

Reports from Boards and Committees 2011/2012



Ir Prof CHOY Kin Kuen
Chairman

ADMINISTRATION BOARD

The Administration Board is responsible for the interpretation, development and implementation of the Institution's policies on financial and administrative matters, and for the co-ordination of administrative functions that involve more than one committee under the Board. Appraising the Institution's administrative policies from time to time is a central and fundamental role of the Board.

With the growth of the Institution over the years, it is apparent that the existing premises cannot provide adequate space and facilities for the increasing needs of members and the Secretariat. To resolve the problem, a Task Force on Institution's Accommodation, chaired by Ir Raymond K S Chan, was formed to review and study the accommodation needs of the Institution. Having examined carefully all possible ways forward, a recommendation from the Board to sell the existing premises and look for new premises that could accommodate the Secretariat and all meeting facilities under one roof was put forward and adopted by the Council. In view of the funding needs that would be required for the purchase of new premises, the Board also received the Council's support on an initiative to encourage voluntary donations from members through membership subscriptions. To facilitate this long-term planning for the new premises, the Chairman of the Task Force communicated with members via different channels to seek their views with regard to the location and overall provisions of the new accommodation, as well as the fundraising options for the acquisition of the new premises. Also, the Council recognised the existing accommodation needs of the Institution in Island Beverley and agreed that the Institution should continue to identify additional suitable accommodation within or close to Island Beverley as an interim measure.

Noting the feedback received on the Copyright Consent Form introduced during Session 2010/2011, the Board reviewed the Form again. The revised Copyright Consent Form was then submitted to and approved by the Council. This Form is now applicable to papers and works submitted for the Institution's publications and conference proceedings.

Subsequent to the introduction of a new HKIE logo, the Board conducted a review of the existing design for the membership card and name card. As a result, a newly-designed membership card featuring the new HKIE logo was introduced from 1 April 2012 onwards. As for the name card, which was introduced at the beginning of this Session, further refinement was suggested and the changes will be implemented during Session 2012/2013. In addition, the Board decided to produce new HKIE ties to promote the new image of the Institution.

The Board reviewed the progress of the e-library system against existing resources and decided that the system that has been developed could serve as an e-bookshelf as a first step, which could be expanded into an e-library in the future. It is anticipated that the e-bookshelf will be introduced during the next Session.

Through the work of the Management Committee, the Board reviewed and amended the Composition and Terms of Reference of the Planning Committee to invite the Legislative Councillor(s) who is/are being appointed as Observer(s) to the Council to join the Strategic Planning Meeting in the future.

Sufficient income was generated by the Institution to meet the resources required for the activities initiated in the year and the Board is pleased to note that the healthy financial position of the Institution was maintained.

In addition, changes to the establishment of the Secretariat, the affairs of the *Hong Kong Engineer* (Journal) and the financial accounts of the Institution's *HKIE Yearbook* were closely monitored. The Board has reviewed and will continue to review the Institution's facilities and management issues.

Finance & Investment Committee

The Finance & Investment Committee is responsible for the management of the assets and investments of the Institution. It is also responsible for the planning and monitoring of the Institution's income, expenditure and cash flow. The Committee reports to the Administration Board.

The Committee is pleased to report that for the 2011/2012 financial year, the Institution continued to achieve a healthy financial and cash position with a surplus of HK\$4.18 million. The total income for the year was HK\$33.4 million, which was HK\$2.26 million more than that of last year. Aside from a HK\$686,000 donation for learned society activities' premises, the increase was mainly due to increases in membership subscription, training fees and conference income during the year. Total expenditure for the year was HK\$29.2 million, which was HK\$1.38 million lower than that of the previous year. The overall spending pattern remained broadly similar.

During the year, part of the cash balance in the amount of HK\$8 million was placed in RMB fixed deposits for the purpose of generating more interest income for the Institution.

