

# Reports from **Boards and Committees** 2009/2010

## **ADMINISTRATION BOARD**

**Ir Prof Reuben P K CHU**

*Chairman*

The Administration Board is responsible for the interpretation, development and implementation of policies on financial and administration matters, and for the co-ordination of the administrative functions that involve more than one committee under the Board.

Appraising the administrative policies of the Institution from time to time is a central and fundamental role of the Board. During the year, the Board reviewed the Institution's authority to disclose information of our members and in order to enable such disclosure, the Board recommended to amend the Constitution for that purpose. In addition, the Board reviewed the title of the most senior Vice President and recommended to amend the Constitution to confer the title of "Senior Vice President" to the most senior Vice President. The Council approved the proposed amendments to the Constitution, which were adopted at a Special General Meeting.

In the year under review, the Board has taken on board a review of the use of professorial title of our members and the recommendation put forward by the Board to lift the restrictions on the use of the title was adopted by the Council. The use of the title "Ir" by members should continue to be the priority of the Institution and members should be encouraged to use the prefix title of "Ir".

Over the years, the Institution publishes a host of publications including, but not limited to, the *Hong Kong Engineer*, the *HKIE Transactions*, and proceedings of conferences. Against this background, the Board considered it important to have an overall review of the copyright issues relating to these publications. A new Copyright Consent Form has been developed for papers and works submitted by authors for conferences, seminars, symposiums and other functions organised or co-organised by the Institution as well as the papers or works submitted to the publications of the Institution.

The Institution has been able to generate sufficient income to fund the resources required for the activities initiated in the year and is pleased to report that a healthy financial position of the Institution was maintained.

In addition, the Board has kept an eye on changes to the establishment of the Secretariat, the affairs of the Journal as well as the financial accounts of the Institution's *Yearbook*. The Board has continued to review the Institution's facilities and management issues.

All Board members and the Secretariat have been performing with first-rate accomplishments. The Board would like to express its heartfelt and sincere thanks to all of them.



## Finance & Investment Committee

**Ir HO Kwong Wai**  
**Chairman**

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

The Committee is pleased to report that for the financial year 2009/2010, the Institution continued to achieve a healthy financial and cash position with a surplus of HK\$1.6 million. The total income for the year was HK\$28.3 million, which was HK\$1.5 million more than that of last year. This was mainly due to increases in membership subscriptions, application and assessment fees, training fees and accreditation income during the year. Total expenditure for the year was HK\$26.7 million, which was HK\$1 million higher than that of the previous year whereas the overall spending pattern remained broadly similar.

The investment plan for the Institution's accumulated fund introduced last year was completed during the year and the dividends received from the investment, ie the Tracker Fund, would be taken as income for the Institution.

Over the years, various initiatives have been introduced to enhance the professional development services for members. New Disciplines, new Divisions, Overseas Chapters and Student Chapters have been set up to meet the needs of the changing environments. Nevertheless, membership subscriptions have not been raised for ten years and in some circumstances, there were reductions in fees. Taking into account of the above, a recommendation to increase membership subscriptions for 2010/2011 was submitted to the Council and it was resolved that a 5% increase will be made. On the other hand, the early bird discount for all members will be retained in 2010/2011. For members to enjoy this benefit, subscription fees need to be paid by cheque or cash before 1 April 2010. With a close monitor on spending, the Institution anticipates the healthy financial position to continue in the coming financial year.



## Journal Editorial Committee

**Ir Charles M C CHU**  
**Chairman**

The Journal Editorial Committee is dedicated to managing, supervising and monitoring the publishing of the *Hong Kong Engineer* (Journal), Hong Kong Engineer Online and the *HKIE Yearbook*, and the Committee has been endeavouring to make the Institution's periodicals a must-read for our fellow engineers.

During the Session, reviewing and improving the publications continued to be the major tasks of the Committee. In July 2009, the Committee was invited to conduct a survey and review the overall production needs and distribution of the *HKIE Diary*. Taking into consideration the diverse needs of members, the Institution finally decided that for the Year 2010, a copy of the *Diary* will be distributed to members who have placed an order in advance. On copyright issues, the Committee had revised and produced a Copyright Consent Form with explanatory notes, which, subject to approval by the Council, will be introduced for general use.

