

## **Bangkok Chapter**

I, Dr. Francis Wu , International Convenor for WYKPSA's Bangkok Chapter, in compliance with an official request of the Organizing Committee of Wah Yan's 5th International Conference to be held in December this year, to submit a written account for presentation at the forthcoming year-end gathering, wish to state as follows:

The issues to be dwelt upon herewith are classified under headings as set out below:

### *A Brief Chapter History*

Shortly before I was asked to take over the position of International Coordinator for the WYPSA's Bangkok Chapter some time before 1992 by my predecessor, fellow Wahyanite Sukhum, Phongsathorn, who wanted to relieve himself of the burden and devote all his available time to the execution of his private commercial enterprises. I had little or no idea at all of the existence of such an organized WYPSA entity in Bangkok. No one ever briefed me on the matter and whatever little social contact there was among former Wah Yan boys in Bangkok took place as an exception rather than the rule and only among very intimate private groups. There was, I am sorry to say, absolutely little or no Wah Yan Spirit to speak of.

Throughout my present tenure of office as Chapter Coordinator, I have always felt the need for a complete overhaul of the ailing Chapter mechanism. But this is easier said than done simply for lack of closer regular contact among Chapter members, almost all of whom are septuagenarians whose movements are shadowy and difficult to trace, with the result that matters that need to be discussed and decided upon are left unattended to. Not infrequently, WYPSA Newsletters sent here for Chapter members and mailed to them in my capacity as Chapter coordinator are returned unopened for reasons known only to the particular person concerned.

### *Activities in 1994-96*

In view of what was already mentioned, it goes without saying that Chapter activities during the period in question, i.e., 1994 to 1996, have been nonexistent, with the exception that, when such WYPSA members from Hong Kong as Ignatius Wong, Philip Ching, Dr. Raymond Wong or John Wan paid occasional visits to Bangkok, they contacted me by phone and I went all the way out to meet them and make them feel at home. They never had a chance to meet any other Chapter member here, with the result that I have been called, flatteringly of course, the only Wahyanite in Bangkok.

### *Reflections on the theme "Wah Yah Towards 2000"*

This is a theme that stirs up conflicting feelings of both regret and unguarded joy for reasons that anyone with my personal experience could well understand.

## The 5th Wah Yan International Conference – Messages from Chapters

The theme brings to mind the stark reality of the changing of the guard when, within a matter of just a few short months, H.K. will be returned to China after having been under British rule since 1841 in the wake of the Opium War. As an overseas Chinese who studied in China in the late 1920's, I learned the country's 19-century history and the hard facts of colonialism in its most unflattering form. The impending whosoever of Chinese descend but the reasons for regret are equally formidable especially in my ease.

To understand this, let me quote the late Rev. Fr. Cronin, S.J., O.B.E., my history teacher in Wah Yan and trusted long-time mentor who wrote about in his Introductory Note as published in my autobiography "The Nostalgic Memories". He said about me, the book's author, inter alia:

"... He wrote in English, a language which must by now have been more his own than any other he has knowledge of. including Thai, and Chinese, both Mandarin and such dialects as Cantonese and the local Swatow tongue. And, frankly speaking, I think the English that he knows and uses so competently must have played an important part in moulding his mind and character very. deeply..."

The Rev. Father has indeed hit the nail right on its head. The English language I have learned and been able to use so freely has shaped my character and make me the very person that I am. But one thing cannot be overlooked. From March 1932 to the fall of 1938. I received my high school education in H.K.'s Jesuit-run Wah Yan College and matriculated with an "A" grading in the Hong Kong University, paving the way for my Ph.D. degree with Western Pacific University in California. In short, I am deeply grateful for the Western culture that the British colony has provided me with, making what I actually am today.

With Britain washing its hands off its imperialistic past, profound regret lingers in my heart over the loss of the kind of Western culture Hong Kong has been able to pass on to me for the greater pan of a full decade. All of this, I shall sorely miss.

Despite all this, there is consolation in the fact that our Alma Mater, the Wah Yan College, will continue looking ahead towards the new century to carry on its work for popular enlightenment and human salvation, irrespective of any political change or temporary emotional upheaval. China, taking over H.K.'s administrative apparatus after June 30th, has pledged to keep its status quo for at least 50 years - a promise she has no reason to renege on, considering the fact that the former British colony is economically sound and viable, and has often been compared to a golden goose too valuable for anyone in Britain's shoes to lose.

With political stability as expected following the Chinese take-over, Wah Yan under Jesuit guidance will go on functioning as it has always been doing not only in the moulding of characters as in my own case but also in carrying on the torch of enlightenment which will continue to shine as the beacon of Western civilization in this part of the world. My full faith is based on a reading of Chinese history in the recent past.

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Despite occasional political moil and other pressure from unexpected sources, the Chinese nation as a whole has displayed unprecedented adaptability and mental adroitness in wriggling itself out of every difficulty, political, economic or otherwise. And, thanks probably to traditional Confucian influences and other age-old cultural values, China has so far fared much better than her one-time ally, the USSR, in their current attempts at seeking a better future.

But unlike Russia, Red China's erstwhile ideological partner, the Chinese have chosen the middle road to avoid excesses and total disintegration in their reform effort. As things stand today, the Chinese People's Republic seems to have been able to weather the maelstrom of change. The same could hardly be said of their former comrades in Moscow who are now finding themselves deep in the throes of grappling with the intricacies of problems never before experienced in their old way of life.

Undoubtedly, the deck is all clear for our Alma Mater to continue its indispensable role uninterrupted in the new century ahead. We, Wahyanites the world over, are duty-bound to render whatever moral support we can give in its effort to make the world a better place to live in. And with the "Wah Yan Spirit" so deeply instilled in our mind -- being truthful and trustworthy with self-sacrifices, hard and steady work and never saying "die" in the face of seemingly insurmountable difficulties -- Wah Yah can achieve wonders in the coming years under whatever circumstances.

