



Penn Club July Newsletter

Monthly Newsletter of University of Pennsylvania Club of Hong Kong
G.P.O. Box 9515, Hong Kong. <http://www.pennhk.com>
PENNEWS@ HK

First Recipient of the University of Pennsylvania Scholarship of Hong Kong



Congratulations to Frances Woo! She is a graduate of Shatin College (one of the English Schools Foundation) and is the first recipient of the 4-year Scholarship of the University of Pennsylvania Club of Hong Kong. Below are her answers to questions from the newsletter editor.

Interview with Frances Woo via email

Q: How did you learn about Penn?

A: I first learned about Penn from a friend who applied there. I made the decision to apply after attending the Higher Education fair last October and learning more about the university through its website.

Q: What are you going to major in at Penn and why did you select that major?

A: My current plan is to major in English as I enjoy writing, particularly creative writing, and realize how linguistically aware one needs to be in order to write well. English is also one of my strongest areas, academically; in addition, it teaches skills that are applicable to many aspects of life and keeps my options open after I graduate. That said, I'm quite prepared for my major to change over the next year or two!

Q: How many universities did you apply to and how many acceptances did you get and why did you decide on Penn?

A: I applied to six universities in the States (Penn, Yale, Cornell, Berkeley, University of Virginia, and New York University). I was accepted by all but Yale and Berkeley. I chose Penn because I found its liberal arts curriculum appealing and the English program seemed really interesting & flexible. Also, since I'm used to living in big cities, Penn's location in Philadelphia seemed ideal. One thing that sets it apart though was its Kelly Writers House which I think will be a wonderful chance for me to improve my writing, draw inspiration, and make new friends/contacts, etc.

Q: Anything else you would like to add about yourself or your family?

A: I am very grateful to be receiving this scholarship and appreciate the Penn Club's raising of funds, so thanks again!

Fundraising Report

Thanks to the generosity of Club members and the hard work of Daphne King Yao and the members of her Ball Committee we were able to raise \$430,000. Our goal was to raise enough money to pay for two years of pledges – US\$ 20,000 per year – so that we will not have to raise money in 2005. Since we met our goal, the University asked that we pay, not just the second year's pledge, but pre-pay the third one as well so that the recipient will have access to more funds. The Club has complied with the request.

The Club had pledged to raise US\$ 20,000 a year for five years toward a scholarship for a Hong Kong student to attend Penn. The first year payment was given to President Rodin on her farewell visit to Hong Kong. We had targeted reaching the goal in 2007 and then consider raising money for a second scholarship.

The Club hopes to be able to raise money for a total of four 4-year scholarships so that we can support a new four year-scholarship recipient every year.

Events

Boat Trip A Big Success

On June 30, the Club organized a boat trip for the incoming Freshman Class from Hong Kong as well as current student, parents and Alumni. The 50 participants enjoyed both the boat ride and the ever consistent fare at The Lamma Hilton Restaurant. The Penn Club would like to express its appreciation to Goldman Sachs for letting us have the boat and the drinks on board for the evening.

A special thanks goes to the current students at Penn who made the evening such a great success.

Upcoming Event

August Cookout – 18th August 2004

The Club will be organizing a cookout on the 18th August at the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club in Kellett Island. Details to follow shortly.