

President's Report (2007–2008)



With the current Principal (Mrs. Ruth Lee) and six advisors, the Council met regularly to discuss alumnae affairs. Four Council meetings have been held since our last AGM. Alumnae assistants were invited to sit in and they contributed their fair share of ideas.

During the past year, we devoted our resources to the following major areas:

(I) Activities

1. Welcoming Party for Secondary 5 Graduates on 13 July 2007

To recruit new members, we organized a S5 Welcoming Party in July 2007. Apart from introducing our Alumnae Association, 30 alumnae who were studying in the local universities or S7 in our school or S6-7 in other local or overseas secondary schools were invited to have small-group sharing with the S5 students. A total of 101 students got enrolled as members.

2. Founder's Day Dinner

The Founder's Day Service, AGM and Annual Dinner will be held on 14 March 2008 (Friday). On this occasion, a retirement gift will be presented to Mrs Yip Wong Yee On, Vice-Principal, who has served YW for 33 years.

(II) Liaison

1. YWGSAA Newsletter

Two issues (October 2007 & Feb 2008) were printed and dispatched to members via post. Over 230 alumnae, who responded to our Go-Electronic appeal, received an email message and read the online version. A print copy was displayed in each classroom at school. On-line version of past issues is available from our homepage.

2. YWGSAA Homepage (<http://www.ywgsaa.org.hk>)

Local and overseas alumnae could keep in touch with Alumnae Association and obtain our latest news through the Internet and email (alumnae@ywgs.edu.hk). Revamping of our website is still in progress.

3. Year Coordinators Network

We have about 280 year/class coordinators representing graduates from 1951 to 2007. They serve as bridges and networks among thousands of YW graduates residing in Hong Kong and overseas.

4. AA Caring Team

We have set up the Caring Team to provide mutual support and strengthen bonding among alumnae. We would also organize gatherings with senior alumnae and retired teachers.

(III) Interest Group

Alumnae Choir

The Alumnae Choir had regular practices in the Music Room on Saturday afternoons with a summer break. They will sing at the forthcoming Founder's Day Service.

(IV) Projects

1. Mentorship Programme

The Mentorship Programme is run to facilitate the all-round development of YW girls by establishing a supportive relationship between alumnae (mentors) and students in the senior forms (mentees) and encouraging positive communication between the mentors and mentees in areas of mutual interest to broaden the latter's horizon. Apart from regular contacts between individual mentors and mentees, group activities are organized to foster communication and continuous learning. Around 100 mentors and mentees attended a group activity on July 6 2007, and enjoyed a training workshop on "A Good First Impression" conducted by Miss Mary Cheung. A promotion was carried out on 4 October 2007 during the class assembly to recruit new mentees. As a result, 87 S4 and S6 students registered as mentees while 78 alumnae enrolled as mentors. They met for the first time at an orientation on 10 November 2007 in the gym. To improve the effectiveness of the mentorship programme, two training sessions were conducted for the mentors and mentees respectively as part of the orientation. On 19 January 2008, over 120 of them participated in the first group activity in the year - a visit to the Hong Kong International Airport.

2. Bible Giving

At the beginning of the school year, each S1 student received a Bible as a welcoming gift from the Alumnae Association. The names of the students were hand-written on the Bible to add personal touch.

3. YWGS Heritage DVD

The second DVD on YW Heritage is still at the preparatory stage. Transcription of past DVD recordings has almost completed. The DVD Workgroup will then meet to facilitate the production accordingly.

4. Alumnae Database

Efforts have been made to upkeep and update the alumnae records in our database.

5. School Archives Collection

Many memoirs were collected over the years. We are improving the methods and procedures to better preserve, maintain and manage the thousands of records entrusted to us.

(V) Charity Trust Fund Activities

1. Leadership Training Programme

We sponsored 48 S4 students to participate in a 5-day personal growth training programme from late March to early April 2007. Participants experienced and learnt a lot from the courses organized by the Outward Bound Hong Kong.

2. Scholarships

The Alumnae Association Scholarships for academic merit and good conduct were awarded to 12 S1-S7 students on the Speech Day in July 2007.

3. CD production project

In July 2007, we sponsored the production of a CD to keep a record of students' performance. Around 200 members of the school choir, recorder band and orchestra took part.

4. New Zealand tour

We sponsored 25 S1-S5 students and 3 teachers to visit New Zealand in July 2007 to experience complete immersion into New Zealand culture and to enhance their global mentality.

5. Beijing tour

We sponsored 27 S4 & S6 students and 3 teachers to visit Beijing in July 2007 to widen the students' vision, raise their awareness to the current affairs and cultivate their leadership and communication skills.

6. S3 Exploring physics concepts at Disney project

We sponsored 189 S3 students and 10 teachers/parents to visit Hongkong Disneyland in October 2007. During the visit, they explored the physics concepts of the basic properties of force, motion, gravity and sound at selected attractions.

(VI) Others

1. School Development Plan – Consultation

We conducted an opinion survey and a consultation session in June 2007 to collect feedback from alumnae on the draft School Development Plan prepared by the School Council. All the feedback was reflected to the School Council for consideration.

2. Talk on Corporate Governance

We have invited Mr Moses Cheng Mo Chi to deliver a talk on corporate governance in June 2007. We benefited a lot from his valuable sharing.

3. Nomination of two AA representatives to the School Council

The Council has nominated Ms Alison LAM Lai Bing and Ms Celina YUEN Wah Chu as alumnae representatives to serve on the School Council for a term of three years starting from 1 December 2007.

May I express my sincerest gratitude towards all the advisors, teachers and school staff, Council members, year coordinators and student assistants who contributed their time and effort in the past year? Also, on behalf of the YWGSAAL, I would like to thank the alumnae who gave us your feedback, participated in the alumnae functions or supported us in many other ways.

*Dr Huen Kwai Fun
President, Council of YWGSAAL
14 February 2008*