

President's Report 2018 - Susan Wong

November 4, 2018

Dear Honorable Guests, Members, Friends and Families,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to our 2018 HKPUECA 19th Annual General Meeting and Gala Dinner tonight.

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to Ms. Florence Tsang of Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (HKETO), the Presidents and friends from Joint Universities, Professors and our sponsors, who graced our event tonight.

Heartfelt thanks and appreciation go out to President Tong who, despite his very busy schedules, took time and efforts to tape a video clip specially for our AGM and prepared a Congratulatory Message for the Program Book. We will have the first viewing opportunity of President Tong's video at dinner tonight. We would also like to thank Alumni Affairs and Development Office (AADO) of HKPU for their professional assistance in fulfilling our requests for video/congratulatory message and in providing us valuable videos/photos on PolyU's 80th Anniversary celebration and Alumni Atrium which will also be broadcast for your viewing pleasure at dinner. These videos/photos will be uploaded to our website after the event.

I am privileged to be elected as President this year, and with the co-operation, support and advice from the Board members, past Presidents, alumni, advisors and volunteers, 2018 has been a fulfilled and dynamic year with many accomplishments for which I am very thankful and grateful.

Special mention goes out to the spouses of the members, and many HKPUECA veterans for their valuable suggestions and behind-the-scene assistance. Quotable names are but not limited to : Alan Ho, Mimie Chow, Pauline Tsang, Alex Tang, Samuel Cheng, Paul Cheung.

The accomplishments would not have been achieved without the untiring efforts, tremendous time and energy, and unfailing support of our Directors, and let's give them a round of applause for their achievements (drum roll, please) :

Michael Shiu (1st VP, MC of choice, 1 of 5 JU representatives)

- Co-ordinated and assisted many activities/events this year
- Regularly attended JU and sub-committee meetings to keep the Board updated

Albert Fok (2nd VP, official photographer for all HKPUECA events, mentor of photography group, 1 of 5 JU representatives)

- Extensively involved with JU activities, e.g. Grand River cruise, JU TT tournament
- Audio equipment expert and provider for HKPUECA events. Tonight is the debut of his new baby - \$2,200 PA speakers. Singing sensations, "HKPUECA Idol" is on tonight !!

Dr. Raymond Wong (Director of Membership, previously Professor of Engineering at HKPU)

- Instrumental in recruiting and upgrading of 24 members in 2018 - highest record in all previous years !!
- Maintained and updated a growing master list of 352 members

Tommy Chang (Secretary, wisdom and historian for the Board, Tai Chi master)

- Brought orders to Board meetings, prepared timely and comprehensive minutes and agendas, and provided check and balance for Board members and discussion topics

Mei-Ling Kwan (Director of Programs, one of 5 JU representatives)

- President of HKPU SSW, our sister social work alumni association
- Organized and hands-on with all activities/events in 2018

Kenneth Lai (Director of Programs, one of 5 JU representatives)

- Long-time HKPU'er experienced with Board matters and offered valuable advisory to the Board

Steven Chung (Treasurer, fiscal gatekeeper)

- Oversaw our financial accounts and provided cautions for budgets and expenses
- With his expertise and experience, the Association ended the fiscal year with a surplus in revenue !!

Peter Ho (Director of Communications, website co-ordinator)

- Interface with the media
- Audio system/karaoke expert, provides wireless microphones and audio system for HKPUECA events

Besides their respective roles, thanks to all the Directors for their great team work in organizing, co-ordinating, supporting and attending activities and events throughout the year. Job well done !!

THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY (EASTERN CANADA) ASSOCIATION

2018 was a busy and fulfilled year. We held event almost once every month. Including AGM/Annual Dinner, we have organized 9 events/seminars which were all well attended and received. We surveyed members for their preferred interests to guide our direction towards arranging programs, and we listened. The activities were organized with the members' interests in mind.

Sit back, relax and enjoy the Moments of 2018 : (Please visit www.hkpu.ca for more photos)

March : Spring Dinner - New and exciting initiatives were introduced towards fund raising for HKPUECA Scholarship by : personalisation of God of Fortune (Tommy looked good in the costume and thanks to Kenneth in providing the costume), auction for 9999 gold-plated miniature God of Fortune and PolyU 80th Anniversary memorabilia. An overwhelming \$1,450 was raised during the night.