### *Difficulties in running our Bangkok Chapter*

That our Chapter needs a complete revamp is a foregone conclusion and, for this, drastic measures are necessary. However, it is easier said than done. As an International Convenor, the need for a public coffer is always felt, without which nothing could proceed as smoothly as it should, and regular or occasional meetings among Chapter members are difficult to call. Without the provision of such facility as a public fund for sundry or other expenses, all Chapter activities will inevitably be brought to a complete standstill with unimaginable consequences, as they already have.

As a life-long professional educator, running an alumni chapter is not my forte, not to mention that I have assumed the position only in deference to the earnest request of a fellow Wahyanite who wanted to be relieved of an undesirable burden. So, as from now on, I welcome all suggestions from whatever quarters who are willing to shed light on what I should do best in my present predicament.

### *Issues we wish to share with other Wahyanites*

There is a strong possibility that I may attend the forthcoming 5th International Conference in Hong Kong. If that should materialize, I certainly would not fail to bring up whatever outstanding issues we have in a frank exchange of views.

Prepared By  
Dr. Francis Wu

## Calgary Chapter

The Wah Yah College Alumni Association Calgary Chapter was started in 1990 with an initial membership of 16. We had a great spectrum of alumni with graduation years ranging from 1929 to 1982. Our membership has increased to forty-eight this year, some three fold increase in less than six years. Through the great enthusiasm of the organizing committees and our members and especially with the most needed support from our spouses, we have had many successful and enjoyable functions. We have also participated in a number of fund raising and charity events in Calgary.

We have built on our acquaintances from our Chapter and developed into close friends and business associates. In the past five years, we have met Wah Yan Alumni, Ambassadors and teaching and administrative staff from Hong Kong, Vancouver and Edmonton. We will continue to demonstrate the spirit of Wahyanites.

### *Highlights Of Activities*

- Our inaugural AGM was held on June 15, 1991.
- Hosted a luncheon for Mr. John Chan, the Secretary of Education and Manpower of the HK Government during his to Calgary for the Hong Kong Festival in October 1992.
- Father Deignan visited Calgary in January, 1993. Father Deignan thoroughly enjoyed his visit to Banff and Lake Louise in the Canadian Rockies.
- Attended the Western Canada Wah Yah Alumni Conference in July 1993, hosted by the Vancouver Chapter held in Kelowna, B.C. for the Vancouver, Edmonton and Calgary Chapters.
- Hosted the visit of Li Cheuk Lun and Goh Yau Hang, the 1994 student ambassadors in April 1994.
- Sponsorship of the Wah Yan College 75th Anniversary Album in 1994.
- Tony Wong and Francis Lee represented the Calgary Chapter in the 1994 Wah Yah Alumni Association's International Conference held in San Francisco.
- Have had the two Calgary/Edmonton Chapters joint functions in September 1994 and February 1995.
- Co-hosted with the Edmonton Chapter, the Western Canada Wah Yan Alumni Conference in July 1995 held in Calgary for the Vancouver, Edmonton and Calgary Chapters.
- Organized the 1996 AGM to coincide with the International Rotarian Conference being held in Calgary in July. We invited the Wah Yan Alumni/Rotarians, families and friends from Hong Kong to attend our AGM and dinner.
- Father Coghlan visited Calgary in August 1996. Father Coghlan updated us on the reconstruction of the Hong Kong campus and the promising outlook of HK after July 1997.
- Dominic Hon and four other members represented the Calgary Chapter in the Vancouver Chapter 15th Anniversary Dinner in October 1996.

Prepared by Peter Tsang November 1996

## Edmonton Chapter

### *Brief History*

- Founded in the spring of 1987  
AIM: To promote friendship and support social, educational, cultural and charitable activities among members in a non-political and non-profitable environment.
- Established two scholarships "Edmonton Award" in 1989, for Form 3 students - one from each college. The scholarships are administered by the Principals of both colleges.
- Networking with other Chapters established in the International Conference in the Summer of 1990 (2nd Vancouver, B.C., Canada)
- Hosted two student ambassadors in 1991
- Our Chapter was visited by Fr. F. Chan, S.J. in 1992
- Our Chapter was visited by Fr. A. Deignan, S.J. in 1993
- Served by nine slates of executive committee

### *Activities: 1904 to 1996*

- Annual Meeting and election of executive committee members
- Annual soccer match, mahjong tournament and dinner with La Salle Old Boys' Association
- Annual BBQ picnic, attended by over 50 members and families
- Social gatherings and dinners
- Monthly lunch gatherings held on the second Tuesday of each month
- Annual fund raising for the two scholarships, "Edmonton Award"
- 2nd Regional Re-union of WYPSA held in Calgary on July 1-3, 1995. 29 members and families from our Chapter attended. Included as part of the re-union were visits to scenic spots such as Banff and Lake Louise.
- Following the 2nd Regional Re-Union, some members of the Vancouver Chapter came to Edmonton for a visit and sight-seeing on July 3, 1995. A dinner and social gathering was organised for the evening.
- Bowling tournament on July 6, 1996. The day started with a 'dim sum' lunch followed by bowling and ended with supper with mahjong and karaoke.
- On-going communications with other Chapters

The membership varies slightly from year to year, and currently stands at 32.

Prepared by  
Edmonton Chapter  
November 1996

## Melbourne Chapter

Melbourne Chapter was formed in early 1990 with several members. Occasional meetings were held. Jimmy Lung organised a meeting/dinner on November 13, 1996 with 23 members in Melbourne. The First Christmas Party was held on December 15 1996.

The mailing address of the Melbourne Chapter is as follows:

55 WALKERS ROAD  
MOUNT ELIZA 3950  
VICTORIA  
AUSTRALIA

Jimmy Lung can be reached by phone on (613) 9787 4730.

Thomas Yau will be in Hong Kong until the end of January 1997 and can be reached by phone on 2770 6512.

