

# Boards and Committees

## 2010/2011

### ADMINISTRATION BOARD

#### Ir Dr CHAN Fuk Cheung

Chairman

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

Considering the application of the administrative policy is a central and fundamental role of the Board. The Board reviewed the guidelines established for the Divisions/Committees when submitting applications for funding support under the Professional Services Development Assistance Scheme (PSDAS) and took steps to revise the guidelines to ensure an appropriate process is in place to guard against any conflict of interest and other matters related to the application.

The findings of the HKIE Members' Survey 2010 (the Survey) on the provision of services at the HKIE have prompted the Board to set up a working group, chaired by Ir Joseph Leung, to investigate ways to improve overall membership benefits. Based on the recommendation of the Working Group, the Board agreed to adopt a "proactive approach" in liaising with vendors for the provision of membership benefits while the existing criteria for selecting services and products remain unchanged. During the year, various potential vendors were approached, resulting in new benefits being introduced to members.

In addition, based on the findings of the Survey, the Board decided to provide an e-version of the *Report of Activities* to members starting from Session 2010/2011 as 69 percent of the members who responded indicated their preference to receive an electronic version of the Report. Meanwhile, printed copies will continue to be provided as an option.

In the year under review, the Board reassessed the existing membership card which has a magnetic stripe at the back. To stay in tune with latest technological trends and to enhance operation efficiency in registering attendance to meetings, seminars and other Institutional activities, the Board decided to introduce a contactless IC card to replace the original magnetic stripe card.

To improve communication with the public, the Board recommended that future submissions of the HKIE to the Legislative Council of the HKSAR Government and other organisations will be posted on the HKIE website for access by the public whenever possible.

Through the work of the Management Committee, the Board has reviewed the Composition and Terms of Reference of the Continuing Professional Development Committee.

The Institution had generated sufficient income to meet the resources required for the activities initiated in the year and is pleased to note that the healthy financial position of the Institution has been maintained.

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



## 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 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 financial year 2010/2011, the Institution continued to achieve a healthy financial and cash position with a surplus of HK\$544,000. The total income for the year was HK\$31 million, which was HK\$2.7 million more than that of last year. This was mainly due to increases in membership subscription, training fees and conference income during the year. Total expenditure for the year was HK\$30.5 million, which was HK\$3.8 million higher than that of the previous year with the overall spending pattern remaining broadly similar.

As the interest rate for HKD bank deposits has stayed at a low level over an extended period of time, the Committee recommended placing part of the Institution's cash balance in RMB fixed deposit accounts to be implemented in 2011/2012, with a view to generate more income to strengthen the cash balance of the Institution.

After reviewing the Institution's financial position, the Committee recommended not to adjust the membership fees for Session 2011/2012 and to continue to offer early bird discount to members who paid their membership fees by cheque or cash before 1 April 2011. Remaining vigilant on spending, the Institution anticipates a healthy financial position in the coming financial year.



## Journal Editorial Committee

### Ir Thomas K C CHAN

Chairman

The Journal Editorial Committee continues to manage, supervise and monitor the publishing of the *Hong Kong Engineer* (Journal), Hong Kong Engineer Online and the *HKIE Yearbook*. The prime objective of the Committee has always been to upkeep the high standards expected of all our publications, and to provide our fellow engineers with the most updated and useful information through ongoing publications.

With a view to protecting our environment, the Committee took the initiative to adopt the use of recyclable materials for the packaging of its publications since 2008. To enhance legibility and visibility, the font size of the wordings "This envelope is made with recyclable material" are now enlarged, and the recycle symbol "♻" is printed on the envelope with effect from the May 2011 issue of the *Journal*.

For the seventh consecutive year, the Institution was again awarded the Caring Organisation Logo for our support to charitable organisations by providing free insertion service in the *Journal*. Appeals from World Vision Hong Kong and ORBIS Hong Kong were received during the Session.