With a view towards introducing a more contemporary look to the Journal, since the January 2010 issue, the Committee has adopted a new design for the cover, division layout and font types and in general, more vibrant colours to brighten up the pages. The Committee also assessed the performance of the existing publishing company in terms of quality, content, publishing schedule and financial status. After a thorough review in March 2010, the publishing agreements for the Journal and its online version were renewed with the existing publishing company for another two years.

The Journal continues to lend its support to charitable organisations by providing free insertions in the periodical. During the Session, appeals from Oxfam, World Wide Fund and Médecins Sans Frontières were received. In recognition of our long standing support to such worthy causes, the Institution has been awarded the Caring Organisation Logo for the 6th consecutive year.

Assured of the zealous efforts of the Committee members and the publishing company, the Committee is committed to upkeeping the professional standards and quality of our periodicals.



# Reports from Boards and Committees 2009/2010

## **Management Committee** **Ir Victor C K CHEUNG** **Chairman**

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

This year the Committee focused its efforts on reviewing amendments to the Constitution and considered three proposals in this Session. The first proposal was to ascertain the authority of the Institution to disclose information of our members in good standing, including class of membership and the Discipline(s) that a member belongs to, in a legitimate manner. The proposal for amendments to the Constitution was approved by the Council and adopted at a Special General Meeting held on 28 June 2010.

The second proposal for amendments to the Constitution, which has also been approved by the Council and adopted at the same Special General Meeting, was on the new title of Senior Vice President. The purpose of the proposal was to enable the most senior Vice President to carry the title of "Senior Vice President".

Lastly, the Committee has also considered a proposal for amendments to the Constitution for disclosure of information upon request about members with a background of misconduct. Further discussion on this proposal will continue in the next Session.



## **Staff Resources Committee** **Ir HO Sai King** **Chairman**

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

During the year under review, proposals on staff establishment to meet the operational requirements were considered and approved for implementation in 2010 with an aim to attain an even division and distribution of work at the appropriate level of support and in turn, improving the quality of services to members.

In reviewing the salary levels of staff, the Committee has taken into account the market trend and the recommendation put forward by the Committee. A proposal on salary review in recognition of the contribution of staff was adopted. At the same time, the Committee also monitored the staff costs against the budget to ensure that an appropriate level of service support to members in general will be provided.



## QUALIFICATION & MEMBERSHIP BOARD

Ir Dr CHAN Fuk Cheung

Chairman

During the Session under review, the Qualification & Membership Board took steps of strategic importance to further the development of qualifying routes and new Disciplines and conducted a review on the standards and outcomes of the qualifying process of the Institution.

A proposal on the development of qualifying routes was approved for implementation to allow applicants with engineering degrees not accredited by the HKIE to apply for Corporate Membership. In addition, a new route for attaining Corporate Membership was also developed to encourage engineers with research and development experience to apply.

Embracing new Disciplines is one of the important strategies adopted by the Institution for the purposes of moving with the times and offering individuals a home for their professional development. Premised on these principles, the Board has given due considerations to the proposal to establish the "Logistics and Transportation" Discipline and is pleased to report that with the approval of the Council, this Discipline was formally established during the Session. With the addition of the new Discipline, the Institution now has a total of 20 engineering Disciplines, compared to 16 ten years ago. The formation of the Logistics and Transportation Discipline is in line with the development of the professional and economic development of the society. The new Discipline will support the growth of this sector in the coming years.

For the Aircraft Discipline, which was newly established in 2009, the Board is pleased to report that it has given its approval of the first batch of 54 founding members during the Session. In the meantime, the Aircraft Discipline Advisory Panel is in the process of establishing its Scheme "A" training, which will help support the healthy development of the Discipline.

Regarding the standards and outcomes of the qualifying process, the Board launched an important review study to benchmark its standard with partnering authorities particularly those institutions, with which the Institution has established Reciprocal Recognition Agreements. Observation visits were arranged to institutions in Australia, Canada and the United Kingdom. Following the visits, a proposal to migrate the existing qualifying system to full competence-based approach was put forward to and approved by the Council. To take the proposal forward, a Working Group under the Board will be formed to develop and review the process necessary for implementing the competence-based assessment.

