



# The Association of Hong Kong Hospital Christian Chaplaincy Ministry

Professional Chaplaincy Development and Pastoral Education  
Annual Report 2013

## We Are the Same and yet We Are Different

Van Wai-Chuen Lo

*But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. ~1 Peter 2: 9-10, NIV~*

This is the fourth annual report written since the first one in 2010. We are grateful to receive continuous support and blessing from members of our Honorary Overseas and Local Consultants.<sup>1</sup> The theme chosen for this report has two implications. First, our professional development journey is the same and yet is different from the experience in the Northern America. Second, Christian Chaplains are challenged to continue reflecting on how we are the same and yet different from other spiritual care providers.

### To Pro-claim the Unique Identity of Christian Chaplains

In Hong Kong, when we describe someone is very “pro”, we mean that person has demonstrated a high level of professional quality. Does Christian identity have to be contradicted with excelling in professional ministry? In the past few years, we have continued to help local chaplains and church communities to reflect on the historical dialogue between “vocation” and “profession”. In addition to this challenge, facing with the increasing demand for multi-faith and faith-free spiritual care service, how do Christian chaplains claim the unique identity without compromising



NTEC Spiritual Care Service Team

either our faith tradition or the professional quality in clinical practice? Although Christian chaplains are still up to date the major spiritual care service provider in the “market” (i.e. hospitals), only by keeping our visibility, continuity, and high standard of practice can sustain the reliability of our professional ministry. The quality of Christianity then has to be demonstrated through our “being” prior to our “doing”.



Chaplains invited to participate in DPS-PFA  
Train-the-trainer workshop

### To Enhance Chaplain Continuing Education (CCE)

Currently, CCE reporting scheme is still on a voluntary basis. There were 46 out of 93 registered chaplains submitted their CCE reports by the end of 2013. The Association continues to play a significant role in providing quality continuing education for local chaplains. The design of CCE

curriculum aims to provide a “balanced diet” that helps chaplains to enhance some of the required competences for chaplain certification, such as theological and theoretical integration, skills for clinical practice, as well as social awareness and communication. 2013 continuing education programs and participation are summarized as below:



Year-long Certificate Course for Chaplaincy Administration & Management



Experiential Learning in The Providence Garden for Rehab



Hospital DPS and Chaplaincy Ministry



Spring CPE for Chaplains

Month	Program	Counts
Jan-Nov	Year-long Certificate Course for Chaplaincy Administration & Management	13
Feb	Experiential Learning in The Providence Garden for Rehab	39
Feb-May	Spring CPE for Chaplains	5
March	Hospital Disaster Psychosocial Services (DPS) and Chaplaincy Ministry	41
April	Orientation Program for New Chaplains	7
May	Reflection on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Round Chaplaincy Department Visitations	27
June	The 9 <sup>th</sup> Chaplains’ Day: How to Define our Boundaries?	110
July	Chaplain-in-charge Retreat: Succession Plan	13
August	Enhancing Chaplain’s Writing Competence	26
Sept-Nov	Fall CPE for Chaplains	4
Sept	Knowing our Community Partner: Service Orientation of CancerFund	20
Nov	Site Visit to North Lantau Hospital	28

The term “continuing education” is self explanatory. It is neither a magical door nor an instant meal for temporal satisfaction. We need to continue to educate our members the importance of CCE and its relations to our professional ministry. Vision and perseverance are the keys to success.



The 9<sup>th</sup> Chaplains’ Day



Enhancing Chaplain’s Writing Competence



Fall CPE for Chaplains



Site Visit to North Lantau Hospital

### To Promote Chaplain Registration and Certification

Registration in Hong Kong is still a voluntary scheme for hospital chaplains. By the end of 2013, there were 93 chaplains among 150 eligible applicants registered with the Association, including 17 Certified Chaplains, 49 Registered Chaplains I, 20 Registered Chaplains II, and 7 Auxiliary Chaplains, representing 62% of participation. The overall registration rate seems to reach a developmental

saturation. However, there were excitedly more chaplains participating in certification than last year. Following the first class (4 in 2012) of locally certified chaplains, a total of 10 eligible applicants joined the certification tutorial groups and 8 of them submitted their applications. Each applicant was then scheduled to be interviewed by a certification committee. Gratefully, all of them met the standards and were promoted to Certified Chaplains. Members of certification committee were pleased to witness their effort and harvest. Congratulations to each of them and blessings to the journey of local chaplain certification!



