

# ACFE Hong Kong Chapter Annual Dinner 2022

## President's Opening Speech

### **Slide 1 – Introduction**

Joseph, Nelson, Edmund, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, good evening everyone. Welcome to the ACFE Hong Kong Chapter Annual Dinner 2022. It's been about three years since I last addressed to you all. It is a delightful moment to be here meeting you again.

ACFE is the world's largest anti-fraud organizations and leading provider of anti-fraud training and education. Together with more than 90,000 members in more than 180 countries, ACFE is reducing business fraud worldwide and providing the training and resources needed to fight fraud more effectively. Here in Hong Kong, we have over 1,000 ACFE members.

2021 and 2022 were significant years for ACFE HK Chapter. Although we were suffering from the pandemic, our chapter was still making extraordinary progress. No matter in education aspects or social aspects, we have been contributing to our best endeavors.

## **Slide 2 – Key initiatives**

Speaking of our progress, we would like to share some key initiatives with you today.

Over the past few years, we were mainly involved in 5 initiatives:

- i) Providing high quality fraud training programme in HK
- ii) Established ACFE HK Chapter Prize awards to HKU students
- iii) Setting up the Young Practitioners' Club this year
- iv) Establishing our presence in local media
- v) Making donations to ACFE Foundation for future fraud fighters

Let me take a few more minutes to go through them with you one by one.

### **Slide 3 – Training**

Our first initiative is having provided different fraud training programme, as well as relevant seminars and webinars in Hong Kong.

The positive effects of anti-fraud training is far-reaching. Clearly, the best way to combat fraud is to educate anyone who is engaged in fighting fraud on how to effectively prevent, detect and investigate it.

By educating and supporting the local anti-fraud community with the tools to fight fraud more effectively, ACFE HK Chapter is reducing business fraud and inspiring public confidence in the integrity and objectivity of the profession.

We were pleased to partner with different supporting organizations, and launched a series of high-quality training sessions to whom may be interested in fraud investigation.

In particular, over the past 10 years, in partnership with the Center for Criminology of the University of Hong Kong, we have successfully attracted over 1,600 participants attending our fraud investigation courses at HKU campus or virtually. We have participants joining not only just from HK, but also from five ACFE Asian Chapters, including Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan and the Philippines. Also, we have local students joining the courses from five local universities.

Looking forward to the near future, we will continuously collaborate with different professional parties to offer the best training sessions.

#### **Slide 4 – HKU Prize Awards**

Our second initiative is the Prize Awards for HKU students.

In 2021, we were pleased to establish the ACFE HK Prize Awards for undergraduate students majoring or minoring in Criminology at HKU. By making the donations to HKU, we hope that HKU undergraduate students could benefit from such prize awards by broadening their learning horizons and developing their career paths in relevant sectors.

We will present the prize award to the first winner shortly on the stage, and will commit to contribute our supports to them in the future.

#### **Slide 5 – Young Practitioners' Club (“YPC”)**

Our next initiative would be the Young Practitioners' Club (“YPC”).

This year, we are pleased to announce the launch of YPC. YPC is an interdisciplinary club of ACFE HK, which is designated to offer a platform for young fraud investigators to share views, exchange experiences, as well as building up their sense of belongings to ACFE HK. Up to now, we have over 80 YPC members in total.

Following with the official launch, we have also organized the first social event for YPC in November 2022, with around 30 members participating in our fruitful happy hour night.

## **Slide 6 – Media coverage**

Apart from the above, we have also established our presence in local media.

ACFE published two main studies in the last few months this year, relating to occupational fraud and ESG fraud, one of the trendy topics nowadays.

These publications highlighted the relevant fraud risks as well as mitigation methods, and we have presented the findings accordingly in different local media platforms extensively.

Hopefully, we could continue in the future to present our fraud-related findings in more media platforms to promote ACFE and its value to the society.

## **Slide 7 – Donations**

Last but not least, to give back to the headquarters of ACFE, we have made continuous donations to the ACFE Foundation to express our thankfulness for more than 5 consecutive years.

In a hand-written appreciation letter addressed by the President and CEO of ACFE Headquarters, he thanked our Hong Kong Chapter's donations to the ACFE Foundation to help so many university students around the world become fraud fighters.

Also, in November this year, the Chapter Development Manager of ACFE headquarters said that "Your Chapter has been one of the most active and innovative Chapters over the past several years".

As the President of ACFE Hong Kong Chapter, I believe we are on the right track to achieving the greatness and success onwards. Together with our board members, I will try our best to make the Hong Kong Chapter one of the leading chapters among the organization.

Before I close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our annual dinner organizing committee members, that is our chairperson, Vic Choi, Kris Lee, Kelvin Ko and myself.

Again, I'm very grateful to all ACFE members associated with the organization for your supports during the pandemic. Your continuous supports are the key to enhance the status of fraud investigation practice in Hong Kong.

Finally, to all of us, please enjoy the night and let us now raise a glass to Christmas and New Year. I wish everyone of our ACFE members and distinguished guests a healthy and successful 2023. Thank you very much!