Casey Chan, representative of Melbourne Chapter, is stationed in Hong Kong and can be reached by phone on 2580 8091

*W.Y.C. Past Student Meeting, Melbourne Chapter Minutes and report of the first meeting:*

Date: 13/11/1996

Venue: Zens Restaurant, 6 PM to 10 PM

Present:

Dr LAM, Daniel	Mr WONG, Simon
Mr LUNG, James Kai-Cheung	Dr WONG, John
Mr CHEN, Eric Ning	Mr WU, Henry
Mr LAI, Patrick Y.K.	Dr WU, Oliver
Mr POON, Thomas Q.T.	Dr WONG, Phillip
Mr LAW, Simon Yin-Hong	Dr CHIU, Conrad
Mr SEE, Chun Yuet	Dr LUI, Gabriel
Mr SEE, Chun Chiu	Mr CHAN, Casey
Mr LEE, Vincent Kwok Pui	Mr LEE, Shui-On Eddie
Mr WONG, William	Mr WONG John
Mr YU, Raymond	

Apologies to all missing names

Interim speaker, Jim Lung suggested that the general meeting should be held on December, and should include the Christmas Party. It was felt that the festive and important date must be carefully planned so as no W.Y. 'oldies' will miss out.

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The decision was approved:15/12/96 at 2:00p.m. sharp, 53 Walkers road, Mount Eliza, Jim's residence. The party shall follow on at 6:30pm RYO

Agenda for next meeting:

- Election of Office Bearers for 1997
- Determination of Annual fees
- Suggestions for the next meeting
- Proposal of permanent mail address of the Melbourne chapter  
(E-mail wahyamelb@hotmail.com)
- Correspondent matters with Hong Kong Chapter

Prepared by  
Jim Lung and Patrick Lai

## Ontario (HK) Chapter

Our Ontario chapter of the Alumni Association was rounded by Dr. Raymond Chan 'in 1982 upon a suggestion by Fr. Deignan S.J. while visiting Toronto that year. Since that time, our membership list has grown to 300, comprising of past students all the way from the Class of 1932 to the Classes of the 1990's.

There is a staple of activities we organize for our members every year. In February, we, as pan of the Joint Alumni Association made up of 12 Hong Kong-based Catholic schools, co-organize and annual Valentine's Ball, one of the largest social events in the local Chinese community attended by over 1400. While in the winter we have an ice skating party, in the summer we have our annual Father's Day picnic. For four years now we have been participating in an Inter-school Soccer League Tournament, comprising teams from the boys schools among the Joint Alumni, over the months of June, July and August. We round up our year with an Annual General Meeting held in November, where the Executive Committee of our chapter for the next year is elected.

Several events in the past couple of years were particularly memorable. In November 1994, after learning of the landslide at our Queen's Road East campus, we organized a banquet and mail campaign to raise funds for the reconstruction of the school buildings. In April 1996, we were delighted to receive jointly with the Wah Yan Kowloon chapter the Student Ambassadors. Derek Cheung and Sunnie Kwong, to a visit of Ontario, Canada. We were honoured by the visit of another ambassador of Wah Yan, Past Principal Fr. Coghlan S.J., this past summer.

While the main objective of our chapter is to provide a medium for Wahyanites in Ontario to network and be connected to our alma mater, we have also become well established in the local community of the Greater Toronto Area. For example in May '1995, we co-organized and took pan in the production of a Chinese Opera in English -- The Tale of Two Kingdoms -- with the Wah Yan Dramatic Society Ltd. from Hong Kong to raise funds for the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto.

In the future, we hope to improve on participation of our activities, both within our existing members and the newly graduated, while continuing to serve as the liaison among our old boys, our alma mater and the local community.

Prepared by  
Patrick Lau (WYCHK '86)  
President  
Wah Yan (HK) Ontario Alumni Association

## Ontario (KLN) Chapter

The Wah Yah Kowloon Alumni Association of Ontario ("WYKAAO" - the Ontario Chapter of the Alumni Association), was formed in 1978, Toronto, by a group of dedicated and enthusiastic students whose intention was to foster a perpetual Wah Yah Kowloon spirit beyond the mother school, and provide solidarity and support to fellow students who resides in Ontario, Canada. Our membership has flourished ever since and our current roster consists of well over two hundred members.

From its inception, the WYKAAO has always served as a conduit for WYK students in Ontario who wish to relate with each other under the auspices of the WYK vigour. As such, we were successful in bringing out not only students which graduated between the 1950's and 1990's, but also staff and teachers alike.

Beyond the general social activities like dinner gatherings, we were also active in working closely with our brothers at Wah Yan Hong Kong Alumni Association of Ontario (CWYHKAAO"), with a view to consolidate, merge and thus expand our resources with them in the future. Jointly held activities between the two Alumni Association in Ontario were abundant, including the yearly summer picnics, winter skating parties and even executive committee meetings.

In 1995, the two associations, in conjunction with the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto, co-sponsored a charity performance of a Chinese Opera in English. Said event hosted the famed Wah Yan Dramatic Society, under the tutelage of the immortal Mr. Wong Chin Wah. Beside being a resounding success which raised more than CAN\$900,000.00, the event is also a crystallization of the seamless and full-fledged cooperation between the two associations.

WYKAAO, like WYHKAAO, is a staunch supporter of the annual Joint School Alumni Valentine's Ball of Toronto, Ontario. As founding members of same, the two alumni associations have since participated yearly in the annual gala, one of the most prominent of its kind in Toronto, Ontario.

Other noted activities of WYKAAO included the hosting of student ambassadors and the reception of Father Coghlan in 1996.

As we head towards the next millennium of year 2000, the next generation must be equipped with the tools not only to survive, but to compete in an environment of advanced information technology and globalization of economies. Within the context of government edicted curriculum, it is incumbent upon the Wah Yan schools to prepare the new Wah Yan boys accordingly, and upon us old boys to continue and perpetuate our support in whatever means we can. The computer courses, Mandarin classes, Student Ambassador program and foreign scholarships are all excellent initiatives in this regard. We must keep up the efforts!

