



Chairman's Report for the year 2009-2010

I. Duration

This Chairman's Report covers the period from 7 March 2009 to 19 March 2010.

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 six 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 19 March 2010, the membership of the PSA stood at 5,344. Compared with the membership of 5,091 in March 2009, there was an increase of 253 members (5%).
- Of the 253 new members, 233 are F.5 graduates from SMCC. The other 20 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 4,057 members (76%).
- The Chairman, Ms Justina Law, introduced the PSA and its activities to F.5 graduates on 10 July 2009.

(2) Publication of Newsletters

- We published two 8-page newsletters during the Report period – one in October 2009 and another in March 2010.
- 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 mailed 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 2008/09 Mentorship Programme was successfully completed in the summer of 2009. A new operating mode was attempted with mentors and mentees interacting in groups based on eight different sectors. Results were positive and feedback was gauged for programme improvement.
- Evolving from such learning, the 2009/10 programme cycle had begun. This time, small groups were formed with 2-3 mentors taking care of 4-5 mentees, allowing more indepth interaction, while focusing more on personal growth than career concerns.
- 40 mentors were recruited this year, against 95 F.6 mentees. Mentees were grouped in accordance with their indication of interests in a specific sector/industry. The seven sectors/industry groups formed this year are:
 1. Art, Culture & Media
 2. Finance, Banking & Insurance
 3. Legal
 4. Management & Administration
 5. Sales & Marketing
 6. Medical, Health & Nursing
 7. Education, Government & NGO
- The first mentor-mentee gathering took place on 16 January 2010 (Sat) during which 28 mentors turned up to mingle with each other, meet with their mentees, and arranged further meeting times.
- The School has also set aside the afternoon of 26 March 2010 (Fri) to hold Careers Development Seminars for F6 students. Interview Workshops are also planned for end of April, subject to availability of mentors.

(5) Organizing Alumnae Day Activities

- For the 2009 Alumnae Day, the PSA organized a seafood lunch at Lau Fau Shan and a half day tour to the Hong Kong Wetland Park on 13 December



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2009. Forty-five past students, friends, family, retired and current teachers joined and shared a memorable day.

- Ticket price was HK\$150 per head, including transportation, lunch and admission to the Wetland Park. A surplus of about HK\$1,400 was recorded.

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

- The Executive Committee and both the principals of SMCS and SMCC had agreed the date for the Anniversary Dinner to be 13 November 2010 (Sat), and the venue to be Laguna Palace Restaurant at the Fisherman's Wharf in Hunghom. Ticket price was also agreed to be HK\$400 per head.
- The 110th Anniversary Dinner Organizing Committee will be spearheaded by Co-Chairmen Ms Justina Law and Ms Susanna Chung, with committee members being finalized at the moment.
- Past students were informed via the March issue of newsletter and the PSA website. Bookings are already in progress.

(7) Sale of Mementos

- We continued to sell the two limited edition souvenirs – the miniature of the Main Building and the photo album of the school.
- Sales were being made during the St. Mary's Open Day on 6-7 February 2010 and during alumnae visits.
- In January 2009, 1,100 pieces of miniature were purchased by an anonymous past St. Marian who donated those pieces as souvenirs for 500 SMCS students from P.1 to P.4 and 600 SMCC students of F.1, F.5 and F.7. Then in August 2009, she purchased 120 pieces of the miniature for new P.1 students.
- As at 19 March 2010, 72 albums and 96 pieces of miniature remained in stock.
- The net profit from the sale of the souvenirs goes to the St. Mary's Development Fund.



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(8) Donations to SMCC

- For the 2008/09 academic year, the SMPSA Scholarship of HK\$1,000 for Outstanding Performance and Active Promotion in Drama and Speech was awarded to Mak Shuk Ying Mary (F.4D).
- A sponsorship of HK\$1,000 worth book coupons was made to the Magdalen of Canossa Club as a support to their Christmas celebration in December 2009.

(9) Assisting the Setup of the Heritage Alley to Supplement the School History Archive

- To celebrate her 110th anniversary, the School revamped the long corridor outside the Main Building into a 'Heritage Alley'. The project was completed in time and became a sentimental attraction during the Open Day in February.
- One member of the Executive Committee, Ms. Annie Choi, assisted the project by sitting in preparation meetings during the year.

