

**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG BRITISH COLUMBIA**

ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020



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President's Report

It is my pleasure to serve this year as the President of the Association. I am so blessed to have the chance to work with a strong team that always gives new inspiration in our work. The past presidents serving in the Board always gave me valuable advice too.

In December 2019, we had our famous fun packed Christmas Lunch held in Alpen Club. We had great food, games, and we sang Christmas songs together. It was a memorable gathering to kick off the Christmas holiday.

Initially we had been so excited to welcome the 50th anniversary of our Association in 2020 with activities such as visiting the HKUAA Northern California chapter in April, riding the Pacific Coast Cruise from San Francisco to Vancouver in May and a dinner reception in November to celebrate this milestone. However, the outbreak of COVID-19 in early 2020 had forced us to reschedule everything. Everyone was encouraged to stay home and reduce all social interactions. Like all other societies, we had to call off gatherings since February to help bend down the curve of contraction. We offered getting necessities to alumni members who were limited in mobility during this harsh time, but no one asked for assistance so far.

In July, we had launched a Virtual Presentation about traveling – Cruising Iceland. We had enjoyed the videos and beautiful pictures of the landscape of Iceland from our speaker, Danny K. Chan. It was well received by the members who have missed the joy of traveling this year! We will be introducing more virtual activities in future to bring in fun at the pandemic and keep members connected, as we have no idea when real gatherings are possible.

As in previous years, we had exchange students from HKU and some of them had joined the Mentorship Program. This year, we served 2 students in the Fall Semester and 5 in the Spring Semester. We had chances to meet them at our AGM in October 2019 and at our Mentors – Mentees gathering in March 2020.

Our Endowment Fund and Award at SFU was set up in 1993 with the purpose to promote an understanding of the culture of the Pacific Rim through awards granted to selected SFU students undertaking internships or doing work placement in Hong Kong. As reflected by many of the award recipients, the money has been very helpful in financing their flight to work in Hong Kong. Over the years, there have been 37 recipients of the award. In 2020, the award recipients are Rosalie Lai and Nicholas Kenton Lui. The balance of the endowment principal as of March 2020 was \$68,261.

The HKU-UBC Endowment Fund and Award was established in 2010 in celebration of our Association's 40th anniversary and to promote exchange and understanding between HKU & UBC. Candidates for the award must be UBC undergraduate students participating in exchange programs with HKU. No individual award should be less than \$1,000. Our contributed principal is \$34,450, which enables the fund to generate an award each year. We have given out seven awards so far since the establishment of the endowment and the market value of the fund as at March 2020 was \$ 47,460.

We hope in the year of 2021 we will see the easing of COVID-19 and a vaccine will be available to all. Nevertheless, we will continue planning alumni activities in 2021 with safety measures in mind. In particular, we are aiming to have the 50th anniversary dinner to be held in early summer of 2021.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to recognize the great service of Mr. Hector Wong, who has served as our Honorary Accountant for many years. We appreciate his dedication to our Association and wish him all the best.

I would like to thank all the Directors and I look forward to working with them in the year to come. In addition, I hope to meet more members of our Association in our future events.

Best wishes to you and your family!

Rebecca Lee

President 2019/20

Alumni Association of the University of Hong Kong, British Columbia

Board of Directors: 2019 – 2020



President
Rebecca Lee



Vice President
Yeda Hong



Secretary
Koon Ming Ho



Treasurer
Douglas Cheung



Membership Secretary
Patrick Kwan



Rosanna Wong



Fenella Sung



Vincenta Ko



Priscilla Lau



Yiu Shing Sz



Angela Lo



Eric Chui



William Lau



Cathy Meu

Annual General Meeting

Rebecca Lee

The Annual General Meeting of the HKUAA BC was held on October 4, 2019 at Continental Seafood Restaurant at Richmond. A total of 48 people attended the event including the representatives of other Alumni Associations and 2 mentees.

The program included the Annual General Meeting and a karaoke sing along session. Members greatly enjoyed the singing and they performed songs from Chinese opera, English opera and songs from movies. It was great fun indeed and many members suggested we should have singing gathering again.

The mentees from HKU that joined the dinner shared their view of studying and living in Canada. They both found the campus at UBC very beautiful and they liked the air and scenery of our province too.

We had a great evening with good food and lots of laughter.





Christmas Lunch Party

Angela Lo

The HKUAA had organized a Christmas lunch party at the Vancouver Alpen Club on December 21, 2019. It was well attended by alumni and their friends. There were altogether 53 adults and one child. We were seated in 8 tables.

For performance, we had invited Wendy Cheung, a belly dancer, to perform and demonstrate Turkish belly dance. Our alumni showed great interest in learning the belly dance movement. Interestingly enough, the males turned out to be more keen participants.

While we were enjoying the German cuisine, Harry played guitar and sang Christmas carols to us. Ken, a long time HKUAA friend who had always attended our events, sang a few songs of Sam Hui. It brought us back to our HKU school days when we were playing guitar and singing songs around the school campus.

After the lunch, William, our game director, had organized a game competition among all the attendees. Each table nominated two people to participate in the race passing a ball in a spoon while walking from one end of the room to the other. The HKUAA Director team won the game after a heated competition.

The party ended with everyone singing “We wish you a Merry Christmas” while shaking hands with each other. It was a great lunch gathering.







Mentorship Program

Yeda Hong

The Association has been supporting and providing care and guidance to HKU mentee students over the years by participating in the HKU Mentorship Program. Through the Program, we make close connections with HKU and feel the warmth of the big global HKU family.

In the Winter term of 2019-2020, we had five exchange students from HKU joining the Mentorship Program. A mentor-mentee gathering was successfully held on March 1, 2020 before the pandemic was spread in Vancouver. It was well attended by all mentees, mentors and some Board directors. There was an exchange of views about studying and life in campus here and in HKU. The mentees also shared their goals for their future career.

The Board would take this opportunity to thank the alumni who have served as mentors this year: Eric Chui, Yeda Hong, William Lau, Rebecca Lee and Fenella Sung.





Virtual Presentation – Cruising Iceland

Rebecca Lee

In view of the spread of COVID 19 since February, we decided to suspend all gatherings for Spring and Summer. We had to switch to a new normal -- having activities online. We believed most of us had missed the joy of traveling and we came up with the idea of a virtual presentation of places of attraction.

We had invited Mr. Danny K. Chan, an avid traveler and award winning photographer, to present a talk online, Cruising Iceland, on July 25th 2020 via Google Meet. It comprised of pictures and videos taken in the 17-day journey in Iceland. It was full of spectacular pictures of the landscape, buildings and aurora borealis. We had 18 alumni members join this event and it lasted for almost 2 hours. There was a great sharing session at the end. We all enjoyed this program.

Mr. Danny K. Chan was pleased to let us share those pictures and videos to members who could not attend. Therefore, we circulated the YouTube link to all members after the show.



Danny Chan is presenting

Eric Chui and 2 more

3:49 PM

Iceland

Jokulsarlon