The Committee is currently studying the feasibility of conducting an online opinion survey, so as to provide a platform for soliciting members' views to further enrich the content of the *Journal* in the coming Session. In addition, the Committee supported the uploading of technical papers published in all pre-October 2000 issues of the *Journal* onto the HKIE website as part of the Institution's efforts to augment the Hong Kong Engineering Archive. Scanning of these technical papers is now in progress, and the posting of these papers on the HKIE website will be conducted when issues of potential copyright infringements have been resolved.

On the financial front, the *Journal* and the *HKIE Yearbook* continue to be managed by the Publisher and remain at a stable and healthy financial position during the Session.

The Committee would like to express its appreciation to its members and the Publisher for their marvellous efforts in enhancing the quality and upholding the professional standards of our publications.



## 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 the management procedures of the Institution.

Carried forward from the work in Session 2009/2010, the Committee continued to review the proposal for amendments to the Constitution with regard to the disclosure of information upon receipt of a request to inquire about members with a background of misconduct. Considering the complexity of the proposed amendments to the Constitution, the implications on submitting the proposal to the Privacy Commissioner and the current review of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, the Committee decided not to amend the Constitution for that purpose. The Committee's recommendation together with the proposed procedure for the disclosure of information of members with a background of misconduct was approved by the Administration Board.

The Management Committee is also responsible for the review of the Composition and Terms of Reference of the Standing Committees. A proposal was received from the Continuing Professional Development Committee on reviewing the principles of classifying Specialist Group (SGs)/Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and the corresponding re-classification of the four existing SGs or SIGs. The proposed amendments were approved by the Council.



## Staff Resources Committee

### Ir Joseph C M LEUNG

*Chairman*

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

With the growth of the Institution both in terms of membership and activities, the Committee regularly reviews the provision of support and service to members by the Secretariat. The purposes of the review are to attain a good division of labour and an even distribution of work at an appropriate support level and to ensure that the quality of service to members is upheld. During the year under review, proposals on staff establishment to meet the current operational requirements and the recommendations on the organisation structure of the Secretariat were considered and approved for implementation.

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



## QUALIFICATION & MEMBERSHIP BOARD

### Ir Prof CHOY Kin Kuen

Chairman

During the Session under review, the Qualification & Membership Board took steps of strategic importance to:

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

Reciprocal Recognition Agreements are important tools for the Institution to enhance our international standing and augment the mobility of our members. In this connection, the Board has continued to review the existing agreements and explore new agreement opportunities. I am pleased to report that the Reciprocal Recognition Agreement with the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE) was renewed and an agreement for Associate Members was also signed with the CIBSE in the Session. In addition, in order to provide a framework for future engagement of mutual recognition of members, an Agreement of Co-operation was signed with the Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS) and the Institution will proceed with the negotiation for a Reciprocal Recognition Agreement with the RAeS in due course.

Following a review and benchmarking exercise conducted in 2008 and 2009, recommendations were made to and approved by the Council for the adoption of a competence-based approach in our professional assessment in line with international trends. A Working Group chaired by Ir Wong Chi Kwong was formed by the Board for the implementation of the competence-based assessment and an implementation schedule to be executed in four phases was adopted. Phase I will focus on the formulation of a list of the generic competences of a professional engineer while Phase II will work on the formulation of the discipline-specific competences. After the completion of the first two phases, a review of all the existing training and experience requirements will be conducted. A complete set of competence-based assessment documentation will be prepared at the end of Phase III. Phase IV will focus on training the Assessors for implementation of the new approach. Given the complexity of the project, it is envisaged that the entire process will take some years to complete.

