



IMPERIAL COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE

Patron: RAdm (NS) Teo Chee Hean, Minister for Education

Advisor: Mr. J. Y. Pillay, Chairman, Singapore Exchange Pte Ltd

Secretary's Report for July 2002 to August 2003

Dear Fellow ICAAS Members,

For ICAAS, the past year has been an active one with many new activities initiated, and existing ones continuing. A summary is provided as follows:-

Social Activities

The social activities organized by ICAAS this year are as follows:

1. The inaugural networking event, known as "Imperial Connections", was launched on 2nd August 2002 at Paulaner Brauhaus at Millennia Walk. Imperial Connections was envisioned to provide an avenue for younger members to network with others within the alumni, something that the EXCO had identified as lacking in previous years. For a first attempt at organising the event, the turnout was fairly decent with several people coming in at various times, and unfortunately some members and friends who had intended to come but could not find the party among the crowd.
2. The second Imperial Connections was organised at Networks the Pub on 24th September 2002. The venue was deliberately chosen for the connotations of its name, plus the fact that it was co-owned by one of our alumni. We had also invited friends from the Stanford Club and MIT Club to join us, to give additional opportunities for networking with alumni of other distinguished universities.
3. Sir Richard Sykes, Rector for Imperial College, visited Singapore in October 2002, and this coincided with a very proud moment for all Imperial alumni – the conferment of the Fellowship of Imperial College on our very own Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew. In addition, there were the rumours of the merger with University College London abound at the time. As such, it was a good time to organise a gala dinner with Sir Sykes to hear about the various exciting updates. More than 60 ICAAS members and friends attended the dinner and had the opportunity to ask Sir Sykes questions on the latest happenings at Imperial. Guests were also given a preview of the MTV made of SM Lee's conferment ceremony just a few days earlier.
4. The third Imperial Connections event was held on 26th November 2002 at Provignage, Robertson Walk. Feedback was received that the previous venue was a little "loud" for any decent conversations to be made, and hence the venue changed to a more conducive one. ICAAS EXCO negotiated to be given a private area behind drapes, and beverages and finger food at special prices all night long.

5. In that same month of November 2002, ICAAS organised a Networking Dinner with Anne Benjamin, the Director of the MBA Programme.
6. In January 2003, ICAAS launched the ICAAS Scholarship Fund, in which various activities are being organised to raise funds for this cause. One particular initiative to note is the distribution rights to the DVD for the success story of SM Lee Kuan Yew (entitled "Preeminent Chinese Series: Lee Kuan Yew" produced by RTHK), which was a coup achieved by Dr Chua Ting Kin and Mr Raymond Kwok. Profits from the DVD will go towards the scholarship fund.
7. On 10th March 2003, we were privileged to host Dr H.K. Cheng in Singapore. In fact, ICAAS were chiefly responsible for organising Dr Cheng's seminar held at HDB Auditorium to a full house crowd. Dr. H. K. Cheng was an ex-president of the Hong Kong Imperial College Alumni Association. He received the IstructE Gold Medal last year. This public lecture was a repeat of his gold medal address given initially in London. More than 200 people attended this public lecture. ICAAS Vice President Mark Wong was the main organiser for this event.
8. On 18th March 2003, we had the Imperial Connections event for the fourth time, this time held at the Oaks Grill & Bar at Tanglin Mall. The ambience was excellent, and the private room provided an exclusive area for member and friends to mingle. However, due to the SARS outbreak, the turnout was less than hoped, with only about 10 members and friends turning up in total.
9. ICAAS organised the fifth Imperial Connections again on 13th May 2003 at the Provignage. The venue was brought back by popular demand, and the turnout was back to pre-SARS levels. New faces were again present, which was in line with the objective of enabling more members and friends to grow their social network.
10. In the same month of May 2003, ICAAS co-organised a dinner talk on SARS with the Henley/Brunel MBA Alumni. At ICAAS' invitation, A/Prof. Ren Ee Chee (Deputy Director of the Genome Institute of Singapore) gave a talk on SARS at the ICAAS-Henley/Brunel MBA Alumni dinner. Over 30 people from both alumni associations attended. EXCO member Dr. Lee Hing Yan and ICAAS President Dr. Wong Limsoon were the main organizers of this joint event from ICAAS.
11. On 10th July 2003, ICAAS organised a Movie Night for the preview screening of "Terminator 3". About 40 tickets were sold to members and friends. About 20 also turned up for pre-movie drinks at Orchard Cineleisure Guild House.
12. ICAAS will be organising the 25th Anniversary Gala Dinner on 19th August 2003 at Regent Hotel, with Radm Teo Chee Hean as the Guest-Of-Honour. At this event, we will also be announcing the inaugural winner of the ICAAS Distinguished Service Award (IDSA). In addition, we will officially launch the Diners Club-ICAAS Affinity Card at this event, which is an added privilege for ICAAS members, the card bearing our prestigious 25th Anniversary commemoration logo.

