



La Salle College Old Boys' Association Newsletter

c/o La Salle College 18 La Salle Road

Tel: 23387171 <http://www.lscoba.com>

Sports Facilities Bookings: 23362985 Wed 3:30-4:30p.m.



Message from Brother Thomas

It has been a privilege and a blessing to serve as Principal of our beloved La Salle. I am happy to have this opportunity to express my very sincere thanks to you, dear old boys, for your wonderful support and understanding. When I returned to HK in 1998, after an absence of 16 years, I was really just passing through on my way to a sabbatical in the USA. I had every intention of returning to our mission in Africa after completing my courses. However soon after I got back, various old boy groups organized "welcome back" parties. These were very emotional occasions for me and I felt just like coming back to my family, my home, as if I had never been away. The Brothers were also very supportive, and Bro. Patrick, knowing that I work best in regular school life, kindly offered me the post of Principal and Supervisor.

My term of office has been relatively short, just four years. The EMB does not subscribe to the theory that we all age differently and so has decreed that my age-group should move on. Let me quickly say a word of thanks to those who tell me that I look much too young to retire. So thank you, Robert, and I think there was also one other kind soul! The truth is that life has its milestones, which we should respect, warmly welcome and thank God for. I recently came across a book with the title "Oh Happy, Happy Days: the New Rules of Retirement" It contains 1,550 ideas to help make retirement the best time of your life. I'll hardly live long enough to try all these ideas, but I am genuinely happy and very grateful to God that I have reached this significant milestone in good health and ready to try pastures new. Abraham Lincoln once said: "its not the years in your life that count but the life in your years."

As all will know by now, I am the last Brother Principal and will be handing over to Dr. Paul Lau Wai-Keen (68). Many old boys and parents ask: why are there no more Brothers? In August 1965, Bro. David Keane and I arrived in Hong Kong and we were the last group of Irish Brothers to be posted to the "Far East Mission". In the mid-sixties the prospect of attracting local vocations to the Brotherhood looked very bright and, indeed, in many Asian countries our Institute became truly

localized. However sadly this did not happen in Hong Kong. Although some did join us for a period they did not persevere. So after nearly 40 years I am still the "youngest Brother" in HK. It is a dubious honour I would gladly relinquish.

In the homily during the Homecoming Mass, 29th May 2004, on the eve of Pentecost, the celebrant Fr. Stephen Tam, old boy of SJC, spoke humorously but very meaningfully about the transition from the Brothers to lay leadership. The Brothers, like Jesus, have completed their mission and are ready to ascend to the Father! There may be some fear and trepidation about the future but the "spirit of La Salle" is "naught for danger caring, hearts to conquer every ill." There is a new Pentecost on the horizon!

As we recall the many Brothers who served in La Salle let us give thanks to God for the dedicated lives of these good men. However, as we are only human we surely have done things we regret and ask for forgiveness. The torch is being passed on to a new generation and the challenge to you, old boys and all in the Lasallian family is to safeguard our unique heritage and begin a new and glorious chapter in the history of our school.

Welcome, Paul, to La Salle and please be assured of our prayers and full support.



The 11th & 10th Principals of LSC - Dr. Paul Lau (68) & Bro. Thomas

Message from Dr. Paul Lau (1968)

I am grateful to the Editor in providing me this opportunity to share with you some of my feelings of my appointment as the first lay principal of La Salle College. I would like to begin by sharing with you a few lines from the poem "My Lost Youth" by Henry Wadworth Longfellow (1807-1882), taught to me by my English Teacher, Mr. Peter Tse, when I was in Form two.

"Often I think of the beautiful town
That is seated by the sea;
Often in thought go up and down
The pleasant streets of that dear old town,
And my youth comes back to me.
And a verse of a Lapland song
Is haunting my memory still:
A boy's will is the wind's will,
And the thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts."

