



St. Mary's Past Students' Association

Chairman's Report for the year 2010-2011

I. Duration

This Chairman's Report covers the period from 20 March 2010 to 25 March 2011.

II. Executive Committee

The current Executive Committee was elected at the 2009 Annual General Meeting held on 7 March 2009.

During the Report period, the Executive Committee held five meetings.

III. Composition

The composition of the Executive Committee is as follows:

Chairman	:	Ms Justina Law
Vice-Chairmen	:	Ms Annie Choi Ms Jasbir Pannu
Secretary	:	Ms Ellie Wong
Treasurer	:	Ms Rosa Yeung
Legal Secretary	:	Ms Jody Sin
Membership Secretary	:	Dr Monica Wong
Social Convenor	:	Ms Juliana Wong
Publication Secretaries	:	Ms Angela Liu Ms Becky Lui
Committee Members :		Ms Barbara Chu Ms Susanna Chung Ms Mabel Leung Ms Katherine Mak Ms Irene Young

During the Report period, two sub-committees were formed - the Mentorship Programme Committee and the 110th Anniversary Dinner Organization Committee.



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IV. Tasks Carried Out During the Report Period

(1) Continuing the Membership Drive

- As at 25 March 2011, the membership of the PSA stood at 5,620. Compared to the membership of 5,344 in March 2010, there was an increase of 276 members (5%).
- Of the 276 new members, 228 are F.5 graduates from SMCC. The other 48 are mostly St. Marians that graduated before 1990 who had reconnected with us.
- The Membership Secretary, Dr Monica Wong, continued to contact members to update their contact details. Email addresses are available for 4,338 members (77%).
- The Chairman, Ms Justina Law, introduced the PSA and its activities to F.5 graduates on 12 July 2010 and welcomed them as new members.

(2) Publication of Newsletters

- We published two newsletters during the Report period – one 8-page newsletter in October 2010 and one 12-page newsletter in March 2011.
- The newsletters were also uploaded onto the PSA website. Emails were sent to inform members of the release of the latest newsletter.
- Hard copies were posted to members with the help from current SMCC students. As a means to save paper and to reduce postage cost, the PSA continuously encourages members to opt out of receiving the hard copy and read the newsletter online.

(3) Maintaining the PSA Website

- During the Report period, the website www.stmaryspsa.org was updated by our webmaster, Ms Justina Law. The website continued to serve as the link between our Alma Mater and past St. Marians near and far.



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(4) Supporting the School's Mentorship Programme

- The composition of the Programme Committee is as follows:

Coordinators : Ms Jody Sin and Ms Jasbir Pannu
School Adviser : Ms Amelia Tsang

- The 2009/10 Mentorship Programme was successfully completed in the summer of 2010. Small groups were formed with 2-3 mentors taking care of 5-6 mentees, based on seven different sectors. The structure allowed more indepth interaction, while focusing more on personal growth than career concerns. Results were positive and feedback was gauged for programme improvement.
- As the school changed to the NSS curriculum in the 2010/11 academic year, voluntary mentee participation had to be introduced in this critical year due to the high number of eligible students (F.5 and F.6). In the meantime, mentors were also encouraged to join in pairs so that they can also support each other.
- 51 mentors were recruited this year to care for 142 mentees. 25 groups were formed in accordance with the mentees' indication of interests in a specific sector/industry. The eight sectors/industry groups formed this year are:

1	Art, Culture & Media
2	Engineering, Manufacturing & IT
3	Finance, Banking, Insurance
4	Legal
5	Management & Administration
6	Sales & Marketing
7	Medical, Health, Nursing
8	Education, Government & NGO

- Unlike previous years with only one scheduled meeting between mentors and mentees, two gatherings were scheduled this year, creating one additional opportunity for mentors and mentees to meet.
- The first mentor-mentee gathering took place on 23 October 2010 (Sat), during which 35 mentors turned up to meet with their mentees and arranged further meeting times.



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- The second meeting took place on 26 February 2011 (Sat), during which 30 mentors turned up and the groups participated in team activities that allowed them to discover new things about their friends, and unleash their creativity. Time was also allocated for the groups to mingle and chat.
- Informal meetings would be arranged on a needs-basis at the mutual convenience of the mentors and mentees. Through these meetings, mentors can provide advice on personal growth, further studies and careers planning.

