



**Hong Kong**



**Shanghai**



**Singapore**

# Connect Asia

Summer 2016 Issue  
The Magazine for alumni and  
friends of The University of  
Manchester across the Asia-  
Pacific region



## Welcome this issue of Connect Asia, a new magazine dedicated to The University of Manchester alumni community in the Asia-Pacific region.

My name is Markus. I'm the Global Volunteer and Networks Officer on the Alumni Relations team at The University of Manchester.

My role is to work with our alumni volunteers to build active, self-sustaining alumni groups across cities and regions where there is a strong alumni presence. This provides alumni with a strong professional network of fellow alumni and a direct connection back to your alma mater.

Get involved with your local group or, if there isn't one already, create a group by contacting our office: [alumni@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@manchester.ac.uk). Visit the 'Global Networks' tab on [your.manchester.ac.uk](http://your.manchester.ac.uk) to find your local group or for guidelines on starting a new one.

As well as meeting alumni face to face you can find thousands of alumni online using the alumni search directory on our website [your.manchester.ac.uk](http://your.manchester.ac.uk) or the LinkedIn alumni search tool. We've created a short URL for our LinkedIn page: [bit.ly/Li\\_UoM](http://bit.ly/Li_UoM), click the 'Students & alumni' tab to find a search directory for over 180,000 alumni who use LinkedIn. You can filter by geographic location, year of graduation, employment sector and more.

If you're a current student or a recent graduate and want to ask questions from an experienced alumnus/na in a field you're interested in, search for the term 'UMAN: GO' in LinkedIn profiles. If you find this code, you know that person is open to being asked questions. You can add this term to your profile if you want to help out students and graduates just starting their careers. Find out more: [your.manchester.ac.uk/alumni-network](http://your.manchester.ac.uk/alumni-network)

I'd like to offer a personal thank you to all the volunteers who help to run our alumni groups and Associations; without the dedication of alumni giving up their time, it would not be possible to have so many alumni groups worldwide. I'd also like to pay tribute to our Global MBS centres who given such excellent support not just to their students but to the wider alumni community in their regions.

Feel free to get in touch [alumni@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@manchester.ac.uk) for with any questions or ideas you have.

Markus Karlsson-Jones  
Global Volunteer and Networks Officer  
Division of Development and Alumni Relations



### The University of Manchester

[alumni@manchester](mailto:alumni@manchester)  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/connect/alumni](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/connect/alumni)  
[your.manchester.ac.uk](http://your.manchester.ac.uk)

### MBS Asia Centres

**China Centre – Shanghai**  
[alumni@mbs-worldwide.ac.cn](mailto:alumni@mbs-worldwide.ac.cn)  
[www.mbs.ac.uk/shangahi](http://www.mbs.ac.uk/shangahi)  
[www.mbs.ac.cn/alumni/events](http://www.mbs.ac.cn/alumni/events)

**East Asia Centre – Hongkong**  
[alumni@mbs.edu.uk](mailto:alumni@mbs.edu.uk)  
[www.mbs.ac.uk/hongkong](http://www.mbs.ac.uk/hongkong)  
[www.umaa.hk](http://www.umaa.hk)

**South East Asia Centre- Singapore**  
[alumni@mbsw.deu.sg](mailto:alumni@mbsw.deu.sg)  
[www.mbs.ac.uk/singapore](http://www.mbs.ac.uk/singapore)  
[www.uomalumni.org.sg](http://www.uomalumni.org.sg)

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# Greetings from your UoM Alumni Associations



## Dr. OuYang Qian (PH.D Aeronautical Engineering) President of University of Manchester Alumni Association China

I spent four years in Manchester where I completed my PhD degree. It was an unforgettable experience at The University of Manchester. Some memories which stick in my mind include hurrying through the constantly drizzling rain; resting on the lawn enjoying the sunshine; busying ourselves in the libraries, labs, and computer rooms and having long conversations with our supervisor. Through our degrees, we were introduced to varied thoughts and opinions from different parts of the world. We understood that tutors would offer guidance rather than give fixed answers. We made lots of friends and in doing so learned to appreciate diverse cultures and the value of inclusiveness and respect. To this day, I still miss these wonderful experiences.

When I was studying in the Simon Building, I befriended classmates from Mauritius, Malaysia, Iraq, Greece, Algeria, China and the UK. We got along well and always helped each other. Sometimes we would go for dinner together in the nearby Greek restaurant where it was common for the Greek diners to dance with the restaurant owner after dinner.

Chinese students were always warm-hearted and hospitable. We often would make a table of delicious Chinese dishes and invite classmates. A Malaysian student would often join us and bring beautiful wine glasses. We would make a punch by mixing the red wine, spirits, mixed fruits, lemon juice and plenty of ice. We drank and sang and talked about the interesting things our supervisors had told us. On one occasion our Malaysian classmate got so excited he didn't notice that he'd put a hole in his wine glass by shaking his glass so fiercely an ice cube broke the glass. This made us laugh so loudly!

In 1985, Chinese students at Manchester started their first magazine called *Xinzhu*. When I read this magazine again, I get a mixture of feelings. There were short stories, poetry, travels logs, – all showing our naivety, curiosity, willingness to study, passion, idealism, courage, romance and more. We put a lot of time and effort into making the magazine. Today, we are brought together again with mobile app technology, in particular wechat.

