HONG KONG UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF BOSTON-NEW ENGLAND
波士頓 - 新英格蘭香港大學校友會

SPRING 2020 e-News
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From the Editor Albert Wong 黃祐慈 Convener

It is customary that we have our spring gathering in April when the flowers start to bloom and the smell of spring fills the air. In late January when we tried to set a date for the event, we noticed that there were many schedule conflicts and we moved the event to late February. It was just pure luck that we did it before the shelter-in-place was announced.

Spring of 2020 was the worst of time in the recent American history. The Covid-19 pandemic mushroomed to an uncontrollable rampage. News of sick people inundating the hospital emergency rooms with no apparent cure for the disease. We are all affected by this pandemic in various degrees. I know of people who had the virus and recovered and there are also less fortunate ones. We all have to stay home and practice social distancing and help one another where possible. In this difficult moment, we also see the courage and goodness of human spirit shine and show the endurable strength and compassion of humanity.

In the spring semester, there were 14 exchange students and 11 of them were in the mentorship program. All of them participated in our spring luncheon gathering and It was fun and to talk to these students. They are so energetic and ready to face the future of their choices.

When I prepare this editorial, I thought about these students who came to Boston in January and they were looking forward to a fun and rewarding stay in the historic city of Boston. Unfortunately, their stays had to be cut short and they had to return home when the universities and colleges were closing their classrooms. By mid-March most of the students knew they had to return home and some of the mentors contacted their mentees and gave them advice. HKU student affairs also notified them the safest alternative was to return home. I can understand the disappointment of the students as this early departure has significantly impaired their objectives of being exchange students in a foreign country. Not only did they miss out in the participation of group
learning and the campus life, the confusion and uncertainties in the closing of the universities and colleges; trying to get out of the dorm and move to a temporary housing/hotels, and trying to arrange for the air transportation back home are not in their wildest imagination a probable study scenario. The only consolation was that I was told that all students returned home safely. In a positive note, I hope this unfortunate turn of event will make them stronger and more mature in dealing with uncontrollable events and uncertainties in life.

In this pandemic, I wish all our members safe and stay healthy and lend helping hands to those less fortunate where possible.

My term as convener will end by the end of 2020 and I am happy to inform our members that Ms. Milly Lau will take over as the convener of HKUAANE. Ms. Milly Lau is no stranger to our members. She has been an active member and she designed our HKUAANE banner. Let’s welcome Ms. Milly Lau.
I. HKU NEWS

Important message from the President’s Office (January 25, 2020)

Dear colleagues and students,

In light of the latest development of the Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak, classes at the University will be suspended after the Chinese New Year holidays and will resume Monday, February 17, 2020. Detailed arrangements about in-class examinations, online teaching and make-up classes will be announced in due course. Non-local students who are in Hong Kong are advised to stay in Hong Kong during the period when classes are suspended. Those who are not in Hong Kong at present should consider not returning to Hong Kong at this point in time. Research postgraduates should discuss their study plans with their supervisors.

We have strengthened preventive measures as far as practicable across the University. However, students and colleagues, especially those in residential halls, should take proper precautions related to personal hygiene and prevention of transmission or infection. Please consult the advice and announcements provided by the University Health Service at http://www.uhs.hku.hk/phpedpr/novel_infectious_disease_of_PH_significance.php

In order to safeguard the health of all University members, and to be able to provide appropriate assistance to affected individuals, all students and colleagues returning from Mainland China must complete an online health screening form, which will be emailed to University members.

The campus will remain open, and office and research labs will continue to operate, but heads of units and supervisors should communicate clearly with colleagues about working arrangements and exercise discretion regarding staffing flexibility as necessary, including work at home arrangements for some colleagues. Events on campus in the coming weeks, especially events involving a large number of participants, should be rescheduled or cancelled.

The University has established a Task Force on Infectious Diseases, chaired by Vice-President (IA) Professor Norman Tien, to continually monitor and assess the situation. We will post updates to the University’s Facebook page, HKU App and HKU Portal and website as appropriate and send bulk emails as necessary. Please stay vigilant and continue to make your personal health a top priority.

Professor Xiang Zhang 張翔
President and Vice-Chancellor
Ms. Bernadette Tsui 徐詠璇, former Director of Development and Alumni Affairs Office, was promoted

She has contributed to the University in her roles as a professional in institutional advancement and as an accomplished administrator. She also teaches a course on philanthropy at our Faculty of Social Sciences. She has been appointed as Associate Vice-President (Development and Alumni Affairs.) The announcement was made by Norman C, Tien, Vice-President (Institutional Advancement).

