

Message from the President

Since first established in 1990, Hong Kong Public Administration Association is committed to the promotion of excellence in the study and practice of public administration. Our mission is not only enshrined in words but has been consistently pursued. In all these years, through the efforts and dedication of our members, the Association has grown from strength to strength. We have, in close collaboration with local universities as well as counterparts overseas, aroused keen interest in the pursuit of best practices in public affairs. These shall remain our goals in future.

With the aid of Internet and our homepage, we hope to disseminate further our mission and attract a lively debate and participation in public administration.



Dr. Peter FONG
President

Visit: Study Tour to Taiwan in 2011

The Study Tour to Taipei is planned for June 2011. Dr. Fong will be the leader of the group, and the Vice President of Beijing Tsinghua University will be the Honorary Leader. The theme of this study tour is on Digital Project. More details will be announced later.



We wish you all the best in the year of the rabbit!



Korea-KAPA conference 2010

Dr. Peter Fong was invited to attend The 2010 Korean Association for Public Administration (KAPA) International Conference and the First Presidential Meeting of public administration societies in Asia in Seoul, 7-8 Oct 2010. The conference seeks to develop new reform paradigm in terms of various theories, practices, and policy aspects. Over 400 participants from all over the world attended the conference. A closing dinner was hosted by the Mayor of Seoul.



Key Delegates in the KAPA Conference

At the first meeting of presidents of public administration societies in Asia, Dr. Fong helped

draft a memorandum of understanding among the societies. The MOU states that the presidents met and committed to work together for productive and collaborative relations for the purpose of advancing excellence in public administration and agreed to:

- 1) Enhance quality of research, teaching and practice of public administration,
- 2) Promote multi-lateral exchange activities for research, teaching, and networking,
- 3) Collaborate for developing an academic and/or practical association of public administration in Asia,
- 4) Support for the annual meeting hosted by members, and
- 5) Designate the KAPA as a liaison to facilitate further detailed actions.

The MOU was signed by:

Prof. Kim Tae-Ryong, President of KAPA

Prof. Akira Morita, President of Japanese Society for PA

Dr. Peter Fong, President of HKPAA

Prof. Su Tsai-Tsu, Taiwan Public Governance Research Centre,

Witnessed by

Prof. Meredith Newman, President of American Society for Public Administration.



Presidents of public administration societies in Asia Signing MOU

13 participants from various organizations from Hong Kong joining the workshop. At the meeting, the Party School proposed a study visit course on the 100th anniversary of Xinhai Revolution for Hong Kong people. HKPAA is interested and will try to organize its members to join. After the meeting, a visit was arranged to see the Pearl River Beer plant and its museum, a very successful large State Owned Enterprise. After the dinner, the group went to see a circus show at the Changlun resort area. The show was spectacular. On the second day, a tour was arranged to the Guangzhou university town and the Guangdong Sciences Museum where an Albert Einstein exhibition was held. These visits are very educational and enjoyable.



The Guangdong Party School



Delegates visited the Guangdong Party School on 21 January 2011

The Guangdong Party School visit

Dr. Peter Fong and Mr. Michael Yip visited the Guangdong Party School in Guangzhou on 21-22 January 2011 for exchange on training. There are

Upcoming Guangzhou / Wuhan Study Visit – 100th Anniversary of Xinhai Revolution

On the 100th anniversary of the Xinhai Revolution, to help members understand more about its history and the theories, the Association will organize a Study Visit to Guangzhou and Wuhan, in collaboration with Guangdong Party School. The tentative schedule is late April 2011. Members will have the chance to understand the implications of Xinhai Revolution on modernization from talks by experts, and to visit historical renowned places, such as the old home of Dr. Sun Yat-Sen, Huangpu Military Academy in Guangzhou, Shouyi Museum in Wuhan, and etc.

Please watch out the upcoming announcement from HKPAA in order to join the visit!

Here are some visiting places:



大元帥府 (廣州)



首義紀念館 (武漢)



黃埔軍校 (廣州)



中山故居 (中山)

Eastern Regional Organisation for Public Administration (EROPA) Seminar

The Eastern Regional Organisation for Public Administration (EROPA) had its 52th Seminar, on "Modernising the Civil Service in Alignment with National Development Goals", held in Brunei being hosted by the Government of Brunei Darussalam through its Public Service Department between 13 and 17, November 2006.



The China Delegation at Conference Hall, Mr Zhang (centre), Mr Wang (right) and Mr Yip (left)

The Seminar was attended by some 110 participants consisting of Heads of EROPA Member States, Representatives of Member Organisations and Members from 19 countries, and an additional 162 local participants from the Brunei Government, Civil Service and Organisations. The People's Republic of China is a State Member and was represented by a delegation consisting of Mr. Zhang Yanping, Deputy Directorate General of the Ministry of Personnel, Mr. Wang Tao, Section Chief of the Ministry of Personnel, Beijing, and Mr. Michael Suen Yip of our Association.