Taking into consideration the inflationary factor in Hong Kong over the years, the increase in funding needs for various new initiatives adopted in recent years for the benefit of the community, the Institution, and members and the guiding principle that the recurrent income should be at the same level as its recurrent expenses as far as possible, the Committee recommended an 8% increase in membership fees, including entrance fee, transfer fee, application fee and subscription fee for the 2012/2013 financial year. The Committee also recommended continuing with the early bird discount to all members whose subscription payments were made by cheque or cash before 1 April 2012. With close monitoring on spending, the Institution anticipates a healthy financial position in the coming financial year.



Ir HO Kwong Wai
Chairman

Journal Editorial Committee

The Journal Editorial Committee had made zealous efforts to oversee the production and publication of the *Hong Kong Engineer* (Journal), Hong Kong Engineer Online and the *HKIE Yearbook*; all of which serve as vital tools in our pursuit of sustainable engineering development. In this Session, we made great strides on the environmental protection front by replacing the existing recyclable lettershopping materials with that of recycled ones. The *HKIE Yearbook 2012* and the April 2012 issue of the Journal are among the first publications to be produced under the new environmental practice.

I am also pleased to report that our continued commitment to giving back to the community was recognised with the award of the Caring Organisation Logo for the eighth consecutive year. The Institution will continue to extend its support to charitable organisations by carrying complementary promotional inserts in the Journal. Members may recall our support for World Vision Hong Kong, Hong Kong Red Cross and Society for the Promotion of Hospice Care appeals.

During January to March 2012, the Committee conducted the *Hong Kong Engineer* Readership Survey 2011/12. This was an important step towards gaining an insight into our readers' opinions, which would help us enhance the quality of our publications.

In order to project elements of professionalism, innovation and modernity, the Committee initiated the adoption of a new colour scheme in the Journal's design starting from the September 2011 issue. A revamp of the cover design was made subsequently in the December 2011 issue by flipping one of the "Es" in the word "ENGINEER" on the cover header so as to transpose the Chinese character "工", which represents engineering.

In March 2012, the Committee conducted a detailed review of the performance of our existing publisher, which included quality of deliverables, co-operation and financial stability. Based on the favourable outcome of the review, the Committee renewed the publishing agreements for the Journal and its online version for another two-year term.

The above-mentioned tasks would not have been possible without the staunch support of all Committee Members and the Publisher. The Committee would like to express its sincere gratitude to all the individuals who have contributed to maintaining the professional standards of our publications.



Ir Thomas K C CHAN
Chairman

Management Committee

The Management Committee is responsible to the Administration Board for the regular review and updating of the policies and management procedures of the Institution.

The Committee is also responsible for reviewing the Composition and Terms of Reference of the Standing Committees. During this Session, the Committee considered the proposed amendments to the Composition and Terms of Reference of the Planning Committee, which was revised in response to the suggestion made at the Strategic Planning Meeting, to invite the Legislative Councillor(s) appointed as Observer(s) to the Council to join the Strategic Planning Meeting in the future. The proposed amendments were approved by the Council.



Ir Stephen H C CHAN
Chairman

Staff Resources Committee

The Committee is responsible to the Administration Board for reviewing policies and guidelines for the staff establishment. It also reviews job specifications for Secretariat staff, formulates policies and guidelines for salary levels and conditions of service and maintains an equitable remuneration system.

During the year under review, proposals for staffing establishment based on workload and the development of individual functional areas of the Secretariat with reference to the activities and initiatives introduced by the Institution were considered and approved for implementation in 2012. This should help us attain an even division and distribution of work with an appropriate level of support which will, in turn, improve the quality of services provided to members.

The Committee reviewed the title of the Secretary and put forward a recommendation to the Administration Board for it to be re-titled as "Chief Executive and Secretary" effective on 1 February 2012. For the issue of Certificates of Class of Membership under seal and in the case of all instruments requiring that the seal shall be affixed under the authority of the Council, the title of the "Secretary" shall remain unchanged. The recommendation was subsequently approved by the Council. The review took into account the organisational structure of the Secretariat, the titles used within the Secretariat, the administrative role of the Secretary and the image of the Institution.

