

Report from

Discipline Advisory Panels (DAP)

2010/2011



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Ir Joseph W F LAI,
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Ir Raymond K S CHAN,
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Ir Dr CHAN Chun Leung,
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Ir Dr LI Ying Hung,
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Chairman of Mechanical DAP



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Report from Discipline Advisory Panels 2010/2011

The Discipline Advisory Panels continued to put efforts in upholding the qualification standards, reviewing issues relevant to their respective Disciplines and offering advice on membership, qualifications, accreditation and training matters. We are pleased to report that over 700 applications for membership were reviewed by Discipline Advisory Panels during the Session.

Following the formation of Logistics & Transportation Discipline, membership of the Discipline Advisory Panel was approved by Council in September 2010. Admission and training requirements of the Logistics & Transportation Discipline were also approved during the Session.

For the Aircraft Discipline, the Discipline Advisory Panel has prepared admission requirements for Associate Membership for consideration of the Qualification & Membership Board. Parallel to the Panel activities, many Panel members have also been assisting in the set up of a Steering Group for the formation of a new Aircraft Division.

The Institution has set up a Working Group on Competence Based Assessment to develop competence based assessment requirements for professional assessment. Representatives of 20 Discipline Advisory Panels have actively participated in the Working Group to ensure that the views of the Disciplines are included in this important project.

In regard to Reciprocal Recognition Agreements (RRA) with overseas institutions, the Agreement with The Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE) was renewed and an Agreement for Associate Members was established during the Session. In addition, both Environmental and Geotechnical Discipline Advisory Panels have been consulted on the proposed extension of RRA with the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) to also include both Disciplines and the discussion with the ICE is well under way. At the moment, the Aircraft Discipline Advisory Panel is considering the establishment of a RRA with Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS) while the Structural Discipline Advisory Panel is negotiating with Institution of Structural Engineers (IStructE) on the ways forward of the RRA.

With the Building Discipline Advisory Panel steering the course, mutual recognition examinations between the Institution and The Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) were successfully held in September and October 2010.

On the promotion of Disciplines, various activities, such as workshops and seminars, have been organised for the industries and potential applicants. In particular, the Environmental Discipline Advisory Panel has developed a presentation package entitled "Journey to Become Environmental Engineer" and held a workshop jointly with the Environmental Division to identify strengths and weaknesses of the Discipline and develop an action plan accordingly for promotion. An open seminar for members of the Institution was held in June 2011 by the Logistics & Transportation Discipline Advisory Panel.

Both Gas and Materials Discipline Advisory Panels have reviewed current membership and discussed the ways to boost membership applications. The Materials Discipline Advisory Panel would invite more researchers and academics to apply for membership.

Various Disciplines have put efforts in development of Professional Assessment throughout the Session. The Geotechnical Discipline Advisory Panel published the Notes on "Basic Geotechnical Engineering Knowledge Requirements" on the Institution website and organised workshops on fundamental geotechnical knowledge jointly with Division.

The Fire Discipline Advisory Panel has worked closely with local universities for the introduction of an undergraduate scheme and a postgraduate module as top-up studies on fire engineering. The Electrical Discipline Advisory Panel also actively participated in the accreditation activities of the Institution. Members were nominated to be Visiting Team Members to the Institution of Vocational Education (Tsing Yi) for higher diploma programmes in May 2011 and to an advisory visit to University of Macau in June 2011. The Electrical Discipline Advisory Panel also participated in the visits to three degree programmes of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

Last but not least, the second written examination of the HKIE Structural Examination was also successfully held on 3 December 2010. Again, an overwhelming response with 244 applications for the Examination was received.