

Annual Report of President of HKUAAO 2015/2016

AGM – March 20, 2016

It is an honor and a privilege for me to be serving you as the President of the Association for the term 2015/2016.

The Association's functions and activities in the past year were as follows:

1. Annual General Meeting and Dinner – April 19, 2015

The Annual General Meeting and Dinner was held on April 19th, 2015 at Premiere Ballroom & Convention Centre in Richmond Hill. As 2015 was HKUAAO's 30th anniversary, we invited some special guests to attend the event. The new President and Vice-Chancellor of HKU, Professor Peter Mathieson led a delegation from Hong Kong to Toronto to celebrate this special occasion with us. The delegation includes Professor Bernadette Tsui, Director of Development and Alumni Affairs Office, Isabella Wong, Director of Admissions and Academic Liaison Section, Cathy Wong, Senior Program Manager, Office of Student Exchange, as well as Dr. Christina Mathieson.

In addition, honorable guests attending the dinner include Gloria Lo, Director of The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, Toronto (HKETO), Dr. Vivienne Poy, Former Senator and Chancellor of the University of Toronto, Dr. Lawrence Ng, Chair of HKUAA Northern California as well as presidents and representatives from six other university alumni associations in Ontario.

Professor Peter Mathieson gave a very thorough update of the development at our alma mater and invited alumni to visit our alma mater, especially the newly built Centennial Campus. At the end of the dinner, we had a cake cutting ceremony to celebrate our 30th anniversary in front of 220 alumni and guests.

2. HKUAA Ontario Student Exchange Scholarship

For the academic year 2015-16, the following were awarded a scholarship of HK\$12,000 each:

Ms. CHONG Ka Nam, Helen, B(Eng) Year 3
on exchange to University of Toronto

Mr. MAN Wing Kan, Alex, BBA (Law) and LLB Year 4
on exchange to University of Toronto

3. HKU Mentorship Program

Our Association has been actively supporting the HKU Mentorship Program. Every year, a number of HKU exchange students come to Ontario universities and study for one or two semesters. There was no exception for the year 2015/2016. We got 16 mentees commencing Fall semester 2015. With the support from Wilson Chan and other members, we were able to arrange for the corresponding mentors for all the mentees including those exchange students studying at University of Ottawa.

4. Spring Hike at Oak Ridge Trail, King City

On May 31, 2015, we organized for a spring hike at Oak Ridge Trail. It was a relatively easy and scenic trail in the Oak Ridges in King City, passing through the Seneca Lake and the historic Eaton House. There were 16 participants, a mix of alumni, family and friends. Although the weather was not favorable, drizzling and cloudy, there were many picturesque spots for the group to enjoy. A dinner was held afterwards at a restaurant in Markham where the hikers and several alumni joined in for a sumptuous meal to wind up the evening.

5. 30th Anniversary Celebration Hiking at Algonquin Park

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the establishment of HKUAAO, a trip to the Algonquin Provincial Park was organized for alumni, families and friends. It was a 3-day celebration from Friday, October 2 to Sunday, October 4, 2015. Fifteen alumni and their family members joined the celebration and enjoyed accommodation at the Wolf Den Bunkhouse.

The weather was excellent during the period. We hiked the Hemlock Bluff Trail, visited the Logging Museum and walked the Hardwood Lookout Trail. We invited some members to demonstrate their cooking talent and prepared a fabulous dinner for the group on Saturday.

This trip was unique in a way that members not only were able to enjoy the beauty of the outdoors but to bond with their classmates from different professions, faculties and eras of graduation.

6. Fall Hike at Season Trail, Pickering

On October 18, 2015, we organized a fall hike at Season Trail. There were 40 alumni, HKU exchange students, family members and friends participated in the hike. The weather was mild and there were some clouds. Overall, it was a very nice afternoon walk as we passed by wooded areas and streams where there was a lovely display of nature in

this multi-colors season. After the walk, we enjoyed a dinner together where we could interact and share experience.

7. HKJU Mini PanAm Game and Banquet

The Game was held on Sunday, October 25, 2015 in Atos Markham Pan Am Centre. Over 100 alumni from all universities participated in these events. They played hard, ran fast, showed sportsmanship and cooperation as a team. There were hundreds of spectators watching on the sidelines.

It was an exciting competition and the players worked hard to perform in the games. At the end, Team Red and Team White became co-champion. HKUAAO formed a team of 35 for the games and all members performed well. We also recognized the excellent performance of both Cheerleading teams which pushed the atmosphere to another level. The event ended with a Gala Dinner at Royale Fine Dinning & Banquet with over 220 people attended and the presentation of Hong Kong Cup which has been sponsored by Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office.

8. Table Tennis Tournament and Fun Day

We had a fun-filled day on December 6, 2015 when 25 players and 4 helpers took part in a table tennis tournament at the Canadian Chinese Table Tennis Association. The competition was on team basis. Each team composed of 4-5 players from different skill levels. Apart from fostering friendship among members of the interest group, and to promote table tennis as a healthy sport, this year's tournament has a special meaning: to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of HKUAAO. After the tournament, 32 members and their family had a dinner gathering to attend the prize presentation ceremony.

9. Ontario Inter-Collegiate Debate Competition

With the goal to promote communication and Chinese culture, we continue to support the Ontario Inter-Collegiate Debate Competition. We made a contribution of \$1,000 to support the alliance which consists of nine universities in Ontario for debate competition conducted in Cantonese.

We will continue to encourage, participate and sponsor educational, intellectual and cultural activities among members and with the local community, establish links and exchanges with other university alumni associations, and make grants and awards of scholarships for meritorious achievements.

The Board of Directors will also continue to arrange for activities and functions to promote, support and protect the common interests of our members and to provide a good network for our alumni residing in Ontario.

HKUAAO has been the chairing association for the Hong Kong Joint Universities Alumni (Ontario) for 2016. Augustine Chan and I are the Co-chairs of the executive committee while H.K. Pong is the secretary of the committee and Romeo Au is the designated representative of HKUAAO. All alumni are encouraging to provide input to enhance the relevant arrangements for the 2016 event.

Finally, I wish to take this opportunity to thank our honorary advisors, directors and committee members who have displayed quality leadership. They have given me tremendous support in the past year. I also wish to thank all our alumni and their family members for their support of the Association. Please join me in celebrating the success of the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Au-Yeung
President 2015/2016
HKUAAO