



Wah Yanites



ANNOUNCEMENTS

52nd Annual General Meeting

By Ashley Cheng

You are cordially invited to the 52nd Annual General Meeting of the Wah Yan (Hong Kong) Past Students Association, which will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, 26 June 2021 at the Rooftop Classroom of the School Hall, Wah Yan College, Hong Kong. Please note that there will be no formal lunch gathering after the Annual General Meeting.

Wah Yan One Family Foundation

By Monty Fong

First and foremost, may we wish you good health and a supple mind amidst the prevalent pandemic and bad economy. We started Fr Deignan's Dream Campaign in 2008 and raised over \$153 million thanks to your generosity and unfailing support. To date, around \$150 million has been appropriated to support small class teaching, teacher formation and whole person development in the two Wah Yans.

Your generosity has enabled the Schools to produce stellar results in academic achievements, extracurricular activities and whole-person development for young Wahyanites. Say our DSE results are on par with other schools of equal calibre (e.g. Band 1A if you like), yielding 1 scholar from each Wah Yan. Our overall sports ranking is among the top 6 in Hong Kong and our school choirs has won numerous trophies in the interschool Music Festival, etc.

Looking ahead, the Schools are determined to continue the essence of Jesuit education by furthering the visions and capacities of our young Wahyanites. Initially they would like to continue a targeted small class teaching, offer more STEM programmes and employ more NET teachers to create a better learning environment. To achieve these goals, the Schools need a stable funding to sustain their efforts to cope with the ever-changing educational needs in long term. The Schools will issue a report on how Wahyanites have excelled under the Dream campaign scheme and what they want to achieve next soon, so please stay tuned! In view of these various developmental needs, we will spare no effort to launch a massive fundraising campaign (e.g. for an endowment) soon to support the two Wah Yans. For instance, a Wah Yan 100+ Music Festival at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre (January 2022) and a Guinness World Creation Campaign (October 2022) are already in the pipeline. Please scan the QR code for more information.

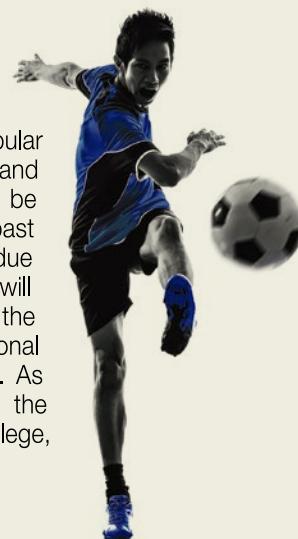


Wahyanites and Friends, we call upon you to reunite with your schoolmates and friends to help us rebuild the Wah Yan Community in one go. The Schools are running out of resources so we need your timely support, more than ever and once and for all. Please call Monty Fong on 9092 9433 if you need more information on the Report and the endowment fundraising campaign. Thank you very much again for your selfless support and wishing you all the very best!

Football League

By Chiwi Lai

The Wah Yan League Football Tournament was one of the most popular events co-organized by WYKPSA and WY(HK)PSA. The coming season will be the twenty-first time to be held. In the past year, the tournament was suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic but will resume very soon. To better protect the players and the spectators, additional control measures will be implemented. As usual the Tournament will be held at the football pitches at the Wah Yan College, Kowloon. GET READY! GEAR UP!! SEE YOU ON THE PITCH!!!



Alumni Manager Election

By Peter Tang

Pursuant to the Education Ordinance (Cap. 279), a vacancy for Alumni Manager arose on 1 September 2020. As the only recognized alumni association of Wah Yan College Hong Kong, the Electoral Committee of WYHKPSA organized an election for Alumni Manager and nominated him to the Incorporated Management Committee of our Mother School for the school term 2020 to 2022. Voters' registration and candidates' nomination began on 13 May 2020 and ended on 13 June 2020. The voting date was set for 26 June 2020. During the period only one candidate, Dr. Cheng Chi Kin Ashley (1980), was nominated and in accordance with the prescribed Election Procedure, he was automatically elected.

Wah Yan Online Shop

By Alex Lau

PSA online shop is a platform for local and overseas WY brothers to purchase school and PSA souvenirs by a few clicks. New items will be added to the site from time to time. Stay tuned to us! Some items are in limited quantity as well. Why wait to get yours?



