

Reports from Boards and Committees 2013/2014



ADMINISTRATION BOARD

Chairman

Ir Victor C K CHEUNG

The Administration Board is responsible for the interpretation, development and implementation of the Institution's policies on financial and administrative matters as well as 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.

In 2010, the Council considered the lack of adequate space or facilities in the Institution's existing premises to meet the increasing needs of members and the Secretariat and approved the purchase of new accommodation for the Institution. The Board subsequently oversaw the establishment of the Task Force on Institution's Accommodation (Task Force) to study various possible options for the Institution's new accommodation and the fund-raising strategies. The Task Force kept reviewing the market and available properties. In early 2014, a whole floor in Island Beverley became available for sale. Taking into consideration various factors, the Institution purchased the floor in Island Beverley, which could satisfy the medium-term need of the Institution. The Board is working with the Task Force and the Special Group on Fund-Raising for Institution's Accommodation to roll out fund-raising plans to meet the funding needs of the purchase. Following the purchase of the additional accommodation, the Board has set up a Task Force on Planning and Design of the Institution's Premises in Island Beverley, chaired by Ir Raymond K S CHAN, to plan the overall utilisation of the Institution's premises, including the new accommodation.

The Board reviewed the meeting facilities of the Institution and its utilisation in a holistic manner with a view towards the Institution's future development. During the review process, the Board considered it conducive not to renew the liquor licence when it expires at the end of 2014.

Through the work of the Management Committee, the Board reviewed and amended the Composition and Terms of Reference of the Safety Specialist Committee and the Planning Committee.

During the year, the Board also reviewed the Institution's souvenirs and designed a new HKIE scarf for sale last winter. In addition, the Board agreed to produce a new HKIE tie and a new HKIE badge for sale in the next Session.

The Institution generated sufficient income to fund the resources required for the activities initiated in the year and the Board is pleased to note that the Institution's healthy financial position has been maintained.

In addition, the Board has closely monitored the changes to the establishment of the Secretariat, the affairs of the Journal and the financial accounts of the Institution's Yearbook. The Board will continue to review the Institution's facilities and management issues.



Finance & Investment Committee

Chairman

Ir HO Kwong Wai

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 2013/2014 financial year, the Institution maintained its healthy financial and cash position with a surplus of HK\$4.23 million. The total income for the year was HK\$39.1 million, which was HK\$1.3 million more than last year. The amount included a donation for premises for Learned Society activities of HK\$1.4 million. Apart from the donation, the increase was mainly due to increases in membership subscription, training fees and accreditation

income during the year. Total expenditure for the year was HK\$34.8 million, which was HK\$1.8 million more than that of the previous year owing to the organisation of a series of activities, including Engineering Week 2013, the publication of the "Handbook on Building Maintenance and Repair", a study on the engineering profession and the development of related association(s) or institution(s), etc. The overall spending pattern remained broadly similar.

Taking into consideration the inflationary factor in Hong Kong, the increase in funding needs for various new initiatives introduced 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 increase in the membership subscription fee for the financial year 2014/2015, by 7.3% and 6.5% for Fellows and Members respectively and between 3.1% and 4.5% for other members. The Committee also recommended that the early bird discount, which applies to all members whose subscription payments were made by cheque or cash before 1 April 2014, be continued.

With close monitoring of our spending, the Institution anticipates a healthy financial position in the coming financial year.

Journal Editorial Committee

With the aim of enhancing the exchange of engineering knowledge and updates among members via high-quality and informative publications, the Journal Editorial Committee has been dedicated to managing and overseeing the publication of the *Hong Kong Engineer* (Journal), *Hong Kong Engineer Online* and the *HKIE Yearbook*.

During this Session, we continue to enrich the content of the Journal. To broaden members' knowledge of different engineering fields, we have been inviting technical paper contributions from Divisions/tertiary institutions/engineering-related organisations as well as stories on hot topics. Various distinguished engineering projects were covered in the Journal throughout this Session, including MTR's newly expanded operations control centre in Tsing Yi, 3D printing, Kai Tak Cruise Terminal and Kai Tak District Cooling System.

