

Letter from the Chairman 2020

There has been considerable instability in Hong Kong in the past year, with causes ranging from social movements to the COVID-19 virus. In the face of this we were forced to cancel many of our activities including the GAHK's annual dinner! Nonetheless, thanks to the sterling efforts of our dedicated Directors we have still managed both to organise and participate in many events.

The 40th anniversary seminar was held in September 2019, with the ceremonial signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the National Gemstone Testing Center (NGTC) of China on the same day. The MOU signifies the strengthened cooperation and intended academic exchanges between the two parties.

In September, GAHK became one of the founding members of the Asia-Pacific Gemstone and Technology Standardization Alliance (AGA), participating in the planning committee meeting for establishment of this entity. Also in September, a fellowship dinner was held to celebrate GAHK's 40th anniversary. Gemmologists from overseas and Greater China were invited. It was a congenial evening and a great opportunity not only to renew old friendships and grow our networks, but also just to exchange ideas on Gemmology.

In November, our representatives participated in the CIBJO congress and presented at a special session, reporting on the market information and the definition and naming of Fei Cui. I should like to express my thanks to Mr Kent Wong, Chairman of the Hong Kong Jewellers' & Goldsmiths' Association, who represented us as a guest speaker at this event, handling the Fei Cui Market section of our presentation.

Between November and December, we also organised a gemmological course on Fei Cui and diamond for the Hong Kong Customs & Excise Department which was joined by our directors and members.

We are also preparing to sign a MOU with The Gem & Jewelry Institute of Thailand (GIT), although this is on hold for the moment due to the pandemic. We hope to complete this project in the near future!

I want to express my sincere thanks to this year's directors for their contributions to GAHK in difficult circumstances and my hope that all our members will stay safe and well.

FAN Siu Kam, Eddie
Chairman



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