The memory of these lines comes back to me when I learned that I have the opportunity to return to the school located at the pleasant street (La Salle Road) in that dear old town (Kowloon City). Yes, the thought of youth is a long long thought, I have been away for thirty-four years. "Wind", in the traditions of the Catholic Church, is the symbol of the Holy Spirit. I told the selection committee that I was responding to a call; and the verse "A boy's will is the wind's will" reminds me that my call is to follow the "wind's will". I would invite you all to share my prayer and pray that the Holy Spirit would be my guide in my services to the School and the Community.

The second piece of thought I want to share is the wisdom of Mr. Wong Po Tin, my Form Three class teacher. Mr. Wong passed away during his service in La Salle. I remember when the movie, "The Sound of Music", was first shown in Hong Kong in 1965; the whole school went to see this movie at "Lai Sing Cinema" Mr. Wong told us on the next day that the teaching behind this great movie was that "When God closes a door somewhere he

opens a window." Many of you could well remember the lyrics of "Edelweiss", but the song I love most is "Something Good", especially the verse: "Nothing comes from nothing, nothing ever could. So somewhere in my youth or childhood, I must have done something good". I must have done something good that the selection committee and the La Salle Brothers have entrusted me and opened this particular window for me.

Thirdly, the "Lapland" song that every La Salle boy would bear in heart is our School Song. On my wedding day, according to the wedding traditions, I need to perform a few tasks in order that I could gain entry into my wife's apartment. One of the tasks would be to sing a song and the song that I sung was our School Song. I was granted entry immediately after singing the song. Whether it was because of the magic of our School Song or because my wife was a former teacher of La Salle Primary School, I could not tell. However, the thought of the verse "La Salle is something more" is "haunting" me as I will be taking up the great challenge of "something more" in this September.

Finally, I would like to dedicate the song "Home Sweet Home" by John Howard Payne (1822, from the Opera: "Clari, the Maid of Milan") to all the La Salle brothers and teachers who had taught me. They had provided a second "home" for me; and planted the seed in me in such a way that I could formulate my career plan in the field of education.

"Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam,
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home;
A charm from the sky seems to hallow us there,
Which, seek through the world, is ne'er met with elsewhere?
Home, home, sweet, sweet home!
There's no place like home, oh, there's no place like home!
.....
To thee I'll return, overburdened with care;
The heart's dearest solace will smile on me there;
No more from that cottage again will I roam;
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home.
Home, home, sweet, sweet, home!
There's no place like home, oh, there's no place like home!"

It would be an impossible dream for me to return and serve in this "home" and Bro. Patrick and Bro. Thomas have made the dream possible. "There's no place like home" is the pursuit of Dorothy in the marvelous story written by Frank Baum in 1900: "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz". Dorothy could not have returned home without the help from her loyal friends, the lion, the tin-man and the scarecrow. My homecoming journey has just begun. I need the support from all of you, friends with courage, wisdom and loving hearts, to accomplish this journey — how best to serve the students and teachers of La Salle.



(From left to right) Dr. Paul Lau & Mr. Lawrence Chan (former LSC teacher)

Introduction of the 11th LSC Principal

The Supervisor and the School Management Committee of La Salle College are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Paul Lau (1968) to succeed Bro. Thomas Lavin as Principal on September 1, 2004. Bro. Thomas will continue in the role of Supervisor.

Dr. Paul Lau Wai-Keen (劉煒堅) completed his primary and secondary education at La Salle Primary School and La Salle College. He studied at the University of Hong Kong where he obtained his Bachelor Degree in Science (Botany and Chemistry) in 1973, the Diploma in Education in 1974, and Master in Education in 1980. He joined the teaching profession in 1974 and served as a Chemistry teacher in a government secondary school. In 1979, he became a teacher educator at the Northcote College of Education, lecturing in education technology and education studies and was appointed the Vice Principal of the College in 1993.

In 1990 he obtained his Master of Philosophy degree in Curriculum Planning and Design from the University of Cambridge. He pursued his doctoral studies in Educational Management and Teacher Education with the University of Bristol and was awarded the degree of Doctor of Education in 2001.

Dr. Lau joined the Hong Kong Institute of Education, when the Colleges merged together, and served as Principal Lecturer of the Curriculum and Instruction Department. He has also taken up various administrative duties at the Institute, including the

Wardenship of a student hostel. He was elected to serve in the Council of the Institute from 1995 to 2000. In 2002, he took up the post of Senior Student Affairs Officer in the Student Affairs Office of the Institute.