Statistics on membership applications and membership profile are provided below for information.



STATISTICS ON MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS		
APPLICATIONS		
GRADE	Considered	Accepted
	2009/2010	2009/2010
Fellow	53	45
Member	619	372
Graduate Member	847	817
Associate Member	3	3
Companion	0	0
Student Member	2,141	2,101
Affiliate	3	3
Additional Discipline	119	72
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,785</b>	<b>3,413</b>

STATISTICS ON MEMBERSHIP				
Membership	31 Mar 07	31 Mar 08	31 Mar 09	31 Mar 10
Honorary Fellow	18	18	19	20
Fellow	873	876	885	906
Member	10,655	10,956	11,204	11,434
Graduate Member	3,979	4,146	4,362	4,807
Associate Member	1,718	1,631	1,554	1,459
Companion	19	17	16	16
Student Member	2,744	3,512	4,161	6,189
Affiliate	595	549	520	486
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,601</b>	<b>21,705</b>	<b>22,721</b>	<b>25,317</b>

Note: For the year ended 31 March 2010.

# Reports from Boards and Committees 2009/2010

## Education & Examinations Committee

**Ir Dr Francis T K AU**

*Chairman*

In the five meetings held during this Session, the Education & Examinations Committee considered a total of 63 cases, of which 36 cases were accepted as meeting the academic requirements for Members and 27 cases were rejected. There was one application for the class of Associate Member which was rejected. The Committee also reviewed one appeal case.

In the year under review, the Civil Discipline received the highest number of applications for academic assessment, followed by the Environmental Discipline, Building Discipline and Information Discipline.

During the Session, the Committee also considered five applications under the Emerging Discipline Route approved by the Qualification & Membership Board in early 2007 for the Environmental Discipline, Information Discipline and Materials Discipline. All these applicants hold a degree of applied science nature relevant to the applying Discipline and their applications were accepted.

In addition, the Committee considered and approved three undergraduate programmes for the Fire Discipline which satisfy the academic requirements of the Discipline.



## Fellowship Committee

**Ir Joseph K H CHOI**

*Chairman*

The Committee recommended a total of 43 applications during the Session. It is the policy of the Committee to assess each application based on individual merits, taking into full consideration each applicant's particular circumstances.

We are also pleased to report that one nomination for Fellowship was supported by the Committee during the Session. Fellowship is the highest of all membership classes within the Institution available for application. Fellows are senior members of the engineering profession who are well positioned to contribute significantly to the affairs of the Institution, issues of public interest, the learned society, and towards the setting of standards for qualifications. The Committee hopes to see more qualified applicants submit their applications for Fellow in the future.

**Professional Assessment Committee**  
**Ir WONG Chi Kwong**  
**Chairman**

Since last Session, the Professional Assessment Committee has been invited by the Qualification & Membership (Q & M) Board to work on the proposal for a new admission route for highly capable engineers from Mainland China or other places who possess high quality academic qualifications which are not accredited engineering degree, in response to a suggestion from the Task Force of Potential Engineering Disciplines. During this Session, the Committee submitted a detailed proposal for implementation for consideration by the Q & M Board. Under the proposal, candidates holding a non-accredited engineering degree plus top up experience over the General Experience Route may apply for the Professional Assessment upon meeting certain conditions and requirements. The proposal was endorsed by the Q & M Board and subsequently approved by the Council at its meeting held on 19 November 2009. In preparing the proposal, consideration was also given to the engineering related degree holders. However, the Committee was of the view that the demand of this category of applicants is not substantial and the existing admission mechanism can accommodate this particular category of applicants.

The Committee also reviewed the policy for exemption of essay writing for Additional Discipline candidates and was satisfied with the existing arrangement.

Two Induction Sessions were held to update Assessors on the Professional Assessment process and practice, and also to collect feedback from the Assessors which have been conveyed to the Committee members for the various Discipline Advisory Panels to review the current assessment mechanism. The Committee is in process of collecting the common failure reasons from Discipline Advisory Panels as background information for future update of Professional Assessment Procedures.

