



THE BEARER

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The Hong Kong Outstanding Students' Association
Newsletter Vol. 1



A 19th Executive Committee Production

HKOSA 05-06

19th Executive Committee



The Spanish word "osa" means "bear". It is no coincidence, therefore, that the name of our newsletter is "The Bearer". First and foremost, "The Bearer" is often used to say "The Bearer of News", referring to someone who informs someone else about something. Our newsletter aims to inform all



OSArS about our 19th Executive Committee and is thus, the bearer of our news. When we refer to a member who belongs to a particular group, it is customary to add the suffix "er". For instance, we normally refer to our members as the OSArS. Thus "The Bearer" effectively implies "to all OSArS", as we hope that our newsletter will cater to all OSArS from 1st to 20th OSArS. We are not, of course, saying that our members are bears (for that would most definitely be untrue!), but that we are all bearers of the OSA traditions, for we all bear, in us, the identity of being an OSAr and we all bear the same love towards our prestigious association!

This newsletter begins with the section-"Borne". The verb *bear* (past participle *borne*) is taken here in another sense as in 'to be born' or 'to be given birth to'. As the name suggests, in this section, you will read about the 19th Executive Committee and each members' own story on how becoming a member of the OSA ExCo has given birth to their new personalities.

Next comes the section -"Bearings". Bearings mean directions and, hence, once again as the name suggests, this section will essentially detail our 2005-2006 year plan, including past activities and future plans. Here, you will be able to know about our exciting news, reports on external and internal activities, social services as well as the upcoming activities! Bear witness to our successes in the first half of the year. See how we bear down all resistance to strive to uphold the prestige of our Association. Please also bear us out in the coming activities!

Finally, the ultimate section, "Unbearables" contains a lot of funny pictures for you to enjoy. In addition, check out our Christmas Dance souvenirs and join us in becoming ring-bearers (in the literal sense) as you try out the newest fashionable OSA Christmas Dance ring! Last but not least, bear in mind to check our website regularly for any news update and to contact us if you have any queries, questions or comments whatsoever. The 19th Executive Committee wishes you a very Happy New Year of the Dog!

~ The OSA 19th ExCo

The Executive Committee



Title	Name	School	OSAr No.
1. President	CHAN, Karl	Diocesan Boys' School	2004
2. Vice-President	NG, Vienna	Maryknoll Convent School	1924
3. Internal Secretary	CHIANG, Fifian	St. Mary's Canossian College	2010
4. External Secretary	KAM, Bryce	German Swiss International School	2014
5. Financial Secretary	KAM, Bryan	German Swiss International School	2015
6. Public Relations Officer	CHAU, Kathy	LPC United World College of HK	2006
7. Social Services Officer	CHAN, Michele	Diocesan Girls' School	2003
8. Internal Relations Officer	LI, Eric	Diocesan Boys' School	1918
9. Administrative Officer	LI, Annie	Maryknoll Convent School	2025

BOYNE

Words from the President



Hello everyone! I am Karl Chan (2004), a F.6 Arts Student who is currently studying at Diocesan Boys' School. I am undoubtedly most honoured to serve as the President of OSA for the 19th Executive Committee.

"When there is a will, there is a way."

Looking back, I first heard about the HKOSA when I was in Form 4. Being told that the HKOSA was one of the most prestigious student organizations in Hong Kong, I resolved to participate in the Hong Kong Youth Summit 2004, during which I was, indeed, impressed by the ardency and willpower of OSAs to accomplish difficult tasks and to strive for the best of the best. When I was admiringly listening to the speech given by the President of the 17th Executive Committee, William Chan (1601), I did dream of being the OSA President after 2 years. Of course, I regarded it a pipe dream and never thought that I would really be the one.

In the following year, I was surprisingly given the opportunity to go for the Election of the Hong Kong Outstanding Students Award and was luckily selected as a recipient of the award. I was, therefore, enrolled into the family of HKOSA. Frankly, when I first met the OSAs, I found them very strange and peculiar and did not derive a good impression about them. Nonetheless, through organizing social services and the Interflow Camp with my fellow OSAs, not only have I proved that my initial skepticism was definitely wrong, I have also made a lot of life-long friends. Moreover, I have, in many ways, become a typical OSAr and have also developed a strong bond to the Association – Gradually, OSA became a necessity of my daily life. In the last Annual General Meeting, I was elected as the President of the session of 2005-2006. This marked the end of the quondam immature Karl and indicated the start of a hard but definitely meaningful life.

"It is hard work which pays dividends"

OSA is certainly extraordinary. There are no other student unions or joint school associations which are able to accomplish such amazing and

impressive missions within the constraints of being a student in Hong Kong. As OSARs and members of the 19th Executive Committee, we have always strived for perfection and professionalism, especially in light of the fact that the previous ExCos have performed so excellently. Being the President of the current session, it is my responsibility to continue our fine traditions and it is through unwavering devotion that I hope to achieve this. Patiently, even sacrificing other ECAs, sleeping hours and even university applications if necessary, I have worked for and on behalf of OSA. A friend once asked me whether all this was worthwhile. My answer: I am certain that the gratification attained will outweigh everything I have sacrificed.