## The 5th Wah Yan International Conference – Messages from Chapters

Bearing the enviable task of working hand with our mother school to launch our students successfully into the next millennium, we can barely afford to lose any talents that were so supportive of us in the past. Yet, during the past five to seven years, WYKAAO has seen a considerable number of members returning permanently to Hong Kong. Invariably, they were all active members, whose exodus has left us in position where our various committees, and even events became more trying in participation. Nevertheless, we embrace these challenges with aplomb as our younger members (Class of 1985 and later) recently recruited took on more active and responsible roles, whose enthusiasm and dedication is no less than their predecessors. We believe that in the long run, active participation of the younger generation will be crucial to our continuity and success of our Ontario Chapter. We look forward to all these challenges ahead.

Prepared by  
Gabriel Wong

## San Francisco Chapter

### *Brief history of Chapter*

The chapter started informally in 1988 under the format of an electronic mailing (E-mail) list maintained by three Wahyanites residing in Boston, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. Desperate they were separated by thousands of miles, they managed to pull together a collection of names and distribute newsletters on a regular basis. Kelly Chang (Class of 72) realized that majority of the members reside in the San Francisco Bay Area, hence decided to start a local chapter. The chapter continued to communicate using Email with telephone calls being the secondary. The chapter had its first general meeting in 1991, with social events about four to five times a year.

In 1992, Kelly attended the 3rd Wah Yan International Conference in Hong Kong and won the bid to have the San Francisco chapter to host the 4th Wah Yan International Conference in 1994. The chapter became a formal body by incorporating with the State of California as a non-profit organization in 1993 and the chapter has been run by a committee composed of 8 members. Today, there are about 150 members on our mailing list, which we believe only represents about 25% of the actual Wahyanites residing in the area.

### *Activities in 94-96*

The major activity in the past 2 years is the honor to host the 4th Wah Yan International Conference. The conference started with a press conference followed by two full days with packed agenda. The first evening featured a dinner cruise on the Bay and a banquet dinner on the second evening. The social activity concluded with an excursion trip to the Monterey Peninsula. There were about 80 registered conference attendees each day, 100 joined the dinner cruise and 150 attended the banquet dinner. All conference attendees seemed to be pleased with the event, despite most of them hardly had much sleep. The organizing committee was surprised that the conference turned out to be much better than expected. Also, we were commended that we are the first to have our spouses as part of the organizing force. Throughout the week, our conference received extensive coverage by several local media, including newspaper and television reports as well as interviews.

After spending a busy year in 1994, our chapter took some time to relax last year. We got together for a picnic in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, in Spring, followed by our annual general meeting in June. The meeting included a biennial committee election. It was attended by over 40 alumni. The new committee was headed by Kelly Chang, who was instrumental in organizing the Wah Yan international conference in 1994. After the new committee was formed, we started to send out quarterly newsletters. The intention was to bring news about this Chapter and the two Wah Yan Colleges to the local alumni.

We had a chance to meet the best chess players in the two Wah Yan Colleges in March this year. They were led by Fr. Stephen Chow, S.J., to attend an international chess tournament in Puerto Rico. Students from various Jesuit schools worldwide were invited

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to this event. The Wah Yan students and Fr. Chow made a brief stop in the Bay Area on their way to Puerto Rico. They were treated with hospitality by the local alumni and Fr. Chow's family who happened to be in the Bay Area. Our chapter welcomed them with a dinner before they left for the "battle". It was a great opportunity to find out more about our alma maters, while we enjoyed the dinner right by the Bay. We were all very glad to find out later that they won two awards in the tournament.

On his way back from his summer vacation, Fr. McGaley made a brief stop in the Bay Area in August. Our chapter organized a picnic in Lake Elizabeth in Fremont. About 30 alumni and their families participated. After the picnic Fr. McGaley stayed for another few days. Our committee member, Stan Chow, was the host. His brother, Fr. Stephen Chow, also stopped by for a couple of days. They went to several tourist spots, including Napa Valley and San Francisco.

Shortly after Fr. McGaley left, Fr. Coghlan came to the Bay Area. He stayed in Berkeley for about a month. While he was in the Bay Area, our chapter had a dim-sum lunch with him. Before he left for the East Coast in mid-October, we went on a short trip to Alcatraz. Alcatraz is a small island near San Francisco. It used to be a famous prison which has turned to a tourist site. We also planned to see an air show by the Blue Angels in San Francisco. However, the mighty San Francisco fog cut down the show time to less than half an hour.

Overall, 1996 is a busy year for us because of the various visitors from Hong Kong. We are very delighted that they visited us. We hope we will meet more Wah Yan students, teachers, and Fathers in the coming years.

### *The Theme "Wah Yan Towards 2000"*

As the Year 2000 approaches, computer is becoming part of our life. Our chapter was conceived under the umbrella of Email, even though back in the 1980's, many had little encounter with electronic mail and the term "Internet" were not in the general public's vocabulary. Now Email has become the daily necessity of many ways of life, and computer is synonymous with "life of the future" instead of just a high-tech toy.

Back in 1992, our chapter member Kelly Chang had a vision to establish a world-wide Wah Yan membership database, and he vowed that one day it would become a reality. At the 4th Wah Yan Conference in 1994, a prototype was demonstrated that this database, despite not trivial, could be implemented provided there were support from other Wah Yan alumni chapters. The progress could have been faster had the computer be more popular then. The design and implementation evolved with the computer changes along the year, now it is completed and consistent with the industry standard – a web based Wah Yan Membership Database, to be debuted at the 5<sup>th</sup> Wah Yan International Conference in 1996.

## The 5th Wah Yan International Conference – Messages from Chapters

Our chapter, with majority of our members hold professional positions in the land of the computer industry Mecca--the Silicon Valley, would like to contribute our knowledge in bringing the technology to help unite and bond all the Wahyanites on this earth together.

