

PROGRESS REPORT AS AT OCTOBER 8, 2007.

1. Distribution Channels

- ❖ class representatives in Hong Kong and overseas
- ❖ local FSA and overseas alumnae associations
- ❖ Sisters' personal and Former teachers' contacts
- ❖ WWR2007 Organizing Committee

2. The Numbers

- ❖ 205 returns have been received
- ❖ covering more than 50 years of graduates from 1950 to 2004
- ❖ equally spread over 4 decades i.e. 60's (44); 70's (49) 80's (47); 90's (43)
- ❖ from 11 locales including Czech Republic, Japan, Shanghai, etc.
- ❖ around 40 are members of the Foundation
- ❖ around 60 are members of the Hong Kong Formers Students Association
- ❖ no data on overseas respondents' membership of their local alumnae associations
- ❖ 90% of returns have been sent in via email
- ❖ half of the total respondents are from overseas mainly USA (42) and Canada (29)
- ❖ a rough estimate of 50 specific offers of support

3. Career Profiles

- ❖ Ranges from proud grandmother homemakers to career clerical support to specialist in medical, art, financial, educational fields, politics, religious, media, hospitality, etc. etc.

4. Specific Offers of Support to MCS

- ❖ mentorship locally and overseas
- ❖ career guidance, counseling, talks in different specialized fields
- ❖ summer job placements, job counseling, employment
- ❖ serve as overseas guides for current students who wish to pursue studies overseas and alumnae who travel there
- ❖ established writers, artists, concert pianists giving talks whilst visiting HK

5. Other benefits Surfaced

- ❖ **Class Reps** - More updated and fuller representation overseas
- ❖ **Networking** e.g. the 1967 class was re-connected with at least 2 classmates in New York and Australia after 40 years

6. Summary

As a first attempt, the results are encouraging. Analysis of data is being carried out with invitations still going out to known Maryknollers who have not had time to send in their forms yet. It is proposed that all new members of the Foundation, FSA and overseas alumnae, will be invited to complete a questionnaire on joining. This data bank can be updated and maintained on a continuous basis. MCS related bodies can draw upon the resources when necessary.

A complete report will be released around mid November 2007.

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Some Samples of MCS Sharing

From a 1979 graduate(Ref.128)

In the basketball court, I learned about sportsmanship and socializing.
In the lawn and garden, I felt bonded to nature.
The red bricks had taught me about heritage and history.
The hymns, retreats and chapel had fostered my spirituality.
Agatha Christie and Ann Frank in the library had instilled my curiosity and intuition as well as my concerns for humanity and social justice.

In MCS, I encountered passion, compassion, and humility.
I experienced living life fully, meaningfully, and creatively.
I developed my reflective self and my appreciation of personal growth.
In MCS, I grew up to be frank and independent, playful and adventurous.
I cherished the search for truths, the responsibility of doing the right thing, and the betterment of the society.
And I heard the call to pass it on...

From a 1952 graduate who has moved to the US after MCS (Ref.109)

Maryknoll has given me the opportunity to be a good wife and mother, and I have instilled on my children the importance of our school motto – Sola Virtus Nobilitas. God has given me the grace to be a good mother, and even though I have no formal title or profession, I was able to teach my children the importance of being good people and always to have God in their lives. My sons and a daughter graduated from college with Masters degrees in clinical psychology,

The Unexpected Bonus

“It's great that you two got connected back after so many years. See, it's God's way of helping you girls to find each other again after so many years via such a meaningful project! Have a nice time of catching up with one another; take care, love and prayers,”

From a 1964 Graduate (Ref.005)

Being a Maryknoller makes me proud and confident in my pursuit of life. Together with my fellow Maryknollers, we are all highly motivated and responsible individuals towards our careers and our family.....

From a 1991 Graduate(Ref.031)

The friendships that are cemented at Maryknoll have been extremely important throughout my college years and as I enter adulthood. We stayed in touch throughout the years and celebrated each other's special moments in life—marriage, new house, new job, etc.. Since we grow up together, we always have so much to share and so many memories to reminisce of.

Another - We don't study for marks/ points but for growth of a person. We, Maryknollers have our own penmanship.

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Some Samples of MCS Sharing (contd.)

Another - Being a Maryknoller is one of the proudest things in my life

From a 1988 Graduate (Ref.006)

I think all the sisters, have really big influence in my life. Their spirit and philosophy have been in my heart and soul always. It has made me a strong positive woman in the society. I always feel the courage I have for going thru tough times comes from the spirit and knowledge obtained from Maryknoll. I'm very proud to be a Maryknoller...

From a 1974 Graduate (Ref.205)

In my days with the Catholic Institute for Religion and Society, **Sister Mary Lou Martin** of the Maryknoll Sisters had been a most devoted pillar in the Institute, always sharp and bubbling with energy in everything she did even in her seventies. *(This writer has only been with us for a short while - think 2 years..... We can see that the MCS spirit is so great that even for a short span of 2 years, it can be so deep rooted in the students. We are so proud of our school and the sisters who did all the implant work.)*

From a 1967 Graduate (Ref.202)

"M" attributes her successes and her blessings in life from having been educated/trained/nurtured at Maryknoll Convent School from a tender age, as a matter of fact, for 12 years, from Grade 1 to Lower 6. These early years with the sisters and the faculty of Maryknoll instilled in her the importance of having sound judgment, possessing good values of life, cultivating great friendships, and placing high emphasis in meeting her family's needs. "M" truly believes that the ability to consistently set high standards of achievement, a trait of the Maryknoll culture, which when one arms this with the knowledge of will power and self-confidence, yet more traits of the Maryknoll environment, definitely set the Maryknoll girls apart from the rest of the pack. These lofty aspirations, be it personalized and characteristic of each individual, are all based upon a common belief that there is a higher Supreme Being, who is all-loving and good. We should all of us wish that everyone could have benefited from such an educational experience.

From a 1977 Graduate (Ref.007)

Maryknoll and everything that came with it, including the buildings, trees, air, sunshine, people challenges, emotions, anything good or bad, constituted that very precious part of my growing up and learning to stand on my own with righteousness, faith, confidence, passion and love of mankind. Life and living would never be the same if not for the time spent in MCS and the things and people I met and interacted with.....

From a 2004 Graduate (Ref.183)

The MCS motto, "Sola Nobilitas Virtus", tells us what it is all about to live as a person. Upon cultivating the virtues in our hearts, we learn about life – to give, to appreciate, and to live truly. Being noble is not something far-fetched or unrealistic; it is just like a bird having its wings fully grown and being able to soar high up into the sky. It is such spiritual growth that liberates the soul.