I had suggested another name for the magazine *Jianzhu*, which is quoted from a famous Chinese poet Shangyin Li. The name echoes for me those unforgettable moments we all experienced. In a rainy Manchester, especially when the night was long, we gathered together happily, drinking, chatting and exchanging ideas. At that time, I made a wish: that in the future, when we are middle-aged and living in different areas, that if we came across each other, we would talk heart-to-heart again about our unforgettable overseas study life in Manchester.

It's in the spirit of this shared experience that I invite you to enjoy this magazine, to connect with your fellow alumni and to engage with your alma mater.

I wish all of our alumni good health and continued prosperity for my alma mater!



## Tang Hian Seng (Electronic Engineering) - President of University of Manchester Alumni Association Singapore

Tang Hian Seng is the President of The University of Manchester Alumni Association Singapore ([www.uomalumni.org.sg](http://www.uomalumni.org.sg)), elected in 2013 and now serving his second term. In April 2015, Hian Seng was also appointed by the University to the Alumni Association Advisory Board to become the first internationally based Member of this board.

Hian Seng said: "Those years in Manchester and the academic achievements I gained at University has definitely helped to shape my personal development and hence, when the opportunity came to take over as President of the alumni association in 2013, I decided to step up to serve and give back to the University.

"The alumni network has benefitted me greatly, be it for personal or business reasons, and I've since established many close friendships and relations within the alumni network in Singapore and the greater Asia region, particularly in Hong Kong and China. The University of Manchester Alumni Association Singapore (UoMAAS) has around 4,200 alumni and we are one of the most active Alumni Associations. It has alumni with diverse backgrounds including graduates from as early as the 1960s to graduates of the last year; spanning six decades in all. We've a large community of Manchester alumni in Singapore and many senior Manchester alumni have also achieved distinction in their professional careers. I believe it's a valuable network for our alumni to tap into; to meet, interact and learn from fellow alumni success stories.

"The opportunity to contribute to the University and getting involved in a greater capacity on the Advisory Board; an extension of my appointment as President of the Singapore Alumni Association, will help the University to engage and strengthen the Asia-Pacific based alumni engagement.

"Most importantly, I'm proud and privileged to be part of the University's efforts to strengthen and engage our global alumni community and The University of Manchester's branding across the region."



## William Lam (Electronics and Electrical Engineering) President of University of Manchester Alumni Association (Hong Kong) UMAA(HK)

William was elected President of The University of Manchester Alumni Association (Hong Kong) (UMAA(HK)) in 2011 and again in 2014. The Association emerged from a predecessor; 'Alumni of Manchester Universities' (AMU) which was formed in 2001 in Hong Kong. The main aim of the Association is to build a better and stronger network between our alumni, students and the University.

William obtained an honours degree in Electronics and Electrical Engineering from The University of Manchester in 1981. Afterwards he studied law at Manchester Polytechnic (now known as Manchester Metropolitan University) and at the College of Law (Chester, UK). In 1991/1992, Mr Lam furthered his studies in law at The University of Hong Kong and obtained a Postgraduate Certificate in Laws.

William found his own law firm *William Lam and Company Solicitors*, a company majoring in Information Technology and Intellectual Property.

# University of Manchester Update



## Manchester alumni entrepreneurs scoop Education UK awards

The Education UK Alumni Awards celebrate the achievements of alumni from UK universities who are now living in 10 countries: Brazil, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the USA. The awards aim to demonstrate the impact that a UK education can have and to inspire others to reach their potential by studying in the UK. Alumni of The University of Manchester responded to the call for applications, nominating more candidates than any other UK university.

Two alumni in the Asia-Pacific region (Hong Kong and Pakistan) were successful this year.

In Hong Kong, the Entrepreneurial Award, for alumni who are active in initiating, or contributing to innovative new business opportunities with strong growth prospects, was presented to Kelvin Chan Tak On who studied at the University of Greenwich and currently studies at Manchester Business School.

Kelvin founded 'Korean Corner' and created his new brand 'paper world' which uses the latest technology to produce high quality paper which is 100% recyclable. The product is used by multinationals, including H&M, NGOs and government departments. In less than a year since it was founded, 'Korean Corner' has become a market leader in Hong Kong and Taiwan, pioneering the import of high quality products from Korea. With sales already in Australia and Korea, Kelvin plans to launch in the US soon.

In Pakistan, Bilal Majeed Khan also picked up the Entrepreneurial Award. Bilal completed his MSc Mechanical Engineering Design at The University of Manchester in 2009. Bilal is Founder and Product Architect of BMKDesign, a company that is supporting start-up entrepreneurs, and helping them to unlock their creative potential. From building up the company from scratch, Bilal now manages industrial design projects in the USA and UK and is looking to develop into the European market. Bilal said "Studying in the UK provided me with the technical acumen and the confidence to work with clients from across the globe, delivering solutions that impact small and emerging businesses."