(5) Organizing the St. Mary's 110th Anniversary Dinner

- The composition of the St. Mary's 110th Anniversary Dinner Organising Committee was as follows:

Co-chairpersons	: Ms Susanna Chung, Ms Justina Law
School Adviser	: Ms Candy To
School Liaison	: Ms Queenie Cheng, Ms Angela Leong
Secretary	: Ms Barbara Chu
Treasurer	: Ms Rosa Yeung
Ticketing	: Ms Susanna Chung, Ms Annie Choi
Prizes Solicitation	: Ms Annie Choi, Ms Jody Sin
Souvenirs & Premiums	: Ms Annie Choi, Ms Angela Liu
Programme Rundown	: Ms Justina Law
Stage Management	: Ms Becky Lui, Ms Irene Young
Venue Liaison	: Ms Becky Lui, Ms Juliana Wong
Publications	: Ms Angela Liu
Reception	: Dr Monica Wong, Ms Mabel Leung, Ms Ellie Wong, Ms Juliana Wong
Sales	: Ms Angela Liu, Ms Rosa Yeung, Ms Katherine Mak, Ms Barbara Chu

- The Dinner was held on 13 November 2010 (Sat) at the Laguna Palace Restaurant at the Fisherman's Wharf in Hunghom.
- Ticket price was HK\$400 per head.
- There were 100 tables seating over 1,100 past St. Marians, Sisters, teachers, friends and relatives.
- The Guest of Honour was Sr. Marie Remedios ('58), Vice Provincial Superior of the Canossian Missions Hong Kong and Macau.



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- Other special guests included over 50 retired and long-service teachers from both SMCC and SMCS, past donors Mr David Mong and Mr Joseph Lee, school supervisors and managers of SMCC and SMCS, representatives of the Parent-Teacher Associations of SMCC and SMCS, representatives of Sacred Heart Canossian College Alumni Association and St. Francis Canossian College Past Students' Association, and one of our most senior alumnae Mrs Nydia Osmund Peirera ('35) and her sister Dr Irene Osmund Ruis ('45).
- An Open Campus session was organized before the Anniversary Dinner from 2:30-5:00 pm at St. Mary's. Alumnae came back to revisit their Alma Mater. A book presentation ceremony was held on the same day during which books were presented to the library from alumnae of the Class of 1960.

(6) Souvenirs and Premiums

- During the Report period, we produced the following six souvenirs/premiums:
 - Bag Hanger
 - Canvas Tote Bag
 - Document Bags Set
 - Luggage Belt & Tag Set
 - School Uniform Figurines Set
 - USB Ballpen
- The bag hangers were distributed as complimentary 110th anniversary souvenir to participants at the 110th Anniversary Dinner, staff and teachers of SMCC and SMCS, and sisters at the Canossian Convent.
- Sales of the other items were being made during the St. Mary's 110th Anniversary Dinner on 13 November 2010, the Form Two Parents' Evening on 19 November, the Form One's Parents' Evening on 26 November, and on the SMCC Parents' Day on 20 February 2011. Order forms were also printed on the March 2011 issue of Newsletter and placed on the PSA website for access.
- By 24 March 2011, we have sold 760 canvas tote bags, 447 document bags sets, 471 luggage belt & tag sets, 367 school uniform figurines sets and 496 USB ballpens.



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- In other words, 240 canvas tote bags, 553 document bags sets, 529 luggage belt & tag sets and 633 school uniform figurines sets and 4 USB ballpens remained in stock.
- As for the batch of souvenirs produced in 2005, 71 photo albums and 95 Main Building miniatures still remained in stock as of 24 March 2011.
- The net profit from the sale of these souvenirs goes to the St. Mary's Development Fund.

(7) Celebrating 150th Anniversary of Canossian Missions in Hong Kong

- Ms Justina Law, Ms Annie Choi, Ms Susanna Chung and Ms Angela Liu attended the Thanksgiving Mass held on 11 May 2010 at the Catholic Cathedral on Caine Road to celebrate the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the Canossian Missions in Hong Kong.

(8) Donations to the Canossian Missions

- To show our gratitude to the Canossian Sisters who had nurtured us throughout the years, a donation drive was held during the St. Mary's 110th Anniversary Dinner to support the work of the Canossian Missions, including the caretaking of elderly sisters. HK\$100,000 was raised and the cheque was presented to Sr Cynthia Chan, Provincial Superior, on 28 November 2010.
- Further donation drives will be planned in the coming year as need arises.

(9) Donations to SMCC

- For the 2009/10 academic year, the SMPSA Scholarship of HK\$1,000 for Outstanding Performance and Active Promotion in Drama and Speech was awarded to Basy Chow Yan Tung (Form 3A).
- A sponsorship of HK\$1,000 worth of book coupons was made to the Magdalene of Canossa Club as support to their Christmas celebration in December 2010.



