



Winter 2007 Friends of HKU Bulletin

A Big Leap Forward in World Ranking!

The University of Hong Kong (HKU) has been ranked 18th amongst the world's top universities in 2007 by *Times Higher Education Supplement* (THES) recently.

This ranking puts HKU ahead of all other universities in Greater China, and makes it the 2nd highest ranked university in Asia, just after Tokyo University.

Professor Lap-Chee Tsui, HKU President and Vice-Chancellor, attributed this newfound success to the collective efforts of the HKU Family: Without the hard work and dedication of staff, students and alumni, as well as the staunch support of our benefactors, the Government and the wider public, HKU would not have been able to attain this exceptional level of recognition.

As Hong Kong aspires to be an education hub of the Asia-Pacific Region, the fact that two universities in Hong Kong are in the top 50 of the THES rankings moves us closer to this long-term goal, Professor Tsui remarked.

The THES rankings are based on a range of qualitative and quantitative criteria, including peer review carried out among academics, review of graduate recruiters, staff-to-student ratio, citations of academic papers, and international outlook.

Professor Tsui said the University's long-standing policy of recruiting the best staff from all parts of the world and the increasing percentage of non-local students reflected HKU's endeavor towards internationalization and a multi-cultural campus which will nurture future leaders possessing a global vision.

The commendable effort of HKU to globalize its staff and student population has led to a significant improvement in the peer review and review of graduate recruiters which is an indication that academics all over the world and international employers of university graduates are giving better recognition to HKU, concluded Professor Tsui.

For details on the THES rankings, please visit <http://www.thes.co.uk>



HKU Alumni Chapters and Networks in the US



Thank You!

Friends of HKU would like to thank Dr Y W Kan for his dedicated leadership as president and Mr Peter Lo for his service as a director of the Board. Dr Lawrence Ng and Mr Peter Tong were elected as President and Board director, respectively, in September 2007.

Please keep in touch with your respective convener!

Hong Kong University Alumni Association of Northern California

www.hkuaa.org

Dr Gloria Yu was officially inaugurated as the 5th President in January 2007 in San Francisco. One of the goals Gloria initiated was the revival of the North America Joint Function.

Gloria can be reached at gsyuu@yahoo.com

Hong Kong University Alumni Association Southern California

www.hkuasc.com

In May 2007, the new Officers and Directors for the term 2007-2009 were installed with President, Victoria Jin leading the team swearing in (front row 4th left in the picture). Over 90 members, guests and 13 exchange students participated in the event.

Victoria can be reached at vjjin@aol.com.

HKU Alumni Network of New England

This new alumni network held its first meeting on May 5, 2007 in Lexington, Massachusetts. The goal of the Network is to give all alumni in the New England area the opportunity to reconnect with HKU and with one another. As the group grows, a formal structure with elected officers will be installed.

Alumni relocating to New England states (Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine) are encouraged to contact the facilitators of the alumni network:

Professor Siu Yum-Tong (siu@math.harvard.edu) or Professor Selina Wong Sau-Fong (ssiu@wheeloock.edu)

New York Chapter

The New York Chapter under the leadership of Mr Raymond Li covers New York, New Jersey and nearby areas. There are currently 150 members. Any alumni or students visiting NYC are welcome to contact Raymond at rayli@verizon.net.

Mentoring of HKU outgoing exchange students has become a key initiative to help advance the education experience of the younger of the University's oversea alumni chapters of the University's overseas alumni chapters generations.



Dr Gloria Yu (3rd left) with Professor Selina Wong Sau-Fong (4th right) of the New England Chapter, and Mrs Monica Yeung (2nd right) of Friends of HKU.



Professor Selina Wong (5th right) and Professor Siu Yum-Tong (6th right)



Raymond Li (3rd back left) receiving a group of business and economics undergraduate students on a study trip in New York.

Friends of HKU office

1321 Sydney Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087, USA

Tel: (408) 823 9838 Fax: (408) 716 3200 Email: usfriend@hku.hk Website: <http://usfriends.hku.hk>

Friends of HKU is a non-profit organization formed by alumni in the US. All Board members are elected officials.

Giving to HKU

Friends of HKU Scholarships

Thanks to the generous donations from loyal HKU Supporters like you, the "Friends of HKU Scholarships" were established to promote and encourage academic and cultural exchanges between Hong Kong and the US.

These scholarships also stand as a testament of the strong ties between The University of Hong Kong and its alumni and friends in the US. Currently, these scholarships enable bilateral exchanges of undergraduate students from Hong Kong and the US. It is the hope of Friends of HKU to expand the number of students benefiting through donation support.



Four students on a semester exchange to HKU in 2007 (details on why they chose HKU and their initial experiences can be found at: <http://usfriends.hku.hk>)

"I love to be surrounded by diversity and innovation, and Hong Kong has introduced me to plenty of both. People who I meet in Hong Kong are not only from all over the world, but they also possess a unique entrepreneurial drive to create things that are new and take risks that may not be encouraged elsewhere."

Edward Louis Cohen, New York University

Stanley Ho Alumni Challenge Third-year matching now begins!

The Stanley Ho Alumni Challenge (何鴻燊校友挑戰計劃) garnered a Gold Award at the 2007 Circle of Excellence Awards Program organized by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education ("CASE"). Over 3,100 entries from 700 institutions were received in 40 categories of competition.

The Scheme was launched in 2005 by alumnus Dr Stanley Ho who pledged HK\$500 million to inspire fellow alumni and students to support HKU.

