CHANGING LIVES FOR GOOD
ONE DONATION AT A TIME

P.10 Edge
Breakthroughs in cancer cell detection

P.14 Insight
The Convocation champions students’ mental well-being
Greetings Alumni,

I’ve had the wonderful privilege of meeting many of you at events in Hong Kong, the Mainland, and overseas since I came on board in September. I’m impressed by the strong ties that exist within our alumni community. I’m also impressed by the wholehearted way in which you support your alma mater’s commitment to fostering the leaders of tomorrow.

Speaking of support, in this issue, we meet four remarkable alumni and students whose lives have been impacted by the University’s funds and scholarships. Each a leader in their own way, their stories illustrate the powerful difference every donation can make. And now, thanks to the government’s Eighth Matching Grant Scheme and alumnus Lee Shing Put’s generous pledge, the impact we can make is set to quadruple.

There are also several University developments I’m keen to share with you. Firstly, the plans for the establishment of HKUST (Guangzhou) are progressing well. It will be situated near a high-speed rail station and a planned technology park in Qingsheng, Nansha. We’re focusing on certain thrust areas, including artificial intelligence, biomedicine and biomedical engineering, and sustainability: energy and environment, that will help steer the development of HKUST as a force for innovation and knowledge transfer in the Greater Bay Area.

Meanwhile, construction of the new Shaw Auditorium on our home campus is underway. This exciting new landmark will help enrich the cultural life of our community, and you can read more about it on page 14.

Lastly, the Full Circle @ HKUST program was launched this year, showcasing alumni start-up successes on campus. It was wonderful to see how the business ideas you had when you were students have progressed—a testament to HKUST’s “can do” entrepreneurial spirit. Do stay tuned for more opportunities to participate!

Yours,
Professor Wei Shyy
President
The Life-Changing Power of Giving

Graduating from HKUST may be the closing of one journey, but it's also the start of a new, meaningful path. Indeed, our thriving alumni community is one of the shining emblems of the University. Together, we can achieve anything.

One of our proudest moments was creating the Alumni Endowment Fund (AEF) in 2012—a milestone in HKUST's history. The fund supports a great variety of student initiatives, empowering the next generation to achieve their full potential. And we are thrilled to announce that, from July 2019, every dollar you donate will be matched by the Hong Kong government under the Eighth Matching Grant Scheme on a first come, first served basis. There has never been a better time to make your mark on the future of Hong Kong.

A chat with Terry Tsang

At Sam one morning in 2004, civil engineering student Terry Tsang was woken by a call from his sister. She couldn't stop weeping and was unable to utter even a single word. Minutes later, he and his brother Terence were in a cab rushing to the hospital, but they were too late. Their father had passed away from a heart attack.

“It was so sudden. I didn't even get to say goodbye to my dad,” Terry says, recalling that awful moment. “To this day, I still find it difficult to describe the devastating impact my father’s untimely departure has had on me and my family. He was my rock… our rock.”

“My classmate Winky Hau suggested I write to the Student Affairs Office for assistance. At that time I didn’t have the headspace to even write a short letter, but Winky called again a few hours later saying he’d already done this for me,” Terry says, gratefully. “I sent it and in just two days, the University granted us emergency funds to help us through our difficult time. It meant a lot to us.”

What touched Terry most was not how much money was given, but the care shown by the HKUST community. Many friends and professors visited his family to offer their condolences and support.

“In Chinese we have a saying: 树欲静而风不息，子欲养而亲不在 (The tree wishes to remain still, yet the wind doesn’t stop. The son wishes to serve his parents, yet they don’t stay). I only realized the true meaning of this when my dad left us,” Terry explains.

By that time, his company Madhead was enjoying great success and Terry was selected as a winner of the 2013 Ernst & Young Emerging Entrepreneur China award. But it wasn’t long before hardship befell the Tsang family once more.

While Terry was studying for an MBA at HKUST in 2016, his mother was diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer. It came as a great shock to his family. “I will never forget how tears came rolling down my face when the doctor said her cancer had spread to her bones, liver, and brain,” Terry says.

Once again, the HKUST community came through for him. The Business School made a special exception for him to extend his studies, and his friends rallied around him in support. “I am grateful to all those who came to visit my mom and show their care for us, including President Wei Shyy and his wife,” he says.