During the week following the AGM, I remained in a state of shock and was not fully prepared for my new status and responsibility. Having received all the assets and past documents, contacting external parties and writing e-mails were the first complications that arose. I was exceedingly frustrated to realize that even writing, checking and dealing with e-mails could be so complex. In particular, the period before the commencement of our first and novel project, International Convergence, was exceptionally difficult for me. Day and night, I toiled along with the PICs, worrying that somehow something would go awry. Regardless of the immense workload, my feelings were so sophisticated that I couldn't explain.

Very fortunately, I learnt that hard work does pay dividends. International Convergence, an unprecedented project which began initially as an idea about a hunger banquet, was launched in November. Every smile, every 'thank you OSA', every xanga entry of participants, every verbal compliment, every encouragement given by advisors and every moment spending with my dearest ExCos and OCs was the power which brought me from the trough I had fallen in into a peak. I couldn't believe that it was a 19th ExCo Production, and I started to realize the magical sensation which had been described by the 18th ExCo. Perhaps such a wonderful sensation could only be felt by this OSA Family.



After International Convergence came the Christmas Dance. In spite of the project being new and the constraints we faced, our determination enabled us to overcome any challenges we faced. I was also extremely touched and impressed to see how much the ExCo members had devoted to the event. This was supercalifragilisticexpialidocious and had once again proven 'union is strength'. If International Convergence was a peak, Christmas Dance would be the sky. Although I am not sure whether the forthcoming Volunteer Training Scheme or Youth Summit will become the atmosphere or even the space, I firmly believe that determination breaks all boundaries. There is absolutely no limit for OSARs!

“Union is strength.”

There are two main types of leadership styles, namely autocratic (task-oriented) and democratic (subordinate-oriented). Over these past months, I have strived to maintain a balance between these two leadership styles. In order to uphold the prestige of OSA, being autocratic is at times, inevitable. On the other hand, the morale of my ExCo is also significant when considering long-term success of the association. Having been reminded by the one of our advisors, Dixon Tse (1930), I understand the importance of keeping a balance and have, therefore, tried my very best to develop the ability to influence my ExCo to perform certain tasks appropriately.



Internally, to lead 8 students is not an easy job – To lead 8 outstanding students who have different personalities is even more difficult and challenging. Some of them are persistent, some illogical at times and some even too self-conscious at times... Thus, is it not rather ironic to see that the 9 of us are grouped together? However, it is OSA that binds us together and enables us to work for

a common goal. No matter how different our personalities are, it is exactly this diversity which produces the magic of OSA – the uniqueness of this renowned family.

Other than the nine of us, no one would know about the “Irregular Email from President” which I invented – It is an email, full of information about our activities, current affairs and most importantly encouragements, sent to my beloved ExCo irregularly. So far, 16 ‘Irregular Emails’ have been sent within them are 7532 words in total. Some may regard them as a waste of time. However, they are all written words that encompass my affections for my ExCo.

In ending, I would like to dedicate a few words to my beloved ExCo members:

Vienna: You are the most professional human being I have ever encountered. Our philosophy and personalities are extremely similar, thereby enabling us to have cooperated so well and have had nearly no arguments at all! (You know, we always have the same idea.) Whenever I need help, you offer help. Whenever OSA is confronted by a problem, you (or your mother) can always solve the problem! Moreover, I observe that you have set OSA as a very high priority in your life. You are always willing to sacrifice your tests, examinations or other activities for OSA.

By the way, don't stress yourself too much, take everything easy! We once suggested that an "OSA P+VP Production House" should be inaugurated. Well, I do think it might be feasible! This Production House will specialize for video editing, graphic design and publications! Ha-ha, at least we have some money as our compensation! During the preparation period of the Christmas Dance, you always called me "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious president". Here I would like to tell everyone that you are also a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious vice-president as well! Having you as my partner is undoubtedly my fortune and pride.



Fifian: From the very first minutes to the most recent one, much improvement can be seen! You have always brought us so many laughs and so much fun. Although you have many school duties, you have always tried your best to attend our meetings and functions. Duty lists and minutes are usually punctual as well (Regardless of this, you should have proofread more carefully!). I still remember that one day you called me and cheerfully told me that a guest speaker had promised to come. It was a simple dialogue, yet it was memorable to me as you had obviously shown your enthusiasm and passion through your innocent laughs. Take good care of your eyes and be a good doctor in the distant future! (P.S. Don't always bully me!)

Bryce: Still remember we belonged to the same group during the OSA Camp? At that time, we called you "Evil Bryce" since you were 'evil'. Nowadays, I should call you "Good Bryce" since you have been an extremely responsible and diligent external secretary! Not only is sending friendly packs a demanding job, inviting consulates is even more challenging. You are always eager to improve sentence structures of our documents and provide us with a myriad of ideas. Although you look and are indeed young, you are more mature than other teenagers of the same age. I am also glad to witness that your Chinese has improved a lot since I first met you. However, as we have always told you, don't always bully Bryan!



Bryan: You are an excellent financial controller. Thank you for stopping me from overspending! Your documents are always well-organized – No "Times New Roman" can be found in your documents! Apart from this, you have contributed a lot to matters concerning sponsorships and donations. Here I would like to take this opportunity to say sorry to you

and Bryce since I always lose my temper whenever there is something wrong. Thank you for your tolerance and your frequent “We love you Pred”. I understand that you are not supposed to be a PIC of the Christmas Dance but you did volunteer to do so. You have been great; especially you put so much effort in the practice of the drama and dance performance. By the way, I do think that you are quite talented at drama.