### *Issues to be shared with other chapter*

We plan to rollout the World Wide Membership Database after a few months of initial testing. There are several issues we would like to discuss with other chapters:

- cost to members: our intention is to make it free to all members while without compromise to quality of service.
- cost of ownership: ongoing maintenance, enhancement to the software, computer hardware upgrade, etc.
- other issues: privacy, security, database replication, etc. at the 5th Wah Yan International Conference.

Finally, our chapter would like to urge all Wahyanites over the world to help deploy and support the World Wide Membership Database project. We are grateful to Vincent Yau (WYHK 87), the architect and implementor of WWMD, who spent numerous sleepless nights in making this possible. Also thanks to Kelly Chang (WYHK 72) who provided computer hardware for the WWMD development, Internet access, and the environment for hosting of WWMD.

Prepared by  
Kelly Chang

## **Singapore Chapter**

HongKongers begin coming to Singapore in greater numbers since 1990. Many of them are professionals in the medicine, finance, engineering and computer industry. In these fields, one is certain to find Wahyanites. It began with Kenneth Chong and Stephen Lam setting up a liaison centre then and they discovered oldies like Alan Wong who had been here since 1967. A permanent liaison centre was set up at Alan Wong's legal practice as most Wahyanites here travel extensively as required by their professions.

Activities involve gathering for social dinners and whenever there are visits by our International VIPs, notably, Mr. Patrick Wu and Mr. Philip Ching and of course, Father Deignan.

As for Wah Yan towards 2000, the Jesuits have been in China since the Ming Dynasty in 1553. They have contributed to the learning of the West to the East and 1997 would make no difference. Wah Yan, a Jesuit institution, will run into the next millennium as a learning institution and will be supported by all past Wahyanites all over the world.

We wish the Conference every success.

Prepared by  
Alan Wong  
Singapore Chapter

## Southern California Chapter

1996 has been a very active year and much has been accomplished in realising one of our goals - the incorporation of Wah Yan Alumni Scholarship Foundation of Southern California, a non-profit organisation whose goal is to raise funds for economically-challenged Wah Yan graduates to attend college here. Accolades to Professor James Tong, Vice Chair, Political Science Dept of UCLA and Pius Lee, CPA both from Wah Yan Kowloon for a job well done.

Arranged by alumnus Dr. Albert Young, we started off the year by hosting a reception for visiting Wah Yan alumnus and noted philanthropist and industrialist, Gordon Wu,. Our second get-together featured Alumnus Professor Alfred Wong of UCLA who discussed ozone depletion and showed soon-to-be-marketing model of his no-maintenance aerial device which will provide wide-scale ozone protection and which offers adjunct commercial telecommunications applications. Our third and perhaps most successful function was a joint reception with the Hong Kong School Alumni Federation for alumnus Donald Tsang, Hongkong's Financial Secretary. Our last function of the year toasted the imminent retirement of alumnus Peter Leung, Director of LA's HKTDC and featured alumnus Thomas Chan, founder of Chan's Law Group on "Intellectual Property and Trademark Rights".

Our Association's Board of Directors was also the driving force behind the formation and early success of the newly-formed Hong Kong School Alumni Federation. Aside from Donald Tsang's reception, other joint functions included receptions for other visiting HK dignitaries. Anson Chan, Chief Secretary and Daniel Fung, Q.C. Solicitor General.

In 1997 our primary goals are to raise enough funds to sponsor several needy graduates to attend college here and to conduct a membership drive to increase our roster from 80 to 100.

Our association boasts an active lot of some 80 members with vivacious eider in the 80% and impressive collegiate in the early 20's. Our social goal this coming year is to continue the tradition of bringing interesting events and challenging topics to our get-togethers. Events under discussion include,

1. A talk conducted by Ph.D. in the Electrical Engineering from UCLA whose proprietary wafer growing methods enables his optoelectronic manufactory to be the first and only one in the U.S. capable of producing competitive and commercially-viable laser-based products,
2. Touring of a private museum with priceless Chinese national treasures,
3. A talk by a recently retired Wah Yan teacher on current school events, and
4. A joint HK film festival with UCLA.

In addition, we have just sourced a Website and Caltech whiz Raymond Chan has been mandated to set up shop on the Net so we can communicate with other alumni associations on a world-wide basis. As soon as our address is finalised, we shall pass it on

## The 5th Wah Yan International Conference – Messages from Chapters

to the Wah Yan community. Imagine finding long lost school mates through this medium! Hmm ....

Prepared by  
Patrick Lam  
President

## Sydney Chapter

### *Brief History of the Sydney Chapter*

Mr. Robert Chung Chan Fat (HK 28-36) is the founder of the Sydney Chapter and formally resigned from the committee in December 1986 after serving WYPSA (Sydney) for 10 years.

WYPSA (Sydney) was incorporated in 1992, with Mr. Dennis Yueng appointed as Hon. Legal Adviser.

Membership list grew from less than 20 in 1976 to more than 200 in 1996.

### *Major Activities in 1994-96*

Newsletter "Wahyanmates" are issued quarterly every year so as to keep members informed of our activities. Functions can be categorised into three main areas:-

#### Charity/Social Service Events:-

- Disadvantaged Children Ward Visits
- The 20th Anniversary Charity Ball/AGM 1996

#### Gathering:-

- Family & Friends' Day

#### Sports:-

- Streetball (3-on-3 basketball) Competition
- Annual Indoor Soccer Tournament

### *Difficulties in running our Chapter*

- Problems in updating our membership list
- Collection of Membership fees/Lack of funds
- Succession Plan/Lack of new WY school leavers joining our Chapter

### *Other Issues to share with other Wahyanites*

- Any suggestions to solve the aforementioned problems

Prepared by  
Sydney Chapter

## United Kingdom Chapter

### Report on Wah Yan Past Students' Association (United Kingdom)

Since the present executive committee officially took over the management one and a half years ago, the WYPSA (UK) has undergone a few slight changes, but our principles of operation and the challenges we are facing remain the same. We are still one of the smallest overseas chapters, with 43 registered members in November 96, of which one third are believed to be dormant. Considering that half of our members are students who will be leaving the UK upon completion of their tertiary education, we also exhibit an unusually high membership changeover rate.

