

The Chinese American Forum Celebrated Its 20th Anniversary

The Chinese American Forum held its 4th annual dinner to celebrate its 20th anniversary of continuous publication of the magazine, the Chinese American Forum. There were some 75 friends and guests from the community at the dinner which was held at the Millennium Student Center, University of Missouri-St. Louis. The Chancellor of UMSL, Dr. Thomas George, came to the reception from his other commitment to visit and congratulate the board members and guests before the dinner program. Among the guests were Anna Crosslin and Richard Tao of the International Institute; Jeanne Fischer of Worldways Children Museum; Donna Schnieders of Families with Children from China; Jason Tang of Organization of Chinese Americans, to name a few.

The program started with honor guard and singing of the national anthem. Dr. Harold Law, president of CAF, made opening remarks, followed by Dr. Joel Glassman, Director of the Center of International Studies, UMSL, who made a few welcoming remarks on behalf of the Chancellor. A Community Service Award was presented to Dr. Glassman for his contribution in promoting mutual understanding between Chinese Americans and the community at large. Dr. Ching-Ling Tai made the introduction.

After the dinner, Dr. Frank Yin, Chairman of the Biomedical Engineering, Washington University, gave a very informative talk on "Biomedical Engineering: Past, Present and Future". It high-lighted the significant contributions specifically by Chinese American engineers and scientists in this field. We are very proud of the fact that Prof. Yuan-Cheng Fung of the University of California, San Diego, is recognized as the "father" of the field of Biomedical Engineering in the US and also in the

world. Dr. Frank Yin, received his M.D. and Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from the University of California, San Diego, and was an outstanding student of Prof. Fung.

The guests at the dinner were much delighted by the wonderful performances in singing and fan dancing by the young students at the St. Louis Modern Chinese Language School. This group of performers was introduced by Wendy Zong (Tony Gao's wife).

A brief retirement ceremony was presented to Dr. T.C. Peng who will retire from CAF at the end of this year upon the advise of his physician. Dr. Harold Law gave a heart-warming appreciation and thanks to Dr. Peng for his vision and his 20 years of faithful voluntary service to CAF. Dr. Peng was presented a plaque of appreciation from CAF, presented by Dr. Harold Law.

It was in May 1984, twenty years ago, the first quarterly magazine was published. During these past 20 years, the magazine was published on time without missing even one issue. Chinese American Forum is totally supported by individual donors and subscribers. The organization so far is totally operated by volunteers.

The purpose of Chinese American Forum is to serve as a bridge and an open dialogue to promote mutual understanding between Chinese/Asian Americans and the general public. Our magazine provides a voice of Chinese Americans in the areas of culture, heritage, history, achievements, the economy and world affairs, to name a few.

The readers include individual donors and subscribers. Copies of the magazines are also sent to every congressman and senator in the

United States, also to every state governor and to the White House. The voice of Chinese Americans is being heard through this printed medium.

Some of CAF's board members made a preliminary survey recently. It was found that the magazine, the Chinese American Forum, is the only publication of its kind in the United States to address issues and subjects of interest to Chinese Americans. This magazine is unique.

Besides publishing the quarterly magazine, CAF also conducts seminars and

conferences to address current and interesting issues. A year ago, CAF conducted a conference jointly with the Center for International Studies, University of Missouri-St. Louis, on the topic of "Chinese American Identity". A special edition on the conference was published.

This annual dinner marks another significant milestone of achievement in the successful and continuous publication of the magazine for the past 20 years.

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