



May the Year of the Snake bring you happiness, health, and wisdom!

The North American Lasallians



This photo was taken at La Salle Campus in the early 90s

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# **Global Homecoming 2024**

Daniel Wong (99), Kevin Kwok (88)

Dear Lasallians,

As President of the La Salle Old Boys' Association (LSCOBA), I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who participated in the Global Homecoming Event 2024. Our mission at LSCOBA is to "foster and promote closer union and fellowship among its members while nurturing a loyal and generous spirit towards our Alma Mater." This week-long celebration beautifully embodied that spirit.

Reflecting on our journey, the first Global Reunion took place in North America in July 2002, followed by the inaugural Hong Kong Global Reunion during La Salle College's 75th Jubilee in December 2007. The last Global Reunion was held in August 2018. This year's Global Homecoming marked a return to the roots at our beloved alma mater, made even more meaningful as we reunited post-pandemic. It brought to mind the final lines of our school song:

"Come whatever kind of weather, come the stormy days along, when the old boys get together, they will always sing this song."

I am delighted to share that 10 out of our 12 overseas chapters joined us, along with Old Boys travelling from Australia and other parts of the world. From 30 November to 7 December, we celebrated our shared history and strengthened the bonds that unite us as proud Old Boys of La Salle College.

Ahead of Global Homecoming Week, many Old Boys participated in the Masters Athletics Championships on 23–24 November, showcasing their athletic prowess in various track and field events. On 29 November, the final day of the Inter-School Athletics Competition, our C Grade team achieved a remarkable victory, securing the championship title and filling us with pride. Their spirited involvement in both events was a testament to the La Salle "Never Say Die" attitude.

### Highlights of the Week

#### A Fitting Start

The week officially began with the Homecoming and Requiem Mass on 30 November at the School Chapel. Together, we honoured and prayed for our departed Lasallians, Brothers, and teachers, reminding us of the values and legacy we hold dear.

### A Night to Remember

That evening, the Homecoming Ball at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre was the pinnacle of the celebration. It was a night of exquisite dining, lively entertainment, and heartfelt conversations as we celebrated our Lasallian heritage.

#### Sports & Fellowship

On 1 December, the Sports Fun Day brought us together with football, tennis, and badminton matches, followed by a joyful BBQ. The presence of our Brothers and teachers added a special touch, reflecting the camaraderie that defines our community.

## Honouring Our Heritage

The Historical Walk on 6 December took us to significant landmarks, telling the stories of Old Boys during wartime. This tour was a powerful reminder of our community's resilience and strength.

### A Nostalgic Reunion

On 7 December, Old Boys revisited their former classrooms during the School Tour of both the Primary School and the College. It was a heartwarming experience, combining nostalgia with insights into the latest developments at our Alma Mater. The week concluded with a Casual Lunch with the OBA, where Old Boys from various generations shared stories and forged deeper connections.

### **Looking Ahead**

As we move forward, I encourage all Old Boys to stay connected and engaged with LSCOBA. Together, we can keep the Lasallian spirit alive and continue to build on our shared legacy.

Thank you once again for making the Global Homecoming Event 2024 a resounding success. Let's honour our past and shape the future—together.