Due to the geographical diversity of our membership base (the largest two areas being London [35%] and Cambridge [14%]) and the restriction of mobility (of members attending boarding schools), the committee had decided to concentrate our core service on the publication of newsletters. We had printed six issues in the past year, bringing to our members the latest news from the two Wah Yan Colleges in Hong Kong. Following the advances in technology, we have also established electronic-mail links to the 37% of members who have access to the internet. However, the only gathering we had organized in 96 was the annual dinner in London in March; but it is believed that most members have maintained close links with their old schoolmates privately.

Looking into the future, we foresee a slight drop in membership due to the decreasing number of students pursuing education in the UK. Meanwhile the geographical diversity problem is unlikely to be resolved. However we are confident that our presence will be sustained. We aim at recruiting more exco members from London and among those who will stay in the UK for a longer period, so to maintain a more stable management team. We also look forward to providing more advisory services to pupils at Wah Yan who are considering education in the UK, and to maintain closer links with other chapters of the WYPSA.

Prepared by  
HU Chi Wai, Herbert (WYCHK 91)  
Chairman, WYPSA(UK)

## **U.S. Eastern Chapter**

### Report from the US Eastern Chapter

The Wah Yan College Alumni (US Eastern) was founded in New York City in January 1991. We had a 5th anniversary party last December at the home of Wilson Shum, a founding member of the Chapter. Our membership has grown by twenty percent in the last two years to over sixty members. The membership includes Wah Yan alumni from both colleges in Hong Kong and Kowloon. Most members live in the New York City metropolitan area and the New York Chinatown is a convenient location for our meetings and social gatherings.

We generally have dinner meetings or social functions once every three months. The best attended event was a free trip in August 1995 to the Foxwood Casino Resort in Connecticut. Our last function was a dinner party in September. With over forty participants it was a huge success. On occasion we were able to invite guest speakers to our dinner meetings. In September 1994, Mr. Luke Wong spoke about the Wah Yan redevelopment plan. We had a gathering with Mr. Philip Ching, an old friend of the US Eastern Chapter, in July 1995.

Most of our new members learned about the Chapter by word of mouth. The International Networking Committee of the Wah Yan Past Students' Association also has introduced many students to joined our Chapter. Officers in our Chapter serve two year terms. Our current President is Mr. Leo Wan and Vice-President is Mr. Michael Ma.

Prepared by  
Mr. Leo Wan  
President

## Vancouver Chapter

Established since 1982, the Vancouver Chapter has developed into one of the strongest alumni associations in British Columbia, Canada. In fact, in this year's celebration of our 15th Anniversary, our Chapter has the honour of inviting 10 other alumni associations, namely, DBS, Maryknoll Convert, Queen's College, QES, Raimondi, St. Joseph's, St. Paul's Co-Ed. St Paul's Boys, St Paul's Convent, True Light and Wah Yan Calgary Chapter to enter into a Ballroom Dance and Karaoke Competition. A full house of 500 members and guests participated. Our Vancouver Chapter took pride to come in the first Ballroom Dance Competition and third in the Karaoke Competition.

In the summer of 1994, a delegation of 50 members and guests from the Vancouver Chapter drove all the way from Vancouver to Calgary to participate in a Regional Reunion among Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. The most wonderful lunch at the world famous Lake Louise was one of the highlights during the 2-day reunion, not to mention the exceptional hospitality we received from our fellow Wanyanites in Calgary.

This year, one of our most active and respectable Past Presidents, Mr Daniel Lee, was elected as one of the Councillors in the City of Vancouver. We are proud to have Daniel to represent us in the City to voice our various concern regarding the policies that will build our future. We take this opportunity to wish him success in his political career.

With Dr. Edward Woo as our Steering Committee Chairman, a concept paper "Wah Yan School in Vancouver" was presented to the Vancouver Chapter Executive Committee for a series of discussions among our Directors. This may seem to be a little bit ambitious. But with the ever growing demand of better education in the Chinese community, we hope one day our dream can be realised.

Prepared by  
Douglas Cheung  
International Convenor  
Wah Yan College Alumni (Vancouver) Association

## Hong Kong

### *History*

1. The Wah Yan Past Students Association has a long history dating back to 1935. The Association at the time embraced past students of both Wah Yan Hong Kong and Wah Yan Kowloon. Older members would recall the days when we had a swimming shed at South Bay, Hong Kong Island.
2. As the number of graduates increased, two organisations were established, viz., Wah Yan (H.K.) Past Students Association and Wah Yah College Kowloon Past Students' Association each with its own governing body. However, close links were maintained between the two.
3. In 1969 after a series of meetings and discussions amongst a group of past students, the Wah Yan (Hong Kong) Past Students Association Limited was established and incorporated under a new constitution. From then on, the Association, has been operating as we now all know. We have now over 3800 registered members about 1600 of whom are still active in Hong Kong. Office bearers are elected each year and we have been able to obtain a good blend of past students with experience, youth and vigor. We are nosy in our 27th year.

### *Activities*

4. Business of the Association is overseen by the Council at present with 25 elected members and other ex officio members including the President and the two Vice-Presidents, one being the School Principal. They meet monthly during which activities are planned and progress reported. Committees are formed to carry out specific functions. Their work can be summarised below.
5. The **Secretariat** runs the office with its modernised equipment, maintains membership records, minutes of meetings and stores, arranges mailing of bulletins and circulars.
6. The **Finance/Wah Yan Credit Card Promotion Committee** examines ways and means to generate regular income apart from membership fees and proceeds from the Annual Ball. The Association has entered into an agreement with Wing Hang Bank for the WY(HK)PSA Visa Card such that part of the annual fees and a percentage of the card purchases are credited to the Association's account.
7. The **Membership Committee** has compiled a nearly complete list of graduates from the past 77 years and has been trying to trace the whereabouts of non-members with a view to inviting them for membership. A Class Representative System has been established to strengthen the link between members/past students and the Association.