(10) Assisting the Setup of the St. Mary's Annual Drama Production

- One member of the Executive Committee, Ms Annie Choi, and another alumna, Ms Temmy Chan (92), assisted the School in making arrangements for three annual drama productions and related workshops held by Mr Geoff Oliver, who had earlier retired and returned to England.
- The first two drama productions arising from this arrangement, "The Disenchanted Fairy" and "The Other Side", were completed in April 2008 and April 2009 respectively. Both were original plays written and directed by Mr. Oliver, with music composed by students.
- The third drama production under this arrangement, "A Midsummer Night's Dream", adapted and directed by Mr. Oliver, will be performed during the Drama Week in April 2010.



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(11) Assisting the Set Up of the St. Magdalen of Canossa Statue on SMCS Campus

- In September 2009, the PSA was approached by Ms Maria Cheung, Principal of SMCS, for assistance in appealing for donations for the establishment of a statue of our Foundress, St. Magdalen of Canossa, on campus. This is a monument to express our gratitude to the respected Sisters who pioneered the Canossian missions in Hong Kong.
- The donation appeal was published in the October 2009 and March 2010 issues of our Newsletter, and had successfully helped to raise the targeted HK\$380,000 needed for the construction from past St. Marians. Any surplus will be put into a fund that will finance the future maintenance of the statue.
- One member of the Executive Committee, Ms Angela Liu, assisted the School to supervise the statue's production in Shenzhen.
- The statue has been delivered to the School in January 2010 and is now temporarily placed under the two araucarias on campus, and was blessed by the Most Reverend John Tong, Bishop of Hong Kong, during the Open Day on 6 February 2010. We await the construction of the plinth in the meantime, and the whole project is expected to finish by May 2010.

(12) Participating in the St. Mary's 110th Anniversary Open Day Activities

- Members of the Executive Committee joined the Thanksgiving Mass and Opening Ceremony on the morning of 6 February 2010.
- On the playground, one member of the Executive Committee, Ms Angela Liu, together with past students Ms Cindy Tsui (94), Ms Fion Chan (94), Ms Juanita Cheung (96) and Ms. Ann Chiu (96), manned the PSA stall which offered games and souvenir sales, and attracted over 300 enthusiastic visitors in total.

(13) Supporting the School Magazine Editorial Board

- During an interview on 14 November 2009, seven members of the Executive Committee, Ms Justina Law, Ms Annie Choi, Dr Monica Wong, Ms Susanna



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Chung, Ms Irene Young, Ms Angela Liu and Ms Juliana Wong, shared their fond memories of the old school days with the editors of the School Magazine.

(14) 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, an application for HK\$44,000 to subsidize the refurbishment of male staff toilets in SMCC was approved, and the refurbishment work was completed in December 2009.

(15) 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 SMCS School Policy Advisory Committee. Four committee meetings were held during the Report period.
- Another member of the Executive Committee, Ms Annie Choi, was appointed 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.

(16) Supporting the Canossian Global Youth Conference 2009

- The Canossian Global Youth Conference, a biennial event, was successfully held from 16-22 July 2009 in Hong Kong, with SMCC being the host.
- Through the Newsletter, the PSA helped to appeal to past students for donations to cover the event's expenses.
- The PSA also donated HK\$20,000 to the Organizing Committee in support of the event.



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(17) Participating in the SMCC-SMCS-HACS Through-Train Steering Committee

- SMCC will form through-train arrangements with SMCS and Holy Angels Canossian School (HACS). By 2011, all P.6 students of SMCS and HACS will be admitted to SMCC.
- To ensure that the girls at both SMCS and HACS will be fully prepared for secondary school education at SMCC, a Steering Committee, comprising the management of all three schools, parent and alumnae representatives, has been formed.
- In July 2009, the principals of SMCC and SMCS both considered that since the current attention of the Steering Committee was more on the curriculum side, it did not necessarily call for input from past students. As such, it was agreed that past student representatives would be withdrawn for the time being. The Committee could continue to tap on their experience as SMCS or HACS graduates through conducting separate sharing sessions when needed.

(18) Other Liaison Work

- We maintained informal contact with alumnae groups, including the Loveweavers, the Alumnae Orchestra and the Alumnae Chinese Orchestra.
- We maintained close liaison with the St. Francis Canossian College Past Students' Association and the Sacred Heart Canossian College Alumni Association. However we were unable to attend their annual dinners this year, and we delivered HK\$1,000 worth of book coupons each in response to their invitation.
- Overseas, we also maintained contact with the SMCC Past Students' Association (Toronto) and the Canossian Colleges Association in Vancouver.



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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.