The China Delegation with Dato Paduka Haji Saifon bin Haji Awang Besar, The Director General of Public Service Department Brunei Darussalam, and the Secretary General of EROPA, Honourable Patricia A Sto Tomas.

Review of Air Quality Objectives

The views from the HKPAA Vice President Ir. Yim Kin-ping

Hong Kong is claimed to be an international city equivalent to the London and New York of China. It is necessary to show to others that we are keen to take the lead on environmental issues so as to set a good example in the region. Looking after the health of the people and maintaining competitiveness of Hong Kong, and the government must show determination to completely revise without delay the existing outdated air quality objectives (AQOs), which have been adopted since 1987. It is imperative that Hong Kong should adopt the highest international AQO standards. We agree with the proposed progressive and forward-looking approach of moving from our existing AQOs, to the latest international standards.



The Administration needs to present a well-defined time-table to show commitment to achieve the interim and long term targets. Hong Kong Engineers are willing to take an active role in implementing additional emission control measures and help accelerate the clean air programme. New technology is the key to the success of the emission control. With stringent AQOs proposed, the government should actively support the environmental industry on business and technology development through tax concession and other incentives. This is one of the six new economic niche pillars identified by the CE's Task Force on Economic Challenges.

On the issue of cost sharing by the community, the Administration has downplayed the financial benefits of maintaining good air quality in the overall consideration, such as reduced medical expenses, better working conditions, improving productivity, attracting foreign investment, etc. Government will eventually cut down the total expenditure and generate more income, thereby able to balance out the cost for implementing the new emission control measures. Hence, the cost for putting in place the new measures should firstly be shared by the government and those enterprises producing emissions, finally the community, but with major apportionment to the former 2 parties. The estimated 20% increase in electricity tariffs and 15% rise in bus fares upon implementation of the emission control measures are alarming, based only on the simple “user-pays” principle. They must be reduced to affordable levels to gain community support.

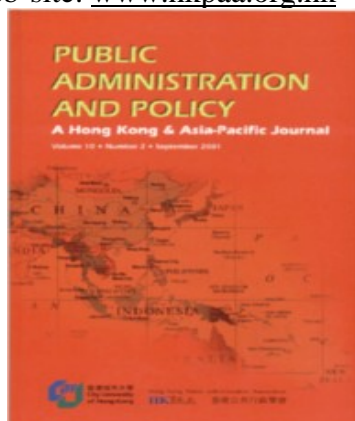


We live under the same air shed with the Pearl River Delta Region. We are concerned that even though we have implemented all our proposed measures, there might not be much room for improvement in air quality. The government should proactively join hands with the Guangdong Province to review the AQOs and to implement their emission control measures. The government should also accelerate scientific research on regional air pollution and climate change, the research results should be made available for sharing with our counterparts, enterprises and the public. Many of the 19 proposed emission control measures are not new ideas and have not been implemented satisfactorily over the years. Most of them require strategic planning, effective prioritization and integrated coordination of policy

areas under the jurisdiction of various bureaux. The government should go ahead immediately to implement some proposed measures such as wider use of hybrid/electric vehicles, replacement of diesel vehicles, tree planting/rooftop greening, etc. and set a role model for stakeholders to follow. The government should share this valuable experience with the public to pave the way for implementation by the stakeholders at a later stage. For early environmental benefit, the government should enforce the early retirement of aged/heavy polluting vehicles by legislation and earlier replacement of Euro III (and earlier models) commercial diesel vehicles with a one-off grant financial scheme.

Call for articles and papers for the HKPAA Bi-annual Journal

Prof. Sonny Lo, Associate Dean of Faculty of Arts and Sciences at the Hong Kong Institute of Education and Dr. Bruce Kwong from University of Macao have been invited as Chief Editor and editor of the Journal of the Association. Current and retired government officials are invited to contribute articles to the Journal. Both English and Chinese papers are welcomed. Copies of the previous journal can be downloaded from the HKPAA web-site: www.hkpaa.org.hk



The former issue of HKUPAA Journal titled "Public Administration and Policy"

Call for news for the newsletter

If you want to contribute news or article to the HKPPA newsletter, please send the content to the Chief Editor of the newsletter Dr. Wilton Fok at wtfok@eee.hku.hk

2010 Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the Association was held on 25 May 2010 in the Police Officer Club. Legislative Councilor, Hon Patrick Lau was invited to give a luncheon talk on the property development in Hong Kong. It was well received with 27 participants in 3 tables.



The New Executive Committee

The new executive committee was formed in September 2010.

President: Dr. Peter FONG

Vice-President: Mr. Michael YIP,
Mr. K P YIM

Hon Treasurer: Mr. Simon S M CHAN,
Dr. Irene LAU

Hon Secretary: Mr. Edward LING,
Ms Alice TE

Committee: Mr. Walter SHUM
Dr. Raymond SZETO
Dr. Fowie NG
Dr. Gloria CHAN
Mr. CHEUNG Yan-hong
Dr. Wilton FOK
Mr. Anthony KWAN
Dr. Amen LEE
Mr. William LO
Mr. Tony CHU
Prof. Sonny LO