Kathy: I first knew you when we participated in the Lions Club Service and the Adult Training. You gave me an impression that you are a smart and independent girl. Simultaneously, you are very rational, which is a quality that is required in OSA. Frankly, I have much trust in you and must listen to your explanations whenever you tell me that I have done something inappropriate. You are absolutely fabulous – Not only did you solely

construct the “Time Channel” for Christmas Dance, you contributed a lot to the success of International Convergence. More importantly, you always show support and love to other ExCo members. The strong bonding between the nine of us is somehow an effort made by you (You know what. I have always been missing your ‘tang yuan’ during our “Tuen Lin Farn” as well as the bowl of porridge when I was sick!). All in all, you are a gorgeous public relations officer!

Michele: You are called CMH, and I just realized that I can also be called CMH! Michele, you are the one whom I worry the most. I understand that you are extremely busy, but please spend some time on sleeping! I don’t want to see the tired and sick Michele all the time! Promise me not to impose too much pressure on yourself, okay? Anyway, you have been responsible as the social services officer. Notwithstanding the immense workload you have, you have tried your best to attend our meetings and have been working hard for the projects and social services. Moreover, your occasional ‘gags’, such as “OSA Cube”, are amusing and entertaining! However, please be reminded that you need energy in order to produce these ‘gags’. Hence, please do rest more!

Eric: You are the one whom I have known for the longest time. Surely, you are energetic, optimistic and pleasant. Your ideas are creative and wonderful all the time, yet you are able to realize them. During the preparation period of Christmas Dance, you really gave up your mid-year examinations and devoted yourself fully to the preparation work. Besides this, you support our events a lot even you are not a PIC of the function. For instance, you spent so much time accompanying the groups during the Culture Experience Week of the International Convergence. Your eagerness can evidently be observed. Despite the fact that you have done a really great job, may I once again remind you that internal coordination is very important. By and large, you possess a significant role in enhancing our internal relations. So far you have not disappointed me and have even given us so much surprise! A big thank you must be given to you in order to appreciate your devotion and enthusiasm to OSA.

Annie: Isn't this strange? We are extremely different in terms of personalities, philosophy, interests, points of views towards professionalism and appearance. Nearly nothing between us is similar. This, obviously, gave rise to our frequent arguments on trivial matters such as alignments on the homepage or selection of photos. Nevertheless, the distinct difference between us has never prevented us from developing our friendship. Just like Kathy, you always show support and love to other ExCo members. You attended all meetings, visits, rehearsals and events no matter you were involved or not. Such an attitude is impressive and I would like to thank you for doing so much for OSA. In spite of my often urgency to update the homepage, I actually understand that you have tried your best to update it whenever you are free to do so. Last but not least, enjoy your life as an OSA ExCo and a Maryknoller! (P.S. Don't drink too much Yakult...)

Every ExCo Member is my motion power to strive for perfection. Had there been fewer ExCo members, we would not have attained so many unbelievable achievements. What lies behind our sweat is joy and satisfaction. It would have been my everlasting regret if I had not been the on the OSA ExCo. I am also proud of my fellow ExCo and this prestigious association. Sweet memories have certainly been engraved in my spirit, and I am sure that more and more pleasant and pleasing memories and moments are bound to be created in the second half of our session.



Last but not least, my earnest gratitude must be expressed to our advisors and honorary advisors, who have been continually supporting and have given us valuable advice. Thanks must also be given to all participants who have trust in OSA and provide us with opportunities to serve you. United by our OSA Spirit, I firmly believe that we, the 19th ExCo, will be able to create another year of great success for the grand history of the Hong Kong Outstanding Students' Association.

CHAN Karl
President
19th Executive Committee

Introduction of the ExCo



NG, Vienna
Vice-President

Hello everyone! I am Vienna from Maryknoll Convent School. It is indeed my honour to serve as the Vice-President this year. Those who got to know me when I first joined the association may have a question in your mind, "How come this inactive girl became this year's Vice-President?" To be frank, when I joined the OSA family in form 4, I knew very little about it. To me, OSA was just an organization that grouped outstanding students together and was not much fun at all. For this reason, I did not join most of the activities and perhaps many people would probably not even be able to recall my presence at the time.

It was not until Form 5, when I was again brought back to this family with the 20th OSAs, that I realized my belief was totally wrong. I began to regret having wasted the opportunities offered by this association. I began to regret not treasuring the close bonds that I could see between OSAs. I began to regret so much that I grasped every chance to serve the OSA family after my CE exam. I joined every service in VES; I worked hard for I-camp; and I put endless effort in for the Annual Dinner. At first I joined the OSA activities, because I wanted to make up for lost time, however, as I got along with fellow OSAs, I found that OSA gave me some of the happiest moments in my summer vacation. OSA has given me great exposure, invaluable experiences and most importantly, sweet memories and priceless friendships. In this loving family, laughter, as well as tears, are shared. I remember vividly in my mind when I was panicking in the McDonald's near Tsim Sha Tsui the night before my CE results were released, it was OSAs who stood by my side and cheered me up. What I have gained and received in this year means more to me than anything I could have ever imagined. And it is this magic that gives me the great passion to contribute to my beloved family and to serve my dearest OSAs.