Dr. Lau has served in various public committees of the government, such as the Education Aims Implementation Committee of the Board of Education and the Assessment Panel on Teaching and Learning of the Quality Education Fund. Since 2000, Dr. Lau serves the Catholic Diocese as school manager of a number of Catholic schools.

He has provided consultancy and training to both primary and secondary schools in curriculum evaluation, teacher appraisal and quality school education. A special area of interest is moral and spiritual education and, in 2000, he completed a Master of Arts in Theology at the Australian Catholic University.

During his years in La Salle he was an active member of the Legion of Mary and Captain of the Harmonica Band. As a teacher he has been involved in providing extra-curricular activities for students in his secondary and tertiary appointments: areas include harmonica, trampolining, football and sailing.

Dr. Lau will be the first lay Principal of the College since its foundation by the De La Salle Brothers in 1932. The Brothers, however, will continue in their vital role as the Sponsoring Body entrusted with the task of ensuring that the Lasallian vision and mission of the school are strongly upheld.

Lasallians Gone International

The La Salle Brothers or the Brothers of the Christian Schools, in their history of more than 300 years, have spread their wings to the four corners of the earth. There are still some 7,000 La Salle Brothers operating in more than 80 countries. Over the years, more than 10 million students have benefited from educational services led by the Brothers.

These former students are part of the wider Lasallian Family of Brothers, teachers, parents, students and former students. To promote further the fraternity and Lasallian spirit among the former students of the Brother schools, a world-wide body has existed over the years - the World Union of Lasallian Former Students, or the initials of the name in French UMAEL for short. Membership is open to all local associations of former Lasallian students. La Salle College Old Boys Association is one such member.

A singular honour has recently been bestowed on us. Nicholas W F Ng, President of LSCOPA in 1982-84 and currently Chairman of La Salle Foundation, has been appointed to the Executive Committee of UMAEL for a four year term to 2007. He is specially responsible for liaising with the Lasallian former students associations throughout Asia.



This is the first time that Hong Kong, let alone an LSC Old Boy, has taken up a position on the Executive Committee of UMAEL.

Nicholas' main task during his term is to establish and maintain a close link with Lasallian former students organizations in our part of the world, and to encourage them to join the world-wide body. As the saying goes, charity begins at home, Nicholas held a liaison lunch with the OBA's of the Lasallian Schools in Hong Kong in May. It was a useful occasion of bonding of friendship among the associations, as the photo shows!

The LSCOPA extends to Nicholas hearty congratulations on his appointment to UMAEL and pledges its full support to him in his work. May the La Salle fraternity grow from strength to strength.

For inquiries and suggestions, please send email to :
www.umael-hk@lscoba.com

From left to right: Peter Lui (CSK), Oliver Choy (DLS), Lawrence Ng (LSC), Nicholas Ng (LSC), Chris Lau (CSK) and Ricky Mak (CGH)

Interviewing Skill Workshop in LSC

“How to present the best of yourself and excel in an interview”

The Current Student Affairs Subcommittee organized an Interviewing Skill Workshop in the School Hall on the 13th May, 2004. There was an excellent turnout of more than 300 students ranging from F2 to F7. There were parents requesting to attend but were politely declined due to lack of space. The programme was divided into five major areas.

1. Verbal skill by Lawrence Ng (77)
2. Non-verbal skill by Mark Huang (85)
3. Live role play by two very brave students, conducted by 2 sets of interviewers
 - George Cheung (76), Constantine Au (87)
 - Anthony Yuen (70), KF Chan (80)
4. Writing a Good CV by Louis Law (70)
5. Final Preparation by Bernard Kong (76)

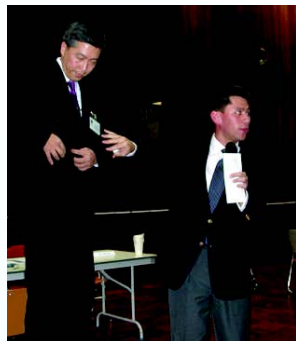
OBA has been working closely with the school and this is the first time we deliver a programme using the team approach. Although interviewing skill is not new to the commercial world, it is very unfamiliar to students. Nowadays having good grade may not guarantee success in application for tertiary studies or scholarships since interviewers are demanding more than pure academic achievements

The evening was filled with fraternity spirit and active participation from the floor.