To further improve the Journal's design for a more contemporary look, we have adopted a matt varnish for the cover. In addition, apart from the QR code printed on the cover bookmarking *Hong Kong Engineer Online*, another QR code which bookmarks the Institution's homepage has also been inserted in the contents page of the Journal to enhance our connection with members.



Chairman

Ir Thomas K C CHAN

To show our continuous support to community services, the Journal provided a complimentary promotional insertion service to charitable organisations including the Hong Kong Red Cross, the Hong Kong Society for the Aged and Society for the Promotion of Hospice Care in this Session.

The Committee would like to take this opportunity to express its sincere appreciation for the support of and efforts made by all Committee Members and the Publisher. The Committee will continue to uphold the professional standards and quality of our publications.



Management Committee

Chairman

Ir Peter K K LEE

During this Session, the Committee reviewed and considered the proposed amendments to the Composition and TOR of the Safety Specialist Committee and the Planning Committee. The proposed amendments were approved by the Council.

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 the review of the Composition and Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Standing Committees.

Staff Resources Committee



Chairman

Ir Joseph C M LEUNG

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

In view of the Institution's growth, proposals for the staffing establishment based on the workload and 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 Session 2013/2014. 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 to members.

In an effort to retain contract staff for the purpose of continuity or specific projects, the Committee decided to extend staff benefits to them. The criteria for entitlement to these benefits have also been established.

The Committee conducted a review of the Long Service Award arrangement, which was introduced in 2001 in recognition of long-serving staff. A recommendation on the Award was approved by the Administration Board for implementation in January 2014. In future, the Award will be reviewed every five years.

The Committee took into account market trends in reviewing the salary levels of staff. The subsequent recommendation put forward by the Committee that salaries be reviewed with a recognition of the contribution of staff was adopted. At the same time, the Committee also monitored staff cost with the budget in mind, to ensure that the appropriate level of service is provided to members.



QUALIFICATION & MEMBERSHIP BOARD

Chairman

Ir CHAN Chi Chiu

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 the existing agreements and explore opportunities for new agreements. We are pleased to announce that, after several rounds of discussion, a Reciprocal Recognition Agreement with the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation (CIHT) was approved by both Institutions and signed in June 2014. In addition, the Reciprocal Recognition Agreement with the Society of Operations Engineers (SOE) at Corporate Members' level was extended to cover the Manufacturing & Industrial

Discipline while the Reciprocal Recognition Agreement with the Energy Institute (EI) was amended to cover the newly established Energy Discipline.

On the Board's recommendations, the Council approved all the proposals put forward by the Task Force on Review of Disciplines and the Task Force on Associate Membership Route to Corporate Membership, both of which were chaired by the Deputy Chairman of the Board, Ir Gary KO. Henceforth, the formation of new Disciplines will be subject to a set of enhanced criteria and mechanism. Alternative routes are also in place to facilitate the move by Associate Members to become Corporate Members of the Institution.

On the development of the competence-based approach in the assessment of experience and professional competence, we are pleased to report that after all the studies, preparation and rounds of discussion, a pilot test will be conducted by the Building Services and Civil Disciplines. The assessors will provide feedback from the pilot programme for further analysis and possible fine-tuning of the system for full implementation in the future.

The development and growth of the Institution are underpinned by the quality of the membership. The Board has continued to uphold the quality of the membership through its admission system. During the period, two training sessions on upholding quality were conducted for assessors. Also, six appeals were taken through the appeal process.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION STATISTICS

GRADE	APPLICATIONS	
	Considered	Accepted
	2013/2014	2013/2014
Fellow	61	55
Member	915	551
Graduate Member	1,183	1,165
Associate Member	16	16
Companion	0	0
Student Member	2,554	2,503
Affiliate	3	3
Additional Discipline	153	103
Total	4,885	4,396

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Membership	31 Mar 11	31 Mar 12	31 Mar 13	31 Mar 14
Honorary Fellow	20	18	18	18
Fellow	930	985	1,056	1,099
Member	11,939	12,479	12,996	13,388
Graduate Member	5,271	5,722	6,424	7,021
Associate Member	1,381	1,284	1,232	1,196
Companion	15	15	15	15
Student Member	7,069	7,575	7,612	8,109
Affiliate	487	427	414	401
Total	27,112	28,505	29,767	31,247

Note: Up to 31 March of the year.



