

ASIA-PACIFIC STUDENT SERVICES ASSOCIATION

Institute of Student Affairs Report For the APSSA General Meeting on 9 July 2010

Introduction

1. To enhance better coordination and planning of training work at different locations, five Training Coordinators were appointed to coordinate training programmes in five different regions. They were Dr. Theseus Leung (Hong Kong SAR), Dr. Bella Villanueva (Philippines), Mr. K. Puniamurthy (Malaysia), Dr. Amnart Yousukh (Thailand) and Mrs Deng Jingping (People's Republic of China).

Activities Report from October 2008 to June 2010

2. *Post-Conference Training Programs*

The ISA had organized two Post-Conference Workshops on “Career Planning and Services for Students” and “Develop Students’ Leadership and Social Responsibility” conducted by Mr. Joseph Chan of the City University of Hong Kong and Dr. Leticia Peñano-Ho of the Philippines respectively after the 11th APSSA International Conference. These two workshops were co-organized with the Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST) on 24 October 2008 for around 50 student affairs practitioners of the Hubei Province, China.

3. *Advanced Training Course for Student Affairs Leaders of the Hubei Province, China*

The Huazhong University of Science and Technology, The Hong Kong Student Services Association and The Institute of Student Affairs of APSSA co-organized an Advanced Training Course for Student Affairs Leaders of Hubei Province in Hong Kong from 15 to 21 June 2009. Altogether, 21 student affairs leaders from 17 higher education institutions of the Hubei Province, China stayed in five tertiary institutions in Hong Kong and engaged in a series of work attachment, sharing sessions with student leaders, workshops, panel discussions, seminars and visitations in different institutions. Themes of these sessions included “Student Affairs Administration, Personnel Recruitment and Team Building”, “Hall Life Education and Whole Person Development”, “Service Education”, “Career Education”, “Psychological Assessment”, and so on. Favourable and positive feedback was received from the participants.

4. *APSSA Fellowship Awards 2010*

To encourage professional development of student affairs practitioners in the Asia Pacific region and professional contributions by practitioners to the APSSA International Conference 2010, the ISA had launched the Award in January 2010. Each Award carried a value of USD 500 and a maximum of up to 5 Awards could be made. Award recipients must be APSSA members, had to submit a paper to the Conference, attend the Conference in full, share experience gained with fellow colleagues in their own institution/country, and preferably, they had not received any financial support from their own institutions. As a result, one award had been offered to Dr. Huaxiang Ma, who is the Director of Student Affairs Department at the Peking University of China to attend the 12th APSSA International Conference in Brisbane, Australia.

Work Plan Ideas for the Coming Year

5. *Programmes in China and the Asia-Pacific Countries*

Following the footsteps of the Chinese University of Hong Kong in organizing the first Student Affairs Forum for practitioners of the Greater China Region in December 2006, the ISA is exploring if universities in China, Taiwan or Macau have interest to co-organize the second Student Affairs Forum. Besides, member institutions are welcome to express ideas of organizing study visits or professional exchange activities with other institutions of the Asia-Pacific region, with ISA providing the necessary coordinating roles to facilitate its organization. Tentatively, the ISA is liaising with the Philippines to organize a series of educational workshops and visitations for a group of Philippine student affairs practitioners in Hong Kong and vice versa to pave way for enhancing international collaboration for the coming APSSA International Conference 2012 in the Philippines.

6. *International Staff Attachment Program*

Based on the successful experiences of coordinating staff attachment programs and the campus life laboratory in the past years, the ISA plans to launch the International Staff Attachment Program in a more structured way with respective roles and responsibilities of host organizations, staff engaged in attachment and the ISA as well as the learning experiences gained are more clearly defined. The International Staff Attachment Program aims to further enhance professional exchange among APSSA member institutions. The Program is organized in the form of staff attachment to give practitioners the opportunities to visit other student affairs offices in another country to gain insightful learning experiences and to mutually benefit the host university through actual involvement in work areas that the staff has experience in and to conduct training programs that the visiting practitioners have expert knowledge on. This can enhance interflow of working approaches

and create synergy effects through cross cultural staff collaboration. Financial support derived from the credit balance of ISA is needed, especially for those junior practitioners who have not undergone attachment before. For those who have been on attachment program, it is recommended that a research related to new development in student affairs work should be conducted by the staff concerned to gain insights for the future development of student services. To facilitate the operation of staff attachment program, the host organization is hoped to grant a discounted rate or even waive the expenses for accommodation of the staff concerned. Besides, an adequate number of interested and eligible staff, with various specialties and expertise, is welcome to be nominated by members for considerations of interested host institutions. At the same time, member institutions that are interested to provide attachment places are encouraged to indicate it to the ISA. The ISA provides the necessary liaison and coordination works, as well as minimal financial sponsorship, if necessary. Members are welcome to channel their views on the organization of this Program directly to the Director of ISA before the end of July 2010 via the following email address: khlai@ied.edu.hk.

Prepared by: Dr. LAI Kwok Hung, Director of ISA
Date: 21 June 2010

Circulated for comments from Training Coordinators on 21 June 2010

Circulated for comments from Exco Members on 22 June 2010

Endorsed by the Executive Committee on 5 July 2010