Editor's note:

The tumultuous time for Hong Kong, its residents, and anyone interested in the affairs in Hong Kong is still continuing. As we did in our last newsletter too, we all wish the situation to be resolved and calmed down soon for peace and harmony to return to the city.

Our association’s activities, in the meantime, have progressed as usual. We had the mid-winter event in July, the AGM in August and two monthly lunches.

We share the achievement of our member Sam Chan with a short write-up about his award-winning photo. The meet up of a few of our committee members with a HKU alumna doing a short residence in Auckland is recounted. Some links relevant to and as a follow up on the after-lunch talks at the AGM are added for your information and reading pleasure. The members are reminded and encouraged to send interesting articles to be shared in future newsletters.

AGM - 2019

The annual general meeting of the HKUAANZ was successfully held on the 4th of August 2019 at Remuera Golf Club. Thirty one members attended the AGM and were joined by a few spouses for the buffet lunch that followed. Officials for the year 2019-2020 were chosen at the AGM and several matters that affect the members of the association were discussed in a cordial manner. The buffet lunch was enjoyed by all and the two post-lunch talks were interesting and thought provoking. The three newest members to join the association in the past year introduced themselves to the group.

The photos of the four lunch tables are shared with you in this newsletter but you can access the online photo album prepared by KK Yam by Clicking here. Enjoy!
- **Monthly lunch - July**

Golf club luncheon on the 5th of July was so well-attended despite being on a wintry day. Doreen, our newest member attended a monthly lunch for the first time. Doreen's joining the HKUAANZ boosted the number of women in the Association. Topics of the very warm conversations flowed from Westland Milk Company - the largest farmers cooperative in South Island - experiencing financial problems, the current situation in Hong Kong to the wastewater pipe burst in Taupo....

- **Monthly lunch - August**

As the AGM was to be held in two days, only a few allocated time to attend the monthly lunch on the 2nd of August. All the tables in the cafe were full with other patrons and the atmosphere was much livelier and noisier than usual. Group's conversations began naturally around the situation in Hong Kong, then moved to topics varying from golf, gardening, and eating out, to the upcoming AGM and possible activities for the coming year.... The electronic ordering system of the café malfunctioned soon after the order of the group was taken and as a result the wait for the meals was much longer than usual. The free hot chocolates and coffees given to compensate for the delay was a pleasant gesture from the always attentive and obliging staff.

- **Award winning photo**

It is with great pride and joy that we share with fellow alumni the good news of a great achievement of our member Sam Chan. His photo was awarded a Gold medal at an international salon in India and a Bronze medal at the National salon in New Zealand.

When asked to describe his interest in photography and the story behind this award-winning photo (on the left), Sam says “My passion for photography and my interest in some genres e.g. architecture make me aware of photo opportunities. In the case of my photo 'Lamp and Staircase', I was attracted initially by the tonal contrast in the scene. Then I recognised the presence of various graphic elements building up a picture. I decided on a formal composition for the image. The biggest technical challenge on spot was to hold myself steady enough to make the photo handheld. Finally, the post processing was to balance the tonal contrast and to bring out the details in the image.”
**HKU Alumna's Auckland visit**

Committee members KY So, Manying Ip, and Yuk Ming Ip met up with HKU alumna Ms. Yang Jing Gladys who is a visiting researcher of Empathic Computing Lab at the University of Auckland. Gladys was a mentee during her exchange at HKU in 2012. She finished her Engineering degree at Tianjin University and is now a PhD student at ETH Zurich, Switzerland where she also serves as HKU mentor and has been supporting many exchange students.

Gladys arrived in Auckland in June and is here until early September.

On the afternoon of 21st of August Gladys took time away from her research lab and was hosted by the HKUAANZ committee members for a long lunch. They drove to a suburban Chinese restaurant and enjoyed some good Cantonese food, and had engaging conversation on Swiss education and life in general, New Zealand scenery, weather and academic life…The most earnest conversation was on cake-making and cuisine with an agreement to hold a cooking session in a home if more free time could be found. Discussions on the situation in Hong Kong led to everyone sharing the fervent hope that there could be some hopeful developments soon.

We wish Gladys all the best in getting successful research outcomes during her short stay and also a memorable time in Auckland.

Gladys’ introduction to the HKUAANZ was through Monica Wong and Holly Tang of HKU DAAO (Development and alumni affairs office).

**Follow up on talks@AGM**

The first after-lunch talk by Achela at the recent AGM on “The use of resources and climate change in New Zealand” was both informative and thought-provoking and seemed to encourage participants to consider ways of saving valuable resources on a day-to-day basis and ponder ways to avoid contributing to the global climate change. Following are some useful links to learn ways of saving water and energy, to estimate the size of a carbon footprint one makes on the planet, and to explore ways in which one can contribute less to global warming and climate change:

- [Water conservation - households](#)
- [Water conservation - Gardening](#)
- [Energy saving - Choose the right bulb](#)
- [Fuel efficient driving tool - Are you driving economically?](#)
- [Calculate your Carbon footprint](#)
- [What is your ecological footprint?](#)

The second talk on “The Mission and Community Health Talks of ACMA” shed a light on the services provided by ACMA and its activities in general. The speaker - the President of ACMA Dr. Carlos Lam - directed the audience to explore the ACMA website to keep current of its activities; some useful ones for our members are:

- [The mission of ACMA](#)
- [How to join ACMA](#)
- [Benefits of joining ACMA](#)
- [Upcoming events](#)
- [List of public doctors](#)