ONLINE SHOP



Wah Yan Late Show



Wah Yan Late Show was successfully held in November 2020 and March 2021. It is a virtual event facilitated by the PSA Junior Alumni Council to engage retired teachers to share with alumni their interesting moments in Wah Yan. We are honored to have Mr. J.B. Lam, Mr. K.C. Chan, Mr. F.W. Ip and Mr. W.S. Lo to join the Late Show with the attendance of more than 300 alumni from over 12 countries in the two episodes. Among other things, they shared rarely known stories about how they got hired, discussed the fun facts behind some of their nicknames, and talked about memorable moments over the decades that they served in Wah Yan. The Late Show has connected Wahyanites across countries with retired teachers during the pandemic. Before the start of the second episode of the Late Show, the PSA also took the opportunity to conduct a simple roasted pig cutting ceremony to wish Wahyanites a healthy and prosperous Year of the Ox.



Dicky Chow

2021 Students of the Year (SOYS)

Students of the year election has been up and running for over 2 decades with the primary aim to identify three outstanding all-round students who would be asked to represent the School to attend events to show how our alma mater has shaped her students into Men For and With Others. With the pandemic hanging around, overseas trips have to be put on hold, but the Student Ambassadors elected can rest assured that WYHKPSA will provide them with a “mission” sooner or later when it becomes possible again.

The election itself was a challenge. The first stage was held on 28 October 2020, in which teachers and fellow schoolmates elected six students, based on a set of criteria. This has shown that the elected students have obtained a good representation of our students. On 30 October 2020, the 6 elected students had to undertake a stringent interview by a panel comprising Senior School Staff Members, Past SOYS and representatives of WYHKPSA. At last, the following three students were elected Students of the Year (SOYS): 5Y LI Yin Kwan (李彦君), 5C LIN Rui (林銳), and 5K LAM Tsz Long Isaac (林子朗).

The final election was held on 8th November 2020 and the SOYS were interviewed by a fresh panel of WYHKPSA Past Presidents and current Council Members. The SOYS did really well in their presentations and eventually 5K LAM Tsz Long Isaac (林子朗) was elected **Student Ambassador**. Congratulations to Isaac! Looking forward to seeing you in our upcoming and all future WYHKPSA events.

Peter Tang

Wah Yan Anniversaries Thanksgiving Mass




The Wah Yan 100th & 95th Anniversaries Mass of Thanksgiving, with theme of “Youth, Hope, Vision,” was successfully held on 12 March 2021, at St. Ignatius’ Chapel, Wah Yan College Kowloon. Around 320 Jesuit Fathers, guests, staff and students of WYHK and WYK attended. Fr. Stephen Chow, SJ, supervisor of WYHK and WYK, was the celebrant. To allow more people to participate in the event, the Mass was streamed online. A finale video, with sharing by those involved in the preparation and organisation of the anniversary celebrations, was shown at the end of the Mass. The Mass marked the end of Wah Yan’s anniversary celebrations.

Paul Yu

Social Services Committee



 In the most difficult time during the COVID-19 pandemic, having a decent notebook computer or a tablet with stable Internet connectivity is crucial to maintain students' online learning. With the unconditional support from our alumni, parents, students and friends of Wah Yans, the Wah Yan Social Service Community organized two phases of the second-hand notebook computers/tablets collection programme for ethnic minority students in needs. Through the networks of our stakeholders in the Wah Yan Community, we collected some second-hand notebook computers, tablets and even donations during these two phases. Our volunteers were responsible to clean and check the functionality of those notebook computers and tablets, and purchase suitable tablets for online learning. After the aforesaid procedures, we donated them to ethnic minority students in different schools. We hope this tiny step might facilitate those students to overcome the difficulties of online learning and help them to execute "suspending classes without suspending learning". The Wah Yan Social Services Committee is formed by a dedicated group of alumni, parents and teachers of the Wah Yan Family. Its purpose is to help underprivileged and disadvantaged groups in the community, particularly students of ethnic minority origin. Activities are held throughout the year to address their needs and foster interactions between them and Wah Yan students.

