Peking University Philadelphia Alumni (PUPA) News

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1. World preeminent economist and an leading expert on Chinese economy Prof. Gregory C. Chow has accepted PUPA's invitation to give a keynote speech on Chinese economy at the Convention (see news item 2) at the University of Pennsylvania on Sept 28th, Sunday, 2003. Prof. Chow has advised former Chinese Prime Ministers and other top rank leaders, and made significant contributions to the reform of Chinese economy. Professor Chow is a member of the American Philosophical Society and of Academia Sinica and a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and of the Econometric Society. He is the Professor of Economics and Class of 1913 Professor of Political Economy, Emeritus, at Princeton University.

2. A Grant Reunion for Tri-State PKU Alumni: Peking University Philadelphia Alumni Association (PUPA) along with some other Philadelphia local Chinese groups will organize a Great Philadelphia Chinese Convention Celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival and the China's National Day at the University of Pennsylvania on Sept 28th, Sunday, 2003. The event is temporarily scheduled at 2:30pm and will last till evening, including seminars, a reception, and a dancing party. More detailed information will be available later on. The event will also be a grant reunion for tri-state PKU alumni, with the participation of a PKU representative. Seats are limited and pre-registration are required. Please email pupa@dolphin.upenn.edu with information such as the name, affiliation, and contact information.

3. Celebration of Dr. Britton Chance's 90th Birthday: On July 19, 2003, PUPA and Medical Diagnostic research Foundation (MDRF) co-hosted the celebration banquet for Dr. Britton Chance's 90th Birthday in Chinatown. Dr. Chance, being one of the greatest scientists of our times with his invaluable and innumerable contributions to science and the society, is the Honorary Professor of Peking University and the Honorary Advisor of PUPA. Over a hundred people from all over the country attended this special event to show their respects and congratulations to Dr. Chance. Dr. Xu, Zhihong, the President of Peking University, sent a letter of congratulations to Dr. Chance, highly praised his contributions and acknowledged his support to PUPA. This joyful event provided a great opportunity for PUPA members to learn from this celebrated scientist as well. Deep thanks to the MDRF for co-host this wonderful event with PUPA and deep thanks to Ms. Zhou, Lanlan, Mr. Sun, Xiangdong, Mr. Zhou, Chao, Mr. Song, Xiangjin, Mr. Ma, Shaoqiang and Mr. Mao, Zhiqiang, etc. for their organizational work.

4. PUPA Membership Drive: On August 12, president Li, Lin of PUPA, with PUPA executive team, launched an active membership drive of PUPA from then on to middle September. Mr. Jin, Yang is the Executive Coordinator for Membership Drive. The executive team and board members of PUPA are trying hard to reach out to our alumni in tri-state area, and build the bridge between our fellow alumni, related friends, and our alma mater Peking University. This is an significant project for PUPA, which needs the support from every member and associate member of PUPA. First of all, being Bei Da Ren (PKU alumni), no matter where we are, our alma mater PKU always takes an important part in our hearts, alumni relationship becomes increasingly important for the development of our alma mater into a world first class university; on the other hand, the supports from our alma mater and our fellow alumni are reciprocally important for the successful lives and career developments of all PKU alumni in the U.S. We are building PUPA as a big family for mutual supports! Two specific plans of the membership drive are: first, trying to connect as many alumni as possible among the PKU alumni in the tri-state area; second, distributing the token of love and care sent from our alma mater---the Mid-Autumn Festival greeting cards to all reachable PKU alumni in the area of Delaware Valley.

5. Dr. Feng, DaHsuan's Letter to PUPA: On July 6, 2003, Dr. Li, Lin, President of PUPA, met with PUPA Advisor Dr. Feng, DaHsuan during his short visit to Philadelphia. Dr. Feng is Vice President for Research and Graduate Education at the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD). Dr. Feng gave high regards to Peking University and its alumni groups. In the letter that Dr. Feng wrote to PUPA members, he stated that "Your predecessors need only to focus on China, you need to focus on the World! As alumni, your outstanding global contributions will non-linearly feedback into Peking University and make it truly one of the shining intellectual centers of the world". This is not only a great expectation but also a great encouragement to PUPA.

