



2018 GRADUATION CEREMONY

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July 1st, 2018 in Hong Kong is a public holiday that celebrates the 21st Anniversary of the Establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the handover of Hong Kong from the United Kingdom to Mainland China in 1997. While the Government of Hong Kong organized many events and activities to commemorate the return of Hong Kong to the motherland 20 years ago, Hong Kong Adventist College (HKAC) and Chinese Adventist Seminary (CAS) celebrated their combined graduation on the campus in Clear Water Bay on the same day.

HKAC, 3 were graduated from Health major, 4 were graduated from Psychology major, and 11 were graduated from Diploma of Pre-University Studies. Although 376 CAS students graduated in 2018, only 156 graduates and their families were able to come to attend this graduation ceremony in Hong Kong from China. Among the 156 CAS graduates, 34 earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theological Studies.



Dr. Steven Guptill, President of Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies, was invited to be the speaker of the commencement. Dr. Steven Guptill was a teacher at HKAC in 1975 to 1980 teaching in the

department of religion. This was the first time Dr. Guptill and his wife, Peggy, came back to visit Clear Water Bay since they left almost 40 years ago. Many of the HKAC alumni came back to the campus to revisit Dr. and Mrs. Guptill during the graduation weekend.

It has been the tradition of HKAC as well as CAS that the graduation weekend started with the Consecration Ceremony in the evening of Friday. Consecration testimonies were given during the ceremony by the graduates to encourage others to dedicate their lives for the use of our Savior. Sabbath morning was the graduation worship service which Dr. Guptill inspired our graduates to be the lights of the world. Along with the members of Bayview Church and alumni, there were close to 400 attended this worship service. Sunday morning was the Commencement Ceremony which was quite spectacular to see the graduates as well as the faculty all suited up in their graduation gown. It was even more amazing when this graduation ceremony was concluded before noon which has never been done before.

This graduation consisted of 18 graduates from HKAC and 376 graduates from CAS. Among the 18 graduates from



Letter to the College President



Dear Dan,

In my stay at HKAC, Maria and I were truly humbled, respect and inspired by church workers who served many years and decades in various capacity and field.

Especially those who teaches in HKAC. I can see they are loved by the students as mother, father, big brothers and sisters. Why? Because they spent countless hours taking care of students not only in the class room but opening their homes and sacrificed personal time with each student. My son, Timothy was one of them.

They loved Tim like their own son. They (cooks and cafeteria manager) know Tim has food allergy and ensure he has food he can eat every meal. They (teachers and dorm dean) allow Tim to stayed in their homes when Tim was ill. They played sports, practiced songs, served and sing in various churches and yearly missionary trips together.

I am truly touched and grateful to God and all the staff in HKAC from the college President to the humble cooks, housekeeping and laundry workers. I learned so much from their lives and example in serving the students.

God bless,

Thomas Tean, MD
Chief Operation Officer, Penang Adventist Hospital

2018 Appreciation Dinner

By Ms Bervinda Chan



It has become the college's tradition to host the Appreciation Dinner every year during the graduation weekend. This year, apart from presenting the Dean's List, Conduct and Service awards, there were two extra awards added to the award list, Chan Shun Scholarship and Excellence in Teaching award.



On June 28, 2018, the dinner was well attended and great fun. To begin with, Dr. Dan Cheung, college president, led out to serve the first round of food to the students, parents, and guests. During the event, though seats were assigned, hardly any faculty or staff attended stationed at one place or hang out together. They enjoyed talking with parents and students, and cheered for students who were receiving an award. The evening program was also dotted with beautiful songs and music. The college choir led at the beginning followed by a graduate contributed a song. The faculty and staff ended the evening with singing "When you believe". Additional to wonderful food and music, the event organizers prepared a memorable framed photo for each attended family to take home. This little gesture was well taken by all.

This appreciation and award dinner is an important night to many people. To some students, it is a stylish manner to end a school year. To some other students, this school gathering will be their last because they are graduating over the weekend, some of whom will depart for good to their



home country soon after. Without a doubt, the night's event will be memorable moments in a student's campus life. To parents, the dinner is a precious occasion where they witness their children's learning and growing. Their presence is worth a thousand words to express their appreciation of sending their children to the right place for education. The sincere letter of appreciation to the college president from a loving parent confirms just that.

The success of this dinner event is a joint effort of talented and committed faculty and staff. In essence, this annual event has brought the college together. God to be praised!



Hong Kong Adventist College Toastmasters Club

By Dr. Corjena Cheung



Are you a good public speaker? Think back to the last time you spoke in public. The images of your shaky legs and sweaty palms are probably still vivid in your memory. You are not alone! According to Chapman University Survey on American Fears in 2014, public speaking was rated one of the most common fears (worse than heights, bugs, and even death) and yet public speaking is essential for many professionals.

