



OMEP Hong Kong

OMEP-HK 世界幼兒教育聯會 - 香港分會

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President's Report

Dear OMEP-Hong Kong members,

This is my pleasure to share with you what OMEP-Hong Kong has been doing since our last AGM on January 5th, 2016. During these ten months, the members of Executive Committee have been busy in preparing the Asia Pacific Regional Conference that OMEP-Hong Kong will proudly host from 18th to 20th May, 2017 in Hong Kong at the Academic Community Hall of Hong Kong Baptist University. The theme of the Conference is “Enhancing the Quality of Early Childhood Education: Policies, Pedagogies and Parent Engagement”.

Co-organizing the Conference with the Education Bureau (EDB), Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, which will sponsor a large number of participants from the local early childhood education community, we expect a large turnout for the Conference. Renowned scholars from Australia, China, Korea and the United Kingdom will address the Conference on their areas of expertise and research, and share their experience with the audience. This Conference will be one of the events that marks the inception year of the free quality kindergarten education policy in Hong Kong and adds to the discussion of policy implementation with evidence-based research and theory-informed perspectives. Please visit the Conference portal at <http://omephkcon2017.org/> for more details and updates about the Conference.

Promoting the quality of ECE is indeed a focus of our work at OMEP-Hong Kong and the upcoming Conference is a continuation of this earnest effort. In April 2016, we jointly organised with the Faculty of Education, the University of Hong Kong a talk on Ensuring Quality in Early Childhood Education Programs for Young Children given by Dr. Carol Brunson Day, then President of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, the United States (“NAEYC”).

From 4th to 8th July, 2016, we attended the 68th World Assembly and International Conference in Seoul, Korea. There were around 30 participants from Hong Kong and about 10 of them were OMEP-Hong Kong student members. They actively participated in paper presentation

and poster presentation. Mrs. Michelle Wong, Deputy Secretary of the EDB addressed the audience on the early childhood education policies of Hong Kong in a symposium. Occasions like this are very good opportunities to nurture our student members who are interested in research and aspire to be future leaders in the field.

Following the successful experience we obtained from the Singapore Study Tour in May 2015, OMEP-Hong Kong organized a Taiwan Study Trip from 28th to 31st March, 2016. A group of 20 members visited two kindergartens in Taipei and one kindergarten in Taichung. They had meaningful discussion and exchange with the ECE educators there and enjoyed excursions and cultural activities. Members found the trip very fruitful. Building on these good experiences, we are exploring the possibility of organizing a study tour to Japan in October 2017. We will provide you with an update on this in due course.

It is my privilege and honour to work with you in this exciting time for the field of early childhood education in Hong Kong. Thank you all for your contribution and unfailing support to OMEP-Hong Kong. Without your time and effort, OMEP-Hong Kong cannot accomplish these achievements. Let us keep up the good work in promoting the well-being, development and education of young children.

I look forward to seeing you all in the Asia Pacific Regional Conference in May. In the meantime, I wish you a very fruitful and rewarding academic year ahead.

Amelia NY Lee
President
OMEP-Hong Kong
28th October, 2016