My story may be very different from other OSAs, and may sound unbelievable. Yet, I am not only trying to explain why I am here now, but more importantly, I would like you to understand that it's never shameful to be a once-inactive member. We are most grateful to welcome everyone back.

Of course, my OSA story does not end after the summer vacation. It became much more fruitful when I began working with the 19th Executive Committee.

Everything seems to be just minutes ago, starting from when we first brainstormed for our new project – International Convergence. Days in November may have seemed like normal for others, but for us, ExCos, and our OCs, having a new project to kick off our year was challenging and exerted great pressure upon us. Yet, seeing the PICs putting their heart in every tiny detail, seeing participants participating to their fullest, the kind of joy I felt was indescribable. Finally, InCon came to an inspiring end. Stepping out of the Closing Banquet, we all felt a bit different, physically drained from the hectic schedule and enriched by visits, dance and music lessons, cooking sessions, talks and presentations, but definitely more than ever bewitched by the OSA magic. Seeing participants cheering for their ambassadors, never have I felt the warmth created by OSA. Thanks Kathy, Bryce and Fifian for their hard work.

While good responses were received for InCon, being the PIC of the external function that followed was an even greater challenge for me. In addition, the OSA Dance was again, a new function to OSA. Having no experience in such a kind of event (not only had I never before organized a ball, I had not even participated in one), this function was challenging in every way possible. In preparing the Dance, I could never leave my mind at rest without thinking of “What else do we need to prepare?” Yet, we were so fortunate to have a group of very supportive and helpful OCs who dedicated their whole Christmas to OSA. We had dance rehearsals for four hours every two days in the two weeks before the dance, preparing for our 3-minute “Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious” performance. We even spent the Christmas Day painting the gigantic Nutcracker backdrop until past midnight. With neck and back strains, with rainwater ruining our painting, we continued, never even thinking of giving up. Special thanks must be given to Annie, Karl, Kathy, and two OCs, Clare and Joanna for their efforts on this. Without their assistance, the 16x20 feet backdrop would not have been finished in two days. Indeed, the sincerity of Excos and OCs had touched me so deeply that I must not miss any chance to thank them. Thank you for helping us in all sorts of tedious tasks like hanging decorations and cutting paper and cards! Thank you for providing us with decoration materials when our budget ran short! Thank you for building the



tunnel with limited resources and manpower! Thank you for staying behind to clear up the venue till the middle of the night! I just have to say a BIG THANK YOU!!! The OSA Dance, when we ate we were thinking about it, when we slept we were thinking about it, when we breathed we were thinking about it. Even after the Dance, our minds were still full of the Dance. Despite the tight working schedule, despite the black-outs that happened just

before the dance started, we managed to overcome just about every crisis. Seeing some OCs still indulged in the “Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious” dance a week after the OSA Dance, I cannot help but smile contentedly.

The first half of my Exco life has ended. Being an Exco is really more than a learning opportunity. In fact, many of my most valuable friendships were nurtured here. Thanks Mr. President for your care and consideration. Your irregular emails have indeed given us great encouragements. Thanks Exco for your tolerance and support. Thanks everyone for being good listeners, sharing my joys and cheering me up in times of sorrow. Last but not least, thanks to someone that we cannot miss, our advisors! Thanks for supporting our functions and giving us invaluable advices. You all have made us grow!

We have, and will continue to do our best in inspiring students today. As we step into the second half of the year, with our spirit ignited, I believe we are all prepared to best utilize every opportunity to contribute. Let us welcome our Volunteer Training Scheme, Youth Summit and Interflow Camp and continue to keep the glowing spirit of OSA ablaze!



CHIANG, Fifian
Internal Secretary

Hi everyone! I am Fifian Chiang (2010) from St. Mary’s Canossian College.

First of all, it is indeed my honour and pleasure to be given this opportunity to serve you all. Since I joined the Hong Kong Outstanding Students’ Association last year, I have met brilliant and inspiring people and made strong, everlasting friendships.

In the past months, all nine of us have worked hard to continue the spirit of our Association and I, for one have enjoyed every moment working, and at the same time, sharing the joy with them. It is indeed a very precious experience to be given the opportunity to try all kinds of new and exhilarating things.

Although a tremendous effort has been put forth in all of our projects and gatherings, I believe that all of our effort has been rewarded. Reading the feedback of the participants for International Convergence, it is understandable to find that most of them have found our projects fulfilling. Here, I would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of our advisors for their unfailing support and guidance. There is still a long way to go and explore. With the help and cooperation among all of us, no doubt, this year will also be as fruitful as ever!



KAM, Bryce
External Secretary

Six months ago, I was a very different person. Relaxed, cheerful, carefree and fun-loving – indeed that was how everyone knew Bryce (2014) then, or perhaps as Karl mentions ‘evil’. Now, I’m still many of those things, but I have grown a great deal and now also have the honour of serving as External Secretary for the Nineteenth Executive Committee.