Yours de La Salle, Dr Daniel Wong President, LSCOBA, 2024-25



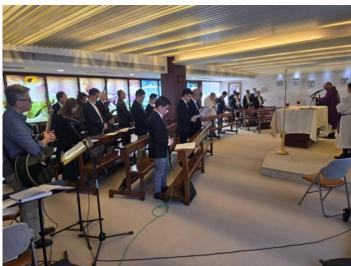




Requiem Mass







Inter-school Athletic Competition









Annual Ball









Louis Shih (69), second left, former Toronto chapter president



Friendly football match



Many of these players have been overseas for quite some time





















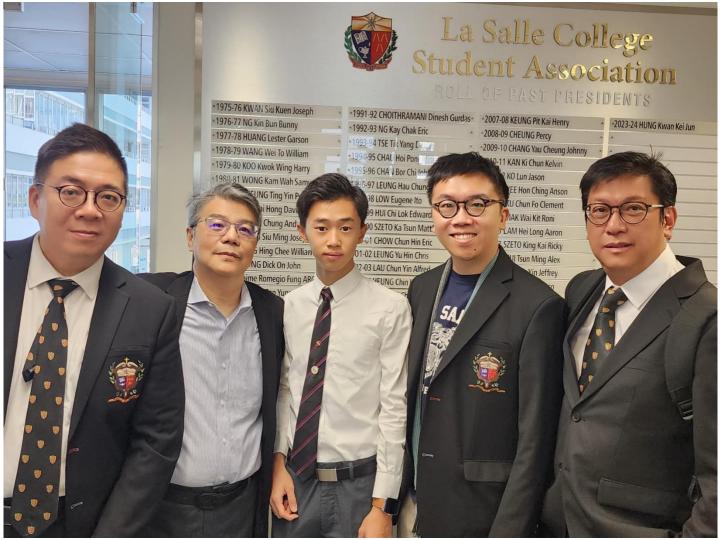












Mr K.B. Ng (76, second left) was the 2<sup>nd</sup> President of the La Salle College Student Association, and President of the LSCOBA Toronto Chapter. He was greeted by Marcus Yang, the current (50<sup>th</sup>) President of the La Salle College Student Association, in the new Student Association Office on the first floor.

Paul Liu (87) on the left and Kevin Kwok (88) on the right, as Overseas Network Group Convenors.

### Historical walk







Overseas chapter executives





# Fun Day/Campus tour









# LSC77 Global Homecoming Gathering

Charles Chan (77)



To kick off the LSCOBA Global Reunion Week 2024 in Hong Kong, a Gala Dinner was held on 30 November 2024 at the HKCEE to mark the occasion. The formal event, attended by some 360 guests, was an evening of pomp and circumstance, speeches and reflections but most importantly, of celebration and brotherhood. The 77ers once again made their presence felt as by far the biggest group with 36 participants as well as being the most jovial, likely lubricated by their many bottles of choice single malts. We also had a very special participant in Prof. Gavin Joynt, a 77er from La Salle College of South Africa.

Other guests were gravitating towards our tables throughout the dinner waxing lyrical about how always fun filled, strong and united are the 77ers. Many were treated to savoring of a few good drams from our bottles, the real reason for the 'loitering' perhaps?

God was smiling at the 77ers too as our Thomas Tung won a Methuselah bottle of Lanson champagne from the lucky draw. Thomas happily and generously opened the 6-liter monster treating his fellow classmates and anyone who happened to be standing nearby our tables to some good old fashioned bubbly joy. What a way to round up a most enjoyable and memorable night!



Top left- Monster Lanson

Top Right – Most Jovial Group

Bottom Right – Professors, Presidents and Chairmen





# **UK Convenor Handover**

David Ho (94)





Dear Fellow Lasallians,

It is my honour and pleasure to write to you in my new capacity as convenor of the UK chapter.

Let me start with a few words of introduction.

#### About me...

My name is David Ho (Class of 1994). I arrived in the UK in 1997 to pursue university education, graduating with BSc Business Economics and MSc Computing degrees.

I have held various IT and business management positions in companies of different sizes—SMEs, FTSE 250, and FTSE 100. There were both good and challenging times with successes and failures. Thanks to the education I received at La Salle College, it is our "Never Say Die" spirit that keeps me pushing forward.

Having a supportive wife and family with two daughters is the greatest blessing in my life.

# Taking part in the UK Chapter

I became active in the UK Chapter in 2018 and later joined the event organising team, working with Convenor Professor Christopher Liu OBE (Class of 1977), senior Eddie Chan MBE (Class of 1970), Francis Wan (Class of 2003) and many other fellow UK Lasallians.





We created the 'La Salle Old Boys – UK' WhatsApp group in 2020. With more than 230 members, the group has become one of our main communication platforms to unite and interact with all Old Boys in real-time. With the increasing number of new members, apart from dim sum gatherings, we started organising a bigger variety of events, such as cycling and hiking.

#### The handover

I can still remember the moment when Professor Christopher first mentioned handing over the role of UK Convenor to me - it was a total surprise.

Leading the Lasallian community in the UK is, without a doubt, a great responsibility. Professor Christopher and Eddie have set remarkable examples, and there is much to look up to in both. Professor Christopher is a renowned ophthalmologist, well-recognised in the medical profession. Eddie is a leader in the British Chinese

community and has helped many Old Boys with his connections. Both Professor Christopher and Eddie have earned great respect among UK Lasallians through their continued support and contributions to the community.

Overwhelmed by their trust and support, I promised to do my best to serve.

I would like to thank Professor Christopher, Eddie, and other seniors for their contributions to the Lasallian community over the years, and I look forward to their guidance and support in the future.