A special mention to our other alumni who were finalists in Asia-Pacific countries; in Indonesia in the Professional Achievement category, Yanuar Nugroho (MSc of the Republic of Information Systems Engineering 2001) who is a Deputy Chief of Staff in the Office of the President of Republic of Indonesia, made it to the final three. In Hong Kong in the Professional Achievement category, Charlotte Ho (MBA Financial Specialists and Managers 2010) also made it to the final three. Charlotte is Vice-President (Corporate Audit) at the Bank of America Merrill Lynch in Hong Kong. In Pakistan, the entrepreneurial category was dominated by Manchester graduates. Alongside the winner Bilal Majeed Khan was Qurat ul ain Ansari (MSc International Business and Management 2011) who is the CEO and Founder of his own fashion retail company and Ifran Weldon (MSc Corporate Communications & Reputation Management 2008), Agency Director for Brand Stallion Digital Marketing. [Photos: (top) Kelvin Chan accepting his award in Hong Kong (top right) Bilal Majeed Khan accepting his award in the Entrepreneurial category]



### University professor brings Nanomedicine insights to Hong Kong alumni

Professor Kostas Kostarelos visited Hong Kong in November 2015 and delivered the very first 'International Speaker Series' event in the Asia-Pacific region. His talk focused on the nanomedical applications of graphene, entitled *Bringing Nanomaterial Closer to Medicine: Exercises in Nanomedicine*.

The 'International Speaker Series' connects alumni with academics who are travelling the globe on scholarly and University business. Kostas was visiting Hong Kong to meet with collaborating academics from The Chinese University of Hong Kong and to deliver seminars and lectures to its Schools of Medicine and Engineering.

Attended by 22 alumni, this event was a successful collaboration between Manchester Business School East Asia Centre (MBS(EA)), the Alumni Association for Hong Kong (UMMAA(HK)) and the Hong Kong Foundation for The University of Manchester (HKFUM). For more about the HKFUM, see 'Generous Hong Kong based donors support collaborative research' elsewhere in the magazine.

We were joined by Christina Siu, Director of MBS(HK), William Lam, President of UMAA(HK), who hosted and introduced the speaker and Dr Eric Li, Chairman of the HKFUM who met with Kostas before the event. A lively Q&A followed Kostas' talk, showing great appetite for interaction with major University research. We look forward to more opportunities to deliver talks by academics travelling through the Asia-Pacific region.



### Delhi Alumni Group launches

In mid-2014, a group of alumni met up over a coffee in Delhi to share experiences and ideas about creating an Alumni Association for Delhi and Northern India. Word spread and activity began with a mixed gender cricket practise session in winter 2014. Over the following months, as the group gained momentum, the first annual gathering was organised by The University of Manchester Alumni Association, New Delhi. There is now a vibrant community of graduates of all ages; ranging from newly graduated alumni to those who left Manchester 50 years ago meeting regularly. The professions of these alumni span many different industries; private and public sectors, with a vast range of experience in finance, agriculture, engineering, textiles, real estate, education, automobiles, science & technology and arts and non-profits.

More information is available on the Facebook Page of 'The University of Manchester Alumni Association, New Delhi'. You can also email: [uomaadelhi@gmail.com](mailto:uomaadelhi@gmail.com) [Top left: Manchester alumni meet for a mixed gender cricket practise; remaining pictures; alumni of all ages gathering in March 2015 at the Ethiopian Culture Café in New Delhi]



### Generous Hong Kong based donors support collaborative research

The Hong Kong Foundation of The University of Manchester (HKFUM) has made funds available to support research collaborations between The University of Manchester and the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK).

The CUHK-UoM Research Fund is a scheme that is jointly funded by the HKFUM and CUHK and aims to enable staff at both institutions to undertake short-term visits to each other to strengthen existing collaboration and/or establish new collaboration in priority areas.

Those areas are Cancer, Neuroscience, Energy and Climate Change, Future Cities, Advanced Materials and Poverty Relief and the scheme is a shining example of UK-Hong Kong joint working in order to address some of the world's most challenging problems.

It is hoped that the scheme will lead to further collaborative work between the two institutions and will provide an example that will encourage joint working between The University of Manchester and other leading institutions globally.

The Hong Kong Foundation of The University of Manchester (HKFUM) was created in 2011 and is an independent, not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the philanthropic support of the work of the University. HKFUM'S Chairman and President is the Honourable Dr Eric Li OBE. If you would like to find out more about the partnership or supporting the University of Manchester by making a gift to HKFUM please contact Fiona Manning on [Fiona.manning@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Fiona.manning@manchester.ac.uk).



### President and Vice-Chancellor tour of Asia Pacific region, September 2015

In September 2015, Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell toured the Asia-Pacific region on University business; hosting four alumni receptions in Beijing, Hong Kong, Seoul and Sydney.

Dame Nancy updated the 280 alumni attending across the four events on the headline news of the last twelve months, including:

- Writer and broadcaster Lemn Sissay MBE was elected as Chancellor of the University, taking over from property developer and entrepreneur Tom Bloxham MBE.
- Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne officially opened the National Graphene Institute
- A huge capital development project was announced; MECD, which will become the Engineering campus at the University
- The Manchester Cancer Research Centre was opened, consolidating the University and the City as world leading in cancer research
- A stunning extension to the Whitworth Art Gallery has won two major awards and a nomination; Museum of the Year; North West building of the Year; Royal Institute of British Architects Stirling Prize Shortlist

**10 September, Beijing:** Hosted at the resplendent Grand Hyatt, 80 alumni joined for an update on University business and an insight into the changes that have taken place on campus, including the removal of the footbridge over Oxford Road. Many alumni showed great enthusiasm in connecting with the University and the Alumni Association for Beijing. We were pleased to be joined by Sherry Fu, Director of the MBS China Centre, Mike Gibbons, Director of Student Recruitment and International Development; Kate Bradbury, Senior Events Officer and Markus Karlsson-Jones, Global Volunteer and Networks Officer.

While in Beijing, Dame Nancy visited leading Chinese Higher Education Institutions, research bodies and prominent enterprises. This was part of a wider mission to deepen the collaboration between Manchester and

China in science, research and business.

