

## HON. SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

1. Twelve monthly meetings were held by the Executive Committee (“ExCo”) from 8 October 2019 to 8 September 2020. Under the able leadership of President Dr. Evelyn Y. F. MAN and her team, including Vice-Presidents Ms. Catherine Y. L. CHEUNG and Mr. Thomas M. T. TSO, Hon. Treasurer Mr. Danny F. L. LI, Hon. Secretary Ms. Agnes P. T. CHEUNG, together with other ExCo and Sub-Committee Members, the Association witnessed continued growth and development.

2019-2020 was a year of challenges and opportunities for the Association as well as the world at large. With the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, and subsequent disruption to social gatherings, the Association had only managed to organise a handful of events this year. In fact, five of the ExCo meetings were held via video conferencing, in compliance with the Government’s social distancing regulations. Despite the difficulties faced, the Clubhouse had successfully undergone a major renovation in early 2020. All ExCo Members had been actively involved in the project in different capacities and it was very much a team effort. Convenors of all Sub-Committees also submitted written and/or verbal monthly reports at every ExCo meeting. Details and photos of the activities held could be found on [www.hkuua.org.hk](http://www.hkuua.org.hk). The term welcomed one new ExCo Member, Mr. Patrick W. T. YEUNG. Thanks go to all ExCo and Sub-Committee Members who contributed to make the past year a great success.

Operations Manager Ms. Natalie WONG and Operations Officer Mr. Michael CHOW continued to work alongside administration staff Ms. CHENG Yee-fong and Clubhouse Manager Mr. LAU Chi-on to ensure smooth day-to-day operation of the Association.

### 2. **The House and Bar Sub-Committee (Convenor: Mr. Vincent W. S. WONG)**

- i. Regular meetings were held with the caterer, Stand Great Investment Limited, with a view to improving food quality, menu variety, services and Clubhouse facilities.
- ii. The Restaurant was closed from 16/02/2020 to 07/05/2020 for renovation. The food and beverage sales remained weak for most of the year due to the pandemic situation and restrictions imposed by the Government. Nevertheless, the renovation project was a great success. The new interior decoration was well received by members and guests. The work was supervised by volunteer architect Mr. Tommy LING, with the assistance of designer Mr. Alvin LEE of MELT.
- iii. Mr. Jeffrey SHAM helped update the menu of the Restaurant. New dishes and drinks were introduced and the design was enhanced. Various new items, such as cutlery and staff uniform, were also designed and produced. Thanks go to Mrs. Shirley SHAM for donating coffee cups and other utensils to the Association.
- iv. Upon re-opening of the Clubhouse on 08/05/2020, a series of activities was organised to bolster our image and reputation. Promotional articles and videos about the Restaurant and Clubhouse were published in different media outlets.

# HONG KONG UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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- v. Various measures were taken during the pandemic to sustain operations and to comply with government regulations. While takeaway ordering had always been available, it became much more of a focus during the pandemic.
- vi. The Clubhouse Re-opening Celebration Dinner was successfully held on 24/06/2020. Guests including Hon. Vice-Presidents and the HKU Senior Management Team were invited. Positive feedback were received from the participants on the new décor and the excellent food.

### 3. The Social and Events Sub-Committee (Convenor: Mr. Alex C. H. LAI)

- i. A hiking event (港島南區秋季郊遊) was successfully held on 27/10/2019 with 82 participants. The objectives were to provide a healthy outdoor event for members, let them get in touch with nature and provide a platform for them to make and meet friends. The trail chosen was easy and the participants enjoyed the hike very much.
- ii. HKUAA Seafood Buffet Dinner at Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club (RHKYC) was successfully held on 23/11/2019 with 33 participants. Members and guests found the evening enjoyable. Thanks go to RHKYC Members Mr. William CHU, Ms. Stella MAN and Ms. Jenny LIM for hosting the dinner on behalf of the Association.
- iii. HKUAA Buffet Dinner at the Hong Kong Club was successfully held on 04/01/2020 with 92 participants. Thanks go to Mr. Kenneth SIT for reserving the venue and selecting a high quality menu. Participants found the food and atmosphere highly enjoyable. This event has been organised every year since 2011 and has proven to be very popular.

### 4. The HKUAA Choir Sub-Committee (Convenor: Ms. Lucy T. P. CHEUNG)

No activities were held in the past year due to the pandemic situation.

### 5. The University Liaison Sub-Committee (Convenor: Mr. TSE Sik-yan)

Close ties with the University were maintained through the presence of Ms. Janet CHUNG of DAAO, who often briefed us on the latest development of HKU at the ExCo meetings.

### 6. The Membership Sub-Committee (Convenor: Dr. William W. T. YIP)

- i. The Association enjoyed further growth in membership number. As at early September 2020, membership registered a 2.5% increase (an addition of 903 members) compared to a year ago, reaching a total of 36,466 members, with quite a number joining as Life Members, apart from being Ordinary Members.
- ii. A continuous membership drive was underway to strengthen the bonding amongst alumni members.