Currently studying in Form 5 at the German Swiss International School, aged 15, I began my OSA experience last year by participating in the Student Leaders of Tomorrow Scheme 2005. I was amazed at how professionally things were done in OSA and also how meaningful its projects were. To be able to serve, today, on the Executive Committee of OSA today is truly a privilege and I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to our Advisors who have made this experience so much easier.

Being an ExCo member has not been easy. However, it has inspired me to push myself to limits I had never known I could reach. This year, together with Fifian and Kathy, I served as the Project Chairperson for the inaugural International Convergence 2005, which was a truly eye-opening experience. Now, along with Annie and Fifian, I am serving as the Project Chairperson for the Hong Kong Youth Summit 2006. It has not been an straightforward task and certainly I have encountered many barriers. But together, I believe our Nineteenth Executive Committee will be able to brave the storm and bring OSA to even newer heights!

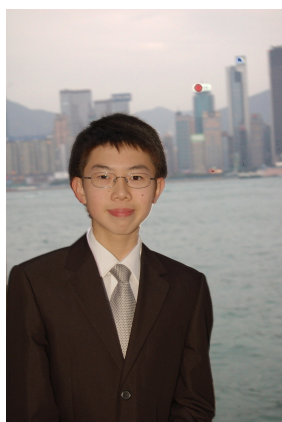
Many people have asked me how being an ExCo has been. Evidently, the ExCo experience cannot be captured in words, but there are a few things that can be said: Serving as an ExCo member involves two extremes. At one end there is the once-in-a-lifetime experience, of organizing overwhelming and seemingly-impossible projects and somehow managing, of enjoying eight-hour long meetings until 12 at night and still having one full page on the agenda unfinished, of unforgettable laughter and fun and ultimately making friendships that will last many lifetimes over. At the other end there is anxiety, worry that a program will go wrong, that a guest won’t turn up or the participants will find the program monotonous and worst of all, sleepless nights to the extent that a teacher catches you falling asleep in class.

Nonetheless, OSA is truly a delightful place, where everlasting friendships can be made and I hope that no matter where you are, OSA will remain to you a second family, as it has done so with me.

Our ExCo is filled with the most talented people from Vienna who can decorate the DBS Hall better than any DBS student has ever done, to Kathy who, when she is very worried, can speak English far better than any native and of course to Karl who manages somehow to stay awake in class even though he has been designing our InCon banquet programme booklet until 4 in the morning. Each and every ExCo brings something special to the 19th Executive Committee and together, we are a team of diverse but united visionaries.

Often I am referred, in the most friendliest of ways, of course, as the 'Evil Twin' – This essentially translates as: I am outgoing, approachable and most importantly fun-loving, so if you have any questions whatsoever please don't hesitate to ask me!

In concluding, I would like to wish all OSARs and OSA Participants, in particular InCon Participants and of course my fellow ExCo members a very happy New Year and a prosperous year to come and hope that together we can sing the everlasting song that is OSA!



KAM, Bryan
Financial Secretary

I am Bryan Kam (2015), a Form 5 student currently studying at the German Swiss International School. For the past half year, it has been an immense honour to be able to represent the Association as its Financial Secretary.

It is truly remarkable that already half a year has passed since our inauguration as the 19th Executive Committee. In this time, we have faced challenges that have been both daunting and demanding, yet at the same time, shared countless moments of joy and laughter. We have undergone experiences that are unique to the exceptional organization that is OSA, be it through forging lifetime friendships or hosting extraordinary projects.

One of my greatest privileges was being able to host the Christmas Dance 2006. I still recall the anxieties we had that there would be insufficient attendees, that we lacked adequate time for preparation, that even at one stage just an hour or so before the event, the power failed not only once, but twice. Yet through the determination and unwavering efforts of the Executive and Organizing Committee members, the Dance was nevertheless an immensely successful event. My most distinctive memory is of reading participants' comments on "xangas", and becoming overwhelmingly excited that everyone had enjoyed the event.

As a Project Chairperson of the Volunteer Training Scheme 2006, I am looking immensely forward to hosting a program that will be meaningful, satisfying and enjoyable. As the date of commencement – the Orientation Day – draws closer, the pieces of the puzzle are gradually falling into place, bringing with it the excitement and anticipation that comes before every event!



CHAU Kathy
Public Relations Officer

Hey! This is Kathy Chau (2006), Public Relations Officer this year. I am currently studying at the Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong, and naturally I would like to welcome any OSAs to visit me at any time!

Often, I wonder how I have survived the past few months. Such names as 'International Convergence', 'Bright Spark'...have repeatedly appeared in my mind, reminding me to finish the never ending lists of tasks awaiting me. Frankly speaking, I have never imagined just how hectic it is to be a PIC – from major issues like following our working schedule or random matters like setting the seats to the response from our participants, all of which contribute to the success of a project. Although there are lots to handle within a short period of time, with the support from my 8 dearest brothers and sisters, we go through the ups and downs. Thanks must be given to them for sharing with me all these unforgettable and exciting experiences.

Of course I must mention my fellow OSAs. It has been truly fantastic to have you guys participating in our activities and helping us lots of things that we may have neglected, or forgotten... Do keep this up! We need you! Moreover, it is always nice to have a chat on non-OsA stuff like daily lives or 'broken' gags etc. I sincerely hope all of you will bring other OSAs to join us so that our family can become even stronger and even more diverse.