The luncheon – planning behind the scenes

Professor Christopher decided to host and sponsor a formal luncheon on 22 September 2024 (Sunday) for the handover. A lot of preparation went into the event by him. With the support of other UK Lasallians, the luncheon turned out to be a very memorable occasion.

Professor Christopher secured the prestigious East India Club as the venue for the luncheon, and carefully selected delicious food and drinks for the event.

Professor Christopher contributed significantly for the event. An anonymous si hing sponsored the full cost for 12 young Lasallians. Dr. Vincent Yip (Class of 1993) sponsored the welcome drinks. Chris Tavares (Class of 1977) drove 500 miles to bring four younger Old Boys to and from London.

Two tailor-made glass trophies and champagne were prepared as gifts for Professor Christopher and Eddie, our Honorary Life Presidents. A bottle of wine was prepared for Francis Wan (Class of 2003) for his contributions as Honorary Secretary. We secretly arranged a surprise video from the UK Chapter founder Dr. Brian Ho (Class of 1973) to present the awards.

Professor Christopher's son, Dr. George Liu, kindly volunteered to take pictures. Through Eddie's connections, we engaged a professional photographer to capture moments from the event.









The Big Day

In the elegantly decorated East India Club, we celebrated in its Dining Room. Old Boys from across six decades, dressed in suits and Old Boys' neckties, participated in this unprecedented, momentous, and joyful gathering.

We also had some special guests at the luncheon to witness the occasion as arranged by Professor Christopher. We welcomed Mr. Bernard Trafford, Chair of Governors of Purcell School, who introduced him to the East India Club; both are Purcell School Governors. We also had officers of The Hong Kong Medical Society of the United Kingdom, for which the Professor is a Patron.

Bryan Au Yeung (Class of 2023) touched the hearts of attendees with his solo performance of Down by the Salley Gardens. Bryan also led the school song, which we sang together with good spirit, and he prepared special school song handouts for all attendees as souvenirs.

During the luncheon, Professor Christopher symbolically removed his Old Boys' necktie and presented it to me as the new Convenor. This necktie holds special significance, having been passed down from our founding Convenor, Dr. Brian Ho. Across generations, the necktie remains, the knot remains, and the spirit remains.

The UK Chapter conferred the title of Honorary Life President onto Eddie Chan MBE and Professor Christopher Liu OBE, in appreciation of their leadership, excellence, and dedication to the UK Chapter over the years.

Beyond the fine food and wine, the luncheon was also filled with inspiring speeches.

Dr. Ho, our founding Convenor, shared memories of the early days of the UK Chapter, when we started with just 26 Old Boys. Professor Christopher spoke of his 17 years of leadership. Both former Convenors, with their distinct styles, embodied the same La Salle spirit and shared a vision that resonated throughout the UK Lasallian community.

From 26 to 230, the UK Chapter has grown considerably over the years. We now have Old Boys from all age groups, each bringing different expertise, experience, and resources. Thanks to the efforts of our predecessors, we now have a strong network and are well-positioned to support one another.

With the support and encouragement of our predecessors, we are ready to step into the new era that awaits us.

Heartfelt Gratitude: A Collection of Thank You Messages

There are many people to whom I am deeply grateful; without their support, our achievements would not have been possible.

- Dr. Brian Ho, for taking the first step and founding the LSCOBA UK Chapter in 1998, creating a platform for UK Lasallians to unite and connect.
- Professor Christopher, for leading the UK Chapter for 17 years, during which the community flourished into a closely connected network of Lasallians.
- Eddie Chan, for leveraging his connections in the British Chinese community to support fellow Lasallians, and for ensuring the best venues and cuisine for our China Town gatherings.
- Our event sponsors: Dr. Vincent Yip for the welcome wine; Professor Christopher for hosting and subsidising the event; and the anonymous si hing for covering the full costs for 12 young alumni.
- Chris Tavares, for bringing young alumni from other parts of the country to London and back. Brotherhood goes a long way!
- Bryan Au Yeung, for the beautiful music that elevated the atmosphere and made the event memorable for everyone.
- Paul Liu (Class of 1987), Co-Convenor of the Overseas Network Subcommittee of LSCOBA in Hong Kong, for arranging Old Boys' ties for those who didn't have one. Paul has always been a great supporter of overseas Lasallians.

- Old Boys from Hong Kong, North America, and around the globe, for their greetings and warm congratulations. Although we are physically separated by thousands of miles, our hearts are close enough to share in each other's joys.
- Gill Baird at the East India Club for her help with bookings, meal orders, and AV systems, and Scott Tan for his professional photography and videography.
- All the organisers of the luncheon, whose efforts ensured that the event exceeded expectations. Hats off to all your teamwork and contributions before, during, and after the event.
- The members of the UK Chapter, for their continued support of the Chapter and its activities. It was great meeting those who attended the luncheon, and I hope you enjoyed it!