It was his family’s situation that made him and Terence realize there might be other HKUST students facing similar difficulties but without any assistance. Right there, in the midst of his adversity, he had an idea.

“We decided to establish a student emergency fund for those in need,” he says. “We set it up with no conditions—any student in an emergency can apply.” Since then, the student emergency fund has assisted many students and their families through difficult times, and continues to do so today.

“The loss of my father, the pillar of our family, was a great shock to us. We didn’t know what to do.” In those dark times, there were a few rays of sunshine in the form of friends, classmates, and teachers who came to their aid.

Giving that gift of support to someone else is an incredible honor and privilege.

These experiences have taught him that the most important quality in life is kindness. “As graduates of HKUST, we are part of a privileged subset of society who have received a quality education from a world-class university. I believe it’s our responsibility to give back to society and help others pursue their dreams.” He stresses: “We should never forget how lucky we are to have gotten to this point. What you give back doesn’t have to be monetary. It could be your time, or simply giving someone a helping hand. Anyone can become a donor. It’s the little things that make a big difference. It happened to me and it can happen to anyone.”

Throughout the years, Terry and his brother have continued to support the University and our students in a variety of ways. The atrium in the Lee Shau Kee Business Building has been named the “Terry and Terence Tsang Atrium” in recognition of their unwavering support.
A chat with WEMP SANTIAGO PACHECO RODRIGUEZ

A Mathematician’s Dream

The Tsang brothers’ fund has come to the rescue of students from various backgrounds, each with their own inspiring story to tell. This story takes us to the scenic country of Venezuela, home to South America’s most incredible beaches, mountains, and waterfalls— as well as a certain young mathematician.

Wemp Santiago has a natural aptitude for numbers, a talent his mother noticed early on and nurtured throughout his education. She entered him in local math competitions, where he showed great promise. He continued to excel at national, then international competitions, and it was for the 57th International Mathematics Olympiad in Hong Kong that Wemp first made the 30-hour journey to HKUST.

A few years later, in 2018, he returned to the campus as an excited undergraduate. “The first thing I noticed was that no one around me was speaking English,” Wemp laughs. He didn’t take long for him to find other international students who helped him get settled. “It was hard to leave my mother and sister alone. I had to stop working to come here, but my mother had a steady job, so it was okay. She was very happy that I was accepted into HKUST, and I wanted to make her proud.”

Wemp started enjoying university life right away, and worked hard to achieve his dream of one day researching mathematical problems at PhD level and beyond. In April, he competed in hackUST, where teams had 24 hours to come up with a social innovation concept for Jardines. He loved the challenge. “Our team’s idea wasn’t bad, but it wasn’t the best either,” he chuckles.

Then the crisis in Venezuela worsened. Inflation soared and thousands of citizens suffered a dramatic drop in living standards—Wemp’s mother among them. In an effort to keep up with his education expenses, she tried to sell her house, but its market value had depreciated too much. When the time came to pay his tuition, she had to tell him the hard truth: she could no longer support his studies. He had a sum total of HK$60 to live on.

“It was a very difficult time for me,” he begins. “I couldn’t even talk to my family much because of the communication blackout.” He’d have to go back to Venezuela and find work, but getting back was a financial burden in itself. He didn’t know what to do.

That’s when he remembered the student emergency fund he’d heard about at orientation meetings. “I asked if the University could help me.” In a matter of hours, the answer came back: yes. The fund saw him through to the end of the semester. “It was an enormous relief and I am very grateful for the support,” he says. “It has helped my entire family through a very hard situation. My mother can now focus on taking care of my sister, and I can focus on my studies, so that I can support my family one day.”

Thanks to the AEF’s student emergency fund, Wemp and his family can look forward to a brighter future. “I want to contribute to the world by tackling difficult math problems, like the Riemann hypothesis, which has direct implications for computer science and quantum mechanics,” Wemp says, with an excited smile.

When asked if he knows other students in similar difficulty, Wemp nods. “I think many students experience financial difficulties that disrupt their studies. Many of us international students are supported by our families, and when something happens, like political instability or an illness in the family, our future is jeopardized.” He adds: “Having that extra financial support means that we can achieve our dreams and help others achieve theirs, too.”
For Wemp, the student emergency fund made the difference between a life with few prospects and a promising career in mathematics. For Kimberley Cheung, meanwhile, scholarships paved the way toward reaching new heights in her fencing career.

