Curtin University
Alumni Association Hong Kong

Annual Report 2016

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April 27, 2017

Dear Alumni and Friends,

This is my first report to you as the chair of Curtin University Alumni Association, Hong Kong since taking up my appointment in last AGM 2016. I feel honored to have the opportunity to serve this leading role and look forward to playing my part in enhancing the association forward in coming years.

It is our mission to promote lifelong learning to alumni in Hong Kong and encourage them to broaden their horizons through networking activities. It is therefore our goal to build on the current established structure and guiding principles to make our association the pride of local alumni. I have outlined a vision covering 3 aspects: our EVENTS, our ALUMNI and our COMMITTEES.

We aim to deliver high quality EVENTS that comprise professional talks, venues have good standard at convenient locations, regular intervals and within budgets. There was a variety of different events: professional seminars for knowledge, drinks and refreshments for networking and recreational activity for work life balance. We hope they could help our alumni community to broaden business connectivity and personal development.

We focus on our valued ALUMNI in Hong Kong; we are one of the largest Australian alumni associations locally, having around 10,000 members. Our aim is to connect and engage them in improvement activities of professionalism. We entitled to the accreditation to be equivalent to CMA Graduate Management Accountant Program and the scholarship and reward program granted by CMA Australia, Hong Kong Office.

Our COMMITTEE members are our greatest assets who are dedicated to provide volunteer service. I take care to hire the right competent members, give them the support they need and motivate them by guidance and recognize their contributions. To sustain our growth, we shall have 4 sub committees on Management Committee in following year.

I wish to thank Dr. Garry Willinge for his great contributions as chairman in past years. He retired at last AGM. Under his leadership, the association became an established organization that I could ride on since my appointment. I would like to thank Dr. William Chen, vice chair and treasurer for his financial expertise work and my fellow Executive Committee members, Mr. Damian Babis, Mr. Stuart Sanders, Dr. Philco Wong and Dr. Allen Lim for their valuable advice and support they have given to me as chair. I must also thank Mr. Joseph Wu, President of Management Committee for his outstanding role and diligence and the MANCO working team members for their collective contributions. I also wish to thank Curtin Alumni Relation Office and Office of Advancement, Ms. Erika

Beazley and Ms. Anna Eisenhauer respectively for their kindness in assisting our association. I am grateful for the sponsorship support of Curtin Business School, Pro vice-chancellor, Professor Nigel de Bussy for the two seminars held last year.

Overview

Year 2016 was the third full year of operation of our association after becoming a registered society under section 5A (1) of the Hong Kong Societies Ordinance on Oct 8, 2013. The constitution is available on our web page http://alumni.curtin.edu.au/chapters/hong-kong for download.

Governance

We have 2 key governing committees; Executive Committee and Management Committee. The structure of these committees and roles and responsibilities of the members are specified in Article 7 of constitution.

Members of Executive Committee at year end 2016 were:
Ms. Ruby Chiu (chair)
Dr. William Chen (deputy chair and treasurer)
Mr. Damian Babis
Mr. Stuart Sanders
Dr. Philco Wong
Dr. Allen Lim
Mr. Joseph Wu

Members of Management Committee at year end 2016 were:
Mr. Joseph Wu (president)
Mr. Lewis Kwok
Ms. Coby Leung
Mr. Andrew Ma
Mr. Don Wong
Ms. Annabel Choi
Ms. Theresa Yip
Mr. Nathan Ling
Ms. Catherine Chan
Mr. Paul Tsang
Mr. Alvin Tin
Mr. Ronald Tao

Honorary auditor for financial year 2016
Ms. Kian PL Cheng

Financial Information

We are prudent in managing our financial matters under the expert leadership of treasurer, Dr. William Chen. The financial report ending Dec 31, 2016 is attached in Appendix A.

Highlight of events

Year 2016 was a year of achievements. We were guided by the objective under Article 3 of constitution for planning and implementation of events. Our references to five guiding principles were:

- Enhance alumni engagement
- Deliver high quality event
- Effective financial management
- Promote entrepreneurship
- Solicit ongoing membership feedback

Please find attached the list of events 2016 (Appendix B). Some of the highlights are briefly summarized, as follows:-

On Feb 25, 2016, a CPD seminar with lunch was jointly held with Australian Institute of Company Directors, "Confronting Black Swans", at KPMG, Hysan Place Hong Kong. It was sponsored by Curtin Business School (CBS) on free the first 20 alumni to register @HK$200. It focused on the issues of corporate resilience and boardroom crisis leadership.

On May 31, 2016, a CPD seminar was jointly held with CMA Australia, Hong Kong and The Institute of Management Consultants, Hong Kong. The participating alumni paid @HK$200 to us for covering our event expenses. It aimed at promoting entrepreneurship and business opportunities in new free trade zone, Heng Qin, China and management consulting practice for wine industry in Hong Kong, China and worldwide. The event included wine tasting during networking that was sponsored by Cantina Trexenta, Italy.

On July 25, 2016, a happy family event was held at Bounce in Kowloon Bay, a spring-loaded play ground. This event of the joy of bouncing – work life balance was sponsored by Bounce Inc HK.

On August 30, 2016, the lecturer from CBS, Dr. Michael Baird and alumna, Ms. Louisa Wong jointly delivered a seminar focusing on digital marketing at HK Management Association Centre.

On Oct 15, 2016, we held annual alumni cocktail reception at Azure Restaurant and Slash Bar, LKF Hotel with a large turn out. Chancellor Mr. Colin Beckett, Vice chancellor Professor Deborah Terry, Deputy vice chancellor Professor Seth Kunin attended the event along with other senior staff of Curtin University. Professor Kunin announced the global vision of Curtin University and new strategies about "Hong Kong". The stage party at graduation ceremony venue was on the next day.

On Nov 3, 2016, Executive Committee member, Damian Babis gave a presentation of career development, "career and employment advice for recent graduates in Hong Kong". It provided advice on CV writing, job application process and interview skills at HK Management Association Centre

On Dec 12, 2016, Executive Committee member, Stuart Sanders delivered a cyber security event, "cyber security threats facing Hong Kong business". It briefed about the evolution of attacks and discussed about the practical preventive measures at HK Management Association Centre. Curtin Business School sponsored this event on the first 20 alumni to register @HK$200.

To know the preferred activities of alumni, there were real time informal surveys at the end of every alumni event.

Conclusion

We aim at enhancing our mission to promote lifelong learning and networking and vision about our events, our alumni and our committees. We look forward to having more cooperation opportunities with other academic and professional institutes that offer benefits to our alumni for further education.

There will be four sub working committees at Management Committee: social media, event management, marketing & promotion and partnership management from AGM 2017. I shall be grateful with the outstanding office bearers and advisors in Executive Committee as well as capable working teams at Management Committee.

Our association will continue to serve alumni well, be recognized for our contribution and feel proud of our dedication.

All best wishes,

Ruby Chiu
Chair of Curtin University Alumni Association, Hong Kong