**12 September, Hong Kong:** Hosted at the Renaissance Harbour View Hotel, one of our most well-attended alumni receptions to date with 140 alumni joining us from Hong Kong, US, South China, Japan and South Korea. Alumni met former classmates, gathered University news and to make new contacts. The MBS East Asia Centre was represented by its Director, Christina Siu and the Alumni Association (Hong Kong) was represented by its President, William Lam.

**24 September, Seoul:** 30 alumni attended the very first alumni reception hosted by Dame Nancy Rothwell in South Korea, at the British Embassy. The reception was attended by Professor Ilkwon Chae (MBA 2008), Vice-President of the Alumni Association for Korea, along with a number of its committee officers. The following day, Dame Nancy visited the IEN Institute, which offers International Foundation Year courses, with many of its graduates progressing to UK universities including The University of Manchester.

**27 September, Sydney:** hosted at the Hilton – Sydney, around 30 alumni joined the reception, including Sydney alumni coordinator Helen Hindin (BA Econ1983) and Australia coordinator, Julia Eagles (BSc Mathematics and Management Sciences 1982).

[Clockwise from top left; Dame Nancy Rothwell and Mike Gibbons, Director of the International Office visiting the IEN Institute, Seoul; Dame Nancy at the reception in Hong Kong; Gathered alumni at the Beijing reception; Dame Nancy in Hong Kong.]



Markus Karlsson-Jones speaking at the Career Starters event in Hong Kong

Noeleen Hammond Jones speaking at the Career Starters event in Shanghai



### Professional Networking for Career Starters in Hong Kong and Shanghai

Shanghai 7 September, Le Royal Meridien | Hong Kong, 9 September, Club Lusitano

In September 2015 we hosted two 'early career' networking events for graduates of the last two years and final year students, (including MBAs). We heard presentations from alumni who shared their experience of getting their first job; and from graduate recruiters who provided an insight into local employment markets.

The 'early career' participants circulated around tables hosted by graduate employers, recruiters and alumni

'mentors'. They were encouraged to ask what employers were looking for in new recruits, where opportunities were emerging and to learn more about specific sectors and companies.

Shanghai was packed out with 60 recent graduates and students, 20 employers and recruiters and 8 alumni mentors. We heard from Eric Yu (MSc Marketing 2011), a Business Consultant for Ipsos, 3-4 years further ahead in his career than the recent graduates in attendance. He advised career starters to "be focussed; don't scatter gun your applications and be prepared and research your company". Eric was followed by Richard King, Regional Director for Michael Page, also an alumnus (MSc Chemistry, 1995), who described the optimistic employment conditions in Shanghai and mainland China as a whole, citing China's strong annual GDP growth of 7%.

In Hong Kong we heard from recruitment specialist Dean Stallard, Regional Director for Hays. He offered advice for the recent graduates belonging to 'Generation Y' and highlighted some of the cultural barriers that can occur across generations; something to consider for graduates in their 20s wishing to get hired by professionals in their 40s and 50s.

Both events were well supported by the MBS China and East Asia centres.

Feedback reported increased confidence and awareness of the market in searching for the first graduate job; for example 100% of respondents in Shanghai agreed they would take action on their careers directly as a result of this event.

After this successful pilot, The University of Manchester is planning to repeat these events in early autumn 2016.

### Global Graduates Spotlight: Hong Kong

Global Graduates returned to Hong Kong and Singapore in 2016. If you'd be interested in hosting a small group of students in your work place next year, you can get involved by contacting richard.screaton@manchester.ac.uk.

Meanwhile, hear from Grace Bullas, third year English Literature student, who shares her experience of the Global Graduates programme in Hong Kong in 2015. She says: "Over the summer I was fortunate to take part in what became the most inspiring week of my University career so far; a funded scheme called the Global Graduates programme. This exclusive experience offers students the chance to visit a whole range of fascinating host cities around the globe, meeting with alumni and gaining an insight into international working cultures. After a rigorous application and then group assessment process, to my delight I had been placed on the trip to Hong Kong!

"My visit in Hong Kong consisted of meetings, social events and dinners with a range of welcoming and fascinating Manchester alumni. The alumni we met were so happy to answer our questions, ranging from the simplest to the sensitive. Simply meeting these driven and inspiring individuals has played an invaluable part in my understanding of their organisations, career pathways and success stories.

"Regardless of their sectors; be it property, architecture, energy, banking, transport or business, one thing was certain; they all had a passion for what they do. There is no doubt that by meeting with these motivated business men and women I have tested and reinforced my interpersonal, networking and communication skills. Listening to their advice and absorbing the common emphasis on interaction, it is now even more apparent to me that building and maintaining a strong web of connections will be indispensable to my future career journey."



# Regional Social Networking Events

## Shanghai

### Manchester Business School China Alumni Dinner

On 16 January 2016, we held the grand Annual Dinner of Manchester Business School Alumni in China. The



Dinner was hosted by Ms Sherry Fu, MBS Regional Director, at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel on the Bund. Mr Xavier Duran, Associate MBA Director; Professor Ismail Ertürk, Senior Lecturer in Banking; Chris Garnett, Head of Postgraduate Careers and Lisa Samberg, Head of Alumni Relations (MBA/DBA) travelled from Manchester to celebrate this grand event. Special guests included Mr Andrew Moss President of GKN China and colleagues from the joint DBA programme of Shanghai Jiao Tong University. The audience was honoured to hear from Mr David Houle; a top futurist and experienced media professional. He gave a keynote speech on 'International branding shift'.