Of equal importance is the quality of membership which underpins the development and growth of the Institution. The Board has continued to uphold the quality of members through its admission system. During the period, two training sessions on upholding assessment quality were conducted for Assessors. In addition, five appeal cases went through the appeal due process.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION STATISTICS		
APPLICATIONS		
GRADE	Considered	Accepted
	2010/2011	2010/2011
Fellow	40	32
Member	1,008	638
Graduate Member	1,002	989
Associate Member	2	2
Companion	0	0
Student Member	2,624	2,577
Affiliate	37	37
Additional Discipline	152	114
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,865</b>	<b>4,389</b>

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS				
Membership	31 Mar 08	31 Mar 09	31 Mar 10	31 Mar 11
Honorary Fellow	18	19	20	20
Fellow	876	885	906	930
Member	10,956	11,204	11,434	11,939
Graduate Member	4,146	4,362	4,807	5,271
Associate Member	1,631	1,554	1,459	1,381
Companion	17	16	16	15
Student Member	3,512	4,161	6,189	7,069
Affiliate	549	520	486	487
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,705</b>	<b>22,721</b>	<b>25,317</b>	<b>27,112</b>

Note: Up to 31 March of the year.

## Education & Examinations Committee

### Ir Dr Edward W C LO

*Chairman*

In the five meetings held during this Session, the Education & Examinations Committee considered a total of 61 cases, of which 37 cases were accepted as meeting the academic requirements for qualification as Members, while 24 cases were rejected.

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

During the Session, the Committee also considered four applications under the Emerging Discipline Route approved by the Qualification & Membership Board in early 2007 for the Environmental, Information and Materials Disciplines. Applicants of all these cases were accepted as holding a degree of applied science nature relevant to the Environmental Discipline.



## Fellowship Committee

### Ir Joseph K H CHOI

*Chairman*



The pathways to attaining Fellow status include a 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 this Session, the Fellowship Committee recommended a total of 35 applications and one nomination for Fellowship.

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

Fellowship is the highest grade 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.

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

## Professional Assessment Committee

### Ir WONG Chi Kwong

*Chairman*

Since the last Session, the Professional Assessment Committee has been collecting the common causes for candidates failing assessments from all Discipline Advisory Panels. In this Session, the common reasons for the respective Disciplines were identified and passed onto the Assessors for reference.

At the request of the Quality Control Committee, the Professional Assessment Committee reviewed the statistics on the number of attempts by candidates in professional assessment. The Committee is of the view that a candidate should submit a new application after a certain period or a certain number of repeated attempts. Implementation details for resubmitting an application for professional assessment will be prepared for the Committee's further consideration.

After a number of observation visits to overseas Engineering Institutions in the UK, Australia and Canada concerning competence-based approach for professional assessment and a subsequent brainstorming session within the HKIE, the Qualification & Membership (Q & M) Board has established a Working Group for the Implementation of Competence Based Approach for Professional Assessment. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman of this Committee have been nominated by the Q & M Board as the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Working Group which consists of representatives from various Discipline Advisory Panels. A series of meetings have been conducted since February 2011 and the Committee has been duly updated of the progress by the Chairman to ensure a seamless collaboration. In response to a suggestion by the Committee, the Working Group now also includes a representative from the Associate Members Committee as an Observer.

Two induction sessions were held to update the Assessors of 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 induction sessions attracted not only new Assessors but also experienced Assessors who shared their invaluable views.

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.

The Committee would like to express its gratitude to all Assessors who have helped the Institution in conducting assessments.



## Quality Control Committee

### Ir CHAN Chi Chiu

*Chairman*

Five meetings were held in the Session and a total of 519 assessment results were reviewed. The passing rate was 62% this year as compared with 56% last year.

During the Session, the Quality Control Committee reviewed five appeal cases.

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

## Training Committee

### Ir MAK Shu Hei

*Chairman*

A large-scale promotion campaign for Scheme “A” Training and Formal Training Scheme to Associate Membership was launched with a successful seminar held at Mira Hong Kong on 13 November 2010. More than 100 representatives from 63 companies, including government departments, consultancies and contractors, all shared their experience in running the training schemes. A series of on-campus exhibitions at The University of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University and The Chinese University of Hong Kong were also held in January and March 2011 for promoting Scheme “A” Training to graduates.

