



尤德學者協會

# A New Chapter

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Annual Report 2010  
Office of the Chairman, Executive Board

31<sup>st</sup> December, 2010



*Executive Board 2010*

## From EGM to AGM 2010 - An Exciting Year of Change

**My Fellow Members,**

### INTRODUCTION

**1.** Year 2010 is an important year to the Association. We have changed from an organisation registered under the Societies Ordinance to a limited company incorporated by guarantee under the Companies Ordinance. Our Association Session has been changed to synchronise with the calendar year. We have a new governing body - known as the Executive Board; as well as a new membership structure. We have introduced a representative from the Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fund Council (Fund Council) as an ex-officio member of the Executive Board. We have established the Standing Committee to involve Associate Members in the day-to-day operations of the Association. Last month, we established the Social Service Team directly administered under the Development Committee.

**2.** Some may believe these changes are not relevant to the mission of the Association. Yet, I believe such changes laid an important foundation for further development of the Association. I will further address each of these changes in detail as well as other activities organised by the Association during this Association Session.

### LIMITED COMPANY

**3.** The Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) held on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2009 granted the Executive Board power to incorporate SEYSA as a limited company by guarantee. Thus, Sir Edward Youde Scholars Association Limited was incorporated on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2010 with a Memorandum of Association based on the constitution of the Association revised in the last Annual General Meeting (AGM).

**4.** Incorporation of the Association has symbolised the modernisation of its management. The Association has now adopted a company-like structure. With limited liability, the Association is free to organise activities with wider diversity.

**5.** Incorporation of the Association also provided us with the path to register ourselves as a charitable organisation. Further studies are necessary before we commit to pursuit such course yet incorporation of the association provided us a choice to make such decisions.

### ASSOCIATION SESSION

**6.** Traditionally the AGM of the Association was held in July/August. The actual timing of the AGM was shifted later over the years and the last AGM was held only in October. AGM is a very special venue to report what had happened over the past Association Session and to have the AGM being held in the middle of the year does not necessarily attract a high attendance. After much consideration, we decided to have the EGM about incorporation held last December to test water the idea of having the AGM organised with a festival dinner. Even it was an EGM, it has attracted one of the highest attendance in comparison to past AGMs. The Executive Board has, therefore, resolved to change the Association Session to starting from January to December in synchronisation with the calendar year.

**7.** The financial year of the Association would be from July to June. Such arrangement would enable us to present our audited financial report at the AGM.

## THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

**8.** We passed the constitutional reform in the last AGM. According to the revised constitution, a new governing body is born - known as the Executive Board. As the Memorandum of Association is based on the revised constitution, the structure and function of the Executive Board was also preserved and was written in the Memorandum of Association.

**9.** To further strengthen our connection with the Fund Council, starting from June, a representative of the Fund Council is seated in the Executive Board as an ex-officio member. Set aside the close working relationship between the Association and the Fund Council, we are two separate bodies. The communication between the Association and the Fund Council is vital to the development of both organisations and we believe both parties can be benefited from such arrangement.

## MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE

**10.** The constitutional reform from the last AGM also instituted three new membership classes, namely Associate Member, Fellow, Honorary Member, and the position of the Patron of the Association.

**11.** Being the beneficiaries of the Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fund (SEYFM), we have long felt that the Prize and Medal awardees have been left out from the Association. Ironically, this category consists of the largest number of awardees. The establishment of the Association Member class takes in this category of awardees. Instantly, the number of our potential membership base rose from around 2,000 to over 15,000.

**12.** We realised some very successful public figures would like to support the Association by joining us as a member. The establishment of the Honorary Member system provides a path for such public figures to be a member of the Association, and at the same time, provides the Association with the much-needed financial support.

**13.** In order to recognise the contribution of some long serving members of the Association, an advancement grade of member class, known as the Fellow, was established. To ensure the prestigious nature of the Fellow member class, stringent vetting process from nomination to confirmation has been set up during the constitutional reform. Such process has, too, been written into the Memorandum of Association.

**14.** Remembering to pay the membership due every year can be troublesome. Associate Members, Full Members and Fellows can now choose to be a Life Member of the Association by paying a lump-sum of money. A supplementary payment is required when a Life Member advance from one membership class to another.

“Be the change you want to see in the world.”

- Mahatma Gandhi

**15.** Although more are eligible to become members of the Association, the base of voting members remains unchanged. Only Full Members and Fellows are considered as Voting Members of the Association.

## PATRON

**16.** It is always our honour to have Lady Youde as our Honorary Patron. And it is also heart-warming that Lady Youde is coming to Hong Kong every year for the Presentation Ceremony and our Award Gala Dinner. However, we felt the need to have a patron, which can spend most of his time in Hong Kong to give us different support and guidance. A position of Patron has been instituted in the constitutional reform and a search committee has been commissioned to look for suitable candidates to fill the position. The Executive Board unanimously appointed Mr Sanford Yung as the first Patron of the Association. Despite time and efforts contributed to the Association, Mr Yung also donates a subvention to the Association on an annual basis.

