

The 6th Wah Yan International Conference – After Thoughts

第六屆華仁舊生會終在依依不捨的氣氛中完滿閉幕。本屆大會有幸得到Fr. Deignan、徐神父、譚校長等遠道應邀前來，尤其難得的是三位創會人：余SIR、樂美森及Philip Ching再次碰頭共商華仁新取向，本屆出席同窗更爲歷屆之最，可見華仁精神、海外一心。

回想兩年多前回香港參加大會，其間不知天高地厚，膽粗粗申辦是屆大會，得此燙手山芋，真是半驚半喜，尤幸得到卡城各手足鼓勵及鼎力支持，再加上各前輩指導，總算令各同學歡聚一堂，共渡一個愉快難忘的週末。

下屆大會已訂于羅省舉行，積多屆經驗後，相信到時將會辦得更加好更加熱鬧。2000年再見。

韓晚良

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Thanks very much to the organisers, their spouses and to all the participants. It was really heart-warming and uplifting to see the hospitality, friendliness and the spirit of service so alive among all the alumni and families represented at Calgary. It was a great beginning for me. I am now actively pursuing to update the database and hopefully by the time of the next gathering in 2000 A.D. we will have even better network of alumni working in conjunction with all people of good will to make the world a place to which we all want to belong.

Fr. George Zee, S.J.

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I am sure that all conference participants agreed that the 6th WYPSA International Conference was a great success. The success was due to the maturity of our overseas chapters. We could see that the strengths are well balancing, and all participating alumni did employ high Wah Yan Spirit. Delegates didn't just listen but spoke out and expressed their views and suggestions. That was exactly what we hoped our International Conference would be like. Success depends upon participation. I wish the 7th WYPSA International Conference can draw more participants and can match the memorable one we all enjoyed in Calgary in August 98.

Mr. Philip Ching

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For the first time in my life I have had the privilege of attending a meeting of Wah Yan Alumni. I sincerely thank the Conference Committee for the wonderful welcome. Though not an official delegate, I brought the good wishes and greetings of Singapore Wahyanites, among them Alan Wong, James Loh, Steven Lam, Felix Hsu and Soo Chi-fu. An immensely interesting programme of talks was packed into each morning, and the excellent speakers were chivied along by vigilant but good-humoured chairmen despite the inevitable delays for photos. Much of interest about the early Chinese in Canada. I was impressed by the concern of the alumni about the present state of the two schools. The wonderful friendliness and camaraderie of the meetings spilled over into the social programme, such as the indoor barbecue without smoke, the dinner-dance and the marvelous trip to Lake Louise (the Conference Secretary, Francis Chiu, sitting beside me in the bus told me so much about Canada). Any big moment? Yes, the singing of the school songs. The WYHK song came first and was very well sung. I had never heard it before in my life. How strange first to hear it thousands of miles from Queen's Road East. I wondered who it was wrote the lyrics and who composed the tune. Then came the WYKIn hymn, so different in genre, sung with great strength. I had not heard it since 1961 so I joined in the singing with utmost delight.

To the entire committee, congratulations and thanks.

Fr. Tom O'Neill, S.J.

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Precious moments, amiable fellow schoolmates, sensational Conference, harmonious ambience, marvellous scenes these stay as my unforgettable memories of the trip in Calgary, my beloved Calgary, and these memorable times commenced with the Sixth International Conference of the Wah Yan Alumni Associations, held on August 1 & 2 1998.

After the warmest welcome of the WYPSA in Calgary on July 31, Manson and I attended the International Conference in the next morning. It is my great honour and pleasure to participate in the Conference, bearing the name of "Student Ambassador". To my surprise, there were almost a hundred of Wah Yan alumni around the world joining the Conference without hesitation. This wholly reflects their compassion and concern towards the matters of their Alma Mater.

The two-day conference was held successfully under a serious but light atmosphere. During these two days, notwithstanding the programs appeared to be tight, no boredom existed as there were a lot of highly-regarded speakers, for instance, the Mayor of Calgary, who gave us speeches which were undoubtedly inspiring and doctrinal. They allowed us to know about the most updated information and some analysis of the prospects of Wah Yan. These let the alumni understand what situation the present Wah Yan community is faced with and the action they can take. For me, the essence I could feel from the Conference was their 'Love' towards our Alma Mater. The alumni spent their precious time, leaving down their works to gather together and discuss all matters of our Alma Mater. They are devoting themselves to our Alma Mater and this kind of passion is greatly respectable. This 'Love' really touched my heart and deepened my faith. I will try to follow their ways to exert my effort to our Alma Mater, in return of the experience and knowledge bestowed by her.

