

# Letter from the Chairman

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## 2016

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In my first year as successor to former Chairlady, Professor Mimi Ou Yang, I have worked hard (2015-2016) to achieve the goals set when I was first appointed to the role.

As an association of professionals, we must, inevitably, rely on support from the gem and jewellery industry. And we are fortunate to be able to do so, although this year has been another challenging one for the whole jewellery industry, with the global economy continuing on a downward trend. So the international jewellery trade has had to face a slow year with a disappointing turnover.

However, a significant achievement has been our continuing work on the promotion of the Fei Cui Testing Standard. After years of endeavour we were delighted to be able to announce the launch of the standard at the March 2016 TDC Jewellery Exhibition. We gained 15 supporting associations and laboratories and the accomplishment has been widely applauded by the jewellery industry.

On behalf of the membership I should like to thank all the directors who have given generously of their time to ensure a successful year for the Association. Thanks to the publication, public speakers, CG, programmes, membership, education, website, ambassador and label scheme working teams. Through their dedication, enthusiasm and persistence in maintaining high standards of professionalism, we have had another successful year of journal contents, membership figures, CG registrations, excellent educational seminars and lectures, website updates, good public relations and label scheme promotion.

Last but not least, let me thank you, our members for continuing to support your association and making it an active and vibrant professional organization.

**K.K. Chow**