Public Activities

The ICAAS-NLB Life Sciences @ Courtyard series, driven by Dr Wong Limsoon, ended with the last two talks given as follows:

17 September 2002

Dr Allen Yeoh, Consultant Paediatrician, NUH

Scissors, Paper and Stone – Taking the guesswork out of leukaemia treatment in children.

15 October 2002

Mr. Ashvin Thambyah, Manager, Biomedical Engineering Laboratories, NUS

So you've grown some cells, but does it work? A look at current applications of mechanics to musculoskeletal tissue engineering.

The ICAAS-NLB IT @ Orchard series continues at the NLB Takashimaya Branch. The series will end November 2003. More than 1800 Singaporeans from all walks of life attended this series of talks. EXCO members Dr Lee Hing Yan and Mr George Ong were the main drivers of these talks. The talks organised were as follows:

3 September 2002

Dr. Li Haizhou, VP R&D, InfoTalk Corp

Spoken Dialogue Technology - Accessing Information by Voice.

1 October 2002

Mr. Chow Yen-Lu, Managing Director, WholeTree

Tools for Building the Next Generation Multilingual Web.

5 November 2002

Mr. Chris Chin, CTO & Co-Founder, SurfGold

How to Understand Your Customer More Deeply

3 December 2002

Ms. Irene Boey, Head of Data Mining Consulting, Integral Solutions (Asia)

Data Mining: Finding the Hidden Treasure in Your Database

7 January 2003

Dr. George White, Research Manager, Institute for Infocomm Research

Pervasive Computing in the Telematic Age

4 March 2003

Mr. Beh Chew Leng, CEO eLpedia

Knowledge Management - A Layman's Perspective

6 May 2003

Dr. Francis Yeoh, CEO Green Dot Internet Services

Delivering e-Services to a Citizen Army

3 June 2003

Dr. Leong Tze Yun, CEO Reason Edge & Associate Professor, NUS

IT in Health Care: Promises & Challenges

1 July 2003

Dr. Danny Poo, Chief Cicada, Cicada Cube Pte Ltd & Associate Professor, NUS

Understanding Information Search Strategies

5 August 2003

Dr. Teo Yong Meng, Director, Atsuma Technology Pte Ltd & Associate Professor, NUS

Grid Computing - Computing as Utility

Other activities

1. Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew DVD launch

The sales of the DVD was launched under the leadership of ex-presidents Raymond Kwok and Chua Ting Kin, with profits going towards the ICAAS Scholarship Fund. The fund is intended to fund promising students who need financial assistance in order to attend university at Imperial.

2. ICAAS Most Outstanding JC Science Student Award (sponsored by World Scientific)

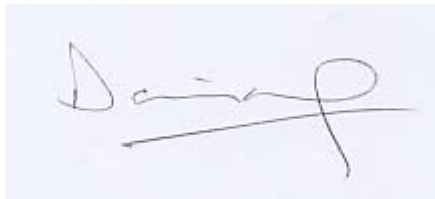
The award is given annually to a junior college science student who has distinguished himself (or herself, as the case may be) in his academic achievement in science, in his ability to explain scientific results, and in his attitude to science and to difficult problems and issues. The winner of this prestigious award also earns the right to represent Singapore at the Stockholm International Youth Science Seminar held annually in December in Stockholm, Sweden, in conjunction with the Nobel Prize Presentation Ceremony. The winner gets the opportunity to interact with other young scientific talents, visit Swedish science institutes, attend the Nobel lectures and participate in the Nobel festivities. The expenses involved are fully sponsored by World Scientific Publishing Company. This year is the 4th time ICAAS gave out this award. Ms. Cai Shan of Hwa Chong Junior College was chosen as the winner of this year's ICAAS Most Outstanding Junior College Science

Student Award by a panel of eminent scientists and educators chaired by ICAAS President and Deputy Executive Director for Research at the A*STAR Institute for Infocomm Research, Associate Professor Limsoon Wong.

3. ICAAS-Diners Club Affinity Credit Card Launch

The ICAAS-Diners Club Affinity Credit Card will be launched at the ICAAS 25th Anniversary Grand Gala Dinner. As ICAAS no longer produces our own membership card, we intend to use the ICAAS-Diners Club Affinity Credit Card---which carries the ICAAS 25th Anniversary logo---to serve as a “membership” card for ICAAS. This is also the culmination of discussions carried out by previous ICAAS EXCO, which continued through to fruition in the current term of service.

Report prepared by

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue background. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Damien Wong'. There is a horizontal line drawn across the bottom of the signature.

Damien Wong (Mechanical Engineering 1994, Computing 1995)

Honorary Secretary, Imperial College Alumni Association of Singapore

29 July 2003