Aaron Chan

Chairman's Report 2020-2021

The term 2020/2021 (the "Term") is an unprecedented year that we all live in the pandemic environment. Under such a challenging period of time, I always ask myself the following questions: How can we find a better way to serve and support our alma mater? How can we foster stronger bonding among Wahyanites? And how can we still organise activities for our alumni to create nostalgic and happy memories about Wah Yan ("the School").

The new normal in this Term is to meet 'Online'. We had all our monthly council meetings online. The junior alumni council organised two Wah Yan Late Shows and invited a few retired teachers, including K C Chan, J B Lam, F W Ip and W S Lo, to share interesting Wah Yan stories. These shows brought alumni together from Hong Kong and overseas. We also took this chance to host an online roasted pig cutting ceremony to celebrate the Chinese New Year.

In June 2020, we organised our Annual General Meeting face-to-face in the rooftop classroom in the School. The election of Alumni Manager of the Incorporated Management Committee of the School was also done successfully. Moreover, the School organised two Speech Days in November 2020 separately for the 2019 graduates and the 2020 graduates. We are very glad to have set up our PSA booth on these two days to meet and connect to the recent Wah Yan graduates.

During the Term, a number of hybrid face-to-face and online events were held. The Students of the Year and Student Ambassador program was completed in December 2020. Three outstanding students were selected and it was the first time that we announced the result online in the School assembly. The online matching event of the mentor (alumni) and mentee (mainly Form 5 students) program was held in March 2021. We hope that the career and interview workshop of the program will be held together with MSS in early July of 2021.

We also followed a few traditions during the Term, such as, allocating a budget to subsidise student activities, and sending festive wishes and small gifts to the retired janitors just before the Chinese New Year. The Wine and Dine Club organised the sales of delicious carrot cakes at a competitive price for the benefit of our alumni.

We continued to celebrate the Wah Yan 100th/95th Anniversaries and participated in the steering committee. During the Term, the Jesuit Education Forum was successfully held online. A featured article about Wah Yan 100th/95th Anniversaries was published in the Ming Pao Weekly. A Thanksgiving Mass with the theme of Youth, Hope and Vision was also held in April 2021, and the time capsules that kept "Wahyanites' cards for Wah Yan in 10 years" were sealed on the same day.

A wonderful finale video was produced and shown after the end of the Thanksgiving Mass. This marked the completion and reflections upon the process of the Wah Yan 100th/95th Anniversaries celebrations that spanned over the past two years. We look forward to seeing the coming Wah Yan 100+ Anniversaries with the plan of a number of the face-to-face celebrations and events including Wah Yan 100+ Music Festival and Guinness World Creation Campaign tentatively to be held in Q1 and Q4 of 2022 respectively.

I would like to highlight a few Wah Yan communities that was set up and running during the Term. The Wah Yan Social Service Group and Tin Shui Wai English Tutorial Group founded by our late alumnus Mr Daniel Mak, continued to organise many meaningful projects that helped ethnic minorities and disadvantaged groups. I encourage you to follow their news and join as a volunteer to fulfil the Wah Yan spirit of "Men For And With Others". Furthermore, remember to visit our PSA online store to grab some 100th Anniversaries souvenir items now as only limited stocks are available.

Last but not least, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to all 35 fellow council members, our advisors and past presidents, as well as and the teacher, alumni and student volunteers for their tremendous support in bringing a fruitful Term. I would also like to thank our alumni, friends of alumni and students who joined the activities. I hope you enjoy the events and will continue to support PSA. I am certain that PSA will continue to stand by and bring to fruition the School's visions.

Armen Ho (93)

Chairman, WYHKPSA (2020-21)

Mentorship Program

A recruitment session was conducted during the Form Teacher's Period on 16 September 2020 (Wednesday). An alumnus, Yam Chun To Jethro (Class 2018), shared his experience as a mentee. Our Form Five gentlemen were also introduced to the upcoming activities in the mentorship programme. Finally, a total of 46 Form Five gentlemen, covering 20 occupations, enrolled in the programme.

Matching work between mentor and mentees was conducted and an orientation day was held on 6 March 2021 (Saturday). Prior to the orientation, mentees were required to prepare for

the meet-up with the guidelines in the mentorship journal. They were asked to prepare for questions and topics to chat with their mentors. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the orientation was conducted online. Mentors and mentees were grouped into breakout rooms and they were engaged in the dialogue and they exchanged contacts for future gatherings. Mentees were also asked to record their experience in their mentorship journal.