Kimberley first fell in love with the sport of fencing when she was only 10 years old. She kept training and competing throughout her school years, and competing throughout her school years, and went on to win bronze in a team foil at the 2014 Asian Games in Korea, before being recognized as one of Hong Kong’s Top 10 Outstanding Youths in 2015. She is now a full-time professional fencer at the Hong Kong Sports Institute with her sights set on the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

With drive and commitment, she was able to complete her degree while continuing to fence part-time—and acknowledges that she wouldn’t have been able to do it alone. “I had to travel to competitions quite often, but my professors and classmates were willing to spend extra time helping me catch up on what I’d missed. I couldn’t have done it without them. We can achieve so much more as a community than as individuals.”

This invaluable support continued long after she graduated. “I’m fencing full time now and training up to 15 hours a week,” Kimberley says. “And I stay 100 percent focused on learning,” she says. “You have to be focused to do well at anything.”

For every dollar donated, HKUST could receive four dollars. The combined impact our alumni could make just quadrupled in size.

With the HKUST Alumni Emergency Fund, beneficiaries like Kimberley received a scholarship that changed her life. Kimberley smiles, then adds, “Imagine if all of us gave just one dollar. Think of all the lives we could change!”

As well as being active in the alumni community, Kimberley donates to the AEF. “Receiving a scholarship changed my life, and I want others to benefit like I did,” she says. “I encourage my fellow alumni to do the same, even if we don’t have much to give. It’s the spirit in which we give that makes the HKUST alumni community so powerful.”

Driven by a passion to better the lives of those around him, Lee tirelessly contributes his time and resources to supporting myriad charities and NGOs in Hong Kong, and is a staunch supporter of HKUST initiatives. “Giving back is a natural way to express my gratitude to my alma mater. I sincerely encourage my fellow alumni to show their support and make a real difference in the lives of the next generation.”

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Thanks to donations from Terry, Kimberley, and other dedicated alumni, the AEF continues to be an undeniable force for good, with lasting benefits rippling out exponentially across the community and beyond. Now, it is poised to make a bigger impact than ever before, with alumnus Lee Shing Put’s generous matching pledge of HK$10 million.

A committed philanthropist, Lee graduated from HKUST with a BBA in Finance in 2000 and a briefcase full of treasured memories. “My time at the University was one of the best in my life. I learned so much and made lifelong friendships,” he says. “My professors and classmates enlightened and inspired me, and in learning more about myself, I became a much more confident person.”

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BE A CHAMPION FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

We are pleased to announce that from July 2019, every dollar you donate could be matched by the HKSAR Government under the Eighth Matching Grant Scheme. This is a wonderful opportunity to make your donation count for generations to come.

Created in 2012, the HKUST Alumni Endowment Fund (AEF) is our first endowment fund to receive donations mainly from alumni. Thanks to your keen support, the fund has grown impressively and supported a variety of initiatives, making a lasting positive impact on students’ lives.

The difference you make...

- Athletic awards
- Sports scholarships
- Sponsorships for overseas sports competitions
- Water sports
- Student hostels
- Student emergency fund
- Entrepreneurial initiatives
- Student start-up grants
- Community service awards
- Corporate social responsibility initiatives
- Outstanding engineering student awards
- Student-led initiatives
- Student societies
- Exchange scholarships and bursaries

To thank you...

Every dollar donated is highly appreciated by everyone at HKUST. We offer various naming opportunities and campus plaques in recognition of contributions over HK$10,000. And every alumnus who donates more than HK$500 will receive a limited-edition Redbird pin, as a token of our gratitude.

The University is striving to keep close ties with our alumni worldwide and may from time to time use your personal data in direct marketing. The personal data the University may use in direct marketing includes your name, student/alumni number, year of graduation, program of study, employer name, contact details (home/office address, personal/business email address, phone number), enrolment records and demographic data as held by the University and updated from time to time. The types of direct marketing activities the University may conduct using your personal data may include (i) providing you with job posting information, academic program details, and information on fundraising initiatives, latest university programs and events and (ii) soliciting support for the University both generally, and for specific programs and initiatives with which the University is involved. We will do this through various communication channels such as direct-mail, email, telephone and SMS by using your personal data. The University may not use your personal data without your consent. If you do not wish the University to use your personal data in direct marketing as described above, you may indicate your objection by ticking the box below:

Yes, I’d like to make a donation

Last Name ________________ First Name ________________
Email ____________________ Mobile ________________
Mailing Address ____________________

I would like to donate HK$__________
☐ One-time ☐ Monthly for _______ mths ☐ Monthly until further notice
☐ I would like to remain anonymous

I would like to pay the above donation by
☐ Credit Card (Visa/Mastercard)
Holder’s name ____________________
Card no. ___________ / ___________ / ___________ / ___________
Expiry Date (MM/YYYY) ___________ / ___________
☐ Crossed Check (check no. ________________)

Please check payable to “HKUST” and write your full name and mobile number on the back.

☐ I agree that the University will apply for the Eighth Matching Grant Scheme with my donation, if applicable.

Please email, fax, or post this form to us.
Development and Alumni Office, HKUST, Clear Water Bay, HK
Tel: (852) 2358 8131    Fax: (852) 3743 0939 Email: give2ust@ust.hk

The University is striving to keep close ties with our alumni worldwide and may from time to time use your personal data in direct marketing. The personal data the University may use in direct marketing includes your name, student/alumni number, year of graduation, program of study, employer name, contact details (home/office address, personal/business email address, phone number), enrolment records and demographic data as held by the University and updated from time to time. The types of direct marketing activities the University may conduct using your personal data include (i) providing you with job posting information, academic program details, and information on fundraising initiatives, latest university programs and events and (ii) soliciting support for the University both generally, and for specific programs and initiatives with which the University is involved. We will do this through various communication channels such as direct-mail, email, telephone and SMS by using your personal data. The University may not use your personal data without your consent. If you do not wish the University to use your personal data in direct marketing as described above, you may indicate your objection by ticking the box below:

☐ I do not agree with the use of my personal data for direct marketing purposes as set out above.

If you wish to opt-out in the future, please send your English full name, year of graduation and program of study to alumni@ust.hk.
Under the PDPO, you have a right to request access to and correct your personal data. If you wish to exercise this right, please contact Development and Alumni Office at alumni@ust.hk.
I further confirm that I have read and understood the collection, use and provision of personal data as set out above.
When Professor Terence Wong completed his PhD in Biomedical Engineering at the prestigious Washington University in St. Louis, he was already focused on his next move. “The main reason I came back to Hong Kong was because I wanted to expand my efforts here, and contribute to my hometown,” he says. Indeed, in the short time since Professor Wong took up his position in HKUST’s Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, he has already made great progress—both in his field of research and in his teaching duties.

Part of what drives Professor Wong is a desire to help people understand that the work he carries out day to day is of true significance to medical progress. “Commonly,” he begins, “students or parents have a misconception about biomedical engineering versus medicine. When you study my field, you don’t become a doctor at the end of it. What we do is we use our expertise in engineering to ascertain current problems and challenges in medicine and biology.”

### Cultivating Minds

As part of this, and aside from his own highly specialized research, Professor Wong is passionate about helping younger minds develop an interest in biomedical engineering—even while students are still at high school or younger. “I think, right now in Hong Kong, there is a lot of support from the government for younger students to experience science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) subjects much earlier than they currently do,” he says.

One of the ways he reaches out to younger people is through the University’s Innovation Today, Imagining Tomorrow mentorship program. “Every year, we recruit around 50 high-school students, and they have lectures and lab tours, and get advice from mentors. Maybe someday, they’ll remember a talk they had with a professor and get inspired to find out more. You never know,” he chuckles.
Council Chairman Mr. Andrew Liao, President Professor Wei Shyy, and HKUST senior management were delighted to spend time with over 150 alumni at a drinks reception in Beijing in March. Attendees were excited to learn about impressive developments at their alma mater and are looking forward to the opening of our new Guangzhou campus. Then, in May, more than 100 alumni had the chance to attend a new kind of musical, featuring a traditional Chinese orchestra, about the life of the famous poet Xuexi Zhang. Our heartfelt thanks go to alumni Xulan Yang for the complimentary tickets.

Over 260 Shanghai alumni and their friends got together for a spectacular spring gathering in March, aboard a cruise boat on the Huangpu River. The event opened with a forum on the stock market and 5G communication, led by renowned professionals, after which a celebratory dinner was held. Vice-President for Institutional Advancement, Professor Sabrina Lin took the opportunity to update our alumni on the progress of our Guangzhou campus.