## STANDING COMMITTEE

**17.** Based on the revised constitution, only Voting Member can run for the offices of the Executive Board. Yet we believe involving Associate Members in daily operations of the Association is important. Furthermore, we do not want to lose any talents from the Associate Member class. After thorough discussion, the Executive Board resolved to institute a standing committee known as the Standing Committee of the Executive Board (Standing Committee). I, being the Chairman of the Executive Board, am the ex-officio head of the committee. Currently, two Associate Members have been appointed as members of the Standing Committee.

## SOCIAL SERVICE TEAM

**18.** One of the core values of the Association is Social Awareness. Members of the Association have shown their passions in social services over the years. Yet, we did not have a standing body to organise and liaise social services. I have commissioned my Development Officer to form the Social Service Team. I am happy to report that now the Social Service Team consists of over 20 members. They have already planned social services to be organised next year. I am sure the incoming Executive Board will incorporate their activities into their Year Plan.

## ACTIVITIES

**19.** We have organised more than twenty activities in this Association Session. I am going to go through highlights of these activities in the followings.

### CYBERRUN 2009 & 2010

**20.** The Association is a supporting organisation and holds a seat in the Organising Committee in CyberRun since 2009. CyberRun is an annual fund raising event co-organised by the Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation and the Cyberport Tenant Club. Apart from participation in the committee, our members participated in the event both in 2009 and 2010. In 2009, the Association raised \$10,000 matching fund from ESRI, whose CEO Winnie Tang is also a Youder, to sponsor over 30 members from the Hong Kong Blind Union to participate in the walkathon of the CyberRun. Apart from the money raised, our members also acted as the guide for the blinds. We believed such meaningful event could definitely raise the awareness for the blinds in Hong Kong.

### CHRISTMAS DINNER & EGM

**21.** The Association has a tradition of organising smaller scale Christmas party in past years. To pave way for the synchronisation of the Association Session with the calendar year, we organised a much larger scale Christmas Dinner in 2009. We had the EGM held before the dinner for the purpose of incorporation. Such arrangement became the template of the coming AGMs, to be organised before a big year-end event, may it be the Christmas Dinner or, like this year, the New Year Eve Dinner. We had a total of over 80 attendees shared the wonderful evening last year.

**22.** Apart from a wonderful evening, participants of the Christmas Dinner were advised to bring a gift for some South Asian ethnic minority children. We had collected over 60 gifts that evening. Members of the Executive Board joined a party with these South Asian children organised by the Hong Kong Christian Service to distribute the gifts in person.

### PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BLIND UNION

**23.** Extended from the great working relationship between the Association and the Hong Kong Blind Union, we were invited to send volunteers to help in the Adventure-ship Day and their Flag Day organised by the Union.

### SPRING FEAST FUN DAY

**24.** We value solidarity among fellow awardees very much. We also understand our members need different social activities ranging from formal events like the Award Gala Dinner to a casual hiking and barbecue like the Spring Feast Fun Day. Our members enjoyed a fun day hiking from Quarry Bay to Parkview, and had a barbecue there.





## BE MY GUEST SERIES

**25.** The “Be My Guest” series provides opportunities for our members to have straight talks with some prominent figures of the society. The series was kicked off by the “Meet the Patron” event at the beginning of the year where 20 members spent an evening dining with our patron.

**26.** We are privileged to have Mr Yung as our patron and many more members would like to interact with him. Thus, we have arranged yet another “Meet the Patron” event last September. The Board has decided to host the “Meet the Patron” event regularly, and is considering separating the event from the “Be My Guest” series.

## DIALOGUE-IN-THE-DARK

**27.** As part of our social awareness initiatives, we organised the visit to the Dialogue-in-the-Dark Hong Kong in February to let our members experience first hand the challenges faced by visually impaired person.

## VISITING THE SCIENCE PARK & ASTRI

**28.** This year is the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute (ASTRI). Apart from organising a party to participate in their anniversary celebration in April, we also took the chance to visit the Science Park.

## SALSA NIGHT

**29.** We organised our first Salsa Night in 2009. This year, we organised yet another Salsa Night in April and let our members “stretch their legs”.

## HKCCF EXPO 2010

**30.** We enjoy very close working relationship with the Chamber of Hong Kong Computer Industry. Every year, we are invited to support the Hong Kong Computer and Communication Festival (HKCCF). Apart from officiating different programmes in HKCCF, our members had been appointed as judges in various competitions in the festival.