Before I went to Calgary, I thought that it was just a normal and inactive city, however, after the visits to various places after the Conference, my impression altered completely. It is not only a peaceful city, but also a fascinating one which consists of a great deal of wonders. For example, the beautiful Lake Louise, the natural National Parks which depict the wildlife of the city, and the Royal Tyrrell Museum that gives us some incredible information about the extinct dinosaurs. Apart from the visits, I have also had plenty of wonderful meals, which should probably have made me increase in weight!

I am really glad that I can be the Student Ambassador of this year. It broadens my horizons and refreshes my mind. Here, I would like to take this opportunity to pour my sincere gratitude to the WYPSA, as she has given me a lot of invaluable experience. Moreover, the Wong's family, my host family, really gave me a nice time and memory in Calgary. Their care and unselfish devotion make my trip more meaningful and unforgettable. I would like to say thousands of 'Thanks' to them as my whole-hearted gratitude.

'In Hoc Signo Vincas' is the motto of Wah Yan which means 'By this sign, we will conquer'. I think the Wahyanites have successfully followed the motto and conquered, and the thing they have conquered is the history. They have made a lot of glorious victories in the history of Wah Yan. I hope that Wah Yan will be an intelligent united and powerful community that will have her victories last forever and ever.

Samuel Wu, Student Ambassador '98, WYCHK

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This is a glamorous city where a glamorous conference is held in the name of God, with the sense of glory, unity and fraternity. It is Calgary --- the centre of the International Conference of all Wah Yan Past Students' Association. There is no room for doubt that it is the honour and fortune for anyone who have the invaluable opportunity to join this conference, or I would rather say "the party of a family -- Wah Yan family". In this worldwide family, we all only little kids for our big brothers and we are here with the mission of exchange: exchange of experience, exchange of knowledge and more importantly exchange of the glamorous campus lives of each other. Who are *we*'? The Student Ambassadors of Wah Yan College this year.

Arrival on the day before the International Conference, yet adopted to the weather, time difference, etc. our mind had been overwhelmed by the word of sleep. But in the sense of genetics, the 'sleeping' gene was always recessive to the gene of joy and delight which would be the dominant gene code taking entire control of our bodies during the two-day conference. Why would we say it's an honour to be here'? Wah Yan Past Students' Association developed, from the very first beginning, with a few chapters to today's 15 chapters, situated in North America, Europe, Asia etc. Places where you found Chinese, where you were most likely to find Wahyanites. They had made service, dedication and marvellous contribution to the local community. Being a member of this family, you could feel the honour from every inch of your heart.

We had also treated the participation in the conference a fortune that would never slip off our hands. Why'? Because experience never died, memory never ceased, and the sense of belonging to Wah Yan would always in our hearts. Meeting with our big brothers were never simply shaking hands and bilateral addressing. We were curious enough to know more about the International Conference and what was going on in different chapters of WYPSA all over the world. Our dear brothers were also very concerned about the changes in our Alma Mater both Hong Kong and Kowloon. From their faces, you could see the delight for the renewal of the campus, installment of new equipments and the more satisfactory studying environment Wahyanites nowadays have. This year, the trip of Student Ambassadors coincided with the International Conference which gave us a stronger sense of mission and responsibility. Indeed, we treasured a lot of time with our big brothers who led us to know the past history and stories. Sometimes, we bursted into laughs, and sometimes we looked into the past with a sense of superiority. We did learn so much from them that thanks were just not enough to express our gratitude. There are always more to thank, it is WYPSA who grants Samuel and I the chance to be the Student Ambassadors to Meet Wah Yan alumni and to be connected with the PAST of Wah Yan. We could never miss out Uncle Tony and Auntie Viola, who were our host family during the trip in our gratitude expression. Their love and care had made us feel at home. May God bless you all!