Established only this year, our Taiwan alumni group has already hosted two reunions, at a bar and bowling alley, respectively. Thanks to the enthusiasm of our alumni, both events were well attended. With the aim of maintaining close ties among alumni, the group will hold more fabulous gatherings in the coming months. Join their Facebook group to keep abreast of latest news.

Our alumni volunteers in Singapore showed their keen support for the Love in Action program, organized by the Harvest Care Centre, in November and December 2018. The program aims to promote the physical and psychoemotional well-being of vulnerable older people with either limited or no family support. Activities include community participation in crafts and games as well as bonding sessions. Meanwhile, in April, close to 30 alumni gathered for a dinner hosted by the Associate Dean of the Business School, Professor Steven Dekrey. It was a wonderful opportunity for professional networking as well as bonding sessions. Meanwhile, in April, alumni had the chance to meet with Mr. Paul Chan, Financial Secretary of the HKSAR, at a dinner organized by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office. This was followed, two weeks later, by a tree potting at the Community Nursery. In June, they launched their first member directory to facilitate communication among alumni. More fabulous events are planned for the second half of the year.

Alumni in Atlanta hosted a hot-pot lunch in January to warmly welcome the new batch of HKUST students exchanging out to Georgia Tech and Emory University. They gathered again a few days before the Lunar New Year to celebrate at alumna Xinlu Liu’s home. On that occasion they prepared delicious roast pork together.

Alumni in Northern California enjoyed a particularly eventful first half of 2019. A spring luncheon in February, cohosted by the School of Engineering, was graced by Dean Professor Tim Cheng and a large number of alumni. Then, in April, alumni had the chance to meet with Mr. Paul Chan, Financial Secretary of the HKSAR, at a dinner organized by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office. This was followed, two weeks later, by a tree potting at the Community Nursery. In June, they launched their first member directory to facilitate communication among alumni. More fabulous events are planned for the second half of the year.

In May, our alumni and exchange-out students were delighted to meet with Professor Albert Ip, council member of HKUST and a trustee of the Board of Trustees of Washington University in St. Louis, on the site of the American university. Attendees also took the opportunity to have lunch together.

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MBA alumni in Manila held an intimate Friday-night reunion dinner in May. Attendees at the cozy gathering appreciated the opportunity to catch up with one another over an exquisite meal.

To support HKUST’s Global Days of Changemaking, alumni in Toronto gathered in April at a family farm in Milton, Ontario, to appreciate nature in each other’s company. They also found time to gather around the campfire and share ideas for combating environmental issues. The trip concluded with a tour of Crawford Lake. Meanwhile, in March, they showed support for the community by volunteering at the SNAP Live Auction Gallery, an art and entertainment fundraiser.

January saw our Tokyo alumni attend a mixer hosted by Professor Veronique A. Lafon-Vinais, Director of Career Development and Corporate Outreach, and Associate Program Director of the World Bachelor in Business (WBB). Around 10 Business School alumni joined the event and celebrated the New Year, together with a group of WBB students on their Japan study trip.
A NEW DIRECTION FOR THE CONVOCATION

We are delighted to introduce this year’s newly elected Convocation Standing Committee, chaired by Stanley Choi. He has been on the committee since 2011, and will serve as chairman from April 2019 to March 2021.

We would especially like to thank Immediate Past Chairman Alvin Lam for his tireless efforts in leading the work to advance the University’s goals during his four-year tenure. He has contributed an enormous amount of time and effort to developing student entrepreneurial initiatives, and made a generous donation to the Alumni Endowment Fund, which helped establish the Student Start-up Grant. Under Alvin’s leadership, the Convocation actively engaged in fulfilling the University’s commitments and building strong ties between alumni, the University, and the community.

Established in 2010, the Convocation supports the advancement of HKUST and serves as a bridge between the University, alumni, and the public. Its standing committee oversees four subcommittees, who focus on academic affairs, innovation and entrepreneurship, student affairs, and university development. The chairman represents the alumni on the Council of the University as one of its members.