Following the cocktail reception, Ms Fu welcomed all guests with a warm message on behalf of the Business School. She took the audience through the great journey of MBS China Centre; from its establishment in 2008 to being recognized as one of the top MBA providers in China.

The new MBS China Alumni Committee was introduced to the audience while their continuous efforts in providing alumni support, networking opportunities has been recognized and sincerely appreciated. The Asia-Pacific MBA 'Desert Challenge' was introduced with participation and donations encouraged. The dinner was accompanied by artistic performances by alumni.

We wish all our alumni and their family a prosperous Year of the Monkey. On the same day, MBS China Centre kicked off recruitment for Manchester Global MBA July 2016 intake through a workshop taster of Managerial Economics.

### Healthcare is Great Seminar held at MBS China Centre

In January 2016, Healthcare UK drove the "Healthcare is Great" campaign across China.

During the Shanghai leg, the campaign held a half-day seminar at the MBS China Center, hosting over 50 distinguished guests; including Presidents, Vice-Presidents from leading hospitals, and senior officials from both UK and Chinese healthcare-related government authorities. They received warm welcome by Sherry Fu, Director of the MBS China Centre.



Healthcare UK; a UK government body, is a joint initiative of three organisations; the UK Government's Department of Health, UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) and NHS

England. Its aim is to explore the context of the UK and China as the countries face many similar challenges in delivering high quality, safe and cost-effective care for its people. Against the backdrop of the 'Golden Era' in UK-China relations, this visit is just the latest expression of that closer collaboration.

Among the distinguished guests, many have strong connections with Manchester. Howard Lyons, Managing Director of Healthcare UK, was educated at Manchester Business School; Sir Ron Kerr, Executive Vice-Chairman of Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, an organization of high pedigree with a proud history of over 900 years, has professional experience based in Manchester; and Roger Spencer is Chief Executive of The Christie, Europe's largest single site cancer centre, headquartered in Manchester.

### Manchester China Forum Envoys Talk about President Xi in Manchester and Beyond

19 January 2016 The Manchester-China Forum, was held at the China Centre. This event followed President Xi's historic visit to Manchester in October 2015, with \$100 million of investment ear-marked for Greater



Manchester and the much publicised 'Northern Powerhouse'.

The forum is a private sector-led initiative launched by UK Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne with plans to expand the city's business relationships with China. Sherry Fu, one of the distinguished Manchester Envoys, made a welcome speech, outlining the achievement and development of the MBS China Centre, promoting the closer Manchester-China relationship especially with regard to education. The event introduced new Envoys committed to furthering the efforts of the Manchester-China forum.

### January 2016 Induction held in Shanghai



14 January, induction for the 2016 intake students was held in MBS China. Students received a warm welcome from Sherry Fu, Regional Director of China. Professor Xavier Duran and Dr. Jiyao Xun, Associate MBA directors, introduced the expectations of the Global MBA Programme and detailed course structure. After an introduction from Student Support Manager Ms. Livian Lang, students were divided to groups, and participated in the traditional Tower Challenge, which symbolized the upcoming challenges guaranteed by a Manchester MBA.

Current student Mr. Haka Jiang, passionately shared his MBA journey. Chris Garnett Head of Postgraduate Careers & Employability, along with Lisa Samberg, Head of Alumni Relations (DBA/MBA) introduced on the career development and networking facilities and services the School has to offer.

With an average work experience of 9 years, this cohort consist of 55% female and 45% male students from various industries such as pharmaceutical, engineering, media, finances and etc. Just over half of the students are Shanghai based, residents of Beijing, Zhejiang, Jiangsu and expatriates from Germany, Thailand and Canada formed the rest.



### MBS China Innovation and Startup Club Event: Entrepreneurship Sharing by CEO of zhan.com



On the evening of 28 December 2015, MBS China Center Start-up Club invited Mr. Haoping Wang, CEO and Founder of zhan.com to share with our alumni his entrepreneurial story. Ms. Sherry Fu, Regional Director of MBS China, joined and awarded Mr. Wang 'Entrepreneurial Mentor of MBS China Alumni'.

This is not the first time zhan.com has come to talk on campuses. Global MBA students and alumni from the MBS, however, were the most special audience. They have accumulated abundant

working and practical management experiences. In addition, the study in MBS has also equipped them well with the most advanced western management know-how, motivating more entrepreneurship. The successful story of zhan.com will no doubt inspire further entrepreneurship in future.

### Global MBA Beijing Christmas Party

2015 marks the 50th anniversary of MBS and the 7th anniversary of the MBS China Centre. The Centre invited MBS students and alumni to its Christmas Party in the Beijing Hilton Hotel on Tuesday, 22 December 2015 and celebrate this historic year. Around 20 students and alumni attended with Centre staff. Sherry Fu, Regional Director of the China Centre, delivered a welcome speech.



### MBS China Centre Awarded Most Innovative MBA School

On 22 December 2015 the 3rd Tencent Business School Development Forum was held in Beijing. The event was attended by Deans and Directors of prestigious business schools from China and other countries, MBA program leaders and leading MBA experts who shared ideas on the theme of 'Management Education in the context of Internet +'.



