

"Life is either a daring adventure or nothing." ~ Helen Keller

Fall 2010 - Roy Chan's Newsletter



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Welcome Message from Roy Chan

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Greetings friends & family:

On behalf of myself, I would like to extend my warmest welcome to my latest newsletter for the Fall 2010 (September—December).

This new season has been loaded with many great excitement and joys during my graduate studies at The University of Hong Kong.

Fun Facts about Christmas:

- If you received all gifts in the song "Twelve Days of Christmas", you would receive 364 gifts in total, thus a gift was given for each day of the year
- "The Nutcracker" is them most famous Christmas ballet
- More diamonds are sold around Christmas than any other time
- Germany made the first artificial Christmas tree.

From learning how to order Cantonese dim sum to figuring out the bus system around Hong Kong, this new academic year has been an year of transition in my life.

Prior to entering Hong Kong, I had spent this last summer studying Chinese Foreign Policy at Peking University through a summer school program sponsored by the London School of Economics and Political Science.

From that program, I had gained mutual respect and admiration of China's remarkable and transformative history since 1949.

After the program, I had embarked a new life living and studying at Hong Kong University (HKU). From there, I had quickly immersed myself into the Hong Kong lifestyle learning the Cantonese language through different extracurricular activities.

Similar to my undergraduate years at UC Irvine, I have now became super involved here at

HKU and have made tons of new friends since September 2010.

In Fall 2010, I had participated with the Chamber Choir vocal ensemble in their annual Christmas concert series on December 1st. I also starred in a drama production for the English Drama Society entitled "Diaspora Blues", became an intern for the HKU Sustainability Office, and served as a part-time NET English Language teacher for Typhoon Club.

All in all, this semester has been full of challenges yet adventures, and am excited to share my incredible experience to you in this latest newsletter edition.

I hope you enjoy your time browsing through this newsletter. If you are around southern California during Xmas, let me know.

On behalf of myself, I wish you and your family a joyous and marvel holiday season!!!

Roy Yew Hung Chan



Special points of interest:

- TRANSITIONING FROM USA TO HONG KONG
- LEARNING TO APPRECIATE NEW CULTURES AND LANGUAGES
- DISSERTATION PROCESS
- CHRISTMAS VACATION
- FUTURE SPRING AND SUMMER PLANS 2011

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Looking back at Summer 2010—Peking University

This past summer, I had a wonderful opportunity to participate and meet several international students from all around the world studying at Peking University in China.

From the program, we spent hours both inside and outside the classroom learning about the Chinese history and language. Many students came from Singapore and Taiwan. These students became my good friends afterwards.

Professor & Dean Wang Jisi,

a well respected scholar in the School of International Studies, organized the program of which several students had the opportunity to share and exchange their world-wide ideas on their perspectives living and studying in mainland China.

The program had taught me the values of accepting other people's cultural viewpoint. It had stretched my perceived notion why China will one day take over the U.S. within the next twenty years or so.



LSE-PKU Students at a dinner gathering with Professor & Dean Wang Jisi, School of International Studies at Peking University



The HKU English Drama cast of "Diaspora Blues"



HKU Chancellor Lap-chee Tsui and Roy Chan at a dinner party in the University Chancellor's Club.

Living and Studying in Hong Kong

Over the last four months, I had an incredible opportunity to meet with hundreds of international students at The University of Hong Kong. Many students here come from all parts of UK, Germany, Taiwan, and the U.S. I had met many new friends through clubs activities, and societies of which I had joined

at Hong Kong University.

From high table dinners to conferences, I had an incredible time meeting numerous students from all parts of the world learning about their own cultural lifestyle and language back at home.

During the fall semester, I had joined several associations, such as, Education Society, Chamber Choir, English Drama

Society, International Christian Fellowship, Rotaract Club, and PGSA.

Through these involvements, I had the chance to further develop my time management, communication and leadership which are essential skills living in Hong Kong.

Overall, I am enjoying my time here in new school at HKU, and all my new friends in Hong Kong.

My New Christian Family and Church

Building new Christian relationships and being accountable with one another has been one of my highlights during my time here at HKU.

During my free time, I had been involved in the HKU International Christian Fellowship (ICF) on-campus experiencing God's work and kingdom here in Hong Kong.

Through weekly small groups and Sunday church, my new brothers and sisters have helped me deepen my personal relationship in Christ.

HKU ICF consist of students from mainland, Singapore, Taiwan, Germany, U.S., and even Africa.

All of my friends both in ICF and church have all taught me the values of trust. One aspect I really like about ICF is how we aren't afraid to share our struggles and pain we go through in our daily lives here in HK. Many of these students learn how to trust one another, and I feel very connected like a family. Overall, my new Christian friends have all helped me grow in Christ.



HKU International Christian Fellowship at our weekly fellowship gathering.

Photos/Highlights from Fall 2010



My cousin, aunt, uncle, and I here in Hong Kong



HKU Tinkling Dance Group Photo



HKU Rotaract Club group photo after a high table dinner



Postgraduate Student Association (PGSA) Executive Committee 2010-2011

THANKS FOR READING!!!! :)

[HTTP://WWW.RYCHAN.COM](http://www.rychan.com)

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Special Fall 2010 THANKS/CONGRATULATIONS to:

Congratulations **Emily F.** and **Steven G.** on your recent engagement.

Thanks **Iris L.** and **Michele F.** for being very supportive during my studies at HKU.

Thanks **Florian Z.** for helping me star in the 2010 HKU English Drama Society play.

Thanks **Michael R.** for helping us put on the Christmas Choral Performance at HKU.

Thanks **Michael N.** for encouraging me to join the UCI Chancellor's Club.

Thanks **Joy L.** for allowing me to serve as an Intern in the HKU Sustainability Office



Thanks **Moon S.** for a wonderful experience in Typhoon Club.

Congratulations **Connie H.** and **Jessie L.** on your baptism at Watermark Community Church of HK.

Thanks **Dingle P.** for assisting me in my IT skills for PGSA.

Congratulations **Megan B.** on becoming a 2011 Rhodes Scholar at UCI.

Thanks **Katie B.** and **Maik F.** for everything in HKU ICF.



Roy's Winter 2010 Christmas Break Calendar:

December 5: Plane from Hong Kong to Los Angeles
December 8: Volunteering at Operation Xmas Child
December 9: Long Beach Poly Choir Holiday Concert
December 11: Volunteering at Back Bay Science Center
December 15: Chanticleer - Holiday Walt Disney Concert
December 17: Long Beach Poly Choral Silent Auction
December 19: The Nutcracker—Maple Youth Ballet
December 23: The Nutcracker—Long Beach Ballet
December 25: MERRY CHRISTMAS
December 29—January 3: Chicago
January 6: Plane from Los Angeles to Hong Kong

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**HAPPY HOLIDAYS
MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**