Stanley, a 2007 MBA alumnus, has big plans for the Convocation during his term as chairman. “I joined the committee because I wanted to contribute to the University and to Hong Kong,” he says. “During my time on the committee, I’ve been encouraged by two main things: that the work of the Convocation has continued to evolve and grow, and that everyone involved is very dedicated.”

When asked about his plans for the upcoming year, he explains: “I think it’s important to keep the opinion exchange going. The University values alumni expertise in shaping its future developments. In addition,” he continues, “I want to build on what Alvin started. He introduced the theme of entrepreneurship, and with my experience in social services, I’d like to focus on social innovation.”

With this goal in mind, Stanley went out to recruit his team. “It’s important for committee members to share the same vision and values,” he says. “With social innovation initiatives, we can give back to society. And we can bring alumni and students together to work on the same projects.”

The new committee is keen to start an initiative that supports students’ mental well-being. “Students experience a lot of stress nowadays, and we’d like to give them the support they need,” Stanley says. “We can create something here at HKUST, and if it works, we can roll it out to other universities, too.”

Stanley is actively involved in myriad social services in Hong Kong. He is the director of Warehouse Teenage Club, a youth center that provides after-school activities for teenagers, such as hip hop, graffiti, and skateboarding classes. He also serves as chairman of Street Soccer Hong Kong, a non-profit that recruits teams for the Homeless World Cup, and as chairman of the Hong Kong United Youth Association, helping young entrepreneurs start businesses in the Greater Bay Area.

He is keen to contribute his expertise to growing the University’s influence and impact in Hong Kong and beyond. “I’d encourage my fellow alumni to get involved in different ways so we can build a powerful community together,” he says. “In this way, we can lead more fulfilling lives—and fulfillment is a wonderful reward!”

Shaw Auditorium, which will sit at the campus’s south entrance, has been designed as a multi-purpose venue that can be used for a host of activities. While its primary function is as a 1,300-seat concert hall, this three-story facility can also host theatrical performances, lectures, exhibitions, events, and ceremonies.

Construction of the new auditorium was only possible thanks to a generous donation of HK$150 million from The Shaw Foundation Hong Kong, for which the University is incredibly grateful. In light of this, the new facility is to be named in honor of the late Dr. Run Run Shaw as a mark of appreciation to the Foundation.

All alumni will fondly recall the natural beauty of the HKUST campus in Clearwater Bay, as well as the striking architecture to be found there. Indeed, many of the University’s buildings—and the facilities they provide—are what give students such a memorable experience during their years studying at HKUST.

The University constantly strives to create new facilities, and this year was delighted to announce that it will commence the construction of Shaw Auditorium. This landmark new development is set to enrich cultural life for students, staff, and alumni, and will provide extra teaching and learning space on campus.

In April this year, the groundbreaking ceremony took place, and the project is set for completion in late 2021. In addition to Shaw Auditorium itself, the University will build a facility for small open-air performances. This area will be called Mona Shaw Plaza, named for the late Mrs. Mona Shaw, wife of Dr. Shaw.

Besides this, the University will also commemorate Dr. Tse Yuen Man, also known as the “Daughter of Hong Kong”. Sadly, Dr. Tse passed away while bravely treating the victims of SARS in 2003. A hedge will be planted around Shaw Auditorium’s terrace in her memory, and will represent her spirit and selflessness.

When Shaw Auditorium opens, the University very much looks forward to welcoming alumni to the many cultural and educational events that will take place in this truly remarkable and inspirational building.

* Photo credit: Henning Larsen Architects Hong Kong
Campus congregation
The University was grateful to receive so many alumni on campus for our largest ever HKUST Alumni Reunion on November 24, 2018. The whole-day gathering presented alumni and their families with a wide array of fabulous activities, including workshops, demonstrations, mini lectures, sports, exhibitions, performances, films, lab tours, and an entrepreneur’s market. Alumni also enjoyed the opportunity to reconnect and learn all about the impressive developments at their alma mater in recent years. Special thanks go to all the participating alumni groups, speakers, entrepreneurs, schools, and offices for their invaluable contribution. Our next Alumni Reunion will be on November 16, 2019—stay tuned!

Way of the dragon
A championship race in Shek Mun marked a fantastic beginning to 2019 for the Alumni Dragon Boat Club. In September, they will take on the challenge of hiking to the summit of Mount Fuji. This year, our dragon boaters will also train with a local team in Tokyo. If you want to be stronger, both mentally and physically, then now is the time to join them!

