

St. Louis Old Boys' Association Limited (SLOBA) 2020-2021
PRESIDENT'S REPORT
By Chan Ka-lun, Allen

6th March 2021

Dear St. Louis Old Boys,

2020 has been one of the most challenging years in the past decades. We have overcome many difficulties, and it is wonderful that SLOBA can once again host our Annual General Meeting. I would like to take this opportunity to wish the Salesians of Don Bosco society, Fathers, teachers, students, members of our alma mater and fellow old boys, good health and a Happy New Year of the Ox.

COVID-19 has changed the way we go about our daily lives. Instead of attending physical classes, our St. Louis students are now relying on Zoom for most of their lessons. SLOBA council members have also been using different video conferencing tools to hold meetings this year.

My following report will include what SLOBA carried out in the past 11 months since our last AGM on 30th April 2020.

A. ACTIVITIES WITH OUR FELLOW OLD BOYS

Several major events took place since our last AGM, especially the election of the Alumni Manager.

In May and June 2020:

1. SLOBA held our 1st Board of Directors Meeting digitally on the same day after the last AGM, followed by the announcement of 2020 - 2021 council members.
2. SLOBA appointed Mr. Andrew Yuen as the Returning Officer for the Alumni Manager Election.
3. Alumni manager nomination period started on 13th May and ended on the 27th.
4. As there was only one candidate for the election, Mr. Yeung Kit-man (83) was considered uncontested and no polling was conducted.
5. SLOBA council held a digital meeting to nominate Mr. Yeung for registration as Alumni Manager of the IMC of St. Louis School for the school terms 2020/21 and 2021/22.

In September 2020:

Our liaison officer, Mr. Andrew Yuen (90), participated on behalf of SLOBA in a video conference with Father Klement, former Regional Provincial and now Regional Councillor for East Asia and Oceania, together with Father Chan of our school on 6th September. Other past pupils of Salesian of Don Bosco schools from Macau, the Philippines and Vietnam also attended the conference about youth development and past pupil involvement with SDB in the region. The conference led to an interview and was later published in the Salesian Newsletter and the Don Bosco World Confederation magazine. SLOBA is now regarded as one of the most well-organised old boys associations in Asia and a role model to other SDB schools in the region.

In November 2020:

SLOBA launched a campaign asking members to update their contact information as well as inviting them to share their career expertise for our future events, and we have received many positive feedbacks.

B. SUPPORT TO ST. LOUIS SCHOOL AND STUDENTS

Apart from supporting our old boys, we also support our alma mater and fellow students through different activities.

In July 2020:

SLOBA president and vice president attended the Graduation Dinner of the Class of 2020 on 3rd July. We enjoyed a very exciting evening and were touched by many cheerful moments.

In August 2020:

Mr. Yeung Kit-Man, re-elected alumni manager, was interviewed by Aloysians. The interview has also been posted on the SLOBA website.

In October 2020:

1. SLOBA president and vice president met with teachers and students to discuss plans for a student-led booth in the 2021 Chinese New Year Flower Market. Unfortunately, the project was cancelled due to reduced scope of the Flower Market caused by COVID-19.
2. SLOBA council members visited Salesians of Don Bosco Ng Siu Mui Secondary School to meet with their Principal and students to learn more about their school culture.

In November 2020:

SLOBA council members attended St. Louis School Speech Day 2020 on 20th November. Dr. Vincent Kan (78) was the Guest of Honour and shared a great speech to all graduating boys.

In December 2020:

SLOBA organised a career talk 生涯規劃及轉職規劃工作坊 through Zoom.

In January 2021:

Together with our alma mater and the support from 30 old boys, SLOBA helped to fundraise for 750 copies of 90th anniversary commemorative publication. 500 copies have been allocated for our students and 250 copies for universities, primary schools, secondary schools of Hong Kong and the Central Library. The purpose of sending these copies was to promote our school to all education institutes in Hong Kong.

In March 2021:

We arranged a special graduation gift, a stainless steel cup, to our class of 2021 S6 boys. They faced so many challenges in their last school years in St Louis.

We wish them a wonderful new chapter in life.

C. SUPPORT TO OUR CLERGYMEN

SLOBA continues to support our clergymen through our Clergymen Care Team.

SLOBA council members and old boys continue to support Father Bogadek and Father Michael McKenna such as escorting them to medical check-ups at hospitals. Father McKenna is now residing at the Braga House. We also paid regular visits to Father Bogadek and some old boy doctors helped monitor his health condition. Special thanks go to Dr. Dominic Sinn (68), Dr. James Lee (81) and Augustine Lo (82).

In May 2020:

Boxes of facemasks and other sanitary items donated by old boys were delivered to Salesians English School, St Louis School, Aberdeen Technical School, Tang King Po School, and Salesians of Don Bosco Ng Siu Mui Secondary School for use by priests in their schools as well as some of their underprivileged students and families.

In September 2020:

SLOBA council members supported Brother John Lee for his surgery by arranging transportation to doctor visits.

In December 2020:

We presented a Christmas hamper to the clergymen at the rectory.

In January and February 2021:

1. We presented a Chinese New Year hamper to the clergymen at the rectory.
2. SLOBA set up new groups to organise Father Bogadek's 90th birthday celebration and 2nd phase of Father Bogadek's Biology Museum.
3. SLOBA launched a campaign collecting short video clips for Father Bogadek's birthday celebration.

D. LOSS OF OUR LOVED ONES

On 11th August, SLOBA council attended 鐘伯(鍾國群先生)'s wake. 鐘伯 served St. Louis School for decades and passed away at the age of 106.

On 23rd August, SLOBA arranged a memorial mass for Father Peter Cheung (張錦泉神父), who served as a teacher during the 1970s. The mass was held at the St. Louis School chapel and was broadcast live on YouTube with over 300 views in two days.

Father John Foster established SLOBA with a group of old boys in 1961. 2021 marks the 60th anniversary of SLOBA. With the introduction of COVID-19 vaccines, we have high hopes that the pandemic will soon be over, and we can resume our normal lives and social activities. More information will be provided about our upcoming activities in the following months to celebrate our 60th anniversary, and we welcome you to contact us with any new ideas and suggestions.

Lastly, I would like to thank all Council Directors, Co-opt members and old boys for their efforts and contributions in this difficult 2020.

Thank you again for your continued support, and we hope to see you all at our future events, whether online or in person.

Allen Chan Ka-lun
President
SLOBA