In this Session, 46 assessment and re-assessment visits were conducted. A total of 184 companies, including 12 new companies, were approved for the HKIE Scheme “A” training. The total number of registered trainees reached 823, an increase of 11% compared to last year, which is the highest figure ever recorded since the establishment of the Scheme “A” Training. This remarkable result is due to the immense support we received from our training partner, the Vocational Training Council (VTC), and the positive feedback from the large-scale promotion campaign.

Two workshops on the Common Core Objectives for our Scheme “A” trainees were successfully held in this Session. These workshops were conducted and aimed at helping registered trainees understand how to better achieve the Common Core Objectives.

Following the establishment of our new Logistics & Transportation Engineering (LTE) Discipline, the Training Committee on Technologist Training of the VTC has included our LTE Discipline under the Engineering Graduate Training Scheme (EGTS). In addition to the 19 previously approved engineering Disciplines, companies (except government departments) approved by the HKIE to run the Scheme “A” Training in the LTE Discipline will be eligible to apply for the subsidies offered by the VTC.

The Trainee of the Year Awards 2010 were presented at the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers Prize Presentation Ceremony held on 19 February 2011. President Ir Prof Reuben P K Chu presented the awards to three awardees and their company representatives. The awards included monetary prizes and certificates for the winners and trophies for their companies.



## LEARNED SOCIETY BOARD

### Ir Raymond K S CHAN

*Chairman*

The Learned Society Board has completed another fruitful and fulfilling Session.

During Session 2010/2011, the Board continued to act as a facilitator for co-ordinating various learned society activities organised by the Institution's 20 Divisions and Committees. In reviewing the 680 activities organised, it is most encouraging to note that our learned society activities have flourished in not only quantity, but also quality in terms of both depth and breadth. Ranging from seminars, conferences, workshops, site visits, competitions and award programmes to social events and informal gatherings, our activities cover technical subjects, soft management skills, self-enhancing programmes, as well as leisure and life-style activities, which our members find appealing, such as wine and chocolate tasting, cooking and sports competitions. At the institutional level, two major conferences were organised in October and November 2010, respectively the Conference on Climate Change — Hong Kong Engineers' Perspective and the ICT Conference: The Way to Digital City.

The Board has also co-ordinated the Divisions and Committees with regard to implementing and accomplishing the various action tasks as assigned under the Institution's Three-year Rolling Plan. On the subject of chairmanship succession planning for individual Divisions, the Board would like to express its heartfelt thanks to all Division Committee members for their support and understanding in observing the Division Rules.

To promote the engineering profession to the younger generation and encourage potential candidates to pursue studies in engineering disciplines, a total of 18 students were presented awards under the HKIE Student Prize Programme this year. With the introduction of the new senior secondary academic structure, a Task Force has been set up to review the existing programmes to ensure its effectiveness and relevance.

The Board is proud to report that engineers are active members in the society. As part of our services and contributions to society, the Institution nominates members to various boards and panels of government and non-government organisations so as to provide expert opinions and advice on engineering related matters. A Task Force on the Formulation of the Institution's Views for Budget 2011/2012 was set up to solicit and formulate views from the engineering perspective for submission to the Financial Secretary.

On the international front, two separate Agreements of Co-operation with the Royal Aeronautical Society and The Institution of Engineering and Technology were approved by the Council. Our three Overseas Chapters' commendable efforts in fostering collaboration amongst our overseas members and serving as a link for the Institution are highly appreciated. For continuity, a new seat of Immediate Past Chairman in each of the Overseas Chapters was created with the support of the Council.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Divisions and Committees for their support, hard work and efforts in enhancing the integrity and status of the Institution through upholding its professional, technical and ethical standards.



## Community Service Committee

### Ir Martin K K CHEUNG

*Chairman*

The Community Service Committee continues to maintain a proactive approach to facilitate members' active participation in public affairs with a view to enhancing the standing and visibility of the engineering profession.