Manson Ng, Student Ambassador '98, WYK

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第六屆國際會議之我感

在一九九六年某舊生會聚餐時，港華的黃炳權同學提出由卡城分會競投一九九八年的國際會議。記得當時見到既然黃同學一腔熱誠的提出，大會亦未必會支持一個歷史短短，人手只得二、三十會員而又路程遙遠的卡城分會；於是不加思索，舉手贊成。(相信當時有多位同學也是有同感而舉手贊成的。)九七年新年過後不久，家父母將一份星島日報的剪報給我看，原來是報導卡城將會舉辦一九九八年的華仁第六屆國際舊生會議。這一場不知是好還是惡夢便開始了！

由一九九七年二月的第一個組織會議至大會的前一晚，大小會議不下數十次。籌委會的同學分工合作：訂會議地點，研究會議程序，聯絡各地分會同學，編印註冊章程及大會的一切刊物，財政預算及管理，邀請演講者，決定大會主題等等！大家一心希望做好一份自己承諾要做的工作。除了數十次會議外，大小爭論，面紅耳熱也不下百多次了！

現在回顧以往二十個月，真慶幸自己有份參與。記得在九華的六年中，由童子軍、輔祭、及其它學生組織，不知不覺間學到怎樣一齊分工合作，完成任務。雖然已離開華仁二十七年，到卡城亦只遇過一個和自己一起讀書的舊同學，但和其它籌委會的同學一起工作切沒有遇到任何大困難；就算有也容易實行大事化小，小事化無。

在會議期間，八十多位參與者十分認真熱誠的去討論母校的情形及組織。在舞會間，十多位九華舊同學和徐神父校監便在”人同此心，心同此理”的情況下，大家走到一間比較靜的會議室討論現時九華的狀況，供獻一些意見給徐神父，亦答應支持徐神父的一切計劃措施。散會前亦各自交換聯絡電話號碼、電訊地址等等。場面雖不致感動激人，但這些都可反映傳統華仁精神。

十八個月的籌備，兩日的會議，很快便在”一聲聲的二零零年在羅省見”下成爲過去。在自己腦海內還不時在問：

- (一) 爲何自己同屆同學一個也沒有參加這次會議？
- (二) 爲何除香港以外，似乎以北美洲的舊生會較有組織及聯絡？
- (三) 舊生會的作用在那裏？
- (四) 將來的舊生會活動是否值得繼續參加？
- (五) ……

Francis Chiu, WYK '71

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Looking Back

I am thankful for having taken part in the Wah Yah Alumni Conference, for the valuable experience working as the Editor of this publication and the indelible fond memories of the three days in the midst of friends. All these I shall cherish.

The Organizing Committee

Working with them over the last while, it is easy for me to identify their individual strengths. I take liberty of mentioning them individually either in the Editor's message or in the Photo-journal. I should not overlook Philip Chow, a computer expert busy with his job and with raising a young family, who spent many hours formatting manuscripts, befitting them for printing to Ronan's specifications. Time and again, due to unforeseeable circumstances, someone had to drop out and leave his share of duties unattended. We did not hesitate to step in to take up the slack and help out in whatever capacity when the need arose, beyond our assigned responsibilities. Andrew Bau had to leave for China because of work commitment. Whenever he came home for a short stay, he would come to our meetings and contributed in whatever way he could. Ken Lau had put in a lot of work up until the second week of July when his father passed away. Over-grieved with the loss of his beloved father, he did not make it to our conference.

Our Spouses

Have we thanked them enough for the important roles they played? If we are mindful that they are the best part of our lives, we should not be too far wrong. Mark Twain once said: "A hundred man may make an encampment, but it takes a woman to make a home."

Our Network

The Internet offers so many options and new possibilities. I rely on it more and more each day to communicate with friends all over the world. If we use it wisely and diligently observe proper protocol or decorum for efficient communication, it goes a long way to helping us achieve the intended results. The digital images of our conference, that were captured and put on Wah Yan Web site by Kelly Chang of San Francisco, came across so clear and sharp. I asked my son-in-law to download a few on his high-speed data link and print them on his high-quality color printer. We have selected one, the one of Stella Hon briefing the lady contingent, to go in our photo-journal.

Fr. Zee in his latest e-mail to me said: "The Internet is such a wonderfully tool. It is up to us to use it to our benefits." I agree wholeheartedly. Please read the appendix to his speech, if you have not done so already.

Dominic Eng

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