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

The Committee expressed gratitude to those Assessors who have helped the Institution in conducting the assessments.



**Quality Control Committee**  
**Ir CHAN Chi Chiu**  
**Chairman**

Five meetings were held in the Session and a total of 334 assessment results were reviewed. The passing rate this year was 56% as compared with 58% last year.

During the Session, the Committee reviewed three appeal cases. The Committee also reviewed and satisfactorily resolved one case in which the Assessors had different views on the performance of the candidate concerned.

The Committee continued to achieve its mission to maintain a consistent quality standard of professional assessment across the 19 Disciplines of the Institution and to uphold the quality of our Members admitted via the Reciprocal Recognition Agreements with other institutions.



# Reports from Boards and Committees 2009/2010

## **Training Committee** **Ir Raymond K S CHAN** **Chairman**

In this Session, assessment and reassessment of 48 companies were conducted, including three new companies, bringing the total number of companies approved for the HKIE Scheme "A" training to 174. The number of registered trainees reached a total of 740, a record high in the past 15 years.

Four Engineering Supervisor Workshops were successfully held during the Session with 85 Engineering Supervisors attended and approved.

The Trainee of the Year Award 2009 was presented at the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers Prize Presentation Ceremony held on 5 March 2010. President Ir Dr Andrew Chan presented the prizes to the three awardees and the representatives of their companies.

The Working Group on Promotion of Scheme "A" Training and Formal Training Scheme for Associate Membership set up under the Committee has been organising a host of activities to promote Scheme "A" Training to companies and graduates. An event handbook was prepared for parties interested in the Scheme "A" training and a large-scale promotional seminar for potential companies was organised. In addition, on-campus roving exhibitions/talks will also be arranged for engineering graduates and students.

In response to the new "334" education system, a new degree matching system adopting an outcome-based approach was introduced and the Disciplines were consulted on their views on the subject requirements.



## **LEARNED SOCIETY BOARD**

**Ir CHOY Kin Kuen**  
**Chairman**

In Session 2009/2010, the Board continued to act as a forum for co-ordinating the various learned society activities carried out by all Divisions and Committees. The purpose is to promote and advance the science and practice of engineering, to uphold and enhance the integrity and status of the Institution, and to represent the engineering professions before the public and the Government.

In support of the theme of the year – “Sustainability”, the Divisions have not only signed the “Protocol of Engineering a Sustainable Hong Kong”, but more importantly have also demonstrated their commitment to a sustainable future, by organising various events and activities relating to sustainability, sustainable future and climate change. Highlights of the events and activities are recounted in the latter part of the Report. Session 2009/2010 was a productive year with over 650 events organised by the Divisions and Committees.

To ensure that engineers’ voices are heard, members have been nominated to represent the Institution in boards and panels of different government and non-government organisations to provide views and professional advice on engineering related matters. In addition, members are encouraged to take part in voluntary work to contribute to society and the HKIE Professional Volunteers Service Accreditation Programme was set up under the Community Service Committee. Through these various programmes and initiatives, the visibility of the Institution and engineering professions has been enhanced.

To attract the younger generation to join the profession, promotional programmes are organised for secondary school students and Student Prizes set up to encourage students to pursue studies in engineering subjects in their tertiary education.

To raise the standard and enhance the competitive edge of the engineering professions, the Divisions are encouraged to apply for the Professional Services Development Assistance Scheme (PSDAS). In this Session, four such applications were received from the Divisions and, by the recommendation of the Institution, were forwarded to the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau for consideration.

Since the introduction of the HKIE Student Chapters in 2006, all the eight Student Chapters have been established in phases. It is a pleasure for us to report that the Board has, within this Session, successfully set up two Student Chapters on the Chai Wan and Sha Tin campuses of the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education, bringing the total number of Student Chapters to eight. In addition to promoting the Institution in local tertiary education institutions, the Board also approved the formation of a Student Section under the UK Chapter, which is the second Student Section within the Overseas Chapters of the Institution. The first one was established under the Canadian Chapter. Not only do the Student Chapters and Student Sections act as a pivotal link between the Institution and students studying engineering degree programmes, they also have a significant role in promoting the engineering professions among tertiary institutions in other cities around the world.