## The 5th Wah Yan International Conference – Messages from Chapters

8. The **Bulletin Committee** publishes our regular Association bulletin the "Wahyanites" which is sent to all members in Hong Kong by post.

9. The **Entertainment Committee** organises social functions such as the AGM cum dinner in July each year, Spring Dinner in February, Graduation Dinner in November, the quarterly dinners with talks by prominent past students in 1994-95, special Class Representatives Buffet Dinner in May 96 and other social events.

10. The **Student Members Committee** meets regularly with representatives from the Council. It looks after student members' interests. It organises the annual Fellowship Dinner, ball games competitions, annual Christmas Tea Party as well as dance classes. Members also participate actively in the work of other Committees.

11. The **Annual Ball Committee** organises this annual event which used to be held on 23 December. This year it would be held on 22 December at the Marriot Hotel. The event is well attended each year and the proceeds have been the main source of income for the Association.

12. The **International Network Committee** works in conjunction with the Wah Yan College Kowloon Past Students' Association to maintain close liaison with overseas chapters. Publications of individual chapters were exchanged. Members of the Council attended the 20th Anniversary of the Sydney Chapter this summer in Australia: With the more popular usage of E-mail and Internet, the future communication and linkage among Chapters and overseas past students will be much strengthened.

13. In addition, the Association **sponsors** activities connected with the school. One of them is the Outstanding Students Awards. Each year three Form 6 students elected by students are awarded cash prizes. The Association selects one of them as Student Ambassador for an overseas trip sponsored by the Association. Other sponsorships include the school's stall at the Caritas Bazaar, the publication of the Star and Album of Graduates. We also sponsored one student for the International Jesuit Chess Competition held in Puerto Rico in March 1996. Donations were also made to the school and the Pun U Wah Yan Primary School for equipment and maintenance.

### *Wah Yan Towards 2000*

The following issues will need to be addressed -

- The role of the Association in the redevelopment project of the school and towards the maintenance of the school as one of the quality schools in Hong Kong (Wahyanites)
- The Association's work and the Wah Yan Spirit under the Special Administration Region (Hong Kong sentiments)
- The Association and China (Chinese heart)
- Information exchange with and between members overseas (Global view)
- The impact of information technology on liaison work (Global view)

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### *Difficulties in running the Association*

- loss of membership after the student membership period
- regular and steady source of income for meeting running expenses
- upkeep of members' records in the light of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance
- different areas of interests among different categories of members
- volunteers for running the Association and organising activities

## **Kowloon**

### *25th Session (1995-1996)*

Mr. Ronald Tse was the vice-chairman of the 25th (1995-96) session. The then chairman was Joseph W.L. Leung. However Joseph had to emigrate to Singapore in early 1996. So Ronald stepped up as acting chairman from 15 December 1995 until the 26th annual general meeting held on 14 July 1996.

The 25th session began on Sunday 8 July 1995. That was an exciting day. On that day the school playgrounds were open to members and their families from 3:00 p.m. onwards. At about 6:00 p.m. we had the 25th annual general meeting in the school's common room. The meeting was followed by a fellowship dinner in the school hall. By the end of the dinner, there was a quiz about the school and members. During the quiz the school hall abounded with laughter. All those who came left for home with a joyful hum.

The executive council held regular meetings. Three new posts were created in the council. One was the post of Official Photographer, filled by Philip Chan. One was Honorary Adviser, and John Chan kindly agreed to take up this post. The last one was Honorary Legal Adviser, and Peter Lee agreed to be the Association's lawyer.

During the year, the council made a souvenir to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Past Students' Association. We now have a set of cardholder and letter opener which were sold at HK\$120.00 a set. They are still on sale.

In September 1996, the Past Students' Association published a newsletter. This was the first time we had done it. The newsletter was largely the effort of the then chairman Joseph Leung. Since Joseph had left, the council was unable to find a replacement for him.

The Past Students' Association and our brother Association on the Hong Kong Island each contributed HK\$15,000.00 to the International Networking Committee for its expenses.

Unlike the previous years, an annual dinner, in place of the annual ball, was held in the Club House of Hong Kong Jockey Club for a change. Over 100 members and their family members attended the dinner held on 28 January 1996. During the dinner, John Chan helped the Past Students' Association to raise funds. He auctioned a football signed by movie stars and a couplet in Chinese for the Association. Simon Mak was successful in bidding the football for HK\$10,000.00. But he gave the football back to the Association for auction again. Eventually Henry Luk bid the football for HK\$10,000.00 and got it for his son. Likewise Peter Lee successfully bid the couplet for HK\$3,000.00. He also gave it back to the Association for auction again. Ng Kam Yin Sam and his wife bid it for HK\$3,000.00.

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Before the annual dinner was held, there was in fact an extraordinary general meeting held in the same place. The meeting was to consider the financial situation of the Association. Members passed the following resolution as an ordinary resolution pursuant to article 11 of the articles of the Association.

"That an entrance fee of HK\$250 (including HK\$100.00 for life membership) be paid by new members upon admission".

During Easter 1996, Kwong Chi Yeung Sunnie and Cheung Ho, the student ambassadors of Wah Yan Kowloon and Wah Yan Hong Kong respectively visited Toronto. The Past Students' Association contributed HK\$11,950.00 to this scheme.

In March 96 the Past Students Association donated HK\$10,000.00 to the school to sponsor one of the two students of the school to attend an international chess tournament in Puerto Rico. In the same month the Past Students Association also congratulated the Wah Yan Past Students' Association (Australia) Inc. for their 20th Anniversary. We sent them AUD200.00 as sponsorship for their ball programme.

During the year, regular bi-monthly luncheon meetings were held. A separate report on the luncheon meetings appears in the Annex.