The Committee conducted an overall review on the Secretariat's salary levels against market rates and is pleased to report that the recommendation put forward was adopted. The Committee also monitored staff costs against the budget to ensure that the appropriate level of service support to members in general would be provided.



Ir Joseph C M LEUNG
Chairman

QUALIFICATION & MEMBERSHIP BOARD

During the Session under review, the Qualification & Membership Board spared no effort in its bid to:

- (i) enhance the Institution's international standing and mobility of engineers;
- (ii) continue reviewing the Institution's qualifying process; and
- (iii) maintain the quality of membership admission.

Reciprocal Recognition Agreements are important tools for enhancing the Institution's international standing and mobility of our members. During the Session, the Board continued to review existing agreements and explore opportunities for new agreements. The Institution is actively negotiating a Reciprocal Recognition Agreement with the Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation (CIHT), in order to extend our international network. In addition, discussions on the establishment of Reciprocal Recognition Agreements with the Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE) and Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS) are well underway.

Over the past years, the development of Associate Members was always on the Board's agenda. During this Session, a Task Force on Associate Membership Route to Corporate Membership was set up by the Board and chaired by Ir Gary C W Ko, Deputy Chairman of the Board. The objective of this Task Force is to explore and develop an effective professional route, to assist Associate Members in becoming Corporate Members.

On the Board's recommendation, the Council approved the adoption of the competences and assessment system of Engineers New Zealand in order to meet international standards as defined by the International Engineering Alliance and for the Institution to allow an alternative to essay writing when conducting assessments by the Disciplines. The Working Group on the Implementation of Competence-based Assessment is preparing for the detailed implementation plan.

With the permanent establishment of the "Emerging" Discipline Route, the name of the Route has been re-titled to "Special Route for Specific Disciplines". In view of the big demand for façade engineering in the industry, Structural Discipline is due to submit a proposal for the establishment of sub-lists of Corporate Members and Associate Members who are façade engineers under the Discipline.

Our members underpin the development and growth of the Institution and the quality of our membership is therefore of utmost importance. The Board continues to uphold the quality of members through its admission system. During the period, two training sessions on upholding assessment quality were conducted for assessors. Also, four appeal cases went through the appeal due process.



Ir Raymond K S CHAN
Chairman

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION STATISTICS		
GRADE	APPLICATIONS	
	Considered 2011/2012	Accepted 2011/2012
Fellow	71	69
Member	1,164	736
Graduate Member	1,034	1,032
Associate Member	1	1
Companion	0	0
Student Member	1,906	1,904
Affiliate	3	3
Additional Discipline	177	120
Total	4,356	3,865

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS				
Membership	31 Mar 09	31 Mar 10	31 Mar 11	31 Mar 12
Honorary Fellow	19	20	20	18
Fellow	885	906	930	985
Member	11,204	11,434	11,939	12,479
Graduate Member	4,362	4,807	5,271	5,722
Associate Member	1,554	1,459	1,381	1,284
Companion	16	16	15	15
Student Member	4,161	6,189	7,069	7,575
Affiliate	520	486	487	427
Total	22,721	25,317	27,112	28,505

Note: Up to 31 March of the year.

Education & Examinations Committee

In the five meetings held during this Session by the Education & Examinations Committee, a total of 64 applications for individual assessment of academic qualifications for the class of Member were considered, of which 43 cases were accepted while 21 cases were rejected.

In the year under review, the Civil Discipline received the highest number of applications for academic assessment, followed by the Geotechnical and Structural Disciplines.

During the Session, the Committee also considered two applications under the Special Route for Specific Disciplines (Environmental, Information and Materials Disciplines). One applicant who holds an applied science degree of a nature relevant to the Discipline was accepted and one applicant was rejected.