6. The First North America Peking University (PKU) Alumni Association Representative Conference was held in

San Francisco from June 21-22, 2003, sponsored by PKU Educational Foundation (U.S.). More than 60 representatives from 11 PKU alumni association, the consular officers from Chinese Consulate General in San Francisco, and the representatives from some other Chinese alumni associations in San Francisco attended the conference. Several topics regarding the new developments of Peking University and North America PKU alumni associations were addressed in the conference. Professor Hai, Wen, Assistant Vice President of PKU, in the name of Peking University, issued letters of thanks to 13 alumni associations for their remarkable contribution and donation to anti-SARS events. Dr. Hai, Wen also brought inspiring news of the successful application of Peking University in hosting the table tennis contest of 2008 Olympics. The conference was a big success in that it not only strengthened the ties between North America PKU alumni associations and our alma mater, made detailed plans for promoting the alumni work, but it also passed the "Regulations of PKU Alumni Association of North America" and announced the founding of the "PKU Alumni Association of North America ".

7. Dr. Hai, Wen's Visit to Honolulu: Dr. Hai, Wen, Assistant VP of Peking University, Secretary Chief of PKU Foundation, and Associate Director of the Center for China Economical Research, visited Honolulu, Hawaii from August 4 to August 8, 2003. During his stay in Honolulu, Dr. Hai, Wen attended the economy forum sponsored by PKU Alumni Association at Hawaii (PKUAH), the State Business and Travel Bureau of Hawaii, the Center for China Research of University of Hawaii, Hawaii Japan-America Management Institute, Hawaii China Chamber of Commerce, Hawaii Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce, and Hawaii China Club et. al.. Dr. Hai, Wen gave a talk of 'Chinese Economy: The Present and Trend' and answered quations of general interests on Chinese economy, such as reformulation of Chinese national-owned enterprises, the exchange rate of RMB, conservation of the environment, division of the poor and the wealthy, and so on. Dr. Hai, Wen's visit was reported recently on newspaper and TV by "Xing Dao Daily", Hawaii China TV, "Honolulu Chinese Report", etc. This trip not only greatly promoted the development of PKUAH, but also extended the influence of PKUAH and Peking University Alumni Union in the States; in the mean time, it strengthened the understanding and acknowledgement of oversea Chinese in American to the development of Chinese economy and the present and future of Peking University.

8. Cape May Whale-Watching Trip: PUPA-Penn Office and CSSAP co-organized a whale-watching trip to Cape May, New Jersey on June 28, 2003. 131 people joined this event, enjoyed the beauty of one of the best beaches in New Jersey and the great sightseeing from the offshore cruise. Many thanks to Ms. Nie, Zhenying, Mr. Song, Xiangjin, Mr. Ge, Fan, Mr. Ye, Fangfu, Ms. Cai, Zhen and all the friends for contributing to the success of this event.

9. Participation of the Celebrating Banquet for the Founding of the Eastern US Fujian Commerce Association on Aug 25, 2003: By invitation, PUPA board members and executive members Mr. Li, Lin, Mr. Ma, Shaoqiang, Mr. Sun, Xiangdong, Mr. Zhu, David, Ms. Zheng, Zheng, Ms. Qin, Li, attended the banquet as representatives of PUPA to show our sincere congratulations. They met with Catherine Baker Knoll, Lieutenant Governor, the State of Pennsylvania, and other local Chinese group leaders.

10. Safety Warning Issued By PUPA: Proposed by executive team member Mr. Song, Xiangjin, PUPA encouraged our members to take security precautions on August 21, 2003. According to Philadelphia Inquirer, there is a dramatically rate increase of violent crimes in Philadelphia region compared to last year. Philadelphia policemen have started to implement stronger security measures.

11. Chinese Movie Nights and New Students/Scholars Orientation Program: On August 15 and August 30, 2003, PUPA-Penn Office and CSSAP co-organized the first and the third Summer Chinese Movie Night at University of Pennsylvania. PUPA-Penn Office also co-sponsored the orientation program for new-com ing Chinese students and scholars to Upenn on August 30. PUPA and CSSAP will work together and bring more services and fun for the Chinese community in Philadelphia and vicinity.

Edited by:
Ms. Li Qin
Director of Public Communication of PUPA
PhD student, Dept. of Biostatistics, School of Medicine, Upenn

Mr. Lin Li
President of PUPA

Released by PUPA Executive Committee

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