On the international front, a new Agreement of Co-operation with the Institution of Engineers, Pakistan, was approved and an existing one with the Nuclear Institute renewed.



# Reports from Boards and Committees 2009/2010

## Community Service Committee

**Ir Martin K K CHEUNG**

**Chairman**

With a view to enhancing community involvement of the Institution as well as the status and visibility of the engineering profession, the Committee has been taking a proactive approach to facilitate members to participate in public affairs.

Adhering to this prime objective, the Committee took the initiative to contact the 18 District Councils and provide them with a consolidated list of HKIE members who stand ready to serve the 18 districts and contribute to the community. To expedite our collaboration with individual District Councils, a meeting with the Sai Kung District Office was held in November 2009, which provided an effective platform to reiterate our members' interests in engaging in community works at district level and discuss possible co-operation in future.

To promote volunteerism among our members, the Committee has been supporting the HKIE Professional Volunteers Service Accreditation Programme which aims to acknowledge outstanding members who devote their expertise and efforts to serving the community. Since its introduction in 2009, positive responses have been received from members. While the nominations from members for the Programme in Session 2009/2010 are being processed, 31 members were awarded in Session 2008/2009.

As in previous years, the Committee has been devoted to co-ordinating responses of the Divisions/Committees and members concerning consultation papers as well as recommending nominations for external boards and committees upon request.

At present, the Committee also provides free professional advice on building maintenance to property owners or residents through the Property Management Advisory Centres of the Hong Kong Housing Society.

With the commendable efforts and devotion of our members, the Committee's works progressed smoothly during the year.



## Conference Committee

**Ir Prof Joseph Y W MAK**

**Chairman**

The Conference Committee was actively involved in the planning and organisation of different conference activities during Session 2009/2010.

The Shanghai and Hong Kong Symposium on Science and Technology was held from 29 to 30 October 2009 in Shanghai to foster co-operation between Hong Kong and Shanghai and to facilitate the exchange of technical knowledge and experiences in the economic development of these two major cities in China. The Symposium was jointly organised by the Institution, the Shanghai Association of Science & Technology and the People's Government of Minhang District, Shanghai. The event was well attended by more than 200 delegates including 47 from Hong Kong. Six papers from Hong Kong were presented on topics including "Transport, Information and World Expo" and "Infrastructure Development under Financial Crisis".

In addition, the Committee has undertaken the planning of a number of forthcoming institutional conferences including the International Conference on Waste Engineering and Management (ICWEM) 2010; Conference on Climate Change – Hong Kong Engineers' Perspective; ICT Conference: The Way to Digital City – Sustainable Public Services and Solutions; and International Conference on Electrical Engineering (ICEE) 2011, which will be held over the next two Sessions.



## Continuing Professional Development Committee

Ir Gary C W KO

Chairman

The Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Committee continues its efforts in promoting, advocating and administering broad CPD activities for members of the Institution.

With support from 16 CPD course providers, the Committee planned over 220 courses covering occupational safety and health, technical matters and general professional subjects during this Session. These activities attracted about 2,000 participants. Free CPD courses for subjects of common interest were co-organised by the Committee with various Divisions and the members' response was overwhelming. The Committee and Young Members Committee (YMC) also co-organised free CPD courses and activities for YMC members and they were also well received.

The mandatory CPD requirements (minimum 30 hours per year) for Corporate Members have been implemented since 1 January 2006. After the expiry of a two years grace period to allow Corporate Members to familiarise themselves with the requirements, an audit on individual compliance was performed in 2009 on Members' CPD attainments in 2008. A second round of audits started in early 2010 on Members' CPD attainments in 2009. A Continuing Professional Development Committee Special Panel (CPDCSP) was set up under the Committee to review and make recommendations to the Committee on compliance of CPD requirements. The CPDCSP for 2008 CPD attainments reviewed 117 cases with 106 cases being recommended as compliant.



