

President's Report (2013 – 2014)

During the first year of the current tenure of YWGSAA, a total of four Council meetings were conducted to discuss the Association's plans and activities. We are honoured to have the current School Principal, five advisors and some former Council members to sit in our meetings to provide the Council with invaluable advice. Alumnae assistants were also invited to join our Council meetings.

(I) Activities

1. Visit to Shamshuipo Campus

A visit to the Shamshuipo campus was conducted on 7 December 2013 for alumnae to understand lives of students at the decanting site. Activities of the day included prayer meeting, Shamshuipo historical tour by Dr Joseph Ting, touring-around by students in the vicinity of Shamshuipo campus, performance by Alumnae Choir and sale of souvenirs. The visit was attended by 90 participants.

(II) Liaison

1. YWGSAA Newsletter

The fall issue (Nov 2013) was published and distributed to members either online or by post. The cover story reported on a group of our fresh graduates who had obtained results with flying colours in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (DSE) examination. Other parts covered a wide range of topics such as school redevelopment, news of teachers and alumnae story, with a special column on the newly elected President, Dr Wan Charn Wing, Frank and Vice-President Ms Yeung Wai Fan, Angel of the Council of the Alumnae Association.

The spring issue was published and distributed in mid-February 2014. The theme for this issue was an interview of Ms Rebecca Ching, the convener of the Prayer Committee of the School Redevelopment Project. Other stories

covered the Ma sisters, being our current students who committed themselves in the sports of bike as amateur sportswomen. The issue also reported on the heritage tour conducted by Dr Joseph Ting in the Visit to Shamshuipo Campus on 7 December 2013 and some other news from overseas alumnae.

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

News of alumnae functions and latest update of school development are posted on the alumnae website which serves as an effective means for local and overseas alumnae to keep in touch with the Alma Mata and the Alumnae Association.

(III) Interest Groups

1. Alumnae Choir

The Alumnae Choir gave a total of five performances in the past year. Members of the Alumnae Choir enjoyed every practice and performance and gained much exposure and confidence through each of them. The Alumnae Choir had much pleasure to have Ms Wong Ka Po ('72) joining the choir as a trainer to give vocal training to members.

2. Caring Team

The Caring Team continued to pay visits to senior alumnae and former principal/teachers, including Mrs Katherine Chau, Ms So Chau Yim Ping, Ms Kwok Wu Lai Wah, Ms Yau Bing Wai, Mr Yeung Kwok Piu, Ms Wong Pui Yin and Mr Leung Ka Yau. We treasure each visit where they always shared with us their words of wisdom and the joy of life in YWGS.

(IV) Projects

1. Mentorship Programme

The year 2013 marked the 9th Anniversary of the Mentorship Programme. A special talk on "Building up self-confidence" was conducted on 22 June 2013 and it was well-attended by 20 mentors and 30 mentees. Attending mentees found the talk very enjoyable and useful for their personal

growth. A promotion talk was then conducted on 18 October 2013 to recruit mentees in the new academic year. We were happy to see 20 more students register as mentees and 20 alumnae volunteer their service as mentors. An orientation session was held for them on 23 November 2013. On 18 January 2014, a “Career Expo 2013-14” was conducted. The keynote speech titled “Who get fired & who get hired?” received very positive feedback from the audience, including about 100 mentees and non-mentees. After the keynote speech, we arranged 18 alumnae from eleven different professions to share their working experiences at different classrooms and participating students were free to join any of these brief talks according to their own interest. Both the mentees and non-mentees were very excited about the event and they expressed that it helped a lot in their career exploration.

2. Bible Giving

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

3. Alumnae Database

The database aims to keep up-to-date information of our alumnae and facilitate communication between the Alumnae Association and our fellow schoolmates. The database is maintained properly with regular updates. As at 27 January 2014, there were altogether 5 508 records of alumnae and friends in our database. Among them, 2 478 are life members. Alumnae are welcome to send emails to alumnae@ywgs.edu.hk for enquiry or change of information.

4. School Archives Collection

The AA Archives Team continued with the work of safekeeping the school archives and collecting items of historical interest. The direction of the AA Archives Team in the coming years will be working closely with the Task Group on School Archives set up by the IMC on the actual work of archives collection.

5. Video Documentary – “Transformation”

2013 marked the second year of the filming of the video documentary titled “Transformation”, which has been in very good progress. In 2013, we had conducted a total of 49 days of filming, 12 days more than our estimation, despite we had a reduced number of ten students for close-up filming. We were pleased to note that we had more filming opportunities in 2013 as students were actively participating in various kinds of activities both in and outside school, for example, the annual outing day.

In July 2013, results of DSE were released and students of our school received very good results. Tsang Tsz Kwan (曾芷君), who has been blind from infancy and hearing-impaired since Primary One, had attained impressive results in the DSE and her success has been very encouraging to the community and our students as well. We therefore took this opportunity to invite Tsz Kwan to attend a round-table exchange with our filming students, which would form a memorable part of the video documentary.

Besides, we invited the school social worker to take part in our documentary filming by sharing with us various kinds of support from school available to students and families. We also took the opportunity to film two students respectively joining a summer study programme in UK and returning to her home village in China to visit families during summer vacation.

It is also worth mentioning that Director and alumna Ms Mabel Cheung Yuen Ting had invited a few filming students to participate in a short film as her entry into the 2013 Asian Film Festival. This has received very positive and encouraging support from the students concerned and their parents.

Despite we encountered some difficulties and new challenges during filming, especially in coping with emotions of students in their adolescence, we are encouraged to see the continued assistance rendered to us by students and parents. Filming of the documentary is an on-going process and we trust that little difficulties will make us even stronger and nurture a better production.

(V) Charity Trust Fund Activities – Details at **Annex**.

(VI) Membership

As at 31 December 2013, the association has 2 478 life members.

(VII) Others

I wish to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all the Principal and other advisors, teachers and school staff, Council members, year coordinators and alumnae assistants who contributed their time and efforts in the past year. Their assistance and hard work have made the running of the Alumnae Association smooth and efficient. I would also like to thank every alumna who gave us continuous support by giving your valuable views and participating in the alumnae functions and contributing in many other meaningful ways.

Dr Wan Charn Wing, Frank
President, Council of YWGSAAL
21 February 2014