In collaboration with the Council of Volunteering and Agency for Volunteer Service, the HKIE Professional Volunteers Service Accreditation Programme was set up to recognise the outstanding contributions of our members in devoting their expertise and efforts to serving the community. In this Session, 37 members were awarded under the Programme. We hope that the Programme will further promote volunteerism amongst our members and encourage them to play an active role in contributing to society.

To ensure the voice of the engineering profession is heard and as a form of service to the community, the Committee co-ordinates the responses to public consultation papers from Divisions, Committees and members as well as submits nominations for external boards and committees upon invitation. During the Session under review, 25 invitations for opinions ranging from engineering related matters to issues of public concern were received from various Government departments, higher educational institutions and professional organisations. Views and comments were subsequently sought from members for preparing the HKIE submissions. Moreover, in response to the invitations from Government departments and external organisations, a total of 195 members were nominated as HKIE representatives to serve on various boards and committees to provide professional input where necessary.

As part of our continuing efforts to enhance the community involvement of the Institution, a consolidated list of HKIE members has been sent to all District Councils indicating our members' interest in community affairs. Furthermore, the Committee has also been providing free professional advice on building maintenance to property owners or residents through the Property Management Advisory Centres of the Hong Kong Housing Society.

It is the invaluable input and strong support from our members that has enabled the satisfactory progress achieved in the Session under review and my heartfelt thanks go to them all.



## Conference Committee

### Ir Prof Joseph Y W MAK

*Chairman*

During the Session in review, the Conference Committee was involved in the organisation of a series of conferences for the Institution. These provided a valuable platform for members to exchange knowledge and learn about the latest developments in the engineering industry.

Jointly organised by the HKIE, the China Civil Engineering Society, the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering, and in partnership with Tongji University, the second International Conference on Waste Engineering and Management was held on 13 - 15 October 2010 in Shanghai. With a theme on "Construction Waste Recycling and Civil Engineering Sustainable Development", the event was attended by more than 150 delegates.

The Conference on Climate Change — Hong Kong Engineers' Perspective was held on 18 - 19 October 2010 in Hong Kong. With more than 200 delegates attended and 25 papers presented by leading local and international experts, this successful Conference provided a platform for intellectual discussion on scientific, technical and socio-economic issues concerning climate change.

The ICT Conference: The Way to Digital City — Sustainable Public Services and Solutions was held on 1 - 2 November 2010 in Hong Kong. The Conference addressed the application of best engineering practice in information and communications technology for different areas of the community whilst giving an all-round picture of ICT. 24 papers were presented by eminent local and international speakers to over 200 delegates at the Conference.

The Committee has also undertaken the planning of a number of forthcoming conferences for the Institution, including the International Conference on Electrical Engineering 2011, the Joint HKIE-HKIP Conference on Planning and Development of Underground Space, and the Hong Kong and Shanghai Symposium on Science and Technology, which will be held in the coming Session.



## Continuing Professional Development Committee

### Ir Gary C W KO

Chairman

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

Joining forces with 12 CPD course providers, the Committee planned over 300 courses covering occupational safety and health, technical matters and general professional subjects during this Session. These activities attracted around 1,600 participants. The Committee also co-organised with the Young Members Committee (YMC) to offer free CPD courses and activities for the YMC members with a fixed budget borne by the CPD Promotional Fund.

The mandatory CPD requirements for Corporate Members were implemented and a complete round of audit on individual compliance with regard to the members' CPD attainment in 2009 was performed in 2010. A new round of audit started in early 2011 for Members' CPD attainment in 2010. A HKIE Continuing Professional Development Committee Special Panel (CPDCSP) was set up under the Committee to review and to make recommendations to the Committee on compliance with CPD requirements. The CPDCSP reviewed 115 cases for CPD attainment in 2009 with 104 cases being recommended as compliant.

With an aim to facilitate members in understanding the scope of CPD and completing the CPD Declaration Form and CPD Record Form, the "Guidance Notes for Mandatory Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for Corporate Members" was revised by a Task Force under the Committee.