Sherry Fu was awarded the 'Most Revolutionary Director of Business School' for 2015. Sherry was the only Chinese Director of an international business school to be awarded this honour. The MBS China Centre was awarded 'The Most Innovative MBA School, 2015', for its global coverage and high quality Global part-time MBA programme. She emphasized that the MBS China Centre has been dedicated to bringing the best UK business education to China since its establishment, developing for China the future business leaders with the requisite local resources and transnational perspectives.

Sherry joined a panel discussion alongside deans of Chinese business schools, and shared the innovative practices implemented by MBS in the education

technology.

In January 2015, MBS signed a strategic partnership agreement with Renmin University Business School – to share education resources, establish joint research topics, double MBA degrees, and international exchange programs, aiming for deeper long-term collaborations between the two schools on high-level business education.

### MBS China Centre Awarded Most Influential MBA Brand for the Third Year



26 November 2015 MBS was awarded for the third time 'The Most Influential MBA School Brand' in China for its Global MBA programme. The ceremony took place during the eighth Sina Education Gala in Beijing. The award was determined by an online vote and a month-long assessment acknowledging both the views of the wider public as well as professionals. MBS was the only international school to be awarded in three consecutive years. This is further recognition of MBS as a provider of high-level business education.

### Think Alumni Series: Co-founder of Fruitday Talk about *Decoding eCommerce 3.0*



eCommerce and digital technologies are now common features of doing business in China. On Thursday 26 November, Mr Loren Zhao, Co-founder of Fruitday ( 天天果园 ) was invited to share insights on business strategies for a digital age. Fruitday is an eCommerce provider that focuses on importing global fresh fruit products and services. We learned about the practical tools for doing eCommerce and how to engage customers by keeping both products and services exciting and closely related.

### Professor Fiona Devine OBE meets MBS China Alumni Association Committee members



In October 2015, Professor Fiona Devine OBE, Head of Manchester Business School, had an exclusive dinner with our newly elected MBS China Alumni Association Committee members, at the Yacht Club on the Bund.

### First MBS China MBA Graduate Joined DBA Programme



Top-ranked in the world, the DBA program of MBS accepted a new cohort of students in October 2015. Among the 20 new students was Tiger Qiao, Chief Operation Director of ODL Asia. Freshly graduated in 2015 from MBS' Global MBA program, Tiger chose to continue his studies with the DBA program. His ambitions are to become future Commercial Leader, integrating practical commercial applications with the latest management researches. Fiona Devine, Head of MBS, welcomed the new DBA students in person.

Joining Tiger Qiao, are five students from China, including Richard Cai, VP of SAP China; Jason Guo, Director of Accenture China; Liddon Guo, Deputy GM of Televic-KTK; Helen Zhu, Purchasing Manager of SanDisk and Liqun Xu, VP of China Pacific Insurance Group.

### MBS China Alumni Reunion held in Shanghai

MBS China Centre has taught around 1,000 Global Part-time MBA students since its establishment in 2008, with over 220 successfully completing an MBS master's degree.

Our graduates have made tremendous career transformations through their MBA journey. On 20 September, the first Manchester Global Part-time MBA Graduation Party was held to celebrate not only our graduates' success, but also MBS' 50th Anniversary and China Centre's 7th Anniversary.

The event was joined by distinguished guests including; Matthew Knowles, Area Director East China, British Council; Elaine Ferneley, Global and MBA Director of MBS; Sherry Fu, MBS China Centre Director together with around 50 graduates and their families .

The occasion also officially launched the MBS China Centre Alumni Start-up Club. While the Chinese government is encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship, this Club is bound to become one of the most active Clubs in MBS.

Professor Elaine Ferneley and Ms Sherry Fu granted some awards to staff, students and alumni.

Professor Paul Taaffe and Dr Alison Ashton both won the 'Most Popular Academic Awards'. Professor Paul Taaffe, who was visiting China teaching an Operation Management Workshop, received the award and gave a short speech and his best wishes to the graduates.



**Student Awards Winners:**

Bill Cheng, CFO of Great China, Ernest & Young, part of the July 2009 Intake, won the award for Student Distinction (graduating with top marks)

Kevin Zhou, Senior IT Business Relationship Manager at AstraZeneca, part of the January 2011 Intake, won the award for Most Hardworking Student.

Ruby Li, Business Manager, part of the January 2012 intake, won the award for Most Hardworking Student.

Eric Yang, General Manager, part of the January 2012 Intake, won the award for Most Helpful Student Award, and delivered a spontaneous speech on behalf of the award winners.



# Guangdong



## Christmas Hot Spring Tour

On 26 December, Manchester University Guangdong Alumni Network (MUGAN ) arranged a hot spring tour to Nan Kun Shan (South Kun Mountain), Huizhou, Guangdong, China for alumni.



## Spring Dinner

On 23 of January, MUGAN joined the Spring Dinner, hosted by the US and UK Alumni Association. Around 120 alumni from 25 University alumni networks were in attendance.

# Hong Kong

## (Japan) Japan New Year Party and Seminar: Life Long Learning in the Technological Era

Professor Elaine Ferneley had her first visit to Japan and she was so delighted to be meeting our alumni and current MBAs at this special New Year Party. Professor Ferneley led an informal discussion on the evolving nature of MBA programmes. Additionally, she discussed the benefits of a practice based approach to Management Education, particularly as the world of work has become more globalised and more socially responsible.



## (South Korea) Alumni Association of South Korea Annual Dinner and AGM

Alumni Association of South Korea Annual Dinner and AGM were held in the end of February with over 60 alumni joining the celebration party. Alumni were delighted to see the new Manchester University images shown in a presentation session and learnt of upcoming events in the region. This is the first kick-off MBS 50th Anniversary celebration event and other networking events continue throughout the year.