We thank the school especially the Careers Guidance Team for allowing us to stage this meaningful workshop and Ms Cecilia Tang (Careers Mistress) for arranging all the logistics. The workshop hopes to raise the students' awareness in interviewing technique and essay writing. Our goal of the workshop is to broaden the horizon of the students' thinking and resolves any gaps not included in the current school's curriculum.

Harold Lee Nostrand, a great educator from the University of Washington, once said:

“General education means the whole development of an individual, apart from his occupational training. It includes the civilizing of his life purposes, the refining of



Lawrence Ng (77, left) & Mark Huang (85, right) show to the young Lasallians how suits should be buttoned up.

his emotional reactions and the maturing of his understanding about the nature of things according to the best knowledge of our time”

The responses from the floor revealed a group of eager learners with great enthusiasm and high energy. Even though the programme overran by 25 minutes, most stayed until the last moment.

Thank you once again to those who contributed despite their heavy work schedule.

Brother Thomas thoroughly enjoyed the entire programme and would like to see it incorporated into the regular school function.

What a great night with our younger brothers!

That night, the age factor did not affect our bond together.

The La Salle Spirit is glowing ever brighter.

The torch of eternal flame is passed to the hands of our younger brothers.

The old boys will be there for them.

This is just the beginning; there are requests to stage a more in- depth training for senior students.

Bernard Kong (76)

Convenor

Current Student Affairs Subcommittee

LSCOPA 03-04



George Cheung (76, left) & Constantine Au (87, right) act as interviewers for the boys.

Lasallian Family Fun Day

The first ever Lasallian Family Fun Day was launched successfully on 1st May 2004. Despite the 30-degree hot weather, thousands of students, parents, teachers, old boys and their families shared the unique experience of witnessing the birth of another La Salle tradition. There was something for everyone to enjoy... challenging games; performances by students & old boys; food & drinks served by parents; School Tour; souvenirs ...etc.

Among all the challenging games designed by various clubs, the games designed by Football Club; Handball Club and Interact Club were chosen to be the best 3 games and awards were presented by Brother Thomas.

* Please visit www.LSCOBA.com photo album for more exciting photos.



(Man in red) Pop singer, Thomas Chan (82) rocks the audience



By Anthony Wong (1978)

Our new watch on sale at the LSCOBA Stall.



Award winning performance by LSC Dance Team at the School Hall



Deli Corner is run by supportive parents



"Megaballs" are popular among the young participants.



An aerial view of the Lasallian Family Fun Day

Days Under the Dome

To foster and heighten our La Salle heritage, the Heritage Subcommittee of LSCOBA staged a Homecoming Night on 29th May, 2004 at La Salle College. The theme of this gathering was "Days under the Dome". It started off with a Thanksgiving Mass in the afternoon at the School Chapel, followed by a tea reception and casual chat in the Gym Gallery, LG1, featuring our old teachers and old boys. At around 5:30pm, some old boys took a School Tour right before the main programme commenced at the School Hall at 6:30pm.

The Night was full of laughter, fond memories and touching moments. It was well attended by 150 old boys, students, their families, as well as our beloved Christian Brothers and old teachers. Guest speakers, Bro Patrick, Mr. Arthur Gomez (Class 1, 1933), Mr. John Tsang (1968), Prof. Patrick Lau (1961) and Mr. Peter Wong (1970) spoke of the old days, particular characters at School, La Salle tradition and so on. Bro. Thomas, before leading the prayer before meal, spoke to encourage our current students to pick up this noble torch to continue to do well, flourish and someday reciprocate to the Alma Mater, just the same as many old boys did. It was followed by dinner with video shows, musical performances by students and finally harmonica performance by our Principal-to-be, Dr. Paul Lau (1968).