Hong Kong Adventist College (HKAC) is excited to start a Toastmasters International Club on campus to help students become more effective communicators and leaders. By giving speeches regularly and gaining feedback in a supportive atmosphere, students will develop greater self-confidence and personal growth. Toastmasters International has held several demonstration meetings allowing students to get a taste of the program. In Toastmasters, students learn by participating. They take on roles such as the Ah-Counter to note any overused words or filler sounds, the Timer

to be responsible for monitoring the time of meeting segments and speakers, the Grammarian to help club members improve their grammar and vocabulary, the Table Topics Speakers to develop their impromptu speaking skills, and the Meeting Speaker to deliver a prepared speech at the meeting. A student led Executive Committee including the Club President, Vice President (VP) Education, VP Membership, VP Public Relations, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant-at-Arms has been formed. The Toastmasters International Club sponsors and HKAC Faculty are present at every meeting to provide resources and support to the Club.

Joining the HKAC Toastmasters International Club is free to the students. It also allows them to earn extra credits from classes and to enjoy delicious refreshments at the meeting. Free food, free credits, and earning a skill that is essential for effective communication. Can you ask for more?



Our Psychologist– Dr. Anna Liu-Chim Y.C

Dr. Anna Liu graduated from Andrews University in year 2017 with a PhD degree in Psychology. Dr. Liu currently working as an assistant professor and counseling psychologist under the Psychology Department at Hong Kong Adventist College (HKAC).

Dr. Liu studied nursing at HKAC in the mid 1980's and studied religion in 1990's. Dr. Liu also served as a chaplain and Bible teacher for HKAC in the 2000's. Faculty, staff, and students are happy to see Dr. Liu come back to serve her alma mater as a faculty member.

Dr. Anna Liu always has a positive outlook of various aspects of life. There are many things she likes to do, to see, and to experience. She enjoys singing and writing. She particularly like people and love to listen to their stories. If you are interested in getting to know Dr. Liu, visit her at HKAC Counseling Service Centre. She is glad to talk to you about whatever is on your mind.

Blessed School Year 2018

Have you heard of the saying, majority is becoming minority? This is happening in Hong Kong Adventist College (HKAC). Among the 108 college students at HKAC, 57 of them (52.7%) are local Hong Kong students. The other 51 college students are overseas students from 18 countries around the world. We have students come from as far as the United States, Congo, Armenia, and United Kingdom just to name a few. They all come together to study as well as learn about others' cultures.

This school year, we have more male students (61%) than female students in the ages between 17 and 26 years. A total of 42% of the students declared themselves as Christian and 46% claimed they have no religion affiliation. Freshman class is the largest with 38 students and Psychology is the largest department with 41 students.



Be an Independent Thinker

By Dr. Sam C. K. Shum



Mr. Philip Leung gave a passionate presentation to students and faculty during our weekly chapel on September 19, 2018. Mr. Leung is also known as ‘Phil’ among his peers. He is the founder of

Small Talks Circles (STC). Leung studied Humanities at Kingsway College in Oshawa, Ontario; received his B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees at the University of Manitoba, his MBA degree from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and two tours of the INSEAD Senior Management Program in Hong Kong and Fontainebleau, France.

Leung encouraged students to think positively and independently. “Don’t let anyone rush you with their timelines.” Leung sincerely said, “Everything in your life happens according to your time and your clock. You may look at some of your friends and think that they are ahead of you or some of them are behind you. However, everything happens at its own pace. Your friends have their own time clock and so do you.”

Based on his own experience in living through many harshest possible years, Leung encouraged students to develop meaningful, purposeful, and fulfilling lives for themselves and to learn how to use their experiential knowledge and life-skills to make a difference in the lives of others.

Leung took the opportunity to invite students to attend STC, a non-profit social education forum aimed at broadening university



students’ horizons outside classrooms while helping them to prepare for a rewarding and fulfilling work life. HKAC is a member institution of STC. Students who attend STC are given opportunities to develop their social and English communication skills by mingling with students from other universities in Hong Kong and overseas.



Our English Teacher– Gladys Decker

Writing a personal introduction is hard. What do I want people to know? What do people want to hear? Personally, I want people to know that I feel so blessed! When I was young my parents shared God’s love with me, and I learned that God saves me and gives me purpose in life. That has been my source of joy, and comfort. It has given me strength to enjoy life, overcome difficulties, and remain at peace.

Having said the most important, I will try to share some things you might want to hear. I graduated from high school in Argentina, I spent two years studying French in France, and I graduated with my master’s degree from Andrews University. That is also where I met my husband. Together we have worked in education in the US, Egypt, and now Hong Kong. Currently he is the principal of HKAA. We have two children. Our son just got married and our daughter is a senior at Andrews University.

Throughout my life I have taught in several Adventist Universities and public and private high schools. My students have taught me humility, gratefulness, and hard work. Hong Kong Adventist College is where I began my formal teaching career many years ago. I am thrilled to work here again.