Just getting started
Our alumni entrepreneurs spent a fruitful evening at a Science Park get-together in October 2018. Aside from providing a platform for sharing experiences of running start-ups, the event enabled attendees from various industries to showcase their products.

Run time
Our 1-HKUST spirit was on show again at the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon in February. Team HKUST went out of their way to break their personal records on the day. Special thanks go to Li-Ning Company for its generous sponsorship of our team’s running shirts.

Having fun and giving back
The HKUST Alumni Association organized an Alumni Night Out in May for alumni and their friends. Attendees enjoyed a relaxing evening of food, drinks, and laughter. Beer pong players also discussed forming a team for the upcoming world series. Meanwhile, the Community Service Team is planning a series of meetups and trips for alumni interested in community service. Be sure to check their Facebook page for updates.

Just breathe
As part of HKUST’s Global Days of Changemaking, an exclusive Pause and Breathe workshop was held in April for alumni and their families. Leading the session were Ven. Chang Lin and Ms. Astrid Chan, who introduced the art of releasing stress through pausing and breathing.

Community ties
President Professor Wei Shyy was delighted to meet our alumni leaders in September 2018, on his first day as president of HKUST. He took the opportunity to thank the leaders for their unfailing support in maintaining such tight bonds across our community over the years.

Dig it!
The members of our Volleyball Alumni Team prove that enthusiasm for one’s favorite college sport can last forever. Indeed, they can be found practicing on campus nearly every week. The players invite you to drop by and say hi!

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HAPPENINGS

Business nous
As part of HKUST Entrepreneurship Week, we were delighted to hold an engaging lunch in April, hosted by three alumni entrepreneurs: Mkery Lam of AuV Entertainment, Jovian Ling of Set Sai Venture, and Lewis Yau of ShrtStylist. The entrepreneurs shared details of their exciting start-up journeys with students interested in launching their own businesses.

Row your boat
Our alumni spent a fun-filled Sunday in January at the HKUST Rowing Championship. Held in Shatin, the contest is the signature event of the Rowing Alumni Association. Apart from competing in fiercely contested races, association members and their loved ones enjoyed special golfing privileges. The club’s members also took part in various tournaments over the year. You can become a member too and enjoy special golfing privileges.

Loving life science
Alumni Edmond Chan and Gordon Chan—from the disciplinary forces and justice department, respectively—shared their professional insights at a February session with students interested in launching their own businesses.

Spirit of success
Three alumni entrepreneurs—Lydia Leung of Belun Technology, Irene Cheung of Popsquare, and Andreas Widy of Navatics Technology—shared inspirational stories at a luncheon in April. Titled “The Making of an Entrepreneur,” the lunch was hosted by Professor Jack Lau and Mr. Michael Lee of the HKUST Institutional Advancement and Outreach Committee. The three speakers’ stories exemplified the entrepreneurial spirit of Hong Kong—a factor vital to our city’s future success.

To a tee
A Golf for All happy hour, organized by the Alumni Golf Club in March, provided keen beginners with a fantastic opportunity to learn basic golfing skills. The club’s members also took part in various tournaments over the year. You can become a member too and enjoy special golfing privileges.

Crazy tresses
The MBA Alumni Association held its popular annual dinner at the Jockey Club in April, with the theme “Crazy Hat, Hair, or Wg.” The joyous reunion was graced by Dean Professor Kar Yan Tam and Professor K C Chan. Other popular events have included an opera music night, secondary school career coaching, a junk trip, first-Friday happy hours, weekly hump day fitness series, and dragon boat training.

Vintage delights
The Alumni Wine Association (AWA) celebrated its second anniversary at February’s AGM and spring dinner. Jennifer Luk, President of the AWA, shared that 14 events had been held in 2018, engaging over 250 alumni, wine enthusiasts, and students. Guests were given free bottles of wine sponsored by the Decanter Asia Wine Awards. If you’re an oenophile, be sure to catch the AWA’s monthly happy hour, wine tasting workshops, and other fun events.

Street smarts
Cohosted by HKUST, the GREAT Smart Cities Institute, the Civil and Environmental Engineering Alumni Association, and the Smart City Consortium, January’s GREAT Smart Cities Connect Conference was an overwhelming success. The event aimed to foster the development of smart cities in the Greater China region. Highlights in the coming months will include the homecoming dinner and 20th anniversary reunion dinner for the Class of 1999. See you there!