### A Closing Remark

It is my honour and privilege to be entrusted with this role. I have always been impressed by the exceptional adaptability and "Never Say Die" spirit of UK Lasallians, and I am confident that our community will continue to thrive.

The UK Chapter belongs to everyone; we are all equal. While the organising team will continue to plan future activities, I encourage members to use social media to organise their own events, whether in London or other regions.

I look forward to many more occasions where the Old Boys getting together!

Yours in de La Salle, David Ho Convenor, LSCOBA UK Chapter

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### Reply from Professor Christopher Liu OBE

It has been an absolute pleasure and privilege to have served as Convenor for 17 years. Dr Brian Ho handed me his tie as a symbol of unity and leadership. I was very happy to have passed it on pure and unsullied to David Ho. I have a lot to thank him for, including the wonderful gifts he prepared for the outgoing and long serving team. Thank you, David. I will have fond memories of the handover ceremony for the rest of my life. I wish you very good luck and may you and your team take the UK Chapter to new heights, going from strength to strength.

# Notice: 2025 Louis Pomeroy Memorial Mah Jong Tournament & Chinese Spring Dinner

Kevin Kwok (88)

Dear La Salle brothers,

On behalf of HKLSOBA-Toronto, we are delighted to invite you, your family, and your friends to join us for the Louis Pomeroy Memorial Mah Jong Tournament and Chinese Spring Dinner.

#### **Event Details:**

Date: 9 March 2025 (Sunday)

Venue: NKS Banquet Hall 帝寶名宴(8360 Kennedy Road, Unit B06, Markham, ON L3R 9W5)

Mah Jong Tournament: 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Dinner: 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Cost Per Person:

• \$70.00 (Includes mahjong, afternoon snack, and dinner)

\$60.00 (Dinner only)\$35.00 (Students)

Free (Seniors over 80 years old)

We encourage you to RSVP by 2 March 2025 to secure your spot.

RSVP Contact: Kevin Kwok

Phone: 647-928-5880

Email: kevinkwok26@gmail.com

Enjoy an afternoon of friendly competition and an evening filled with delicious food, camaraderie, and community spirit. We look forward to seeing you there!

Best regards,

Kevin Kwok (88)
President (HKLSOBA-Toronto)



# About the North American Lasallians

This electronic newsletter is a joint bimonthly publication, aiming at forestering communications and serve as a channel to reconnect La Salle old boys in North America and beyond. We welcome submissions of articles and photos that may be of general interest to the old boys community, including, but are not limited to, official announcements and recaps of events hosted by Chapters in North America and/or dedicated old boys (such as class reunion and excursions); old boys community updates from Hong Kong; news and stories of old boys overseas; La Salle related heritage; as well as a few words and/or photos of nostalgia.

Brother Thomas said it quite well at the inauguration of this newsletter in 2009: "The big challenge will be to ensure that that second, third and more editions see the light of day. It will only continue if each Chapter supplies news, views and copy on a regular basis." It would be even better if the word "Chapter" is replaced by "Lasallian". You are urged to help nourish this newsletter by contributing articles, news and even just pictures as often as you can. The subjects of your contributions need not be limited to only materials regarding LSC, LSPS, OBA chapter, HKLSCOBA and old boys, but may also include other subjects that are of general interest to the old boys community.

The editorial board reserves the rights to oversee and edit all submissions, to ensure all contents meet our publication standards, as well as appropriate for the newsletter's intended audience & global circulation. Our editorial board has the exclusive right to reject submissions deemed to be not in line, or incompatible with the purpose or spirit of this newsletter at our sole discretion.

Previous issues of the newsletter are available on HKOBA website at <a href="https://www.lscoba.com/north-american-lasallians-newsletter/">https://www.lscoba.com/north-american-lasallians-newsletter/</a>

If you want to communicate with the editorial board or subscribe, please send email to <a href="mailto:Na editors@googlegroups.com">Na editors@googlegroups.com</a>

The Chief editors appreciate Daniel Wong (99), Charles Chan (77) and David Ho (94) for their contributions to this issue.

Chief Editors Victor Leung (77)

Kevin Kwok (88) Chris Fong (94) Ambrose Lee (98) Eddie Liu (88) Andy Szeto (79)