) to share with our members. I’ll also use this section to include some of the publications or speeches from the University. To kick off this “Articles” section, I have included the speech presented by the former Chief Justice of Hong Kong in the 200th Congregation, Faculty of Law, November 2018. The topic of the speech is “Rule of Law”. The speech has been published and can be downloaded from Mingpao. I have included the speech below.

Speech by the First Chief Justice of the HKSAR Court of Final Appeal, the Honorable Andrew Li

“I am honoured to be invited to participate in this Graduation Ceremony. As we are in the year celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Faculty of Law, this is an occasion of historic significance. I am delighted to be here at this meaningful event.

Even on the eternal clock of history, 50 years, half a century, represent a significant period for any institution. The 50th Anniversary is a time for celebration and reflection. It is also a time to look forward with commitment to the exciting challenges ahead.

Looking at the past, this Law School has built up a formidable reputation as our premier Law School. It is one of the best in Asia and ranks among the top law schools in the world. It has produced graduates who form the backbone of the Judiciary and the legal profession. Its graduates also contribute in business, government and other sectors. Many occupy leadership positions in public and civic life. I would like to express my warmest congratulations to all concerned, professors and graduates, for what you have achieved. You have every reason to be very proud of this Law School.

Of course, no institution can rest on its laurels. Looking ahead, I am sure that this Law School will continue to strive for excellence in its teaching and research and that it will go from strength to strength. Lawyers have a crucial role to play in upholding the rule of law and lawyers are what law schools make them.

That is why this Law School will continue to play such a significant role in maintaining the rule of law in our society. I would like to wish the School every success in its important endeavours.

On this happy occasion, I would like to convey to all graduates at both first degree and postgraduate levels my warmest congratulations. I am sure that the graduating students will agree with me when I say that you owe a great debt of gratitude to your families and your teachers for their unstinting support and wise guidance. It is a debt of honour which I am sure you will never forget. They must be very happy today and have every reason to be proud of your achievements. To them, I also wish to extend my congratulations and best wishes.
The body of alumni is a most important stakeholder of any Law School and can provide it with invaluable support. You have received much from this School and I trust you will do your part to contribute to the development of your Alma Mater in future years.

When this Law School was founded some 50 years ago in 1969, the world was a very different place. Compact discs were unknown, let alone computers and the Internet. Hong Kong had a Legislative Council the members of which were all appointed by the Governor. We had no cross harbor tunnel at all. The Hunghom tunnel was only completed in 1972.

Those somewhat idyllic times are long past. The last half century has witnessed the most momentous changes in the world. We have seen the most amazing advances in science, technology and in every field of human endeavor. As a striking example, it has been pointed out that there is today more computer power in a Ford family car than there was in Apollo 11 when Neil Armstrong took it to the Moon in 1969. All around the globe, there have been sea changes in the geopolitical landscape. Above all, our Motherland, China, has emerged as a modern and strong nation.

By the time the graduating students of today reach the prime of their working lives in say 20 to 30 years’ time, we will be marching towards the middle of this century. What will the world be like then? What does the future hold? Looking in the future, we can only be certain of one thing. The pace of change in all fields is likely to accelerate. The only certainty is uncertainty and the only security is the ability to cope with insecurity. I wish to offer our graduates a few thoughts which may provide them with guidance in meeting the exciting challenges ahead.

First, amongst rapid and accelerating changes, we must always remember that the practice of law is an honorable profession and that professional ethics must be observed at all times to the fullest. Further, lawyers must do their part to uphold the rule of law with an independent Judiciary which is of pivotal importance to Hong Kong under one country two systems.

We must develop a strong sense of responsibility. Today, people all around the world are very conscious of their rights. They talk about their entitlements. Some even think and act in terms of what society owes them. But all rights should be exercised responsibly. It is high time for the balance to be redressed and that we recognize and accord at least equal importance to our responsibilities. Responsibilities at various levels: to our country, China, to our community in Hong Kong, to our profession and to our family. I believe that developing a strong sense of responsibility by all citizens is of fundamental importance in our strive for a better future.

We live in a highly materialistic world, with some people measuring human worth by how much one earns and spends. But legal professionals should not be obsessed with materials possessions. I hope you will remember that, as has been well said, we make a living by what we get but we make a life by what we give. You must be prepared to contribute to the welfare of our society. Ultimately our society must find its soul in its social conscience based on respect for human dignity. So act honorably and ethically, develop a strong sense of responsibility and contribute to the welfare of society.
Secondly, it is important to be and to remain adaptable at all times in order to meet changing circumstances. This is essential for success and indeed survival. As has been wisely observed, it is not the strongest or the most intelligent who survive. It is those who are most adaptable to change that are able to survive.

In order to remain adaptable, we must believe in and practice learning for life. This would ensure that we would have the knowledge and skills required from time to time in order to survive and thrive. Things taught at schools and universities are not an education but only a means to an education and there are no limits and boundaries to learning. We must be keen to continue to learn from experience in the university of life. As has been wisely observed, experience is the teacher of all things.

Thirdly, it is most important to develop the strength of character, the inner strength, to overcome adversity. Life’s journey is a long distance one. As you progress through it, there will be many ups and downs. Sometimes, the sun will shine on you. But at other times, life can be stormy. Sometimes, the sailing will be plain. At other times, the territory will be rugged. It is important always to move on, with the determination to overcome adversity. “For sweet are the uses of adversity” as Shakespeare pointed out. You must face life’s challenges with great vigor and courage.

In concluding, I am sure that with the excellent education you have received at this law School, you are well prepared to continue on life’s journey and to face life’s many challenges. You should aim high and strive to make a difference. Each of you has the opportunity to fly as high as your ability, commitment and industry will take you. I wish all graduates every success and happiness. Thank you. Good Health and Good fortune to you all.”

VIII. Life in New England (future development - contributions needed)