

# **The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Staff Association**

## **Annual Report 2019** (with revision in Nov 2020)

This is the Annual Report of the PUSA Executive Council for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019. It was supposed to be presented to the AGM of the Association to be held in November 2019, but was delayed for almost a year due to the siege of PolyU Campus from mid-November 2019 and the Covid-19 Pandemic since February 2020.

Eight officers were elected for a two-year term during the Re-convened AGM held on December 15 2017. They were Ming Yin CHAN (BSE) as Chairman, Louis LEUNG (AMA) and Rodney CHU (APSS) as Vice-Chairman, Vincent CHO (MM) as Secretary, Nora MAN (AMA) as Treasurer, Christine YEUNG (BRE) and Cecilia MA (APSS) as Assistant Secretaries and Peter LO (AMA) as Information Officer. While Nora and Cecilia left PolyU upon completion of their contracts of appointment, the rest of the Officers have served an extra year due to the unprecedented delay of the AGM 2019 as mentioned in the first paragraph.

In May 2019, Chair Ming Yin CHAN was re-elected member of Council with 1,382 support votes. He, together with Vice-Chair Rodney CHU, have been voicing out staff views and sentiments at Council level. In particular, during the Management Workshop held in December 2018, they forcefully expressed grave concerns and frustrations of staff members on teaching track as well as the issues of GA, MBSA and retirement age for staff members. They urged Senior Management to handle the situations carefully and conscientiously.

During the year under review, PUSA Officers met with PolyU Senior Management regularly through the PUSA Management Consultative meetings chaired by VP(R&D) and attended by senior staff of the Office of Human Resources, including the Director, to discuss a large variety of issues. Elected staff members also held informal discussions with senior members of Council on various matters of mutual interest.

We now summarize a number of important events and issues in the year under review as follows.

(1) Special Committee for GA & MBSA

PUSA Chairman & Vice Chairmen joined the Committee to reflect the stand of PUSA after a departmental wide opinion collection.

(2) Used Item Collection Campaigns

As usual, two used item collection campaigns were held in the year under review, one in November 2019 and the other in March 2019. Both campaigns were jointly organized with Community Recycling Coop, a charitable organization in Sham Shui Po. Over 1,800 kg of used items donated by staff were collected in each of the exercises.

(3) PUSA Representatives in Catering Committee

Rodney CHU, Vincent CHO and Cecilia MA were nominated by PUSA Chairman to represent staff in the Catering Committee for a two year-term commencing February 2018.

(4) Meeting staff with grievances

As usual, Officers have been involved in a handful of grievance cases, meeting with staff members concerned with a view to assisting them to resolve various

problems.

While PUSA may claim a number of achievements in the past year, we should never be complacent. It has become clear that it is getting more and more difficult to recruit colleagues who are willing to devote their efforts to work for the welfare of staff on a voluntary basis. Furthermore, the ever changing environment in the Higher Education Sector will definitely lead to uncertainty for staff members. We will certainly face a large number of problems and difficulties. We therefore must work twice as hard to improve the quality of our work and at the same time protect the welfare and benefits of our members. It is our belief that with concerted effort from staff and Management, we will be able to build a better future for the University.

Prepared by:

Ming Yin CHAN (PUSA Chairman)

For and on behalf of PUSA ExCo

26 November 2020