Ir Dr Edward W C LO
Chairman

Fellowship Committee

Fellow is the highest grade of all the Institution's membership classes available for application. Fellows are senior members of the engineering profession who are well-positioned to make major contributions to the affairs of the Institution, issues of public interest, the learned society, and towards the setting of standards for qualifications.

The pathways to attaining Fellow status include transfer from member, the normal route, the mature route and the eminence route. Under the eminence route, the Institution receives nominations for Fellowship and will consider each nomination before inviting the candidate to submit a formal application. During the Session under review, the Fellowship Committee recommended a total of 75 applications and one nomination for Fellowship.

It is the policy of the Committee to assess each application and nomination based on individual merits, taking into full consideration the candidate's particular circumstances.

We would be pleased to see more qualified applicants submit their applications for Fellowship in the future.



Ir Joseph K H CHOI
Chairman

Professional Assessment Committee

A review was conducted on repeat attempts to pass professional assessments. After consultations with the Discipline Advisory Panels, a proposal was formulated and approved by the Qualification & Membership Board in May 2012 which would impose a validity period of four years for the exemption granted to those who fail their assessments, following the release of their first professional assessment results. The new validity period will be applicable to all applications submitted on or after 1 January 2013.

The Committee also incorporated a new guideline for Assessors, to the effect that a candidate who fails the professional assessment would be recommended to attend a certain number of CPD hours for improvement in a specific area and to seek advice from supporters before the next application.

A forum on professional assessment was held in November 2011 to update Assessors on the professional assessment process and practice, and to collect feedback from the Assessors, which were conveyed to the Committee Members of the various Discipline Advisory Panels, to facilitate a review of the current assessment mechanism. Assessors also shared their invaluable views and experience during the forum.

A presentation was made to Scheme "A" trainees and their engineering supervisors/training tutors at the Seminar on Engineering Graduate Training Scheme organised by the Vocational Training Council in April 2012.

The Committee would like to express gratitude to those Assessors who had assisted the Institution in conducting assessments.



Ir Gary C W KO
Chairman

Quality Control Committee

Five meetings were held during the Session and a total of 495 assessment results were reviewed. The passing rate was 60% this year as compared with 62% last year.

Five appeal cases were reviewed by the Committee during the Session.

The Committee continued to achieve its mission of maintaining a consistent standard in the quality of professional assessments across the 20 Disciplines of the Institution and of upholding the quality of members admitted via Reciprocal Recognition Agreements with other Institutions.



Ir CHAN Chi Chiu
Chairman

Training Committee

During this Session, 37 assessment and re-assessment visits were conducted, including visits to six new companies, making a total of 185 companies approved for the HKIE Scheme "A" training. The number of newly-registered trainees reached 865, representing a 5% increase compared to last year and the highest number ever since the establishment of Scheme "A" training. This favourable outcome was made possible through the staunch support of our training partners, Vocational Training Council and graduate trainees.

Four engineering supervisor workshops were successfully held during the Session, which were attended by 155 members who became qualified to be engineering supervisors under the HKIE Scheme "A" training.

The Trainee of the Year Award 2011 was presented at the New Members' Reception-cum-Prize Presentation Ceremony held on 13 January 2012 at the Hong Kong Club. Ir Chan Fuk-cheung, President of the Institution, presented the prizes to the three awardees and representatives from their companies.

During the Session, the President visited 65 Scheme "A" companies and their feedback on various training issues was reviewed by the Training Committee. In response to the difficulties in offering site or design training at some Scheme "A" companies, plans were initiated for the establishment of an e-platform on the HKIE website, to match possible training offers/exchanges among Scheme "A" companies. Actual matching will be conducted by the Scheme "A" companies themselves, subject to the HKIE's approval of the training programme.



Ir MAK Shu Hei
Chairman



Ir Victor C K CHEUNG
Chairman

LEARNED SOCIETY BOARD

It was an eventful year for the Board with a total of four large-scale international conferences and a record high of some 700 learned society activities being organised. While details of these activities would be reported in the later parts of this Report, acknowledgement must be made here of the hard work contributed by our Board members, 17 Divisions/AMC/SSC/YMC, three Overseas Chapters and eight Student Chapters.

