

Welcome home, "Senior" Alumni



Mr Ng Wing-hong delivers a thank-you remark.

Nearly 300 "senior" alumni of the former Hong Kong Polytechnic, the Hong Kong Technical College and the Government Trade School, who have graduated from the Institution for 25 years or more, gathered at a special dinner gathering on 8 December 2000 to celebrate the "Silver Anniversary", or even "Diamond Anniversary", of their graduation.

Jointly organised by the University and the Federation of PolyU Alumni Associations, the Alumni Reunion Dinner was specially held to pay tribute to the more "senior" alumni of the Institution who graduated between the late 1930s and early 1970s. Some alumni who have already emigrated to Canada, Australia or US for decades made a special trip to return to Hong Kong to attend this memorable, fun-filled event.

Among the participants are five alumni who graduated in the late 1930s from the Government Trade School, the forerunner of the Hong Kong Technical College established



The five alumni who graduated in the late 1930s from the Government Trade School with Prof. Poon (far left) and Mr Tzang (far right).

in 1937. All guests gave a thunderous applause when the earliest graduate at the dinner, Mr Ng Wing-hong, was introduced on the stage. Mr Ng, a graduate of the Government Trade School in 1939, was among the first batch of building graduates of the Institution.

During the dinner, all participating alumni enjoyed a brief yet touching slide show of nostalgic photos provided by enthusiastic alumni of different years, bringing back fond memories of the good old school days.

The highlight of the evening came when President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong, joined by Deputy President Mr Alexander Tzang and all Vice Presidents, presented specially designed "Commemorative Medals" to the graduates. These medals not only signify the University's appreciation for their accomplishments but also serve as memorabilia of their close link with the Institution.



Cheers: Vice President Prof. Demokan (left) and Prof. Poon (middle) toast the alumni.



Mechanical Engineering alumni standing next to photos of the good old school days decades ago.

Fun outing for the elderly

On Sunday 19 November 2000, more than 500 elderly people were invited by The Textiles & Clothing Alumni Association to enjoy a vegetarian feast at Po Lin Monastery on Lantau Island.

It was the second time for the Association to hold a large-scale social function as such for the elderly, with the aim of advocating the importance of showing respect and concern for the elderly. Over a hundred volunteers, comprising members of the Association, students from PolyU's Institute of Textiles & Clothing and boy scouts from the Scout Association of Hong Kong (Kowloon Region), participated and helped in this meaningful event.

The elderly, some of them from Hong Kong's elderly homes and others living in public housing estates alone, were very pleased with the delicious vegetarian lunch as well as the entertainment provided by prominent local artists.



Young and old are enjoying healthy Chinese vegetarian dishes at the famous Po Lin Monastery.

Graduates of 50s and 60s visit Alma Mater

On 20 November 2000, a group of Mechanical Engineering alumni who graduated from the former Hong Kong Technical College in the 1950s and 1960s, together with Mr S. Z. Sung, the former Principal of the College, paid a visit to our campus to witness some of the latest developments of their Alma Mater.

The visit started off with a brief presentation delivered by President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong on the University's developments in the recent years. During his presentation, Prof. Poon also revealed that in order to attract more graduates back to the campus, a number of catering and meeting facilities in the new Phase VI tower building will be made available for use by alumni to organise social gatherings and activities.

The group then toured a number of facilities in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, the Industrial Centre and the Jockey Club Auditorium. The graduates, many of whom are now living in different parts of the world, were both delighted and fascinated by the rapid developments they saw. ❖

Dr Chris Wong (third from right) introduces the advanced facilities in the Industrial Centre.



The campus visit was initiated by Mr George Ko (second from left, front row), who was a former student leader in the Hong Kong Technical College. Mr S. Z. Sung (fourth from right, front row), former Principal of the Hong Kong Technical College, joined the Mechanical Engineering graduates.

East meets West

The Presidents of the two PolyU associations in Canada, Mr Randy Chan of the PolyU (Western Canada) Association and Ms Pauline Tsang of the PolyU Alumni & Past Employees (Eastern Canada) Association, set foot on campus on 21 November 2000.

Coincidentally returned to Hong Kong in mid-November, the duo met with President Prof. Poon Chung-kwong. They were joined by Mr T.N. Foo, the Founding President of the PolyU (Western Canada) Association.

During the gathering, Mr Chan and Ms Tsang exchanged views with Prof. Poon on the updates and future plans of their associations. Meanwhile, Prof. Poon also reiterated the University's appreciation for their great effort conducive to the growth of the two overseas associations.

Apart from meeting with Prof. Poon, Mr Chan and Ms Tsang also attended the University's Sixth Congregation, where Mr Foo was conferred University Fellowship for his tremendous support and contribution to the Institution. ❖



(From left) Ms Pauline Tsang, Prof. Poon, Mr T. N. Foo and Mr Randy Chan