

## **“Management as a Liberal Art: A Functioning Society” Peter F. Drucker Academy Luncheon Reception was successfully hosted!**

“Management as a Liberal Art (MLA): A Functioning Society” Peter F. Drucker Academy Luncheon Reception was successfully hosted on Jan 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The event was attended by nearly 60 honorable guests, including Prof. Edward Chen, Centennial College Council Chairman; Prof. William Lee, President of Centennial College; Prof. Chan Wing Wah, Vice-President and Director of School of Management of Centennial College; Prof. Simon Ho, President of Hang Seng Management College; Dr. Victor Lee, Executive Director of The Hong Kong Management Association; Mr. Sunny Cheung, CEO of Octopus Holdings Ltd; Ms. Caroline Mak; Prof. Edmund Kwok; Ms. Katherine Hung, Independent Non-Executive Director of Cheung Kong Property Holdings Ltd; Mr. Sunny Wong, Executive Director of Tibet Water Resources Ltd; Ms. Smile Cheung, Founder and Director of Smile Training and Development; Mr. Walter Tsui, Co-Founder of CareER; Mr. Andrew Tsui, Chairman of Korn/Ferry International’s Hong Kong and Southern China; Pastor Stephen Lee, City Pastor of Saddleback Church Hong Kong; Mr. Ko Tin Lung, Artistic Director of Chung Ying Theatre Company; Dr. Royce Yuen, CEO of MaLogic. We would like to express our gratitude for the participation of all guests, who jointly made this memorable event happen.

The Luncheon Reception started with the Welcoming Speech delivered by Dr. Darwin Chen, Board Chairman of Peter F. Drucker Academy. He expressed his appreciation for collaborative efforts of working partners in the past year for MLA Conference, MLA Symposium and MLA radio programs etc., and creating social impact in the community and society at large.

Dr. Chen also remarked that the “establishment of ‘MLA Foundation’ symbolizes a new stage of the development of Drucker Academy in the Greater China area; we envision that through integration of our collective wisdom and engagement, our working partners, managers, scholars and consultants can join force and participate in the advocacy of MLA, create shared social values, and plant the ideology of ‘Management as a Liberal Art’ in the Greater China Area; whilst bridge the eastern and western management philosophy.”

Mr. Shao Ming Lo, Board Chairman of Bright China group and Founder of Peter F. Drucker Academy delivered a keynote speech through video, on the topic of “A Functioning Society”. Mr. Shao explained the origin of “A Functioning Society”, and

mentioned that “Peter Drucker’s management wisdom, ‘Management as a Liberal Art’, bridged the Eastern and Western culture, linked with the globe, in pursuing of a Functioning Society. In the age of technology disruption, MLA plays a significant role of balancing continuity and change. The advocacy and development of MLA would affect the well-being of humans. This is a significant yet a challenging mission, while for all MLA advocators, it’s a responsibility too. We hope that the establishment of MLA Foundation would sustain our mission in pursuit of a better society through planting the seeds of MLA in Greater China region. We appreciate all the contribution and support from our prestigious partners.”

Followed Mr. Shao’s speech, Prof. Andrew Chan, CUHK EMBA program Director, invited Mr. Shao via Webinar, to share with guests on how the book “A Functioning Society”, written by Mr. Peter F. Drucker, inspired him. Mr. Shao revealed that Drucker presented the book to him in 2003, in the hope of letting Mr. Shao understand the initiative, objective and ultimate goal of Drucker’s life-long work of Management. He was so inspired by Drucker’s vision and wisdom, which also strengthened his mission.

During the Luncheon, Mr. Kevin Yeung, CEO of Jie Yi Tang, shared the mission of his innovative company, “to integrate the Chinese culture into modern society, retrieve the lost art of Chinese tradition, restore the Oriental aesthetic life, and provide integrated solutions for modern life style with appreciation of Chinese arts and crafts.”

The “CEO Dialogue” session was moderated by Prof. Andrew Chan, with panelists: Dr. John Leung, CityU EMBA Program Director; Dr. Ricky Szeto, Executive Director of Hung Fook Tong Group Holdings Ltd, and Pastor Stephen Lee, City Pastor of Saddleback Church Hong Kong, to share and exchange ideas on MLA Education and implementation.

Dr. Ricky Szeto shared his thoughts that all society members “should do things together that would benefit the society at large, and that MLA emphasizes the caring for human, and it is originated from humanity.” Pastor Stephen Lee also shared his learning of Drucker’s MLA was to be more considerate towards needs of others while respected the values of others. Dr. John Leung suggested that Liberal Arts Education is a treasure to humans, through studying different streams of Liberal Arts subjects, we would be able to see our lives from a whole-new perspective, and learn to appreciate others, thus build a harmonized society.

Finally, Dr. Julia Wang, President of Peter F. Drucker Academy, delivered the Closing Remarks to the guests. She expressed her sincere thanks for the contributions of all working partners, and honorable guests in advocating MLA, she pointed out “that the core value of MLA education, is to assist managers and leaders building capacities in ‘Doing-Well and Doing-Good; Doing the right things, and Performing excellently.’ MLA is a systematic management practice that integrates aspects of actualizing excellent performance of organizations, growth of people, as well as the fulfillment of corporate social responsibility.”

Dr. Wang suggested that “MLA could be explored and understood from the following two dimensions: one was the integration of economic values and social values, and the other was the integration of knowledge and practice; these two dimensions also echoed the Chinese wisdom of ‘Unity of Yi and Li, 義利合一 in Chinese’ and ‘Unity of Knowing and Acting, 知行合一 in Chinese’. She believed that through the joint efforts with partners in implementing MLA education in Greater China region, we could nurture future managers and leaders with values, commitment and compassion; in pursuit of truth, beauty and the betterment for a bright tomorrow.