To dovetail with the Institution's endeavours to promote the engineering profession to secondary students and engineering undergraduate students, a Task Force was set up under the Board to review the HKIE's Student Prize Programme taking into account the introduction of the new senior secondary academic structure. The Board agreed to sponsor two well-established student competitions, namely the 45th Joint School Science Exhibition and the 14th Hong Kong Robotic Olympiad, in order to reach out to and engage young people.

In addition to organising learned society activities, the Board also co-ordinated with Divisions and Committees on various arrangements to ensure their smooth operation and continuous development. Items covered included the Past Chairman's badge, the Copyright Consent Form and amendments to the Terms of Reference of the three Overseas Chapters. Briefing sessions were organised for the Divisions and Committees as well as the Student Chapters and tea gatherings were conducted for the latter at the beginning of the Session.

The Board is pleased to report the establishment of a new Aircraft Division during the Session and the first annual general meeting of the Division was held on 7 June 2012, at which the Chairman and Ordinary Members of its first Committee for Session 2012/2013 were duly elected. With the establishment of the Division, the Institution now has a total of 18 Divisions.

To strengthen our global connections, renewals of the Agreements of Co-operation with the Institution of Civil Engineers and Chinese Association for Science and Technology were approved by the Council. Our three Overseas Chapters' commendable efforts in fostering collaboration amongst our members and serving as a link for the Institution are highly appreciated.

Community Service Committee

To enhance the standing and visibility of the engineering profession, the Committee continues to take a proactive approach towards facilitating members' active participation in public affairs.

The continuous support of our members for the HKIE Professional Volunteers Service Accreditation Programme is noteworthy. The programme was set up during Session 2008/2009 in collaboration with the Council of Volunteering and Agency for Volunteer Service (AVS) to recognise our members' outstanding contributions of their expertise and efforts in serving the community. During this Session, 29 members were awarded under the programme. Ir Dr Michael Y H Li and Ir Lam Chi-sing were also nominated by the Institution and selected for the Leadership Bauhinia Volunteer Award by the AVS.

As part of our efforts to strengthen communication with the community, we wrote to all District Councils indicating our members' interest in community affairs. For the Session under review, meetings with the District Councils of Kwun Tong, Kowloon City and Wong Tai Sin were arranged in collaboration with the Public Relations Committee.

The Committee continues to provide prompt comments and professional views on consultation papers covering engineering-related matters and issues of public concern as well as to make nominations for external boards and committees upon request. During the Session, 41 invitations for opinions were received from various Government departments, higher educational institutions as well as professional organisations. Moreover, in response to invitations from Government departments and external organisations, a total of 181 members were nominated as the HKIE representatives to serve on various boards and committees. Lists of the HKIE submissions and nominations could be found in the later part of this Report.

With the invaluable support and contributions of our members, the Committee is pleased to play an important role in fostering a spirit of participation in public affairs within the Institution.



Ir Martin K K CHEUNG
Chairman

Conference Committee



Ir Prof Joseph Y W MAK
Chairman

The Institution hosted a number of local and regional conferences during Session 2011/2012, which served as platforms to enhance and facilitate discussion and exchange of ideas among engineering professionals.

The International Conference on Electrical Engineering (ICEE) 2011, which was hosted by the Institution and jointly organised with the Chinese Society for Electrical Engineering, the Institute of Electrical Engineers of Japan and the Korean Institute of Electrical Engineers, was successfully held on 10 – 14 July 2011 in Hong Kong. Eminent local and international experts made 326 presentations in relation to the theme of the Conference, “Towards Smart & Low-carbon Electrical Engineering”. ICEE 2011 was well-attended by more than 500 delegates from Hong Kong, China, Japan, Korea and other regional areas.