April : Orchid Seminar - We had the pleasure of inviting Mr. Mak Ching to be the speaker which was well attended and received. 3 lucky winners went home with their prized orchid collection.

May : Healthy Snacks for Mom Seminar - What a better way to celebrate Mother's Day than to treat mom to a "Eat Healthy" seminar? Tommy & his mom, in her 90's, surprised us at the seminar. Every female attendee was presented with a rose to celebrate the day.

June :

(a) HKPU Social Work Students having practicum in Toronto - 2 BSW and 1 MSW students from Hong Kong arrived in June to embark on their 3 months fieldwork placement at different organizations and were hosted at Mei Ling's house for BBQ.

(b) Grand River Cruise - This was a Joint U initiative spearheaded by CU this year and overwhelmingly supported by the other 8 universities. The event was a huge success participated by 152 JU alumni/friends on 3 chartered boats

July : Dinner Gathering with Billy Pang - Billy Pang, our Life Member, was elected as MPP in June. At the dinner, we had the opportunity to learn from him the policies of the Provincial Government and the responsibilities of a MPP.

August : Hiking - Hiking was surveyed to be the #1 interest topic by members. Like past years, Dr. Raymond Wong selected scenic routes and did a guided tour for a group of 24 die-hard fans followed by a ritual dim sum lunch.

October : JU Table Tennis Tournament & Gala Dinner October 14, 2018 was *THE* Day - The theme this year was TT tournament spearheaded by CU and supported by all the other 8 universities. The day was filled with excitement when the White & Red Teams displayed their professional table tennis skills either in singles or mixed categories. HKPUECA, under the leadership of Sandy Chu, Simon Ling, Randy Leung and Alfred Pan, got major awards at the tournament. The day climaxed at the gala dinner with a full house. It was a yearly ritual where members and friends of all the 9 universities gathered and mingled in a friendly atmosphere.

November : HKPUECA AGM/19th Annual Gala Dinner

As to membership, I am delighted to report that to date, there are 352 members (220 Life members and 132 Regular members) in the Association and still growing !! We have the highest number of Regular membership upgraded to Life membership in 2018!

Welcome to the new members and the newly elected Board members to bring expertise and knowledge of their respective fields to enrich the values of the Association and uphold the goals of the Board. We as the Board will do our very best to continue our services to the members. New members are always welcome and hat's off to the recruiters for which special mention is made for Albert Fok who, while practising table tennis, still co-ordinated recruiting, upgrading and renewing members personally.

I would like to thank the retiring Board members : Dr. Raymond Wong and Albert Fok, for their excellent service and significant contributions to the Board over the years.

Thanks also to the members for their generous support to continue our yearly donation to "The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Eastern Canada) Association Scholarship established with our Alma Mater. A cheque of HK\$8,000 from HKPUECA was presented to President Tong by Dr. Raymond Wong and myself when we visited Hong Kong last December.

It would be remiss not to mention the success of our HKPU TT team who displayed the highest level of sportsmanship at the JU TT tournament. Special recognition goes out to the team captain and coaches : Sandy Chu, Simon Ling Randy Leung and Alfred Pan for their leadership resulting in several major trophies at the tournament.

So much for 2018. What is in store for 2019 ? Our vision for 2019 are :

1. Continue to bring value and services to the members;
2. Recruit more members to join the Association;
3. Upgrade Regular members to Life members;
4. Organize more programs/activities of interest to members;
5. Raise funds for the operation of the Board and activities, as well as HKPUECA Scholarship;
6. Leverage the talent from within the Association for Board's activities
7. Foster co-operation and volunteerism from within the Association
8. Maintain and improve our website
9. Maintain and improve on-going communication with PolyU and AADO
10. Last, but not the least, maintain and foster collaborative efforts and co-operation among JU family

As we know, President Tong will be leaving PolyU at the end of 2018. We would like to thank President Tong for his on-going support, leadership and vision to our Association over the years. We will all miss him and wish him all the best in his future endeavors and look forward to his next visit to Toronto when we can hear his sound of guitar music again !!

In closing, my heartfelt thanks to all the members and friends for your support this year and I look forward to your continued support, understanding and encouragement in 2019 ! On behalf of the Board, may I wish you and your loved ones a healthy, happy and prosperous 2019 !!