## (Hong Kong) MBSAA Annual Spring Dinner

In celebration of the 50th Anniversary of MBS and the Year of the Goat 2015, the Manchester Business School Alumni Association (China) Limited held its annual Spring dinner at Hong Kong Club Lusitano. The whole event was thoroughly enjoyed by over 60 Manchester stakeholders joining to share their memories, catching up with Manchester news, rekindling friendships and building and developing business links. We also heard a talk by guest speakers who explained to us 'Why this is the year of Diamond' and 'New Year, New Beginnings'. It was an amazing night full of fun with exciting games of constructing 3D goats, Bollywood dance, and plenty of lucky draws.



## MBS 50th Anniversary Cocktail Reception

MBS 50th Anniversary Celebration Reception was held in Hong Kong at the MBS East Asia Centre on 5 May. Professor Fiona Devine, Head of MBS, gave a warm welcome to alumni and students; sharing MBS updates. Following the welcome speech, a lively cocktail party brought together over 120 South East Asia based alumni, students and friends.



## MBSAA Bowling Fun Day (Hong Kong and Singapore Alumni Association)

On Saturday, 13 June, students and alumni from varied industries in Hong Kong came together with alumni from the MBS Alumni Association (Singapore) to enjoy a bowling fun day at Aberdeen Maria Club. Students lounged with friends while enjoying bowling and a glass of champagne. Special thanks to all the officers and MBS Alumni Association (Singapore) board who flew to Hong Kong and supported this event.



## (Hong Kong) Manchester Global Graduate Scheme 2015

Manchester Global Graduate Scheme 2015: a group of eight undergraduate students will be visited Hong Kong 15-19 June. A well planned schedule was arranged for undergraduate students to meet with prominent alumni for advice on living and working in Hong Kong. The undergraduate students were given a warm welcome at East Asia Centre on the first day of arrival and support throughout their journey in Hong Kong.



## Japan annual alumni reunion

Celebrating the 50th anniversary, this year's reunion party was an opportunity for alumni to share the learning experience at MBS on 4 July. It was an ideal opportunity to get students and alumni from different nationalities and backgrounds, to get together.



## MBS Alumni Association China: AGM and Annual Dinner

The MBS Annual Dinner 2015, together with MBSAA China's 11th AGM, was held at Royal Garden Hotel in Tsim Sha Tsui on 28 October.

It began with stimulating discussion during the AGM, after which attendees relaxed for a dinner party.

The theme of the dinner party was the 1960's with the slogan 'Innovation and Heritage'. The event was enjoyed by over 220 alumni from several regions, current students, China representatives, board members and other distinguished guests comprising education professionals, VIPs from varied sectors. The fun evening included cocktail reception, Chinese cuisine games, toasting and a grand lucky draw. Professor Elaine Ferneley updated on school developments.



## Joint UK Social 2015

On 18 November, more than 300 alumni from 26 UK universities gathered in Wan Chai to make a huge success of the 7th Anniversary Celebration. Ms Jo Hawley, Director of Trade and Investment at the British Consulate General and Mr Robert Ness, Director of British Council Hong Kong delivered the welcome speeches.



The largest Joint UK Alumni Social was back and better than ever! Alumni networked, mixed and mingled with other UK university graduates in one of Hong Kong's most pristine, coolest venues which boasts a stunning view. The event was supported by British Council and 25 UK alumni associations in HK. This year there were over 400 UK graduates from 25 universities.

## UMAA(HK) AGM and Christmas Dinner



Hosted at the Hong Kong Football Club on 11 December 2015, the Annual Dinner marked the inauguration of the new University of Manchester Alumni Association (Hong Kong) (UMAA(HK)) Committee Board and begins a series of events for the year ahead. We welcomed six new committee officers on to the Board to assist with the Alumni Association; some of them are recent graduates, beginning their careers, others are at management level with a wealth of experience.

The AGM and dinner was combined with Christmas party, with Christmas Crackers, a Secret Santa gift exchange and a lucky draw; all of which made for a fantastic, festive evening.

## The 1st Committee Meeting 2016 at the Hong Kong Football Club on 8th January 2016



The first official committee meeting of 2016 was held also at the Football Club on 8 January 2016. We are pleased to announce the new UMAA(HK) committee for 2016 – 2018:

1. President: Mr. William Lam
2. Secretary General: Ms. Gladys Law
3. Vice President: Dr. Stanley Wong
4. Vice President: Mr. Albert Lam
5. Deputy Secretary General: Miss Hayley Tsui
6. Treasurer: Mr. Joe Pang
7. Membership Officer: Ms. Lilian Chin
8. Social Secretary: Miss Sharon Leung
9. Communication Secretary: Miss Halina Cheung
10. Mentorship Officer: Mr. Tang Kam On
11. Liaison Officer: Mr. Desmond Leung
12. Advisor: Mr. Ma Ching Yuk
13. Welfare Officer: Miss Cubie Chan
14. Publication Secretary: Miss Angela Lai
15. Assistant Secretary General: Mr. Tim Cheung
16. Deputy Treasurer: Mr. Christian Li
17. Deputy Mentorship Officer: Mr. Steve Lai
18. Deputy Liaison Officer: Mr. Sunny Chan

## Singapore

### Happy Hour with Professor Rod Coombs

We enjoyed Happy Hour drinks with Professor Rod Coombs, former Deputy President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor of The University of Manchester, held at Bar Rose by Attica at Clarke Quay, on the 23 September 2015.