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(10) Monitoring the St. Mary's Development Fund

- Three members of the Executive Committee continued to sit on the St. Mary's Development Fund Management Committee – Ms Annie Choi and Ms Susanna Chung in the capacity as former Fundraising Committee members, and Dr. Monica Wong as representative of the PSA Executive Committee.
- During the Report period, no application was being processed.

(11) Participating in School Policy Advisory Committees

- We worked closely with SMCC and SMCS, as well as the two Parent-Teacher Associations, on school policy, planning and development issues.
- One member of the Executive Committee, Ms Justina Law, continued to sit on the SMCS School Policy Advisory Committee for the 2008-10 term to help steer policies facilitating through-train implementation. Four committee meetings were held during the Report period.
- For the 2010-12 term, Ms Annie Choi was elected by the Exco to represent past students in the SMCS School Policy Advisory Committee.
- Ms Annie Choi also continued to be a School Manager of SMCC (representing the PSA). During the Report period, three School Management Committee meetings had been held, during which major policy decisions regarding management of the School were made.

(12) Clarifying the meaning of our School Emblem

- It came to the attention of the Exco that there had been different versions of interpretation given to the Crown in the school emblem.
- During the Report period, we underwent an investigation and sought confirmation from many parties. After enquiring with the Canossian Headquarters in Rome, it was concluded that the Crown on our school emblem should refer to the Virgin Mary as her crown of glory received from Jesus at His resurrection. The information had been uploaded to the PSA website and both SMCC and SMCS had been informed.



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(13) Supporting other SMCC School Functions

- The St. Mary's 110th Anniversary School Concert was held on 28 June 2010 at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall. The SMPSA placed a HK\$2,000 one-page ad in the concert brochure as sponsorship. We also helped to spread the news about the concert through the PSA website. Tickets were sold out two days after the event was open for ticket sales.
- We continued to promote the school's Drama production through our Newsletter. The 110th Anniversary production "A Midsummer Night's Dream" completed successfully in April 2010. The production for 2011, "PanDora", is currently being promoted and will be performed from 11-16 April 2011. Ticketing information is printed on the Newsletter for orders from alumnae.
- Ms Justina Law attended the SMCS Graduation Day on 3 July 2010 and the SMCC Speech Day on 13 July 2010 in the capacity of Chairman of the SMPSA. Ms Annie Choi also attended the SMCC Speech Day as the School Manager representing past students.

(14) Supporting the Canossian Global Youth Conference 2011

- The Canossian Global Youth Conference, a biennial event, will be held from 16-22 July 2011 in Hong Kong, with SMCC and SHCC being the host.
- The PSA helped to appeal to past students for donations to cover the event's expenses through the Newsletter.

(15) Other Liaison Work

- We maintained informal contact with alumnae groups, such as the Alumnae Choir, the Alumnae Orchestra and the Alumnae Chinese Orchestra.
- We maintained close liaison with the St. Francis Canossian College Past Students' Association (SFCCPSA) and the Sacred Heart Canossian College Alumni Association (SHCCAA). Ms Justina Law and Ms Angela Liu attended the annual dinner of SFCCPSA on 23 October 2010, while Ms



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Justina Law and Ms Annie Choi attended that of SHCCAA on 19 November 2010. On both occasions HK\$1,000 worth of book coupons were presented as gifts to the organiser.

- Overseas, we maintained contact with the SMCC Past Students' Association (Toronto) and the Canossian Colleges Association in Vancouver.
- During the Report period, informal contact was also maintained with the La Salle College Old Boys' Association (LSCOBA). Six Exco members attended a tea gathering organised by the LSCOBA on 16 April 2010 at Club Lusitano in Central.
- However, with regard to LSCOBA's request to formally promulgating invitations to their activities on the SMPSA website, the Exco considered it more appropriate to maintain an informal network with LSCOBA and that such messages be casually spread through unofficial channels as under current practice.

V. Focus of Work in the Coming Year

In the coming year, we will continue our work on various fronts.

As an alumnae body, our focus is naturally past St Marians. We will continue to reconnect with St. Marians through direct contacts, visits, the PSA website, newsletters and social activities.

Another focus is our Alma Mater. We will continue to work closely with the school management and Parent-Teacher Associations of SMCC and SMCS on all matters that will benefit the schools, the teachers and the students.