In year 2000, the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) and the HKIE jointly published a guide titled *Ethics in Practice – A Practical Guide for Professional Engineers*. In the Session under review, the English digital version of the *Guidebook* was updated to incorporate changes to legal provisions and information contained in the existing *Guidebook* due to recent legal developments.



## Public Relations Committee

### Ir Duncan W O WONG

Chairman

The Public Relations Committee (PRC) has been proactive in promoting the image of the HKIE and enhancing the visibility of the engineering profession to its stakeholders which include fellow members, the media, the youngsters and the general public. With the unstinting support of the members, we have had another fruitful year.

With an aim to promote engineering as a profession for the younger generation, the Committee was delighted to launch a new web page titled "Career as an Engineer" in the HKIE website in 2011 to provide 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 the publicity on the HKIE website, the School Ambassadors Programme is another effective channel to reach out and promote the profession to the younger generation at schools. The Committee is pleased to report that a record number of 194 School Ambassadors were recruited to deliver more than 42 school talks to over 6,600 students in secondary schools and higher education institutions during this Session. To enhance the attractiveness of the Programme, a new PowerPoint presentation entitled "10 Major Infrastructure for Economic Growth" was introduced to demonstrate the huge economic benefits to society that infrastructure development can bring about and engineers' contributions to improve the living standard of mankind.

As part of our ongoing commitment to build a strong tie with local communities, the HKIE supported the "2010 Wan Chai Festival" organised by the Wan Chai District Council, which offered a spectrum of activities for the public from late September to December 2010. During the opening ceremony at the Happy Valley Racecourse on 25 September 2010, the HKIE ran a game booth to promote the engineering profession and to introduce the 20 different engineering Disciplines to the public. By engaging with the local districts, we gain a better understanding of the needs of the community which fosters a mutually beneficial relationship with the public at large.

There are also plans in the pipeline to organise a joint programme with the Hong Kong Science Museum in Session 2011/2012 to raise public awareness of the engineering profession and the works of engineers.

The accomplishments of the Committee in the Session are owed to the unflinching support and dedicated contributions of the PRC members, School Ambassadors and other volunteers.



## Publications Committee

### Ir Prof HO Siu Lau

Chairman

Under the able leadership of the expert editorial panel, together with the sterling support of a group of local and overseas intellectuals, the *HKIE Transactions* has continued to attract papers of very high quality. As a journal of international standard, it is published quarterly for members of the Institution, practitioners and researchers of various engineering Disciplines. The steady growth in the number of paper submissions and in reader subscription was attributed to the concerted efforts of our Transactions International Advisors, Editors, Associate Editors and reviewers.

"The HKIE Transactions Prize" was renamed to "The HKIE Best Transactions Paper Prize" in order to notch up the standard of the *HKIE Transactions* and to attract more high quality submissions from academia and engineering practitioners. A cash prize of HK\$5,000 together with a trophy and a certificate was introduced in this Session for each award-winning paper in the following three categories: Civil, Electrical and Mechanical.

This year, four exceptional local and overseas papers attained the "HKIE Outstanding Paper Award for Young Engineers/Researchers 2010". The awardees were invited to share their winning papers and accomplishments to a full house of 40 HKIE members, numerous academics and engineering students at a Technical Seminar held on 13 September 2010 at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. These award-winning papers together with seven shortlisted papers nominated for the award were published in a special issue of the *HKIE Transactions* in December 2010. In view of the success of previous competitions, nominations for the 2011 Award was opened in January 2011. The Publications Committee is gratified to have received positive local and overseas responses.

To facilitate the exchange of information and knowledge in the engineering community, the Publications Committee will keep selecting and publishing papers of technical value and international standard.



## PLANNING COMMITTEE

### Ir Dr Andrew K C CHAN

Chairman

Consistent with the endeavours in preceding Sessions, the Planning Committee made every effort in formulating the long-term strategies as well as reviewing and updating the development plans of the Institution with a view to pursuing a sustainable development of the HKIE in the fast-paced and ever-evolving environment.

