



THE PEARL TO GOLD QUARTERLY

Newsletter of HKUAA-Northern California Chapter

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First Issue 2020

HKETO Spring Reception

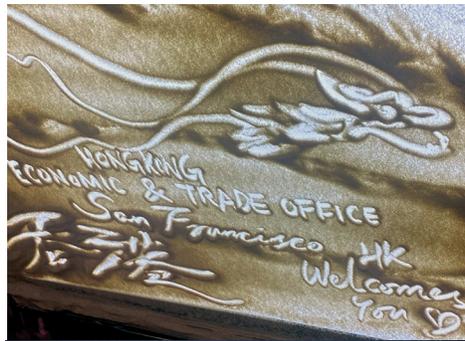


HKETO Commissioner Eddie Mak

In early February, before the COVID-19 infection became pandemic, most of our alumni association board members were invited to attend the Spring Reception by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in San Francisco. It was a wonderful gathering at the Bespoke situated in the Westfield Shopping Center. Besides the delicious food and drinks, they were entertained by a sand painting artist from Hong Kong. He demonstrated his artistry with fine sand.



HKETO(SF) Director Ivanhoe Chang



HKU in QS Ranking 2020



In the 2020 QS ranking of world universities report, the University of Hong Kong shares #25 spot with Duke University. The Hong Kong University Science and Technology is #32. The top position is taken by MIT followed by Stanford and then Harvard. The two top universities in Asia are Nanyang Technological University and National University of Singapore. Both are at #11.

Piano & Cello Recital at HKETO



During the holiday season in late 2019, there was a piano/cello recital at HKETO San Francisco office. Alfred Wong was the pianist and Dr. Ka-Wai Yu was the cellist. A few alumni had the opportunity to attend the event. It was very entertaining.

Mantees in spring 2020



It has not been a good time to be exchange students from HKU because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the stay-at-home order. Larry managed to meet up with his mentee, Sabrina Lerskiatiphanich, who was born in Hong Kong. Her father is a Thai and mother is a Hong Konger so she speaks fluent Cantonese. She is a Bachelor of Social Science student. They were able to take a quick San Francisco city tour before the shops and parks were closed. Sabrina has to obey stay-at-home order and take her lectures online at University of California at Berkeley. The challenge she now faces is to find a flight either direct or even indirect to fly

back to Hong Kong before her student visa expires. Larry is also mentoring another exchange student in the Fullbright program from Hong Kong. Kammy Chan has a M.S. degree from HKU. She is doing Ph. D. research in Speech and Hearing Science at UC San Francisco. Some of you might have seen her at our winter banquet as well as the HKETO Spring Reception.

Sam Hui's Easter Online Concert



The very popular Hong Kong singer and song writer, alumnus Sam Hui, held an open air online concert on East Sunday. He performed many of his well known songs including "Below the Lion Rock", "Bauhinia". Video recording of the whole concert can be viewed on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xLXCsjjH2Zk>

HKU Fireside Wednesday



The University of Hong Kong started to broadcast the "Fireside Wednesday" and talks related to COVID-19 since the end of March. It can be watched live on Facebook/HKU100.

COVID-19 Infectivity, HKU Med

Temperature effects on time taken for virus to lose its infectivity

A research team at HKUMed tested the time taken for the SARS-CoV-2 virus to lose infectivity at different temperatures.

Temp	4°C	22°C	37°C	56°C	70°C
Virus loses infectivity after...	>14 days (the virus remained stable)	14 days	2 days	30 min	5 min

Different temperatures can have varying effects on time taken for virus to lose its infectivity.

In general, the higher the temperature, the sooner it loses infectivity.

If you are worried about your clothes being contaminated, soak them in hot water (60°C) for 30 minutes before washing thoroughly.

HKU Med

Surface materials and its effect on time taken for virus to lose infectivity

Time taken for the virus to lose its infectivity may vary depending on the surface material on which it remains:

Paper and tissue 3 hours	Wooden surfaces and fabric 2 days	Glass 2 days
Stainless steel and plastic surfaces 7 days	Surgical masks 7 days	

In general, smoother surfaces would result in longer time taken for virus to lose infectivity.

Infective viruses were still detected after 7 days on the outer layer of surgical masks. Therefore, reusing masks is not recommended.

HKU Med

Loss of Virus Infectivity after Exposure to Disinfectants

The following disinfectants may cause the virus to lose infectivity after five minutes of use:

Household Bleach (1:49)	+
Household Bleach (1:99)	+
Ethanol (70%)	+
Povidone-iodine (7.5%)	+
Chloroxylenol (0.05%)	+
Chlorhexidine (0.05%)	+
Benzalkonium chloride (0.1%)	+

However, with hand soap (1:49), only half the number of viruses lost infectivity after five minutes; after 15 minutes however, all traces of the virus had lost its infectivity.

Disinfectants can cause viruses to lose its infectivity. Clean your belongings and apparel often to minimise risks of infection!

HKU Med



This is a beautiful view we miss out these days. The photo was taken during our alumni hike at Crystal Springs Reservoir in 2016.