It was a relaxing and warm gathering, enjoyed greatly by all of us present. Mr. Arthur Gomez stated, "Thank you for organizing this Homecoming Night. This is one of most memorable days in my whole life!"

What a wonderful night.

By Lawrence Ng (1977)



(From left to right) Prof. Patrick Lau, Mr. Arthur Gomez, Mr. John Tsang and Mr. Peter Wong are the speakers of the evening.



Mr. John Tsang shares his precious moments with his beloved ex-LSC Fencing Team members.



Elite Banker, Mr. Peter Wong, was Bro. Thomas' FIRST batch of students when he came to HK in 1965.



Dr. Paul Lau plays 小城故事 and "I Believe" with his harmonica.

Survey on Constitutional Review

Dear Fellow Old Boys,

In response to a popular request from our members to revisit our Constitution, LSCOBA Committee 03/04 has resolved to set up a Working Party on Constitutional Review to look into the matter. Mr. Lester Huang, past president of the LSCOBA and a legal professional, has kindly accepted our invitation to chair the Working Group and has designed the following questionnaire to solicit views from all of us.

You are strongly urged to spend some of your precious time to complete the questionnaire and return the original to LSCOBA either by post or by hand on or before 16th August, 2004.

Thank you in advance for your kind co-operation. This survey will be extremely useful to the Working Group in their submission to the LSCOBA Committee and Members. The final recommendations will hopefully be released in the upcoming months.

With warmest regards and viva La Salle Spirit.

Yours sincerely,
Dr. Robert Yuen Kar Ngai (1971)
President

LSCOBA Singapore Batam Golf Tour 2004

A 4 day's tour to Singapore and Batam in Indonesia was organised by LSCOBA from 13th-16th May, 2004 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the La Salle golfers. A total of 26 old boys (including Dr. Anthony Kam (63), Francis Kwong (75) and Anthony Chang (83) from Singapore) joined us on this occasion.

After the 1st round of golf at Jurong Country Club in Singapore, the golfers had dinner together with the old boys living in Singapore and some of us met with schoolmates who had not seen each other for more than 20 years.

On the 3rd day, all the participants put on the souvenir golf shirts before we took the ferry to Batam in Indonesia. We played at Southlinks Country Club and Palm Spring G&CC over the weekend.

The winners were as follows:-

	Day 1	Day 2	Day3
Champion	Patrick Lam (77)	Peter Young (78)	Michael Tang (77)
2nd	Philip Chan (75)	George Chan (78)	Robert Cheng (77)
3rd	Tony Cheung (77)	Dale Chan (75)	George Chan (78)
Best Score	Steve Hu (79)	George Chan (78)	Robert Cheng (77)
Best Front 9	Peter Young (78)	Michael Tang (77)	Peter Young (78)
Best Back 9	Steve Hu (79)	Robert Cheng (77)	Dale Chan (75)
Longest Drive	Dominic Tse (78)	Peter Young (78)	Steve Hu (79)
Nearest Pin	Thomas Tung (77)	Jacky Yuen (90)	Dominic Tse (78)
	Steve Hu (79)	John Ribeiro (78)	Michael Tang (77)

During the trip, the golfers had very kindly presented a souvenir to me for organising the golf events of LSCOBA for the past 10 years. Thank you, guys!

According to the La Salle golfers "local rules", we had donations from the following old boys towards the golfers' fund:- \$4,500 from George Chan (78), \$3,250 from Michael Tang (77), \$3,000 from Peter Young (78), \$2,750 from Robert Cheng (77), \$2,500 from Patrick Lam (77) and \$2,000 each from Philip Chan (75) and Paul Law (78).

On behalf of all the participants, I would also like to thank Francis Kwong (75) for his generosity in sponsoring the souvenir golf shirts for this event, Thomas Tung (77) for acting as the official scorer and Paul Wrobel (78) for arranging this great tour for all of us.