Now it is time for our advisors, without whom, I would be very lost and confused indeed. You have been a part of our success, as we mentioned in our evaluation meeting. For me, you are not just advisors of OSA, but also my future as you always give me wise suggestions on my studies and career.

Looking forward, we still have half a year to go, with our remaining 3 projects starting very soon. I believe that life is full of challenges and discoveries. None of us will give up easily instead we will continue to exert effort, imagination and creativity into the forthcoming projects to spread the light of OSA.



CHAN Michele
Social Services Officer

Greetings again from Michele Chan (2003), your Social Services Officer. I am 17 years old and currently studying in Diocesan Girls' School.

It is indeed astounding to observe how time flies – it has been nearly half a year since our inauguration as the 19th Executive Committee last August. For the past months, we have braved challenges, climbed up from setbacks, reaped sweet results, and shared and contributed to unforgettable experiences as office bearers of the Hong Kong Outstanding Students Association. Together with hectic yet colorful Form 6 school life, this year has, and will continue to, store up a big treasure box of remarkable memories, precious learning experiences, and perhaps most important of all, priceless lifetime friendships and mentors.

The uniqueness of the 19th Executive Committee lies in our courage to dream, and the perseverance to make our dreams come true. I am so proud of my fellow committee members who brought International Convergence 2005 to life, a brand new project that created fun and educational experience for local students. There is little doubt that the project was immensely successful. Our imagination and creativity was again displayed in the Christmas Dance, another attempt at something new and inspirational. The organizing committee's hard work was repaid by very positive feedback. All this could not have been so if we had not taken the daring step to try something new, clung fast to the vision in overcoming obstacles, and let the magic work its miracles.

Coming up on our calendar will be Volunteer Training Scheme 2006. As Project Chairperson, I look forward to my first "PIC event" with excitement and anticipation. With our passion and commitment, together with the help of our dedicated OCs, we will once again bring the OSA spirit to life, and warm hearts around us. We are determined that all participants enjoy themselves and gain from this meaningful event.

To my fellow executive committee members: I have learnt much from every one of you. It is truly my honor and pleasure to work alongside such outstanding people. These past few months have at times been trying and difficult, and the load has been heavy. Stress and health have been burdens, but in your example, I have learned and grown. Thank you all so much! May our cooperation and friendship blossom as we continue to grow and mature side by side.

I wish you all a happy and healthy Year of the Dog. Best wishes, and take care!



Li Eric
Internal Relations Officer

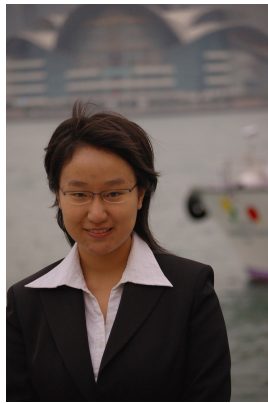
Hello! I am Eric Li (1918) and I am currently studying at Diocesan Boys' School. Promoting OSA's internal relations is definitely not an easy task! This year we are holding five gatherings whose initials form the word "HKOSA". The "H"alloween Party for OSAs was successfully held in October, and then the "K"nutcracker Christmas Dance in December, which will be followed by "O"ur Songs later. In every gathering, OSAs will receive a magnetic bookmark as a souvenir. Collect all 5 of them and you will get the whole set which forms the word "HKOSA"!

The Christmas Dance was a new and a completely original project (with the exception that it followed the storyline of the Nutcracker) and we were glad that many participants enjoyed it. Although it was our first attempt to hold such an event, I believe that the program, atmosphere, decorations, publications that night and the promotions beforehand all met the expectations, or even exceeded them. Allow me to again express my deepest gratitude to all members of the Organizing Committee (and of course the EXCO!). Without them, we would have achieved nothing. I was especially moved when some of them told me that this Christmas was an especially meaningful one and that they really enjoyed the dance rehearsals and had learnt a lot from preparing for the event.

Furthermore, in this event, not only did we invite OSAs to the Christmas Dance, we also extended the invitation to all past participants of OSA's events. We took a great and essential step in making OSA not only a professional large-scale organization, but also a warm family to many. No longer are OSA's external events discrete and separate ones. A wide community has been built and many more are going to become part of it! We hope this event would revive the sweet memories participants had within OSA and strengthen the bond that they had with their friends they made in past OSA events.

Of course, there are still many activities which are open only for OSA members. The 21st OSAs are going to join us soon and please come and meet them by joining the "S"ocial Services Project in June! You will serve the community with the new OSAs, and in the process you will get to know them. We look forward to seeing you!

Finally, details of "Our Songs" will be out soon. All OSAs will also receive a birthday e-card on their birthdays! In the mean time, if you have changed any personal information, please send us an email to notify us!



Li Annie
Administrative Officer

Hi everyone, I am Annie from Maryknoll Convent School. This year I am in charge of the Youth Summit and 2 internal gatherings- the Halloween Party and the Annual Dinner.

