

Past Event Highlights 2008-2009

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Visit our website at:

<http://www.monashalumni.org/>

Message from the Chairman

By Timothy Sze, Chairman of MUHKAA



Dear Alumni Members,

The year 2008 was a very special year to me. It was not only the 50th anniversary of Monash University but also the year that I was elected as the Chairman of the Monash University Hong Kong Alumni Association ("MUHKAA").

Indeed, I am delighted to be elected as the new chairman by my fellow committee members with mix feelings of excitement and challenge.

I have been with the MUHKAA for over 9 years, first being a member and later elected as a committee member. With the support from my fellow committee members, my position gives me much enjoyment and I look forward to sharing this enjoyment with you and other Monash graduates.

MUHKAA, being the oldest overseas alumni association of Monash University, organizes activities not only for the Monash community, but also extends our network to reach out to other Australian universities alumni associations in Hong Kong through functions and events held by the Federation of Australian Alumni Associations in Hong Kong.

If you are looking for an opportunity to get involved in MUHKAA and would like to find out more about your alumni association, I encourage you to visit our website at <http://www.monashalumni.org> to explore your area of interest.

I am really grateful to those alumni members who have extended their continuous support to our MUHKAA in the past and hope your support will go on in the future years and together we will aim higher.

See you all at the future alumni's outings!

Yours MUHKAA,

Timothy Sze

Foreword

The year 2008 was a fruitful year for MUHKAA. We hosted and assisted in a wide array of educational and entertaining activities as well as social and sporting events. Those events hosted by us attracted around 250 members and friends. All of the participants found that the activities were most joyous and fun-filled.

One of our aims in this year was to promote MUHKAA and our friends' participation in community greening and cultivate greening awareness, thereby leading the MUHKAA to join and adopt a green leaf. Therefore, a seminar proudly presented by a Nobel Peace Prize Winner, from our Monash University, was held in Hong Kong.

In May we supported the Sichuan Earthquake fund raising program. To reach out and ease the pain of victims, organized by the Australian Consulate General, MUHKAA had firstly made a donation to UNICEF via FAAA and Australian Government.

We also held a charity Wine Tasting two weeks later. The aim is to make donation to 'Feed the Children Hong Kong' (FTCHK), which is an international charitable organization. The function was held on Saturday, 6 June 2008 at Café Costa in IFC Mall. All proceeds would directly help the quake victims. In addition to the attendance by our members and friends, around \$6,000 was financed from the group overwhelming commitment and supports on this event. This fund would help to raise the FTCHK fund to repair or rebuild one of their subsidized schools in Sichuan which had been impacted by this earthquake.



Good Wine for Goodwill Charity Wine Tasting, Friday, 6 June 2008

John Lo

For those who haven't been to a Monash alumni event lately, you're missing out on an extraordinary event. The Good Wine For Goodwill charity wine event was held at Cafe Costa on June 6 and was a very memorable experience.

Twelve wines from different wineries from as far a field as South Africa, to as close as France were for tasting. French Sommelier Yves Sauboua entertained us with his knowledge of the wines and enlightened us with his charismatic charm. With a variety of wines and food pairings: from the sweet - pastry and mousse, the

savoury - beef-pesto spicy chicken skewers, to the parma ham and mini-buffalo burgers. All while Yves served and talked of the different wines on offer. The rains came, but didn't dampen our spirit, a rather picturesque scene when looking across the harbour to TST from IFC – there was plenty of room for people to sit, eat and drink.

The Wines ...

We learned that most is now under screwcap, to lock in that freshness whilst having less corkage, but without affecting the wine. The wines from a worldwide tour of whites to reds were very intense and spectacular with a very nice dessert wine finishing off.

All in all, it is something you just have to be there to taste to believe, it really was the must try event of the year, and for a good charity cause, with proceeds going to Feed the children Hong Kong charity ... forget amazing, "awesome" just might be a better descriptor for the event.



A very big vote of thanks goes to all donors and devoted committee members and friends.



Australian Consul General Welcome Dinner, Wednesday, 25 June 2008

The new Australian Consul General, Mr. Les Luck arrived Hong Kong in June. He soon got himself familiarized with the work of Australian alumni associations in Hong Kong.

The FAAA had organized a formal welcome dinner on 25 June 2008. Our committee headed by our David Chan joined the dinner with other sister alumni associations. In the dinner, there was a golden

chance to meet the new Australian Consul General and spoke with him directly. We all spent a wonderful time that evening.



One-Day Trip To ZhongShan, Sunday, 27 July 2008

This event was an exclusive charter tour for our MUHKAA members. All items including the itinerary and travel time were specially offered by the travel agency. Over 30 participants joined this function. The event was a smashing success.

2008 Beijing Olympics Games Opening Ceremony Dinner, Friday, 8 August 2008

Patricia Tanizar



It's summer again! We are treated to hot Summer Olympics opening ceremony Live coverage. On top of that, there is sizzling in door Aussie barbeque buffet with Aussie wines, beer and desserts. It all happens, courtesy of the grand Hyatt in a celebration mood with lots of native flower arrangements. What's more? -- We pop into Aussie athletics competing in Hong Kong for Beijing summer Olympics

and on their way to Beijing to compete in summer Olympics. What a memorable evening!