### *26th Session (1996-1997)*

On 8 July 1996 the 26th annual general meeting of the Past Students' Association was held again in the Club House of the Hong Kong Jockey Club. A new executive council was elected. About 80 members and their families attended the fellowship dinner which followed the annual general meeting. We were honoured to have John Chart to speak about the "Hong Kong Jockey Club and Horse Racing Aspects" after the dinner. After John's speech, we had some games of Chinese-word puzzles and of movie-name guess. Those who present were proud of their Chinese literature foundation and their wits. People were able to give the right answers within seconds to both games. Also we were unexpectedly to have our principal Mr. Norman So to do the acts for a movie-name guess.

Members may have been aware that this year a group of past students has formed a syndicate to buy a horse in the Hong Kong Jockey Club. The horse is called "Star of Wah Yan". The horse trainer is Stephen Leung. It is expected that the horse will take part in the races in early 1997. Members who like to have more information about the syndicate are welcome to call Lam Kwok Hing, our vice-chairman and one of the syndicate managers, at telephone number 2801-6312.

Bi-monthly luncheon meetings were held. Members are referred to a separate report on this topic in the following pages. A pool-side B.B.Q. was held by the swimming pool in the school on 23 November 1996. Fr. Deignan, Fr. Fatten, Fr. Chau and 70 members and families attended the barbecue.

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3 outstanding students were elected among the Form 6 students themselves in the school hall on 18 October 1996. The 3 outstanding students were:

Mr. Tang Hei Wai	(6S)	64 votes
Mr. Ho Ki Hong	(6S)	38 votes
Mr. Hui Ka Yu	(6S)	39 votes

This year's student ambassador was elected on 5 November 1996. The selection panel members were:

Mr. Canice Mak (Chairman of Panel)  
Mr. James Tsien  
Mr. Terence Leung  
Mr. Ronald Tse  
Fr. Deignan S. J.

Mr. Tang Hei Wai was selected to be this year's student ambassador. He and the counterpart of Wah Yan Hong Kong will visit alumni in Australia in Easter 1997.

This year a very important event was held on 28 and 29 December 1996. This was the 5th International conference. The theme of the conference was "Wah Yan Towards 2000". The conference had some prominent past students of Wah Yan Kowloon and Wah Yan Hong Kong as guest speakers. Wah Yan Kowloon and Wah Yan Hong Kong Past Students' Associations each tentatively contributed HK\$25,000.00 towards the expenses of the conference.

In September this year, the Past Students' Association sent a greeting message to the Wah Yan College Alumni (Vancouver) Association for their 15th Anniversary Dinner Dance on 19 October 1996.

Lastly the annual ball is to be held in the Regent Hotel on 31 December 1996.

### *Problems of Wah Yan College Kowloon Past Students Association*

#### 1. Finance

The Past Students' Association is experiencing financial difficulty. The funds in hand is low, whereas the expenditure is high. Ad hoc fund raising activities provide temporarily relief only.

#### 2. Communication

The Past Students' Association is facing communication problems. Firstly there is on record 1,300 members. But the data base has not continuously been updated. Secondly, the data base is designed for mailing purpose. The data base is unable to cope with the

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need for speedy communication by fax nowadays. Thirdly, the mobility of members is high and data base tends to be outdated quickly. Fourthly, the mailing costs today is high.

### 3. New Activities

The Past Students' Association has difficulty is in creating new activities to suit member's needs. In 1995-1996, The Past Students Association held an annual dinner, in place of the annual ball, for a change. The bi-monthly luncheon meeting created 2 to 3 years ago though welcome by members is running out of speakers.

The Past Students Association is trying to plan a son of careers talks for young members studying in universities and hope that members working in large companies or concerns can be invited to talk about their own career experience. Now that a group of past students have formed a racing syndicate, it is hoped that members will be interested in joining the syndicate or forming new ones.

### 4. Relationship with School

This area relates to the financial and communications problems mentioned above. In the past, the Past Students' Association used to give 50% of the raffle ticket sales in the annual ball to the School's Activity Fund. But we stopped doing it several years ago as the costs of the annual ball was increasingly high. We also used to sponsor the Shied and the Signurn in return for the publication of the news of the Past Students' Association in them. Past students might then subscribe either or both with the school. Again the arrangement was discontinued 2 years ago.

Further in the past, the Past Students' Association also sponsored the students' activities such as the summer joint school programme. We no longer do it now. Apart from direct sponsorship, we also helped the school to raise funds to meet its needs, for example the installation of steel lockers and the fining out of a gymnasium room.

Any way thanks to the outstanding students programme and the student ambassador scheme, our relationship with the students and the school is closer than before. Very often we have the students to help us in various activities.

## *Annex*

### Bi-monthly Luncheon Meetings

About 2 years ago, the Past Students' Association felt the need of past students to come together to discuss matters of mutual interest. The idea of holding hi-monthly luncheon meetings to fill this need was born. Since then, the Past Students' Association has held the following luncheon meetings.

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Date	Speaker	Topic
23 June 1994	Canice Mak Deputy Secretary for Planning, Environment and Lands	Hong Kong's Planning and Land Administration System
25 Aug.1994	Stephen Ng Chairman of Cable TV	Home Entertainment of the Future
16 Nov.1994	Andrew So The Commissioner for Administrative Complaints	COMAC – Commissioner or Administrative Complaints
22 Feb.1995	John Chan Managing Director of the Kowloon Motor Bus (1933) Ltd.	Behind Bus Services
30 Oct.1995	Ambrose Lau Legislative Council Member and Past Chairman of the Law of Society of Hong Kong	The Post 1997 Legal System
11 Jan.1996	Dr. Tse Tak Fu a renowned cardiologist	Care for your heart
7 Mar.1996	Albert Lam Deputy Director of Civil Aviation Department	Aviation in Hong Kong
24 Sept.1996	Samuel Tsien President & Chief Executive Officer. Bank of America (Asia) Ltd	Anticipated change in the banking industry in Hong Kong