#TeachforGood
Enabled by HKU COVID Relief Fund
善學. 連線
香港大學 COVID 支援基金

「我們堅信要有平等學習機會。數碼科技更是今日學習基本。疫情下全港學校停課多月，網上教學加深了數碼鴻溝，突顯了基層學生的困境。」
—— 香港大學教育學院羅陸慧英教授

由六月中開始，港大應屆畢業生將特別設計一系列輔助課程，為三千名受疫情影響的中四和中五學生，提供網上及線下學習支援，首階段為期三個月。參加計劃的應屆畢業生將獲得工作津貼。

Via a specially designed series of online and offline classes, HKU graduating students will empower 3,000 needy students of Secondary 4 and 5 who are adversely impacted by COVID-19. The first phase will run from mid-June till September.

HKU graduating students will receive a work allowance while serving the community.

President Xiang Zhang, the Provost and the four Vice-Presidents have taken the lead by donating 10% of their salary for a period of 12 months to support the project.
II. NEWS OF HKUAANE

Introducing the Next Convener of HKUAANE - MILLY LAU 吳妙麗 2021-2023

Miu Lai Ng 吳妙麗 FNP, MPH, MSN, BSN, RN was born and raised in Hong Kong. She completed her Bachelor of Nursing and Master of Nursing from The University of Hong Kong in 2006 and 2008. She works in Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital for 5 years after her undergrad study. Inspired by SARS in 2003 and worldwide healthcare reform, she got recommended to further her education on public health at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in 2009 where she obtained Master of Public Health in Healthcare Management and Policy. After graduation, she returned to HK and got married with her elementary school classmate, LAU Siu-Cheong 刘绍昌. They moved to Japan and then Boston area as Siu-Cheong pursued tenure in academia. She began her medical training at Regis College graduated in 2019. She is working as a Nurse Practitioner at the Division of Gastroenterology and Liver Transplant program in Tufts Medical Center.

Miu Lai designed the banner for the HKU Alumni Association at New England in 2012 and she loves all the gatherings with HKU Alumni during her 12 years at Boston. Her husband works at Boston University as a Mathematics professor and they have 2 children, Lucia and William. She enjoys hiking, ice skating, and traveling with her family.
Spring Luncheon at Jumbo Seafood Restaurant, Newton, February 22, 2020

HKUAAANE’s Spring Luncheon at Jumbo Seafood Restaurant, Newton, MA was well attended by 35 people, 14 of whom were HKU students. All first-time attendees including exchanges students were introduced and welcomed. The highlight of the program was a presentation by Dr. Lisa Huang, who has a hybrid background in technology and business. She is the Director of Corporate Development at Praxis Precision Medicine (Cambridge). The title of her presentation was "Emerging Therapeutic Modalities and Their Application to Brain Diseases." As usual, a lucky draw concluded our gathering. (One student left before group photo was taken.)
Financial Report of HKUAANE
~ Reported by Sau-Fong Siu~

Our Association has two separate funds:

(1) Student Activity Fund with an initial income of $2,000 donated in October 2016 by Alamak Biosciences in Beverly. From 2016 to the present, the fund has enabled 80 students to attend our events.

(2) General Operations Fund with donations from alumni members. From March 2016 to the present, we collected $890. This fund has paid for annual website-related expenses, stationery items, HKUAANE banners, shortfalls from restaurant bills, gifts for outside speakers, and miscellaneous.

The balance in the Student Activity Fund is $0.00
The balance in the General Operations Fund is -$14.96 (deficit)

End of Report

A Helpful Resource for Our Members

Dr. Lisa Huang

Director of Corporate Development at Praxis Precision Medicines
She was our speaker at the spring lunch gathering on February 22, in which she presented finding from her research on Central Nervous System diseases. She grew up in Hong Kong and graduated from Pui Ching Middle School. She has offered to talk to or correspond with HKU exchange student or alumni who are interested in a career combining science and business.

Dr. Lisa Huang Bio

"I did my undergraduate in UCLA and Human Genetics PhD at Johns Hopkins. After
After graduation, I worked in Life Science Management Consulting (L.E.K.) for a couple of years. For the last 5 years, I've been working with early stage venture capital firms (e.g., Atlas Venture) in building therapeutic startups. One of the companies, Magenta Therapeutics, has since become a public company. I'm currently at Praxis Precision Medicine, a biotech based in Cambridge focused on developing treatment for CNS diseases. I'm the project lead for one of their clinical programs and also director of corporate development. I have a hybrid background in science and business, so happy to share my experience with anyone trying to understand what a life science Ph.D. can do."

### III. EXCHANGE STUDENTS PAST AND CURRENT

#### New Exchange Students, Spring Semester

We welcomed these students in the HKU Mentorship Program. They arrived in Boston in January 2020. Unfortunately, due to the threat of COVID-19, they had to terminate their exchange study early, some as early as March 15. HKUAANE regrets that these students did not have a chance to interact much with their mentors. We wish them well as they continue their study at HKU.

