



Manchester Global MBA Newsletter Spring 2016

A “Swinging” Celebration

The MBS Alumni Association China Annual Dinner 2015 was held together with its 11TH AGM. Fittingly, the 1960s-themed event took place under the slogan ‘Innovation and Heritage’ – a nod not only to our historic roots but also to its constant evolution. Turnout, as ever, was high! Highlights range from a Chinese feast to a grand lucky draw. Special thanks must go to Professor Elaine Ferneley, our Global & MBA Director, who updated us all with the school’s latest milestones!



Two generations of board members



Kickstarting a glamorous evening



Smiles galore at the Photo Corner



Fun, revelry and beer

Success at the Education UK Alumni Awards 2016

Held across ten countries, the Education UK alumni awards celebrate the outstanding achievements by business leaders who have demonstrated how their UK education made an impact. Our Global MBA student, Kelvin Chan, scooped the Entrepreneurship Award, and alumna Charlotte Ho was a finalist in the Professional Achievement Award category. They both beat more than 800 high-quality applicants representing 110 institutes to reach the finals. Our congratulations to them both.



Congrats to Kelvin and Charlotte, our duo of winners!

Message from the Director

2016 is upon us – but before we get into full swing with a string of resolutions, let us look back on the satisfying achievements of the past semester.

This season, we managed to increase our pursuit of corporate social responsibility (CSR) within multiple spheres. Business, for Manchester Global MBA students, alumni and leaders, is not simply about making yet more money, but also about forging ties, aiding the underprivileged, and ultimately, making precious connections within the community. It is this same spirit of giving back that informs everything we do at our university, whether it is ethical business or charity work.

It is our hope this year that alumni members will work with us directly in mentoring students during their periods of study. Not only will this foster precious friendships between cohorts, it will also create a better learning environment for all, while giving alumni members the opportunity to give something back to our community.



Christina Siu
Regional Director,
East Asia

A Professional Perspective



Probing the depths of Chinese finance



A window into the Chinese economy

This January, a Finance Insight Seminar provided a window into the Chinese economy for students and alumni alike. Led by two world-class practitioners—including our Professor Ismail Erturk and Lisa O’Connor, our Global MBA alumna and seasoned finance professional, the talk was a resounding success, probing the depths on the financialisation of the Chinese economy, alighting upon such topics as the introduction of One Belt One Road, US monetary policy in Asia and the global future of the renminbi.

Maintaining Manchester ties in Hong Kong



Milestones and more



Hobnobbing with business elites



Multiple cohorts, all in one!

This season was a whirlwind of fun, games and networking opportunities for our alumni and students in Hong Kong. Firstly, in September, the University of Manchester Alumni Reception was hosted by President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell. At this buffet dinner, guests were guided through the University's latest appointments and achievements!

Later, in October, alumni and current students got together for a special mid-Autumn event - 50th Anniversary Networking drinks, held at Crowne Plaza Causeway Bay's rooftop bar. Hobnobbing over festive drinks, guests broadened their networks no end.

The Joint UK Social again proved a sparkling success, with an attendance of more than 300 alumni from 26 UK universities, notching up another success on its 7th Anniversary Celebration.

Finally, the Cross-Intakes party took place in mid-February. It was a good chance for different cohorts to get together and share their study tips, while forging new ties. In particular, alumna Astor Chan, Vice President, Associate General Counsel of Ralph Lauren Asia Pacific, also participated in this event, and volunteered to be a student mentor!

Letting our hair down in Hong Kong

Taking a break from the summer heat, students and alumni enjoyed themselves immensely at the Beer Tasting Workshop. Celebrating good beer, good cheer and the good life, it was an introduction to different types of hand-crafted specialties from around the globe!

The German-themed dinner 'Deutscher Lebensstil' was recently held at Park Island, Ma Wan. Not only did guests indulge in German fare, they also embarked on lively chats with German guests, with topics running the gamut from the successes of the German soccer team to global refugee issues.



Celebrating German lifestyle



Straight from the brewery



On Japanese Shores

Many alumni members took a break from the intense summer heat with this relaxed beer party, held at ANA Crown Plaza Osaka. Unwinding over a craft beer or two, this occasion witnessed the rekindling of many old friendships!

On a more serious note, Professor Charles Schell, our Visiting Fellow, led a seminar on 'Regional Trade versus Free Trade' in Tokyo last October. The seminar focused on the ability to predict trends in an increasingly complicated global economy!

Students, alumni and their family members kick-started the Christmas season with a hearty Spanish lunch at La Boqueria, enjoying such regional delicacies as chorizo and seafood paella amidst Christmas carols and the twinkling of fairy lights.

The year started with another in-depth seminar on career planning for middle and senior executives. The event provided tips to professionals looking to switch careers or disciplines safely and successfully in Japan!