Karl Chan

Principal's Column

Dear Wahyanites,

I hope you are all staying healthy and in good spirits as we continue to face the challenges of the current time.

As you all know, due to the pandemic and various uncertain situations, we were unable to organize some of our planned Anniversaries celebrations. However, with the blessing of God, our Anniversaries Mass of Thanksgiving was held successfully at St. Ignatius Chapel on 12th March 2021, marking a beautiful ending to the celebration of our centenary. Thank God for His protection over us through many challenges and His guidance in many decisions.

As we move forward to our next hundred years, it is a good time for us to reflect upon how we should grow based on our strong tradition and culture. In the area of teaching and learning, we are currently conducting a research study, Envisioning Innovation in Education, with the support of researchers from Project Zero, a research centre at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. The study focuses on new approaches to teaching and learning in schools. Participating teachers are experimenting with new strategies and tools in their classrooms, working to bring leading innovations in pedagogy to our college.

Furthermore, we have initiated a new school-based IDEEA (Innovation, Design, Engineering, Entrepreneurship, Arts) Initiative this year, through which all F.3 students have the opportunity to engage in Project-based Learning formulated through the Design Thinking model. Unfortunately, progress on this has been delayed as face-to-face classes have been suspended to varying degrees throughout this academic year, preventing the “hands-on making” student experience essential for the IDEEA Initiative.

Regarding public exams and university admissions, and despite all the challenges and unexpected circumstances faced by our students over the last two years, our young gentlemen put their very best efforts into their studies and achieved satisfactory results overall in HKDSE last year. Among our young gentlemen, Samson Hung attained 5** in all seven subjects he sat for, becoming a “Straight-A Student”, commonly called 狀元 in Chinese, and he was admitted to the Medical School of the University of Hong Kong. I am sure you will join me in giving him our warmest congratulations. To further strengthen our support for our students in their admissions and scholarship applications to top universities, not just in Hong Kong but also internationally, and simultaneously to expand our students’ vision and horizon, we have established a Student Advancement Team. The Team will work together with our Life-planning and Further Studies Guidance Committee to provide additional support to our students. While our current F.6 young gentlemen are sitting for the HKDSE, I am delighted to share the good news that some have already received offers and scholarships from leading universities around the world, including but not limited to the University of Oxford in the UK, the University of Toronto in Canada, and the International Christian University in Japan.

You may also be aware that the school is collaborating with an architecture firm in conducting a comprehensive campus spatial usage review. The architects have met different stakeholders, including staff members, student representatives, parent representatives, and alumni representatives, to collect their views and ideas about our campus. The architects will submit a proposed master plan to our IMC and the Jesuit Education Board for their consideration within this academic year.

We hope these studies and initiatives can strengthen our support for our young gentlemen, give us new insights into future possibilities for teaching and learning at Wah Yan College, Hong Kong, and guide us in preparing our young gentlemen to cope with the rapidly-changing environment. At the same time, we will continue to further the vision of Jesuit education, and nurture our students to become “Men For And With Others” in the next hundred years.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for your continued support. It is truly a blessing that the solid fellowship of alumni has been a strong tradition of Wah Yan College, Hong Kong, and we foresee this tradition continuing in the next hundred years. I look forward to inviting Wahyanites from different generations to come together when the situation allows. I will continue to share details of our studies and initiatives with you and, of course, seek your support in the further development of our college.

Once again, thank you sincerely for your role in our community. It is a true blessing for me to be among you to build on the success of Wah Yan and to bring to fruition our school’s vision, for the greater glory of God.

I look forward to seeing you face-to-face soon.