The Conference on Planning and Development of Underground Space, which was co-organised by the Institution and the Hong Kong Institute of Planners, was successfully held on 23 – 24 September 2011. Speakers made 21 presentations at the two-day joint Conference which provided an opportunity for Hong Kong engineers and planners to meet and share experience with our overseas counterparts on the planning and development of underground space, in particular the potential for the optimal use of rock caverns through creative planning in Hong Kong. The Conference was attended by more than 350 delegates.

To foster collaboration in the exchange of technical knowledge and information between Hong Kong and Shanghai, the Institution and the Shanghai Association of Science and Technology co-organised the 8th Hong Kong and Shanghai Symposium on Science and Technology on 4 – 5 November 2011 in Hong Kong. The theme of the Symposium, was “Sustainable Development in Urban Cities – Could Science and Technology Help?”. Two keynote speeches and 17 papers were presented by experts from Hong Kong and Shanghai at the Symposium, which was attended by about 100 delegates.

The HKIE ICT Conference: Technologies for a Smart City, was held on 11 May 2012. More than 200 delegates and guests, including government officials, meteorologists, academics, IT specialists and engineers who were at the technological forefront gathered at the Conference to share their smart initiatives and insight into ICT applications for a smart city. Six keynote speeches and 17 papers were presented at the Conference.

Continuing Professional Development Committee

The HKIE Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Committee continued its efforts to promote and administer generic CPD activities for members of the Institution.

With support from 11 CPD course providers, the Committee planned over 250 courses covering occupational safety and health, technical matters and general professional subjects during the Session. These activities attracted around 2,000 participants. The Committee and Young Members Committee (YMC) also co-organised free CPD courses and activities for YMC members and the results were fruitful.

The mandatory CPD requirements for Corporate Members were implemented and a round of audit on compliance was conducted in 2011 on members’ CPD attainment in 2010. A new round of audit started in early 2012 on members’ CPD attainment in 2011. The HKIE Continuing Professional Development Committee Special Panel (CPDCSP) was set up under the Committee to review and make recommendations to the Committee on compliance with CPD requirements. The CPDCSP for CPD attainment in 2010 reviewed 119 cases, of which 112 were recommended as compliance cases.

In order to consolidate the database management system for the HKIE’s CPD activities, the Continuing Professional Development System was successfully launched on 30 November 2011 at the HKIE Headquarters. Our President, Ir Chan Fuk-cheung, Vice President-cum-Chairman of the Learned Society Board, Ir Victor C K Cheung and representatives of Divisions attended the launching ceremony. Divisions and members are now familiarising themselves with the system and sending their feedback to the Committee.



Ir CHAN Siu Tack
Chairman



Ir Prof Keith K C CHAN
Chairman

HKIE Transactions Committee

Responsible for reviewing and overseeing the timely publication of the *HKIE Transactions*, the HKIE Transactions Committee was renamed from the Publications Committee during this Session to better reflect its major functions and responsibilities.

Under the leadership of the expert editorial panel and the unfailing support of a group of local and overseas intellectuals, the *HKIE Transactions* has been publishing high quality papers for members, practitioners and researchers of various engineering disciplines. Both the number of paper submissions and reader subscriptions for the publication remain steady thanks to the invaluable contributions of our Transactions International Advisors, Editors, Associate Editors and papers' reviewers throughout the Session.

At the Presidential Dinner held in September 2011, two papers published in the *HKIE Transactions* were awarded the HKIE Best Transactions Paper Prize, while two exceptional local and overseas papers won the HKIE Outstanding Paper Award for Young Engineers/Researchers 2011. The awardees of the Outstanding Paper Award were invited to share and exhibit their winning papers and accomplishments with some 40 members, academics and engineering students at a Technical Seminar held on 14 September 2011 at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. These award-winning papers together with three other shortlisted ones were published in a special issue of the *HKIE Transactions* in December 2011. Riding on its previous success, the 2012 Award was launched in January 2012. This year, the Committee was gratified to receive an encouraging number of local as well as overseas submissions.