Certificate Presentation in Annual General Meeting



Candidates met with Certification Committees



Certification Tutorial Groups

### To Enrich CPE Program

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is an essence for the continuity of professional chaplaincy. The Association is so blessed to have staff and adjunct CPE supervisors to conduct Level I and II CPE programs in compliance with the ACPE standards throughout the year. In addition to single CPE unit in Spring, Summer and Fall, the Association has raised a sufficient fund to afford five stipend positions for the first class of 2013-14 year-long CPE residency. Five residents are placed in three major acute general hospitals. We believe that quality single units for pastors and seminarians will become a significant source of candidates for year-long residency.

Summer CPE for Seminarians



Spring Half-unit CPE for Congregation



### To Extend Pastoral Education to the Public

In reality, more patients are living in the communities than in the hospitals. In response to this need, the Association continues to offer different forms and levels of pastoral education for congregations, seminarians, and pastors in local area as well as nearby mainland as listed below:



First Class of Year-long CPE Residency

Month	Program	Counts
Jan	The 6 <sup>th</sup> Pastoral Care Workshop for Seminarians	205
Feb-May	Spring Half-unit CPE for Congregation Pastors	5
April	Pastoral Care Seminar Series III (Hong Kong Island)	451
June-Aug	Summer CPE for Seminarians	6
Aug	Pastoral Care Training Program in Shanghai, China	438
Oct	Pastoral Care Seminar Series IV (Kowloon)	272
Feb & Oct	Training for Chaplaincy Team of Alliance Theological Seminary	35



Pastoral Care Seminar Series III, IV



Pastoral Care Training Program in Shanghai, China



ATS Chaplaincy Team training



The 6<sup>th</sup> Pastoral Care Workshop for Seminarians



30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Organizing Committee Meeting

### To Prepare for the Celebration of 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Association together with all affiliated chaplaincy committees jointly prepare for the celebration of 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of hospital Christian chaplaincy ministry in 2014. The Organizing Committee and the Task Groups have started to plan various kinds of activities such as cluster sharing luncheons, volunteer recognition, symposium, publication and exhibition, followed by the Grand Celebration Dinner scheduled on Oct 31, 2014. You are most welcome!

### Conclusion

The church history teaches us that we shall never take favorable environment for granted. No matter how tough it is, let's trust our faithful God who has called us out and sent us to this sacred field to care for those who yearn for the divine hope and mercy. It is His call that makes us different. With God, nothing is impossible!



30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Task Group Meetings

*"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.....I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. They too listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd." ~John 10: 10 & 16 NIV~*

January 31, 2014.

### Notes:

- Honorary Overseas Consultants include 2 corporate members which are Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc. (ACPE), and Association of Professional Chaplains, Inc. (APC) & its subsidiary Board of Chaplaincy Certification, Inc. (BCCI); and 11 individual members with ministry experience in Hong Kong who are The Rev. James T. Pollard, The Rev. Dr. Theodore E. Hodge, The Rev. Kjell Aas, The Rev. Dr. Mark E. Jensen, The Rev. Dr. John H. Moody, The Rev. Kathy A. Turner, The Rev. Dr. Dennis E. Kenny, The Rev. Dr. Hendrik Adriaan van Sluijs, Chaplain Robert Kidd, Chaplain John K. Swift, and The Rev. Sandra Yarlott. Local Consultants include 8 individual members who are Professor Simon Shui Man Kwan, Dr. Tao Man King, Dr. Choi Yuen Wan, Dr. Raymond Chung I Chen, Dr. Beatrice Cheng, Dr. Cheung Tak Hong, Dr. Susie Lum, and Mr. Ng Kin Yuen.

Rev. Lo is a Board Certified Chaplain of APC and a CPE Supervisor of ACPE. Currently he serves as Associate General Secretary and Chair of Professional Development Committee of the Association of Hong Kong Hospital Christian Chaplaincy Ministry. Rev. Lo can be reached via [vanwcl@hospitalchap.org.hk](mailto:vanwcl@hospitalchap.org.hk).