

Appreciating long years of *dedicated* service

As we ushered in 2017, AUPE presented the Long Service Award to three staff who have served the union and its sister organisations with great dedication for as many as 30 years.

Recipients of the award were:

- **Jeannie Hiah**, Head (Administration), 30 years of service
- **Katherine Loh**, Deputy General Secretary, 20 years of service
- **Christine Soon**, Assistant Manager (Finance), 20 years of service



We took it upon ourselves to find out what kept them going over the years through a quick chat.

What has motivated you to stay and give your all in this job all these years?

Jeannie: AUPE appreciates, recognises and rewards the effort that the staff put in. The good management and 5-day work week are very important factors as well.

Katherine: The 20 years I've been here passed in the blink of an eye! I am glad to have had the opportunity to learn and serve in various departments within AUPE.

Christine: The great working environment, understanding supervisors and not forgetting the fun-loving colleagues!

What were some of the challenges you faced at work and how did you overcome them?

Katherine: I started as an officer in the Finance Department, before moving on to the Membership and Welfare department, then being seconded to the Public Services International as a South-east Asian Sub-regional Secretary, and finally taking up my current position as a Deputy General Secretary. As a staff, it was and still is challenging to position my roles and responsibilities according to the different styles of our leaders, from the past General Secretaries (GS) Paul Tan, Teo Yock Ngee, Ma Wei Cheng to our present GS Yeo Chun Fing. But I know that ultimately, there is only one goal for all of us –

to serve our members to our best ability.

Christine: Keeping in pace with technology, maintaining productivity and meeting deadlines for reports at the same time can be quite challenging. Learning and sharing with colleagues and prioritising the work help a lot.

What is AUPE to you?

Jeannie: AUPE is a good working environment, which is why I stayed for 30 years.

Katherine: Working in AUPE has been very eventful and meaningful to me, and that is how time flies!

Christine: It is a place where I experience personal growth.