There are plans in the pipeline to enter a publishing partnership with an international publisher in the coming Session in order to raise the readership, profile and international status of the *HKIE Transactions*.

The Committee will continue to uphold the standard of the *HKIE Transactions*, providing a platform for the engineering community to exchange up-to-date information and knowledge.



Ir Duncan W O WONG
Chairman

Public Relations Committee

The ultimate goals of the Public Relations Committee (PRC) are to uplift the image of the HKIE and to enhance the visibility of the engineering profession by engaging fellow members, the media, the younger generation and the general public. Thanks to the unfailing support of our members, we have attained another fruitful year.

To showcase the contribution of technological advancements to better living for people in Hong Kong and to introduce the recent efforts of various industries to make our society a greener and more sustainable one, the Committee proposed, with the Executive's support, the organisation of a joint programme with the Hong Kong Science Museum this year. During February and March 2012, a special exhibition, a lecture series and tours of selected projects were organised for the general public. Overwhelming responses were received with over 68,000 people participating in the programme.

In an effort to promote the engineering profession to the younger generation, the Committee initiated the HKIE School Ambassadors Programme, which has been in place since 2003. This Programme has been an effective channel for promoting the profession to students and the Committee is delighted to report that 141 School Ambassadors were recruited to deliver more than 51 school talks to over 8,400 students of secondary schools and tertiary institutions during this Session.

To foster a closer relationship with the District Councils as well as the local community, the Community Service Committee (CSC) and the PRC invited members of the Kwun Tong, Kowloon City and Wong Tai Sin District Councils to visit the Institution. By engaging with local districts, we could gain a better understanding of the needs of the community and reinforce a mutually beneficial relationship with the public at large.

To raise public appreciation of professional engineers' contribution to Hong Kong's development and to enrich the content of the "Hong Kong Engineering Archive" website, the Committee invited various engineering organisations to submit their distinguished engineering projects for inclusion in the archive. The response was highly encouraging and the new projects were uploaded onto the website "www.hkie.org.hk/engarchive".

The Committee had a busy and fruitful year marked by outstanding accomplishments. The unstinting support and dedicated contribution of PRC members, School Ambassadors and other volunteers throughout the Session are much appreciated and gratefully acknowledged.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

To cater for the ever-changing environment and the challenges ahead of the engineering profession, the Committee continues to uphold the mission of the Institution and make every effort to formulate long-term strategies as well as review and update the Institution's development plans.

The Committee is pleased to report that with the support of Committee Members, Executive Members, Past Presidents, Chairpersons of Standing Committees and the President's Protégés, the Strategic Planning Meeting (SPM) was successfully concluded on 13 August 2011 at the Hong Kong Parkview. As in previous years, the focus of the meeting was to devise the strategic development plan for the benefit of our members and the Institution. Issues related to the enrichment of the Institution's leadership pool, the position of Associate Membership, the promotion of the engineering profession and sustainability of engineering talents were discussed at the meeting.

Having reviewed the progress of all planned action tasks of the Three-Year Rolling Plan for Sessions 2011/2012 to 2013/2014, the Committee is pleased to note that most of the planned action tasks have been implemented and/or completed along the theme set for the Session with the introduction of new initiatives, such as the organisation of the Professional Enhancement Lecture Series for the development of young engineers, the establishment of the Veneree Club and the organisation of large-scale "Technology for Quality Living" Programme.

The Committee also considered the Three-Year Rolling Plan for Sessions 2012/2013 to 2014/2015 prepared by the three Vice Presidents of the Session and noted that the format of the Plan had been revamped with its goals regrouped into three categories, namely Membership Excellence, Professional Excellence and Global Excellence, in accordance with the suggestion proposed at the SPM. Recommendations for the Plan had been made and new initiatives proposed for the Plan were accepted by the Committee. The Plan will be regularly reviewed and updated in the coming Session.