The Committee is delighted to report that with the support of the Committee Members, Executive Members, Past Presidents and Chairmen of several Standing Committees, the Strategic Planning Meeting (SPM) was successfully held on 28 August 2010 at The Compass of Hong Kong Parkview. This annual meeting serves not only as a focal platform for devising constructive strategies for the future development of the Institution, but also as an anchor point in facilitating the President in his preparation for the Presidential Address. Issues pertaining to the development of a social communication strategy for the Institution and enhancement of leadership pool were also discussed at the meeting.

Having reviewed the progress of all planned action tasks of the Three-Year Rolling Plan for Sessions 2010/2011 to 2012/2013, the Committee is pleased to note that most of the planned action tasks have been implemented and completed along the theme set for the Session with new initiatives embarked, such as the special publication for the 35th Anniversary of the HKIE and the info-advertisements on TVB Jade.

The Committee also considered the Three-Year Rolling Plan for Sessions 2011/2012 to 2013/2014 prepared by the three Vice Presidents of the Session and noted that the Plan had been revamped in accordance with the suggestions proposed at the SPM with eight mission goals regrouped for better resources and manpower allocation and co-ordination. These goals are (i) enhance membership value, (ii) improve communication with members, (iii) broaden membership, (iv) embrace new disciplines, (v) strengthen global outlook, (vi) raise our status and visibility, (vii) promote profession to the public and (viii) develop engineers' competencies respectively. Recommendations to the Plan had been made and new initiatives proposed in the Plan were accepted by the Committee. Regular reviews and update on the Plan will continue in the next Session.



## 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 111 engineering degree programmes are accredited by the HKIE and during the past year, the Board has carried out six accreditation visits to local institutions for the evaluation of 41 engineering degree programmes.

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

To facilitate the imminent implementation of the outcome-based accreditation approach, the Board has also completed the review on and revision of (i) the accreditation criteria for engineering degree programmes and (ii) the relevant documents with provisions of accreditation submission requirements and related guidelines.

The Board is committed to maintaining the highest standard of accreditation service. To this end, the Board has worked closely 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

### Ir Prof WONG Wing Shing

*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 for Computer Science Programmes enters into its second five-year accreditation cycle. Ten computer science degree programmes offered by the City University of Hong Kong, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University have been 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.

At present, the Hong Kong education system is undergoing a major change to a "3+3+4" system. There will be a double intake in the 2012 transition year. The current three-year computer science degree programmes accredited by the HKIE will cease to be offered after the 2012 intake and four-year computer science degree programmes will be available for the first time for the 2012 intake. To ensure a more effective use of resources and to facilitate planning by the universities concerned, the Committee has established a transition policy and arrangement for the accreditation of the three-year and four-year computer science degree programmes in Hong Kong.

During the year, the Committee carried out two accreditation visits to The University of Hong Kong and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Ir Prof Wong Wing Shing, 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.



## Accreditation Committee for Higher Diploma Programmes

### Ir Dr Richard K K YUEN

*Chairman*

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.

In accordance with the Sydney Accord rules and regulations, every jurisdiction with full signatory status is required to undergo a verification process every six years. The purpose is to verify whether the HKIE's accreditation system and the outcomes of the engineering technologist programmes offered in Hong Kong are substantially equivalent to those in other signatories of the Sydney Accord.

A Sydney Accord Review Panel, which consisted of the representatives from Australia, South Africa and the United Kingdom, completed the verification process on the HKIE in January 2011. The Review Panel observed two HKIE accreditation visits to the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (Tsing Yi) and the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (Sha Tin) in October 2010. They also sat in the HKIE Accreditation Committee for Higher Diploma Programmes meeting in January 2011. In the International Engineering Alliance Meetings 2011 held in Taipei, the HKIE has been fully verified for a period of six years under the Sydney Accord rules and procedures.