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iii. An ad-hoc group was formed in early 2020 to review the existing Membership Fee structure, key members included Dr. Evelyn MAN, Ms. Catherine CHEUNG, Mr. Thomas SO and Dr. William YIP. A proposal for a revised Membership Fee structure was subsequently presented and discussed in the ExCo meetings. Having considered a range of factors, the ExCo decided to shelve the plan for the time being while keeping the situation under review.

### **7. The PR and Communications Sub-Committee (Convenor: Ms. Kitty K. L. TSE)**

The Autumn-Winter Chinese Wellness Dinner (《秋冬顏如玉》養生晚宴) was successfully held on 13/01/2020(Mon) with 29 participants and Traditional Chinese Medicine expert Dr. Csaryne WAN as the speaker. Positive feedbacks were received from the participants.

### **8. The Technology and Operations Sub-Committee (Convenor: Mr. David Y. K. YIP)**

i. There was continuous effort to maintain and upgrade the digital and hardware infrastructure of the Association to enhance the experience of our members in different online touch points as well as in the Clubhouse.

ii. The A/V and IT Task Force was set up to provide support on technical matters in the renovation project, key members included Mr. David YIP, Mr. Joseph CHONG and Mr. Brian HUI. The Task Force had worked closely with designer Mr. Alvin LEE of MELT and other vendors to finalise the items of works to be carried out and products to be purchased.

### **9. The Golf Interest Group Sub-Committee (Convenor: Dr. Dicky LAM)**

No activities were held in the past year due to the pandemic situation.

### **10. The Green and Culture Sub-Committee (Convenor: Mr. Brian HUI)**

The Sub-Committee helped promote “Stay Tuned Music Series”, a performance sharing platform hosted by the University of Hong Kong Music Alumni Association in September 2020.

### **11. The Community Services Sub-Committee (Convenor: Dr. Julian C. Y. FONG)**

The Sub-Committee participated in an event titled 精英運動員愛心送暖行動 2019 organised by the YWCA on 10/11/2019 to visit and distribute gifts to the isolated elderly in the Sai Wan Ho and Quarry Bay areas.

### 12. The Professional Alumni Get-Together Sub-Committee (Convenor: Mr. Joseph H. C. CHONG)

In the past year, the Sub-Committee organised the following events:

- i. 09/10/2019 Dinner talk: 最年輕港人攀八大高峰吳俊霆挑戰七大洲極地的準備和常見的傷患痛症處理方法
- ii. 26/10/2019 HKUAA Visit to Central Mail Centre (參觀中央郵件中心)
- iii. 28/11/2019 HKUAA Whisky Tasting
- iv. 11/01/2020 HKUAA Visit to Happy Valley Sewage Storage System (跑馬地地下蓄洪系統)

### 13. The Young Alumni Group Sub-Committee (Convenor: Mr. Kyle K. H. WONG)

The Sub-Committee aimed at enhancing bonding and fellowship among alumni by organising various social activities. Most of the events organised by the Group were fully booked. Hereunder were the popular events jointly organised with the Student Members Group Sub-Committee in the past year:

- i. 30/11/2019 Young Alumni Golf Nite: driving range and putting green training by professional coach.
- ii. 11/01/2020 New Graduates Welcome Party: talk by Prof. Norman Tien, Vice-President and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Institutional Advancement) of HKU, on the topic of “AI – Glass Half-full or Half-empty”.
- iii. 17/01/2020 Young Alumni New Year Happy Hour: networking among alumni and students.

### 14. The Student Members Group Sub-Committee (Convenor: Mr. Kenny K. F. NG)

The Sub-Committee had co-organised certain social events with the Young Alumni Group Sub-Committee in order to broaden the horizons of Student Members and build up a close relationship with young alumni. In addition, the Sub-Committee continued to take care of the needs of HKU students in better equipping themselves before graduation so as to stay competitive in their future career development by organising various career-related activities throughout the year:

- i. 30/11/2019 Young Alumni Golf Nite\*
- ii. 11/01/2020 New Graduates Welcome Party\*
- iii. 17/01/2020 Young Alumni New Year Happy Hour\*
- iv. 01-30/08/2020 Curriculum Vitae (“CV”) Review: an online CV review programme was launched in August, inviting students to send over their own CVs for review and comment by experienced alumni in order to facilitate job hunting.

\* co-organised with the Young Alumni Group Sub-Committee

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### 15. The Fine Wine Club (Chaired by Mr. Tommy LING)

One wine tasting event was organised at the Clubhouse on 17/01/2020.

### 16. Fundraising

As the renovation project required substantial financial input, it was essential to raise funds to meet the costs. A task force chaired by Dr. Evelyn MAN was set up to coordinate fundraising efforts. A donation request letter was sent to all Members in July 2020. Thanks go to loyal supporters of the Association for their generous donations. In particular, two rooms were named in appreciation of the donors: one was the YU's Room in appreciation of the generous donation of Mr. C. L. YU, and the other was named Ricci Room in recognition of the kind generosity of Mr. Wilson CHEUNG of Ricci Hall, who not only donated himself but also encouraged other Riccians to donate. The Ricci emblem would henceforth be displayed inside the Ricci Room.

The Association again enjoyed a fruitful and successful year, thanks to a very hard-working ExCo and its Sub-Committees.

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Ms. Agnes P. T. CHEUNG  
Hon. Secretary