## Public Relations Committee

Ir Duncan W O WONG

Chairman

The Public Relations Committee (PRC) strives to promote the engineering profession to its stakeholders including fellow members, the media, the younger generation and the public at large. With concerted efforts of the members, we have attained another rewarding year.

Riding on the success of the previous years' School Ambassadors Programme, the Committee continued to perform well in promoting the profession to the younger generation at schools. The Committee is delighted to report that a record high of 152 School Ambassadors were recruited to deliver more than 49 school talks to over 6,950 students of secondary schools and higher education institutions during the last Session. A Careers Seminar was also successfully organised at the Education and Careers Expo in February 2010 to showcase contributions of engineers to society. On the publicity front, the Committee is planning to design a new web page on "Career as an Engineer" under the HKIE website to further promote the engineering profession to the younger generation and to disseminate useful information to students, including pathways to becoming professional engineers, voices from graduate engineers and the industry as well as a list of school visits conducted by the School Ambassadors of the Institution.

Apart from promoting to the youngsters, the Committee also proactively approached the 18 District Councils and organised courtesy visits with a view to reinforce relationships with the local community. In November 2009, the PRC and the Community Service Committee jointly organised a meeting with the Sai Kung District Office. Subsequently in March and April 2010, the Committee also organised two courtesy visits to reach out to the Wan Chai District Council and Central and Western District Council respectively.

Pursuant to the Institution's Three-Year Rolling Plan, in January 2010 the Committee, together with the Qualification & Membership Board, promoted the membership class of Fellow to all Division Chairmen.

Without the dedicated support and contributions of the PRC members, School Ambassadors and other individual helpers, the Committee would not have been able to accomplish its endeavours throughout the Session.



# Reports from Boards and Committees 2009/2010

## Publications Committee Ir Prof HO Siu Lau Chairman

Under the distinguished leadership of the expert editorial panel, the *HKIE Transactions* has maintained an internationally renowned standard in publishing high quality papers for members of the Institution, practitioners and researchers of different engineering specialties. The steady increase in the number of paper submissions and readership subscriptions is no small achievement which owes to the unstinting support of a group of local and overseas intellectuals including the Transactions International Advisors, Editors, Associate Editors and papers' reviewers.

At the Presidential Dinner held in September 2009, two papers published in the *HKIE Transactions* were awarded the HKIE Transactions Prizes, whereas three exceptional papers from the academia and the government sector were awarded the HKIE Outstanding Paper Award for Young Engineers/Researchers 2009. The awardees of the Outstanding Paper Award were invited to share and to exhibit their winning papers and accomplishments before some 60 members, academics and engineering students at a Technical Seminar held on 28 September 2009 at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. These award-winning papers, together with eight other shortlisted ones, were published in a special issue of the *HKIE Transactions* in December 2009. Riding on the success, the 2010 Award was open for submissions in February. This year, the Committee was gratified to receive an overwhelming number of submissions from local and overseas countries including Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Croatia, Egypt, France, India, Iran, Ireland, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, the UK and the USA.

All in all, the *HKIE Transactions* has provided an excellent platform to facilitate the exchange of information and knowledge in the engineering community. The concerted efforts of the Committee members, as well as the advisory and editorial panels, are gratefully appreciated. In future, the Committee will continue to uphold the international status of the *HKIE Transactions* by publishing high quality papers.



## PLANNING COMMITTEE Ir Peter Y WONG Chairman

The Planning Committee held a Strategic Planning Meeting (SPM) on 22 August 2009 to provide a brainstorming platform to chart the strategies for future development of the Institution. Committee Members, Executive Members, Past Presidents as well as Chairmen of several Standing Committees met in the Clearwater Bay Golf and Country Club to discuss the salient issues arising from the Retreat held in January 2009. Items on professional recognition of Associate Membership, the Institution's public relations strategy, roles in society and the protection of the "Engineer" title were further deliberated.