Ir Prof Reuben P K CHU
Chairman

ACCREDITATION BOARD



Ir Prof NG Tung Sang
Chairman

As a full signatory to the Washington Accord, the Institution has established itself as the internationally recognised body for the accreditation of engineering degree programmes in Hong Kong. At present, a total of 128 engineering degree programmes are accredited by the HKIE.

During the past year, the Board carried out two accreditation visits to local institutions for the evaluation of five engineering degree programmes.

In addition, an advisory visit was made to the University of Macau on 28 – 29 June 2011 to examine the feasibility of conducting accreditation of the university's engineering and computer science degree programmes. The result of the advisory visit was assessed by the Board and a recommendation for conducting accreditation visits to engineering and computer science degree programmes in the University of Macau including seeking recognition for the respective engineering degree programmes under the Washington Accord was subsequently put forward to and approved by the Council.

During the year, the Accreditation Board invited Prof Ira Jacobson, the Board's past overseas member, to conduct a one-day workshop on "*Outcome-based Accreditation for Evaluators*", to familiarise evaluation team members with the revised HKIE accreditation criteria. The new outcomes based criteria in accrediting engineering degree programmes will be implemented in September 2012 as mandated by the Board.

The Board is committed to maintaining the highest standard for its accreditation service. To this end, it maintained a close working relationship with local universities and conducted periodic exchanges and discussions with other accreditation authorities in the region and the Washington Accord jurisdictions during the year.

Accreditation Committee for Computer Science Programmes

The Accreditation Committee for Computer Science Programmes entered its second five-year accreditation cycle having laid a solid foundation for the operation and development of a robust accreditation system for computer science degree programmes in Hong Kong. A total of 16 computer science degree programmes offered by City University of Hong Kong, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University and The University of Hong Kong were accredited.

As a full signatory to the Seoul Accord since 2009, all computer science degree programmes accredited by the HKIE are fully recognised by other signatories in the Accord, including Australia, Canada, Chinese Taipei, Korea, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States. The Seoul Accord is an international mutual recognition agreement on accreditation of computing as well as information and communication technology degree programmes.

In response to the implementation of the new senior secondary academic structure as well as the international practice of outcomes based accreditation, the review of the existing accreditation criteria and procedures for computer science programmes is in progress. The review would align with the development of outcomes based accreditation and the requirements of Seoul Accord.



Ir Prof WONG Wing Shing
Chairman

Accreditation Committee for Higher Diploma Programmes

The Institution has been a full signatory of the Sydney Accord since 2003. All engineering and computing higher diploma and equivalent programmes accredited by the HKIE are fully recognised by the other signatories, including Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States. At present, more than 70 higher diploma and equivalent programmes are accredited by the HKIE.

In response to the implementation of the new senior secondary academic structure as well as the international practice of outcomes based accreditation, a review of the existing accreditation criteria and procedures for higher diploma and equivalent programmes was conducted. Revisions to the accreditation criteria for higher diploma and equivalent programmes were approved by the Accreditation Committee for Higher Diploma Programmes, which were in line with the development of outcomes based accreditation and the requirements of the Sydney Accord. Approval was subsequently given to revisions of accreditation submission requirements and related guidelines.

During the year, the HKIE was invited by the Institute of Engineering Education Taiwan (IIEET) to observe an accreditation visit to the National Chin-Yi University of Technology in Taichung for its admission as a provisional signatory to the Sydney Accord. Ir Dr Chan Fun-ting, Deputy Chairman of the Accreditation Committee for Higher Diploma Programmes, was appointed by the Committee to observe the visit on 10 – 13 December 2011.

The Committee also carried out an accreditation visit involving four campuses and five departments, to evaluate seven higher diploma programmes. This visit was successful and would be used as a reference for future involving multiple campuses and programmes.



Ir Dr Richard K K YUEN
Chairman

Photo Courtesy: Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Limited



Photo Courtesy: CLP Engineering Limited