Being the first of its kind in Asia and Hong Kong, the Alumni Challenge has set forth a new wave of alumni giving culture. Thanks to donations from alumni and students, the second-year's HK\$100 million has been successfully matched! This year, the number of donors (alumni/students) has increased by 9% over same period of the previous year, i.e., over 2,800 donors. Of these new donors, 72% (about 2,000) are first-time donors.

In spite of these amazing results, the culture of alumni giving is still in its formative stage in Asia. The third-year of Alumni Challenge has begun! Help us keep the momentum going and achieve our goals! Together we can scale even greater heights!



Dr Ambrose So of the Stanley Ho Alumni Challenge Steering Committee and Class of 2005 alumni representatives received the award from Mr John Lippincott, President of CASE (left).

Globalization



“One World” Launch

HKU is committed to challenging its students to embark on a lifelong journey of global citizenship as soon as they step onto the University’s campus. A comprehensive global development program has been in place to nurture these future leaders to be global citizens. Exchange programs with some 150 partner institutions in 23 countries, hundreds of internships in government and non-government organizations, multinational corporations as well as study tours are just a few examples of the choices that students are presented with. A Launch Ceremony was held at the University in November to celebrate the success of the program and, most importantly, to celebrate the launch of “One World”, a commemorative book filled with interesting and moving anecdotes recounted vividly by participating students themselves.

Online version of the “One World” booklet:
<http://www.hku.hk/oneworld>



*Learning to Serve ~ Testing Oneself ~
Broadening Horizons ~ Living & Learning*

Centennial Recruitment

Internationalization is more than just a buzzword, the far-reaching positive influence on the teaching and research capabilities that the brightest of minds from around the globe can bring to the University has long been recognized. The University of Hong Kong, with its proximity to China, is in a unique, unrivalled position to act as the gateway to China for the rest of the world.

Therefore, the University is committed to capitalizing on this advantage by recruiting 200 additional professoriate members worldwide.

The purpose of the Centenary Recruitment plan is to enhance the University’s research competitiveness and to facilitate the implementation of the new four-year undergraduate curriculum from 2012.



Dr Victor Fung, Chairman of Council and Professor Lap-Chee Tsui, President and Vice-Chancellor of HKU celebrated the launch of “One World” with students in the International Exchange Program.

Giving to HKU

Helping Hands from Friends

Since its inception, Friends of HKU has supported different types of development projects at the University with donations through individual alumni, the public, and grants from corporate donors, foundations and trust donors.

Projects supported range from the construction of a student residence hall, a scholarship fund, an endowment fund for social sciences, an education fund for journalism studies to other research projects.

Forms of donation may be in cash, check or stocks. Some alumni also are considering donating through the arrangement of estate planning.

Here are some recent grants received by Friends of HKU:

Overbrook Foundation in the US gave a grant to the Department of History towards the American studies.

The Department of Nursing Studies was awarded a grant to research into Family Intervention to Reduce Second-Hand Smoking Exposure in Children. The support came from the Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute in Florida.



Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering received grants from the CISCO University Research Program to support two research projects: Network Parameters Representation and Quality of Service Routing in the Internet, Loaded-balanced Switch Architecture for High Speed Routers. Apart from the financial support for the project, it is also a recognition of the quality of the work of the researchers of our University.

Class of '81 Social Inclusion Fund received support from an alumna in the US. The fund was established by the Class of '81 graduates, as part of their Silver Jubilee Reunion Program in 2006, to garner support for the promotion of equal opportunities and social inclusion for people with disabilities. This echoes with their graduation year (1981) being The International Year of Disabled Persons as declared by the United Nations.



This alumni giving has been leveraged with dollar-for-dollar matching by the Stanley Ho Alumni Challenge.

We are always looking for ways to contribute to HKU, if you have an idea of giving, do let us know and we will assist you as much as we can to fulfill your wish.

Campus News



Centennial Campus Development

The upcoming four-year curriculum structure has substantial impact on The University of Hong Kong. By 2012, student numbers at the University will increase by 40% which means an extra 3,000 students.

Preparation for increased number of undergraduates taking broader, more flexible courses necessitated a complete review of our facilities and academic provision. This review was the **Millennium Master Plan**, which looked at how the entire campus might be reformed to meet and serve the University's present and future needs.

Currently, the University is developing a **Centennial Campus**, adjoining the existing Main Campus to the west. Since 2006 when the project was announced, there have been wide-ranging consultations with the public and internal stakeholders.

Revolutionary and ingenious engineering plans are employed to relocate two sub-terrain reservoirs into a cavern structure inside the neighboring hill to make

room for the new campus site while retaining normal water supplies for the nearby district.

Environmental and sustainability principles have been key considerations of the new campus from conception through to design. Three heritage buildings at the site will be preserved in-situ and extensive greening and landscaping are planned.

Apart from a multi-purpose "Lecture Centre" with conference and exhibition facilities, the new campus will also embrace the latest concept of "Learning Commons" which is a unique collaborative learning space equipped with a wide range of multi-media materials for study and research.

In addition, the new campus will provide the important additional 30% of space to support the University's core functions of teaching and research. It will also be home to three faculties: Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Law and Faculty of Social Sciences.

www.hku.hk/cecampus



The Centennial Campus will unify the entire HKU campus and be accessible by subway (MTR), thereby fully integrated with the community and making it a "University District"