<p>| CHAN Chung Hei John | 陳頌熹 | Northeastern |
| CHEN Jing Shu | 陳景舒 | Harvard |
| FU Ho Man Edmond | 傅浩文 | Northeastern |
| FUNG Wang Kin Likey | 馮弘建 | Harvard |
| HU Xinning | 胡心寧 | Boston College |
| JIANG Bingham Stephanie | 蔣秉含 | Boston College |
| KOT Chun Ting Austin | 葛俊廷 | Northeastern |</p>
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**Former Exchange Student Joshua Ching 程景濤 Visited Boston**

Joshua was an exchange student at MIT for one year (Fall 2018 to Spring 2019). He came to attend a conference at MIT in early December.

Yum-Tong Siu 蕭蔭堂 and Joshua Ching, December 1, 2019
**Former Exchange Student Helen Zeng 曾樹烜 visited Boston, February 8, 2020.**

She was an exchange student at Tufts (Fall 2014). She is now a PhD Student in Information System at Carnegie Mellon University. In early February 2020 she came to visit the Siu family.

**Former Exchange Student Rachel Lee 李加善 Attended an Event with her mentor Son-Mey Chi 趙洵美**

They attended the Annual Saturday of Symposia hosted by the Harvard Alumni Association and the Harvard Club, December 3, 2019. Rachel was an exchange student at Northeastern University.
Former Exchange Students Togzhan Talgatkyzy and Bayansulu Tulbassova had dinner with their mentor

Hailing from Kazakhstan, both were exchange students at Northeastern University in Fall 2019. Their mentor Albert Wong 黃佑慈 treated them to a farewell dinner in early December.

Albert Wong, Fernadina Chan, Togzhan Talgatkyzy and Bayansulu Tulbassova
IV. NEWS OF ALUMNI MEMBERS
Welcoming Two New Members from California

We welcome an HKU alumni couple, Ruoyu Jerry Wang 王若煜, his wife Venus Wenxin Huang 黃聞馨 and their young children Charlotte and Celeste, who moved to Newton MA in Fall 2019. Jerry and Venus were both residents of Simon K.Y. Lee Hall while at HKU. We are pleased to learn that they were both active in the Southern California HKU Alumni Association. Both have served as mentors to exchange students. In 2017 Jerry was also Chair of the Newsletter Committee.

RUOYU JERRY WANG, CFA received a B. Eng. degree in Industrial Engineering and Technology Management from HKU in 2010, and an M.S. in Financial Engineering from University of Southern California in 2012. He is currently Assistant Portfolio Manager, Commodity at Geode Capital Management, Boston.

VENUS WENXIN HUANG 黃聞馨 received a B.S. degree in Animal and Plant Biotechnology from HKU in 2009 and a Ph.D. in Reproductive Medicine in 2013. While at HKU she was Team Captain, Ladies’ Basketball Team in S.K.Y Lee Hall and Team Captain, Ladies’ Basketball Team of Mainland Students, CSSAUD. She was also a member of the Hong Kong Society of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Reproduction. Currently, she is an IVF service consultant.

Here is their family picture taken with Peter Poon (President of HKUAA Southern California) and his wife Mable.
Son-Mey CHIU 趙洵美 Won an Art Award

Son-Mey says, “I remember fondly the brilliant blossoms on Amaryllis plants that lined the pathway to my ancestral home in Hong Kong. Her painting "Amaryllis Nostalgia Poetic" won the "Prize for Excellence in Asian Painting." The citation reads, “Expertly painted. Lovely combination of detail and suggestion, movement and stillness.”

Son Mey participated in the Lexington Arts and Crafts Society Painters' Guild March Show. Unfortunately, it had to be cancelled because of Covid-19. However, now you can view the show online. One of her paintings, Amaryllis Nostalgia, got an award. During this period of social distancing, you may visit the gallery leisurely in the comfort of your home. Here is the link: https://www.lexart.org/tiime-and-place-painters-guild-show

As in past years, Connie Louie, Sau-Fong Siu and Son-Mey Chiu did their Christmas shopping at the Holiday Market Place of Lexington Arts and Crafts Society.

Former Active HKUAANE Member Dr. Denvid Lau 劉特斌
Visiting Professor at MIT spring semester, 2020

Denvid obtained his Bachelor’s degree with first class honors and Master degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Hong Kong (HKU) in 2004 and 2006 respectively, and got his second Master degree from the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 2009. He then received his Ph.D. in the field of structures and materials from MIT in 2012. Prior to joining City University of Hong Kong (CityU) as an assistant professor in August 2012, he worked as a postdoctoral associate at MIT. He has become an associate professor with tenure at CityU since 2018. He returned to Boston as a Visiting Professor at MIT and on March 14, 2020 Yum Tong and Sau Fong Siu invited him and Keith Wong, Jenny Lau and their baby Ian to lunch.
Congratulations to Milly Lau 吳妙麗 and Louis Siu Cheong Lau 劉紹昌

Milly took the Nurse Practitioners exam in January 2020 and passed it. She received her license to practice in April. In May, her husband Louis was granted tenure by Boston University. He is now Associate Professor of Mathematics.