Spreading festive joy



Discussions of global trade in progress



Seminar on career planning



Business and Banter in Korea

Marking the first time for the University to host an Annual Dinner in South Korea, this glittering September event—the crown jewel of the Korean calendar, was hosted by Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell, who gave an update on major university developments.



Updates galore at the annual dinner

Elsewhere, the Year End Party of our Alumni Association in Korea proved another smashing success. A dozen alumni gathered for an evening of presentations, lucky draw, and a thought-provoking lecture by the President, Dr. Huh.

Ring in 2016 was our Korea Alumni New Year Party, which struck a celebratory note. Different generations of graduates gathered together for a sit-down dinner at a cosy restaurant, kick starting a year of new ventures with a nod to old friendships!



Ring in the new year



At the year's close



Who's the fastest? Revelry and charity at the rickshaw race



For a greater cause

Our alumni took the opportunity to lend a helping hand to the Christmas Bazaars held by the Make-a-Wish Foundation, which works towards granting special wishes to children with life-threatening medical conditions.



The annual rickshaw race

The university's dedication to social responsibility continues with participation in the 19th ACCA Charity Rickshaw Race—an event we have proudly supported since 2006. The theme this time is 'Legend of Love'—bringing love and care into the heart of local communities. Special thanks must go to our Associate MBA Director, Xavier Duran Martinez, as well as Dr. Jiyao Xun, who gave our team of runners, cheerleaders and helpers a boost of confidence during their early morning run!

Forecasting Future Economic Opportunities in South China

This February, an Investment and Wealth Management Insight Seminar shone the spotlight on China and Hong Kong's economic outlook for 2016. This Shenzhen seminar was co-hosted by veteran stock market commentator Patrick Pun, as well as Ronald Kong, an expert in Private Equity & Joint Venture. Both are distinguished alumni of our Global MBA programme. Covering such crucial topics as wealth management and investment opportunity, this was a showcase for their ample expertise.



Veteran stock market commentator Patrick Pun



Private equity expert Ronald Kong



Make a wish upon a star

Biomedical Breakthroughs

Professor Kostas Kostarelos, Chair of Nanomedicine at our university, spoke extensively to a rapt audience on bringing nanomaterials (such as graphene – 2010 Nobel Prize in Physics) closer to medicine and develop new treatments for patients with cancer and Parkinson's.



Professor Kostarelos in action

Pre-MBA Prepping

Targeting our new students in Japan, we have organised a pre-MBA seminar to hone their workshopping skills and offering them a taste of the degree proper.

Closer to home, our new intake students met up in Hong Kong before the first workshop for a round of mingling and study tips from previous students, who were on hand for mentorship and advice.

Finally, an induction event was held in Hong Kong for the latest cohort, with speeches, sharings and group work giving way to the yearly Tower Exercise.



pre-mba gathering in Japan



A brand-new cohort



Building the tallest newspaper tower

A Primer in Soft Skills

A hugely popular workshop taking place with over 100 participants in mid-January this year was the technology-centred 'Build Your Own Mobile App'.

The Toastmasters Demo Meeting, meanwhile, gave students a primer on the art of public speaking. It was an interactive workshop on speech-making, with the no-pressure environment proving beneficial to all.



Assembling mobile apps



Assembling mobile Honing the art of public speaking

Furthering Career Development

Corporate and personal branding is key in the 21st century, but most people struggle with building up reputable online networks. Step forward our speakers from LinkedIn who explained how to make professional networking an integral part of business success.

Our first ever Professional Networking event was hosted in this quarter. Almost 50 participants gathered together for industry advice from alumni and employers, as well as sharing by executive search firms.

Mr. Chris Garnett, our Head of Postgraduate Careers & Employability, delivered the Career Seminar on long-term employability—keeping your personal brand relevant, touching upon such topics as accumulating skills against a market in flux.



Linking it in !



Career Seminar in progress



William Lee

Currently Head of Finance & Procurement at New World Property Management Company Limited, Hong Konger William Lee believes that the Global MBA courses, with their practical, workshop-based approach, were integral to his career advancement. He attributes his recent successes to the valuable academic knowledge gained from our MBA study, as well as the expansion of his social and professional networks. These days, the alumni network enriches his life no end, giving him not only greater insight into areas of personal interest, but also friends for life.



Richard Bray

Consultant Clinical Pharmacist/Pharmacologist - Technical Director, Im5 Co. Ltd, Japan

Richard Bray, a recent graduate of our Global MBA with Merit grew his consultation practice from purely pharmaceutical work to include the financial and business aspects of healthcare, after establishing a multi-million dollar business. Realising that more knowledge of business was needed to work with his clients, Richard applied for our MBA. As a Japan-based student, he found the course an invigorating cultural and academic experience. Not only was it a highly practical programme, it also offered a global mix of students, all with their varied expertise and experiences.



APPLY NOW!!
Manchester Global MBA

Tel: (852) 2588 5013
Email: MBA@manchester.edu.hk
www.mbs.edu.hk/Manchester_MBA