In the past few months, OSA has granted us the 19th Executive Committee an invaluable and unique experience. It has been a first for all of us to organize public projects for secondary school students, to learn how to communicate with advisors, to interview public figures, to be interviewed by press...through all these, our horizons have been significantly broadened, and our presentation and risk management skills effectively enhanced. Most importantly, together we have learnt how to strike a balance between family, health, study, ECA and sense of responsibility. Without OSA, I could never have lived my Form 6 life to the fullest and take advantage of this year to mature.

This year, I am organizing the Youth Summit together with Bryce and Fifian. Two years ago I myself and some other EXCO members were participants of the Summit as well. I hope this experience can help me understand participants' needs. As we observe, participants tend to focus on writing resolutions and neglect debating. Therefore this year we aim to put more emphasis on debate and discussions among participants, by including a session on public speaking and topic talks which we hope will make all participants informed of issues of all commissions.

For the website, in order to keep all of you informed of our latest souvenirs, we are introducing a souvenir catalogue where you will be able to order souvenirs. If you have any suggestions, please feel free to give through emails, our unofficial xanga, forum, etc

Lastly, I hope to extend our gratitude to all advisors. Since our inauguration, many advisors have taken initiative to give comments to us and even have meetings with us. Their advice has always been practical and inspiring. Not only do they make suggestions about our work, they also care about us as people. They frequently remind us of the importance of our family, our health, our identity as a student, etc. During Christmas and Halloween, we also received gifts like sticks and sweets from advisors. The warmth that these gifts and advice bring is overwhelming. I truly hope and am sure that this fine tradition of OSA will be sustained in the future.

Annual Plan



International Convergence



Halloween Party



Christmas Dance

External Activities

November, 2005

International Convergence 2005 -
"A Global Experience"

December, 2005

Christmas Dance 2005 -
"Knutcracker—An OSA Christmas Story"

February—April, 2006

Volunteer Training Scheme 2006 -
"SamariLeaders Of Tomorrow"

April, 2006

Hong Kong Youth Summit 2006

July, 2006

Interflow Camp 2006

Internal Activities

October, 2005

Halloween Party 2005

December, 2005

Christmas Dance 2005 -
"Knutcracker—An OSA Christmas Story"

February, 2006

OSAr's Gatherings - "Our Songs"

April, 2006

Orientation Day for 21st OSAr's

May—July, 2006

Social Services Project for 21st OSAr's

August, 2006

Annual Dinner 2006

August, 2006

Annual General Meeting

Social Services / Other Events

September, 2005

World Heart Day Service
(Cancelled due to adverse weather)

November, 2005

Best Improved Students Award
Presentation Ceremony

December, 2005

Future Young Leaders Forum

December, 2005

WTO Hong Kong Ministerial Conference

February, 2006

Flag Sale (Suicide Prevention Service)

International Convergence



Poster

International Convergence 2005 is a multicultural-experience scheme that aims to promote understanding of cultural diversity and international cooperation, given the abundance of cultures and races represented in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong has always been known as the gateway to China, a unique and diverse blend of East and West, a dazzling city where communities and races converge in cultural harmony. An International Metropolitan is truly not an exaggerated term when referring to Hong Kong.

We strongly believe that teenagers are the future leaders of our society and The Hong Kong Outstanding Students' Association has always been striving to work towards the

goal of nurturing our future young leaders. In order to prepare them for this important role, it is essential for them to understand the place they are living in and the cultures that make it so unique.

Therefore, we devised International Convergence 2005 to delve into this idea, in order to take the first step towards global understanding and cooperation. It is only through understanding others' cultures that we all can build a better and more harmonious society. Through this project, students had a better understanding of their homeland and the world. Moreover as they met people from different countries, they also gained a better understanding of the world.

The project duration was approximately two weeks in which the participants learned about the culture, history, language and current affairs related to their allocated country and took part in activities that helped to further deepen their knowledge and understanding. The emphasis of the project was experience and it was thus, that the notion of 'Cultural Experience Week' was devised.



Introduction of ExCo

The scheme commenced on 6th November 2005 with a workshop held at Diocesan Boys' School. Sixty participants were split into groups representing six different countries, namely Germany, India, Israel, South Africa, Spain and Thailand, that are less commonly found in Hong Kong. Moreover, members from the various cultural societies representing these countries were present and briefed participants on the country. Workshops on globalisation and cultural diversity were also held to deepen participants' understanding on these issues.



Outside the Venue

The aim of the Cultural Experience Week that followed was to enhance participants understanding of culture through experience and interaction with natives, rather than in an academic atmosphere. The visits proved to be immensely enjoyable and simultaneously a learning experience. Participants were exposed to a wide range of cultural



Talk by Guest Speaker

events, including two different activities related to their country's culture, ranging from visiting temples to learning the Spanish Flamingo Dance to cooking traditional cuisine and being taught by students from those countries only slightly older than them. In addition, each group also visited the consulates of their country and gained greater insight into the culture and background of the country through interviewing either the Consul-General or Consul of Politics in Hong Kong for their given countries.

The second workshop was held on 12th November 2005 at Diocesan Boys' School, where the participants shared their experiences and engaged in interactive activities. Basic language learning sessions and talks on language and communication and International Cooperation were also held to further deepen their knowledge.