Professor Rod Coombs shared the latest news on developments at The University of Manchester.



### Strategic Management Seminar

On 26 August, Kevin Jagiello, strategy consultant and member of teaching staff at MBS, presented an advanced strategic management seminar at the South East Asia Centre. His insights gave powerful examples of how to gain an overview of strategic positions, how to assess the attractiveness of a business using empirical findings and how to read perceived quality and market value. Close to 40 alumni and students from varied industries attended the majority of whom work in multinational companies.



### Strategic Leadership and Innovation workshop, in partnership with Wits Business School

On 5 September 2015 in Singapore the MBS South East Asia Centre, in collaboration with MBS Executive Education and Wits Business School, one of the top business schools in Africa, conducted a one-day workshop on Strategic Leadership and Innovation for a delegation from TETA (Transport Education Training Authority), a statutory body in South Africa.

As a government body established by the Skills Development Act in South Africa, TETA seeks to accelerate the capabilities of practitioners in the transport sector and learn by working with outstanding partners across Asia.

The intensive, interactive workshop taught by Dr Michael Netzley, a strategy specialist, leveraged business cases from real-life companies to demonstrate key management concepts for the 20 senior-level participants.



The attendees gave excellent feedback, rating highly all key aspects of the workshop (structure, delivery, and knowledge gained) and indicated an appetite for a longer, three-day programme of this “rewarding, eye-opening learning experience”.

### Youth and Sports Committee go bowling

On 19 October 2015, the youth and sports committee promoted its first event dedicated to the younger, sports enthused alumni in Singapore.

A hazy period in Singapore created by the forest fires in Indonesia meant that planned outdoor activity had to be postponed. This did not deter our sporting spirit and we took the opportunity to go bowling indoors. We opened up the event to alumni and family and were joined by guests of all ages, with a good turnout overall. It was a fun-filled activity for all who came and we were pleased to welcome children as well.



### MBA alumni share their entrepreneurship journey

The 14 October saw close to 60 graduates, students, corporate partners and guests gathering at the MBS Singapore Centre to hear distinguished MBA graduate, Joseph Ong’s ten-year journey of successful entrepreneurship.

Having recently authored Remote-Entrepreneurship, Joseph presented two key business models; remote-Entrepreneurship (r-Entrepreneurship) and collective-Leadership (c-Leadership) from his book. These models have proven successful in turning his MBA project – One Rochester Group, a food and beverage (F&B) enterprise – into one of Singapore’s largest, award-winning lifestyle F&B brands today. It’s also the parent company of several dining outlets around Singapore, including 1-Altitude.

r-Entrepreneurship allowed Joseph to grow his business while holding a decade-long tenure at Symantec from 2004, becoming the youngest Vice-President (Asia-Pacific and Japan) in 2013. He only left to focus on One Rochester Group fulltime as its Managing Director in 2014.

Evidence-based and market-tested, the concept of r-entrepreneurship is designed to help professionals such as Manchester Global MBA students and graduates, many



whom are aspiring entrepreneurs, to overcome their fear and dilemma over leaping from a stable corporate life, to starting a business and following their passions.

Copies of Remote-Entrepreneurship were sold out at the event. Attendees gave excellent feedback, citing Joseph’s presentation as highly beneficial and indicating their preference for a longer talk in future.

### International Compliance Association Singapore Awards

The International Compliance Training Academy (ICTA) in Singapore recently held its graduation ceremony with over 200 attendees. The MBS South East Asia Centre proudly sponsored two outstanding recipients of Diploma awards; Mr Weihao Xia and Ms Xiaoyun Zhong.

Among the high-level attendees were Mr Andrew Glover, Managing Director of ICTA; Dione Schick, Head of Special Projects at ICTA; Chye Kit, Chionh, COO of Cynopsis Solutions; Yvette Cheak, Former Regional Head of Ethics and Compliance at BNP Paribas.

The ICTA is the official training partner of the International Compliance Association (ICA) in the Asia-Pacific region, with all ICA qualifications awarded in association with Manchester Business School. ICTA is also the only training provider accredited under the Institute of Banking and Finance Standards, in the fields of compliance and anti-money laundering in Singapore.

During the graduation ceremony, the MBS Singapore Centre Director, Ms Bee Ing, also gave away numerous awards to outstanding graduates newly bestowed prestigious compliance certifications.

### End-of-year Futsal

The second social and sportive event organised by the Youth & Sport Committee. It was open to all alumni residing in Singapore with friends and family members also welcomed. We had a positive turn out for the event, with good feedbacks from everyone involved. If you have any suggestions or comments on further events, email us at [contact@uomalumni.org.sg](mailto:contact@uomalumni.org.sg).





Seoul



Sydney



Delhi



Tokyo



Upcoming 2016

Please go on each Centre's website for updated events details.

Shanghai: <http://www.mbs.ac.cn/alumni/events>

Hongkong: <http://www.mbs-hongkong.edu.hk/Events.aspx>

Singapore: <http://singapore.portals.mbs.ac.uk/Events.aspx>

We have large University of Manchester alumni communities all over the Asia-Pacific region, including in Seoul , Sydney , Delhi , and Tokyo. If you'd like to make contact with your local branch of the Alumni Association, email us [alumni@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@manchester.ac.uk).

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