Dr. Davis Chan
Principal
Wah Yan College, Hong Kong

Jesuit Alumni in an Ignatian Year: 30 Years On

The next Congress of the World Union of Jesuit Alumni (WUJA) was supposed to return to Spain in the Ignatian Year of 2021 (commemorating the 500th anniversary of the religious conversion of St. Ignatius of Loyola), 30 years after it was held in this country of St. Ignatius in the last Ignatian Year of 1991 (that commemorated the 500th anniversary of St. Ignatius' birth). The 1991 WUJA Congress was the first such Congress Wah Yan was represented, by Peter Wong (Class 1958) and myself. While the 2021 Congress is now postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic, in what ways did Wah Yan alumni respond in the past 30 years, to the call from Fr. Peter-Hans Kolvenbach SJ (then Jesuit Superior General) to global Jesuit alumni who gathered in Spain in 1991?

"The Society of Jesus has always sought to imbue students with values that transcend the goals of money, fame and success. We want graduates who will be leaders concerned about the society and the world in which they live, desirous of eliminating hunger and conflict in the world, sensitive to the need for more equitable distribution of resources, seeking to end sexual and social discrimination and ... in short, we want our graduates to be leaders-in-service ... I ask you to use the option for the poor as a criterion in your lives, making no significant decision without first considering how it will impact the least in society." (Extracted from Fr. Kolvenbach's keynote speech at IV Congress of WUJA, Loyola, Spain, 1991)

At that Congress, I was surprised by the scale of service work carried out by Jesuit alumni in many countries as reported in the presentation sessions, such as irrigation development programmes initiated by alumni in Egypt, medical assistance projects for villagers in Nepal, English classes for newly arrived

refugees in Ireland, etc.. Our PSA in Hong Kong really had nothing similar back then. Our often-emphasized notion of service back then was "alumni serving society in their professions, public duties, etc." which was a very true and important notion, but the dimension of service appealed by Fr. Kolvenbach was essentially lacking among alumni in Hong Kong. One of the resolutions passed by that Congress read: "Every alumni association should carry out social activities to help the poor, (e.g. through the organization by an action committee), with collaboration of the Jesuits." Thanks to the increasing emphasis on students becoming "men for and with others" in our *alma mater*, PSA leaders running our alumni institutions along this direction, and support from the Society of Jesus, 30 years later we can now say we have more alumni directly serving people in need and accompanying them, as solo servants or together with fellow Wah Yan alumni.

How should we alumni in the 2020s apply Fr. Kolvenbach's 1991 call of using "the option for the poor as a criterion in our lives, making no significant decision without first considering how it will impact the least in society"? In what ways is poverty experienced most deeply today in Hong Kong, in Mainland China and worldwide? How can our PSA help Wah Yan alumni to see, understand, feel and respond to these forms of poverty? Maybe these are the questions we should ponder in this Ignatian Year commemorating St. Ignatius' conversion, leading to our own personal and institutional internal conversion towards a more committed preferential option for the poor.

John Tan (81)

Reflections on the Jesuit Education Forum 2020



How relevant is Jesuit education today when young people as well as parents and teachers need to face challenges unimaginable just a few years, let alone a few decades, ago? This is the central question that the two Wah Yans chose to explore in the Jesuit Education Forum 2020 – held online on 17 Oct. 2021 due to COVID-19 – as we celebrate our anniversaries. Three prominent academics from the US, mainland China, and the Philippines as well as 10 experts and alumni in Hong Kong were invited to speak at the Forum.

It is impossible to summarize in full their rich and insightful contents, However, with keywords and phrases like "openness", "unity in plurality", "conversation", "reflective practice of the *examen* on daily experiences", "companionship", "service", "shared responsibility", "empathetic listening", "intercultural and interreligious engagement", "bridge building", "inclusion and partnership", "*magis*", "higher purpose", "pilgrim", etc. heard at the Forum, one may be able to catch a glimpse of their sharing. Participants went away with the confidence that Jesuit education remained as relevant as ever despite the unprecedented changes around us. In fact, it is amazing to learn from the Forum that the Jesuit approach can be so full of life across both space (diverse cultures and circumstances) and time (over the ages). One may even go so far as to say that the great diversities and epochal changes we are experiencing are the very reasons why Jesuit education is so pertinent today.

Recipients of this Newsletter are all grateful beneficiaries of Jesuit education at Wah Yan. My suggestion is: looking back with gratitude is great but don't stop there! Continue to learn and reflect on the different facets and the deeper meaning of Jesuit education / worldview and allow them to keep on inspiring and lighting our way in life.

YL So (77)

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