Sharing Session



Group Photo on Day 1

During the Cultural Project Week that followed the second workshop, participants prepared a presentation to promote the country's culture, history and current tourist attractions. Their presentations included clips and pictures from their previous visits and experiences during the "Cultural Experience Week". They were presented to the representatives from the consulates during the banquet. Performances native to the country such as dances that the participants had learnt were also presented during the banquet to the other participants.

shared their thoughts and feelings to guests who had supported the scheme, including representatives from the consulates and members from the cultural societies representing the countries. Many of them even said they now wanted to visit the countries!

In addition, On 26th December 2005, three participants, Tonia POON, Derek LAM and Angela LU, along with our Project Chairperson Kathy CHAU, shared their experience and great spirit of the scheme on the programme Happy Daily of RTHK with Ms. Candy CHEA Suk-mui.



Consulate Visit

We hope that through this scheme participants have developed a broader appreciation and interest in the cultural practices of other countries, and that it has provided the fundamental groundwork for further understanding of cultural diversity.

The scheme culminated with the closing banquet held on 19th November 2005, at the Regal Oriental Hotel Hong Kong. The participants demonstrated their knowledge of the country and

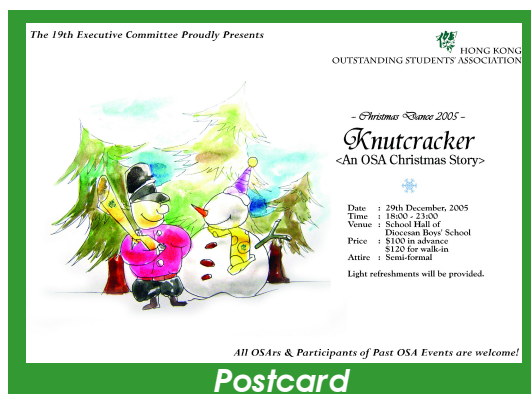
Project Chairpersons:
 CHAU Kathy
 CHIANG Fifian
 KAM Bryce

Snapshots



SEMINAR

Christmas Dance



Introduction

"The Knutcracker: An OSA Christmas Story" was a combination of a musical, drama and dances. Participants found themselves brought into the story of the Nutcracker and experienced a thrilling night of dances and performances. The Dance was held at Diocesan Boys' School on 29th December 2006 and it provided OSAs and "OSA Friends" – participants all of OSA's previous events – a wonderful opportunity to get together and celebrate Christmas. A lot of Christmas decorations were put up in the Hall and a giant and very beautiful backdrop was hung at the back of the stage. Christmas lights and silver strips hanged down from the ceiling. A Christmas tree stood in the middle of the hall with a toy train running around it. Elegant music was played and stunning audio and visual effects transformed the hall. The following described the programme of the Dance.

"Choco and Chips"

This was a sharing session before the dance actually began, where participants met old friends and had nice chats. Amidst joyful Christmas songs, they talked and ate different kinds of chocolate and chips laid on a long table with a red velvet cloth. Some wrote their new year wishes on the "Angels' Blessings" board, and we certainly hope that their wishes will come true!

The Party

The opening dance introduced the main character Clara (TSE Leanne, 2034) and her family. She and her grandfather Herr Drosselmeyer (LAM Derek, 2018) welcomed the guests to the Christmas party. They taught the participants waltz and latin-american dances. Finally, a mass game was played and Drosselmeyer gave Clara the nutcracker.



Opening Drama

The Battle

Break dancers performed in this section in which the nutcracker battled the mice in order to protect Clara.

The Land of Snow

Clara and the nutcracker entered the Land of Snow, where romantic love songs were played. Refreshments were served and snow fell from above. Some participants received flowers from their dance partners. Some pairs even went up the stage to dance! A magic stall was run by the Magician of the Land (QIU Calvin, 2029) This section ended with a performance by the ExCo and Organizing Committee, supercalifragilisticexpialidocious, in which the Sugar Plump Fairy (NG Nga Wun Liz , 2028) greeted Clara into the Land of Sweets.

The Land of Sweets

This was the exciting disco session! Every participant danced like mad and we had a really good time. We lost ourselves in the music. No one wanted it to end. Finally, we sang together with our hands put on each others' shoulders and the session ended with an extremely warming atmosphere.



Dance Performance

Finale

In the closing drama, Clara woke up and found that everything was just a dream. But what a dream it was! After that, everyone danced the Association Song together and this drew a perfect end to the unforgettable night.



Disco Dancing

Conclusion

We hope all those who have come have enjoyed the night as much as we did! The Christmas Dance was open to both OSAs and OSA friends. The Dance provided another opportunity for the 20th OSAs and a few 19th OSAs to work together again and perform together. The whole organizing committee had lots of fun working through the dances, drama, publications and decorations. Many OSAs came to the event and even a few 12th OSAs came! We were more than pleased. Please continue to support our upcoming activities! On the other hand, OSA friends were delighted to have an opportunity to meet again friends that they have made in past OSA events. They danced happily together and celebrated Christmas together. Most of them enjoyed the drama and the dance performances very much. Finally, there are still some souvenirs unsold, which include a few OSA rings and the Christmas Cards. If you would still like to purchase one, please approach any EXCOs!

Project Chairpersons:

KAM Bryan

LI Eric

NG, Vienna

Snapshot s



Beairies