By Roger Wong (1975)

- Grand Master: 1st : Peter Young (78)
 2nd : Robert Cheng (77)
 3rd : Patrick Lam (77)
- Super Keen Golfers Award : George Chan (78)
 Roger Wong (75)
 Warren Wong (78)
- Keen Golfers Award: Philip Chan (75)
 Thomas Tung (77)

Announcement

Appointment

F.4G Form Master, Mr. Wong Yen Kit will succeed Mr. Yik Kwan (1962) to become LSC Vice-Principal (Academic) in 2004-05. Mr. Wong has been teaching Chinese language at LSC for 26 years.

Ms. Fanny Leung has joined LSCOBA as a part-time Administrator since May 2004. Members can call 2336 2985 and Fanny will answer your enquiries, record your booking of sport facilities and contact the OBA Committee Members.

Retirement

Mr. Yik Kwan (1962) will retire as Vice-Principal (Academic) after 2003-04. Mr. Yik studied at HKU with major in Mechanical Engineering. He used to be our badminton team teacher-advisor



Premier Division Champion – Wu Dang

and mathematics teacher for many years. His www.lscdiary.org is the most informative LSC-related websites among all. His hulky body will always be remembered by his students and colleagues.

Mr. Tommy Chiu (1965) has retired as Executive Secretary of LSCOBA since May 2004. Tommy has always been very faithful to the School and our Association. He has been serving the old boys quietly for over 20 years and highly respected by the Lasallian community. Tommy is approaching his retirement age soon and we would like to shoulder his duties gradually. He has promised to continue his full support of the Association on his own capacity. We are forever indebted to his loyalty and devotion.

Results of LSCOBA Soccer League 2003-04:

- Premier Division Champion – Wu Dang
 Division One Champion – Winning Eleven
 Best Goal Scorer (Premier Division) – Alex Law (1990) of Wu Dang with 7 goals
 Best Goal Scorer (Division One) – James Yeung (1994) of Winning Eleven with 11 goals

Results of LSCOBA Basketball League 2003-04:

- Champion – Mega Resistance
 Runners-up – Vantage

What Happened...



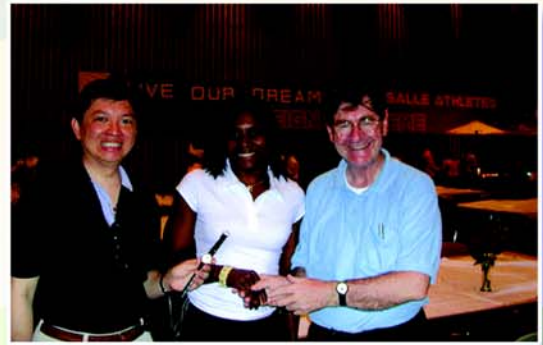
We win the Inter-school Beach Volleyball title outside Choi Hung Road Indoor Games Hall - 1st May, 2004



Class of 1984 have their 20th Anniversary Dinner at Miramar Hotel, TST, Kowloon - 15th May, 2004



Feast Day Mass of St. John Baptist De La Salle at St. Teresa's Church - 14th May, 2004



Sydney 2000 Olympic Champion (Women 4x100m) - P.D. Thompson (Bahamas) receives a LSCOBA watch from Bro. Thomas & Dr. Bernard Kong (76) - 1st May, 2004



Football Comes Home! LSC is again 2003-04 Inter-school Football Overall Champion (Division I).



Class of 1969 celebrate their 35th Anniversary - 26th April, 2004



The La Salle Golfers enjoy their 10th Anniversary in Singapore & Batam, Indonesia - 13th-16th May, 2004

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- Honorary Advisor:** Mr. Peter Chiu (1962)
Co-ordinator: Mr. Clement Chan (1987)
Contributors: Mr. Yik Kwan (1962)
 Mr. T.C. Chu (1971)
 Mr. Lawrence Ng (1977)
 Mr. Yook Lam (1978)
 Mr. Mark Huang (1985)
 Mr. Harry Chu (1987)
 Mr. Constantine Au (1987)
 Mr. Herman Bo (1989)
 Mr. Larry Lee (1996)
 Mr. Derek Lin (2001)