The Committee also discussed and formulated long-term strategies of the Institution at its regular meetings in accordance with the time frame and flow chart of the planning cycle. The Committee reviewed the progress of all planned action tasks of the Three-Year Rolling Plan for Sessions 2009/2010 to 2011/2012 and was pleased to note that numerous activities have been organised by both the Institution and Divisions along the theme "Sustainability" set for the Session.

In mapping out the future development of the Institution in the coming Sessions, the Committee accepted the next Three-Year Rolling Plan (Sessions 2010/2011 to 2012/2013) introduced by the three Vice Presidents of the Session. The Committee gave a thorough consideration on the new initiatives proposed and made recommendations on their inception and implementation to achieve the four major goals set in the Plan.

My sincere thanks go to all Committee Members, the President and Vice Presidents for their unflinching support to the Committee and invaluable experience that they have shared.



## **ACCREDITATION BOARD**

### **Ir Prof NG Tung Sang**

#### **Chairman**

As a full signatory to the Washington Accord, the Institution has established itself as an internationally recognised body for the accreditation of engineering degree programmes in Hong Kong. At present, a total of 111 engineering degree programmes are accredited by the HKIE.

During the year, the Board has carried out four accreditation visits to local institutions to evaluate nine engineering degree programmes. For the first time, one of these four accreditation visits was jointly conducted with Engineers Australia on 15 and 16 October 2009 for the RMIT University's offshore engineering degree programmes which is delivered collaboratively with the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (Tsing Yi). In addition, the accreditation visit to City University of Hong Kong on 14 and 15 January 2010 was observed by a delegation from the China Association for Science and Technology (CAST) to facilitate the exchange of good practices in accreditation.

During the year, the Accreditation Board invited Ir Prof Ira Jacobson, the Board's past Overseas Member, to conduct two one-day workshops on *Outcome-based Accreditation for Evaluators*. The purpose was to familiarise visiting team members with the HKIE revised accreditation criteria, which are mandated by the Washington Accord to use an outcome-based approach by 2012 in accrediting engineering degree programmes.

The Board is committed to maintaining the highest standard in accreditation service. To this end, the Board has worked closely with local universities and conducted periodic exchanges/discussions with the Washington Accord jurisdictions and other accreditation authorities in the region during the year.



## **Accreditation Committee for Computer Science Programmes**

### **Ir Prof Wing W S WONG**

#### **Chairman**

Having laid a solid foundation for the operation and development of a robust accreditation system for Computer Science degree programmes in Hong Kong, the Accreditation Committee has entered into its second five-year accreditation cycle. Eight Computer Science degree programmes offered by City University of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University have been accredited.

In 2009, the Institution became a full signatory of the Seoul Accord, an international mutual recognition on accreditation of computing and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) – related programmes. All Computer Science degree programmes accredited by the HKIE are fully recognised by the other signatories, including Australia, Canada, Chinese Taipei, Korea, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States.

During the year, the Committee carried out two accreditation visits to The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Ir Prof Wing Wong, Chairman of the Accreditation Committee for Computer Science Programmes thanked all Committee members, visiting team chairmen and members for their valuable contributions to the Committee.



# Reports from Boards and Committees 2009/2010

## Accreditation Committee for Higher Diploma Programmes

**Ir Jolly C K WONG**

*Chairman*

The Institution has been a full signatory of the Sydney Accord since 2003. All Engineering and Computing higher diplomas and associate degrees 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.

Currently, the Hong Kong education system is undergoing a major change to the “334” New Academic Structure to be implemented by 2012. The existing higher diplomas or associate degrees will cease to be offered after the intake of the 2011 or 2012 cohort and the new higher diploma or equivalent programmes will probably be offered on or before 2012. To ensure a more effective use of resources in accrediting the new higher diploma or equivalent programmes, the Committee has established a transition policy and arrangement of accreditation of existing and new higher diploma or equivalent programmes in Hong Kong, with an aim to cope with the changes and to facilitate planning by the higher education institutions concerned.

To date, 80 higher diploma and associate degree programmes are accredited by the HKIE. During the year, the Committee carried out several accreditation visits. Ir Jolly Wong, Chairman of the Accreditation Committee for Higher Diploma Programmes thanked all Committee members, visiting team chairmen and members for their valuable contributions to the Committee.