## HSBC HQ VISIT WITH PETER WONG

**31.** In September, the CEO of HSBC, Mr Peter Wong, hosted our members to visit HSBC HQ with a personal sharing session. We also used the opportunity to outreach to other youth organisations. We invited over 30 youths from the Leos Club and the Hong Kong Red Cross to learn from Mr Wong’s experiences together.



*Award Gala Dinner 2010*

## SIGNATURE EVENTS

**32.** Every year, our Association host two signature events. They are the Award Gala Dinner and the Youth Programme.

### AWARD GALA DINNER 2010

**33.** For the second year in a row we had our Award Gala Dinner held at the magnificent Zetland Hall the evening before the Presentation Ceremony. Awardees, past and present, together with their friends and family all dressed up for the only formal event of the year.



**34.** We have the honour to have our Honorary Patron Lady Youde travelling all the way from the United Kingdom to attend our Award Gala Dinner every year. We specially need to thank Belilious Public School String Orchestra to provide live music and other performance items during the dinner.

**35.** We very much believe in the importance to have at least one formal event every year, as there are fewer such occasions in Hong Kong, especially for our younger members. Having a formal event gives our younger members early opportunities to experience some more exclusive occasions.



**36.** More importantly, we would like to have the highest standard of reception for our newly made Youders. We are not elitists, but definitely elites. Our newly made Youders deserve nothing less but the highest recognition from their fellow Youders.

**37.** We understood from the Fund Council that the next Presentation Ceremony will be held on a Saturday morning. Thus, we are considering having a luncheon instead of a dinner the day after the ceremony. Having said that, we are not brushing away the importance of a formal event mentioned above. I am sure the incoming Executive Board will consider the possibility of having another formal evening if the Award Gala Dinner is to be changed to a luncheon.





*Youth Programme 2010 Closing Ceremony*

## YOUTH PROGRAMME 2010

**38.** The Association is organising the Youth Programme since the summer of 2009. I have already mentioned that social awareness is one of our core values. We feel obliged to serve the underprivileged groups in Hong Kong. Yet, no matter how much we do, we can only serve a certain amount of people. While many are focusing on how to serve the underprivileged, we observed there is a need to build up those with potential. We believed in

the idea of multiplication. By training up potential youths, in turn, they can serve much more underprivileged groups on their own. Even better, the trained up youths can help train up more youths.



**39.** Building on the success of Youth Programme 2009, we expanded this year's Youth Programme by 50%, serving more than 60 Associate Members over last summer. These Associate Members were divided into four groups. They are required to liaise with four NGOs, to

design, organise and to execute a social service event for each of the NGO. These youths are supported by a mentorship programme, as well as three full-day events featuring trainings, a forum and seminars. Our guest

speakers include our Patron, Mr Sanford Yung, Mrs Cam Highfield, Mr Kee Chi-hing, Mr Anthony Wu, Mr Chan Siu-cheuk, Mr Cho Yan-chiu, Mr Shih Wing-ching, Prof George Woo, Mr Patrick Bostrom, Mr Hou Yu-xin, Mr Nelson Yip, as well as myself.



**40.** Over ten students are returning from Youth Programme 2009 to help train up the new cadre, catalysing the multiplication effects of the Youth Programme. We are expecting to expand the coming Youth Programme and continue to see the realisation of the multiplication effect.



## MEMBER IDENTITY

**41.** I am sure members of the Association are proud to be part of the prestigious family. To strengthen our members' belongings and self-identity, we have produced gold lapel pins and silver lapel pins for our members. Gold for Full Members or above, silver for Associate Members. These pins are not for sale but are given to our members on their first registration with us. We have also produced other collectibles for our members to purchase. These include our signature purple polo t-shirt, our embroidered logo badge, and our embroidered scarf.

## IT MODERNISATION

**42.** Information Technology plays an important part in a modern organisation. We have had our website revamped earlier this year. All activities can now be enrolled and paid online. Members can check out official pictures after events. Collectibles can now be purchased via our online store.

**43.** Yet we are not stopping here. We have commissioned a group of IVE students to upgrade our Management Information System (MIS). Very soon, our members would have their own login to perform all sorts of association-related tasks. We are also designing our new SEYSA iPhone App which would enable our members to check out news and to enrol different events using their iPhone or iPad.

## FINANCIAL SITUATION

**44.** The financial position of the Association remains strong and healthy. Details of our financial position could be found in the Financial Report to be delivered by the Treasurer.

## CONCLUSION

**45.** Year 2010 is a productive year for our Association. With all the changes we made, this is also a year signifying a new era for SEYSA. We look forward to further enhancing the visibility of the Association and to further expanding our membership base. May I and my fellow Executive Board members express our most sincere thanks for your continuous support in the past year and may I take this opportunity to wish SEYSA another fruitful year to come.

Thank you very much.



Michael Chan  
Chairman, Executive Board  
*Youder since 1993*



Presented at the Annual General Meeting  
on the 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2010

# Annual Report 2010 A New Chapter

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