To show our generosity, a creative booth is set up for a good course with unique sporting and Olympic memorabilia for bidding. Hence we can dig deep into our pockets!



Summer Boat Trip Sunday, 17 August 2008

Summer always brings water games fever. Since the responses were tremendous for the last two years we held it again this year for our alumni. During the trip, there were lunch buffet, snack food, distilled water and soft drinks. A lot of activities like wake-board, banana boat, swimming and diving were provided in this event for our enjoyment. This was definitely an interesting event that we did not want to miss!



"Heat Up the Cell" Summer BBQ, Saturday, 20 September 2008

The event was co-organized with Alumni Association of the University of Melbourne (aaum). All of us had a very nice time that evening. Both of our alumni and friends spent a very memorable evening by the poolside. We were able to relax and reunite with each other.



Golf Driving Range with Professional Coaching, Saturday, 25 October 2008

The course was one of the sporting activities on healthy and greening grounds launched by the MUHKAA. A professionally coached session was made available at the driving range for all our participants. After that, there was an alfresco dinner with the coach and our MUHKAA group. It was a great time to share our happiness with each other for eating, chatting and relaxing beside the golf course.

Climate Change Seminar with Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Thursday, 6 November 2008

Environment protection should be a commitment for everyone. To improve weather quality for achieving a sustainable development, a seminar on 'Climate Change' was delivered by our Monash Professor David Griggs on 6 November 2008. Professor David Griggs is the Director of the Monash Sustainability Institute and the Chief Executive Officer of Climate Works Australia. He discussed the global warming impacts on those food security, energy availability, floods and droughts, and biodiversity, with a particular focus on the implications for Hong Kong. In the end, he introduced more greenery which can enhance the quality of our living environment.



We believe that through some physical involvement and active participation in activities, we would have a better grounding of the importance of environment conservation, and develop a sense of respect for nature.

FAAA Mahjong Competition 2008, Saturday, 6 December 2008

The first ever Mahjong match between Alumni teams was held on 6 December 2008. The game started from 4:00 pm. David Chan and Alfred Lee, who are our alumni members, won the first and third runner up titles. Congratulations for their success! After the competition, there was a grand dinner. The atmosphere was great for the whole event. We hope to have the activity again in future years for our alumnus.



Bowling and Karaoke Party, Saturday, 13 December 2008

The party was held in Olympic Ocean City. Around 30 players from different universities joined this 'our fun day' event. One of the aims of the game for our MUHKAA was to take an opportunity to find a team to represent

MUHKAA in the next competition programs of FAAA.





FAAA Karaoke Competition and Chinese New Year Party, Saturday, 17 January 2009

Over 60 alumni friends joined this event. All of them including our MUHKAA group enjoyed the food and fun throughout the function. It was very exciting. The MUHKAA friends not only gave us support but also shared our happiness during the whole night.

FAAA Bowling Competition 2009, Sunday, 15 February 2009



Our team has been participating in this competition since its inception in 2007. We won the championship in the first year and the first runner-up year after. However, we lost the championship again this year and only settled for the second runner-up despite a strong alumni presence. Nonetheless, we will be back! Grateful thanks to our alumni team for the unfailing support and congratulations to Anas Ng who won the first runner-up in the men's event!



FAAA 2009 3rd Inter-Universities Badminton Tournament, Sunday, 8 March 2009

We had previously won 3 out of 4 titles at this championship, but that was the first year in 2007, and this year, with Rally Point scoring format and mature competitors as well as their passionate fans, was a far tougher task.

'I tried but he was too good. He just didn't miss any ball. He never gives up. It was really intense. That's why it is so hard about playing with him.' Tim said. Finally, our

current chairman, Timothy Sze, won the first runner-up of Men's single. Besides, it Tim also won the Mixed Double Champion with Amy Chan. With these two titles and the high scoring, our MUHKAA group won the first runner up place in University Team title. Good work Tim! Go for it hopefully in 2009 then we will win the championship.

We need your continuous support! Your active involvement is most important to us. Please give us your great support and encouragement!





Other Activities

Patricia Tanizar

FAAA, led by our David Chan, allows MUHKAA members to compete against other Australian universities groups in many sporting tournaments such as Mahjong, Karaoke, Bowling and Badminton.

Besides them, members also have the chance to play games and to get together with other Australian groups.



To Sum Up – Closing Words

Patricia Tanizar

We hope to have more contacts with you, Monash graduates, with a view to jointly bring MUHKAA to a brighter and golden future. In addition to your enormous effort and contribution, we wish that we can also build a stronger friendship. So what are you waiting for – come and join us today! We look forward to your presence in our upcoming events.

At last, we wish the coming AGM and Annual Dinner Party 2009 an overwhelming success. Also we wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all members and friends for their active participation and enthusiastic support. We believe that it is significant to make our upcoming events a good smash.

