



THE PEARL TO GOLD QUARTERLY

Newsletter of HKUAA-Northern California Chapter

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Spring Issue 2017

HKETO Grand Reception



Artist Freeman Lau (3rd from right)



Instead of the traditional Spring Reception, the Hong Kong Economic & Trade Office (San Francisco) celebrated the Chinese New Year and the 20th Anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong SAR by hosting a grand event at the San Francisco Asian Art Museum on January 30, 2017. The guest of honor was artist Freeman Lau Siu Hong from Hong Kong. His art work of illuminated Chinese lanterns is being displayed at the Civic Center Plaza and Asian Art Museum from January 30 to March 10, 2017. The work was inspired by the experience of Chinese immigrants who adopted English surnames upon their arrival in the United States. Artist Lau placed Chinese characters of family names along with various English versions of them on the lanterns. He also added a traditional Chinese blessing “sui sui ping an-peace all year round” to the exhibition. Most of the HKU alumni present were happy to find their surnames on the lanterns.

Stanford Museum Visit



In December, with the guidance of alumna Ada Poon, a group of us visited the Cantor Art Center and the Anderson Collection at Stanford University. The exhibitions were so huge and interesting that we were unable to finish the tour within the allotted time. A future visit is being planned.

HK Science & Tech Park Team



Ir Andrew Young spoke at dinner



A team from the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation led by Chief Commercial Officer, Ir Andrew Young, made a tour of several cities in North America in January. The main purpose of their tour was to promote the HKSTP and invite prospects from North America to return to Hong Kong for opportunities. A couple of our alumni were present at a dinner hosted by the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Alumni Association.

Search for New Vice Chancellor

Many of us have received the following message from HKU. To a few, it was a surprise but to many, it was not totally unexpected.

"I am writing to inform you that I have resigned as your President and Vice-Chancellor, and I plan to leave HKU in January 2018. Thereafter I will take up a new appointment as Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh.

During my one year's notice period, it will be very important that there is no loss of momentum at HKU: the Senior Management Team is unanimously and heavily engaged in a process of reform towards achieving our Vision of Innovation, Interdisciplinarity and Internationalisation converging on Impact, and being Asia's Global University. I will remain dedicated to the task and working hard with all of you to achieve our goals. The departure of one person must not be allowed to derail the progress being made at this great and venerable University.

It has been a distinct privilege to lead HKU for almost three years and I am sorry and somewhat surprised to be leaving before the completion of my term. The HKU students, staff, alumni and friends are wonderful and I have thoroughly enjoyed working with you all: I regret that it was not for longer. There are very few universities in the world that could have tempted me to leave HKU but Edinburgh is one of them. I have many personal reasons for returning to the UK and I have decided after extensive discussions with my family to take this opportunity now. I will leave HKU with a sense of great progress having been made during my time here. We have articulated a strategic vision for the next ten years of the University and put in place many of the reforms and modernisations that will be required to deliver that vision.

We have already greatly improved our international visibility, including new strategic partnerships with top universities in the US, UK and Australia and our pioneering dual degree agreements with the likes of University College London, Sciences Po and University of Southern California."

"We have continued to attract the brightest and best students and we have hired some wonderful new staff during my time here: they will help to take forward the bold plans that we have set out. I hope you will all give full support to my successor.

I am very optimistic about HKU's future: it is a wonderful institution in a region of the world that is replete with further development potential. I hope to maintain a collaborative relationship with HKU in the future and to keep in close contact with you all. Tina and I will leave here with many friends and many happy memories. Thank you for giving us the honour of being part of the history of this distinguished University.

With very best wishes for the future,
Peter Mathieson
President and Vice-Chancellor"

New Mentees

We would like to welcome three mentees for the current semester. They include William Kwok and Ximin Piao doing exchange at UC Berkeley and Ting Nga Yeung doing exchange at UC Davis. Hope we will see them at our Spring Banquet.



Larry with mentee William in Monterey Spring Banquet

Our organization will celebrate the arrival of Spring by holding a banquet on March 18, 2017 at the Hong Kong Flower Lounge in Millbrae. Registration will start at 5:30 PM. Dinner will begin at 6:30 PM. The guest of honor will be Mr. Ivanhoe Chang, Director, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in San Francisco. The cost is \$50 per person. Visit the following link to register: <https://goo.gl/forms/r3PHCkXNmQW3FDPw1>
130th Anniversary Medical Faculty

The HKU Faculty of Medicine is celebrating its 130th Anniversary. Many special events are going on at this time. The grand celebration will be a Homecoming Dinner for HKU medical graduates to be held on December 17, 2017 at the Convention & Exhibition Centre. Related link: <https://www.med.hku.hk/news/press/130-years-of-medicine-in->

