

Board of Directors' Report 2025

GAHK continues to support Hong Kong's gemmology sector as one of the core technical pillars of the jewellery industry, navigating at rapid technological changes, shifting markets, and global trends. To boost our competitiveness in the post-pandemic era we prioritise ongoing professional development as well as the integration of ESG and AI technologies in gemmology, while upholding our standards of expertise and services. I am deeply grateful to our directors and volunteers for organising and participating in a broad range of events and activities that keep GAHK at the forefront of professional practice and knowledge sharing.

Conducting seminars has been a central pillar of our activities in a strong lineup designed to deepen professional knowledge and practical skills. Highlights include the "Inner World of Coloured Gemstones" by Bonita Kwok of Gübelin Gem Lab during the JMA Hong Kong International Jewelry Show. "Savouring Life with Jewellery" by Cecilia Chan; and a seminar on the treatment of quartz by Franco To in December 2024. We also hosted a seminar on "Describing Colours in Gems" by Richard Hughes, co-organising with HKTDC at AsiaWorld-Expo during the Hong Kong International Diamond, Gem & Pearl Show in March 2025. In addition, we co-organised an international seminar among HKTDC and CIBJO on sustainability and trustmarking via ESG and ISO certification during the March Hong Kong International Jewellery Show.

3 December 2024 marked our 45th Anniversary Gala Dinner, during which certificates for FGAHK and Certified Gemmologists were granted in the presence of the Guest of Honour, Mr Louis Cheung King Yau (Honorary Chairman & Director of HKJJA). The winners of the 2024 GAHK Gemstone Microscopic Photography Contest were also announced and honoured during the anniversary dinner. All award-winning works were showcased on GAHK social channels and at the JMA Hong Kong International Jewelry Show.

Besides seminars, programmes consisted of enriched visits that connected mineral appreciation and paleontology with gemmology practically and empirically. Notable points of interests include the "Journey with Minerals" exhibition at LÉCOLE, the Wood Fossil Experience Centre – Nina Park, and a tour of a domestic Hong Kong gemstone cutting factory. These experiences broadened members' understanding of materials, their provenance, as well as the gemmology supply chain.

In governance and standards, we delivered an ISO & ESG full-day training to our members in April and a specialised training on ISO/IEC 17043 & HOKLAS Supplementary Criteria No. 33 requirements in May, both were led by Ir Dr C.K. Cheung to strengthen our competency in standards and quality assurance.

During the CIBJO Congress 2024 in Shanghai on 3 November, GAHK collaborated with NGTC to contribute to the "Fei Cui" initiative by presenting the International Fei Cui Standard with its missions. This session was broadcast globally, receiving an impressive viewership of 535,000. Thanks to CIBJO President, Dr Gaetano Cavalieri for his unwavering support. Additionally, GAHK also provided professional inputs for an article on lab-grown diamonds in the Consumer Council's CHOICE magazine, published in December 2024.

To look ahead, we will continue to promote gemmology and gemstone testing standards to the public. Practical and hands-on seminars and workshops in gemmological science of gemstone detections, geographic origin determinations, and sustainability would be extended into. We invite all GAHK members to contribute your views and suggestions for 2026. Thank for your continued support and dedication to foster gemmology in Hong Kong.

LIU Shang I, Edward (Prof. Dr)
Chairman 2025-2027