Together again
The EMBA homecoming reunion welcomed hundreds of alumni for a pleasant weekend on campus in June. This was a joyous and rewarding occasion marking an important milestone for the EMBA program. Seminars featuring professors from the University, forums and breakout sessions were followed by a celebratory gala.

Technology at work
Entrepreneurship and the internet of things are hot topics, with interest growing in high-tech industries including IT, biomedicine, and artificial intelligence. In March, the Mainland Alumni Association and Blue Bay invited six start-up project leaders to share details of their own journeys working on high-tech projects. For attendees, it was a rewarding occasion replete with business insights.

Engineering excellence
There were plenty of fond memories at February’s 9th annual dinner of the Engineering Enterprise Management Alumni Association. Attendees included the head and professors of the Department of Industrial Engineering and Decision Analytics, distinguished guests from various industries, alumni, and students. Held at the Hong Kong Golf & Tennis Academy, the event also featured premium sporting activities such as tennis practice sessions, and golf training from famous, world-champion coaches.

Toasting the winners
The MBA Alumni Toastmasters Club is excited to share that President Mercy Liu, Founding President Charles Law, and VP of Public Relations Jacky Fok all brought home trophies from April’s Area K3 speech contests. Mercy also won first place in the Division K Table Topics and will represent the club at District 89. Aside from its February meeting cohosted with the Wayfoong Toastmasters (HSBC corporate club), the club also meets twice a month. New talents are always welcome to join.

Toasting the winners
As families and careers grow and thrive, it can be difficult to stay in touch with old friends and classmates from your time at HKUST. Our Class Notes bring together news and updates from alumni scattered far and wide, so you can keep up with their lives—and share parts of your own!

Cherry Suen & Steven Chan
2013 BEng CIVL | 2014 BEng CIVL
Our love story began at HKUST and we have many fond memories of our time on campus. We are happy to announce that we recently got married on December 15, 2018!

Carey Au & Jack Lai
2002 MA CHIN | 1999 BEng CPEG
We got to know each other in October 1997 and began our lifelong journey together in November 2008. We are currently living in Sunnyvale, California.

Zoe Mak & Chris Yu
2012 BSc CHEM | 2012 BSc CHEM, 2016 PhD CHEM
It has been ten years since we met at the Chemistry orientation camp on campus. And we had a wonderful wedding on September 30, 2018! We are grateful to have each other for all our lives, as well as to have blessings from our beloved friends.

Agnes Pang & Jacky Yeung
2010 BBA ACCT | 2008 BSc CHEM
When we first met, there was wonderful chemistry between an accountant and a scientist. And on November 17, 2018, we began our new life together, filled with love, blessings, and hopes!

Kristy Lam & Vincent Chau
2014 BEng COMP | 2010 BEng CPEG
We got to know each other when Kristy joined the Alumni Endowment Fund phone campaign as a student ambassador in 2013. On March 28, 2018, we tied the knot in Taiwan!

Abdul Kareem
2015 MSc CIEM
I experienced a lot of challenges after graduation but was fortunate to meet my other half, who enabled me to focus on my career path. My family was made complete with the arrival of my son, Muhammad Aaliyan, whose birth helped me get through many hardships. I am now developing a high-tech armor suit for him so he can be the next Iron Man Avenger!

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Dave Cheung
2005 BEng MEBS
Starting a business is never easy, but it is really exciting. As the founder of Hidden Boss Limited, I am pleased to announce the launch of our mobile application STEM City. It is a fully gamified EduTech tool for primary school students in Hong Kong. By harnessing the power of big data analytics, I hope my company can help create a better learning environment for kids everywhere.

Lancelot Shir
2011 BSc MATH
As the owner of a bee farm in Tai Tam, I started Hong Kong Raw Honey, a natural and organic bee farming initiative. We produce raw honey that is free from antibiotics and added sugar. We also hold honey tasting workshops and promote urban beekeeping in Hong Kong.

Kenneth Lee
1997 BSc BICH
It was my honor to be appointed as general manager at Invisible Hong Kong Macau Market.

Dennis Tang
1998 MPNI MECH
In April 2019, my new book on Chinese law and cross-border dispute resolution was published.
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