Education & Examinations Committee

Chairman

Ir Prof WONG Sze Chun

In the year under review, the Civil Discipline received 30 applications, which is the highest among the Disciplines, followed by the Structural Discipline and the Geotechnical Discipline, which received 29 applications and 13 applications for academic assessment respectively.

In the five meetings held during this Session, the Education and Examinations Committee considered a total of 125 applications for individual assessment of academic qualifications for the class of Member, of which 68 cases were accepted while 57 cases were rejected. The number of applications has increased by 21% in this Session.

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 and learned society functions; and towards the setting of qualification standards.

During the Session, the Fellowship Committee recommended a total of 64 applications.

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

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



Chairman

Ir Stephen H C CHAN



Professional Assessment Committee

Chairman

Ir Gary C W KO

During this Session, the Committee was invited by the Structural Discipline Advisory Panel to study the feasibility and appropriateness of introducing charges for appeals and requests for assessment result data. After reviewing the number of appeals and requests for assessment result data in the past five years, it was agreed that there is no immediate need to impose charges. The Committee agreed to review the issue again if there is a significant increase in such requests.

The Committee was kept informed of the progress of the implementation of competence-based assessment by the Chairman. It raised concerns over the pre-registration of IELTS results with the HKIE, within one year after the receipt of the IELTS results. It was of the view that both the universities and

their students should be made aware of the requirement and in this regard, communication is of utmost importance. This view was conveyed to the Working Group on Implementation of Competence-Based Assessment for consideration.

Two assessor forums were held in November 2013 to update assessors on the professional assessment process and practice and to collect feedback from the assessors, which have been conveyed to the Committee members of the various Discipline Advisory Panels, to facilitate review of the current assessment mechanism. Assessors also shared their invaluable views and experience during the forums.

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 May 2014.

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

Quality Control Committee

Five meetings were held during the Session and a total of 502 assessment results were reviewed. The passing rate was 56% this year, the same as last year.

During the Session, the Committee reviewed six appeals.

The Committee continued to achieve its mission of maintaining a consistent standard in professional assessments across the 21 Disciplines of the Institution and upholding the quality of Members admitted via Reciprocal Recognition Agreements with other institutions.



Chairman

Ir CHAN Yun Cheung



Training Committee

Chairman

Ir MAK Shu Hei

The Training Committee deals with various training matters, in particular the vetting and monitoring of Scheme “A” training. During this Session, 55 assessment and re-assessment visits were conducted. A total of 210 companies, including eight new participating companies, were approved for HKIE Scheme “A” training. The number of newly-registered trainees reached 1,004, which is the second highest number ever since the establishment of Scheme “A” training in 1983. This favourable outcome was made possible by the staunch support of our training partners – the Vocational Training Council, approved Scheme “A” companies/organisations and graduate trainees.

Five Engineering Supervisor workshops were successfully held during the Session. A total of 143 members attended the workshops and became qualified to be Engineering Supervisors for the HKIE Scheme “A” training.

The Training Committee visited and assessed HCCG Building and Civil Engineering (Macau) Limited (HCCG), a subsidiary of Hsin Chong Construction Group Limited of Hong Kong, in response to their proposal to offer Scheme “A” training in Macau. After reviewing their training proposals and an assessment of their office and sites in Macau, HCCG was approved by the HKIE to offer Scheme “A” training in the Civil Discipline in Macau.

The Trainee of the Year Award 2013 was presented at the New Members’ Reception cum Prize Presentation Ceremony held on 24 January 2014 at the Hong Kong Club. In this Session, the First Prize Winner was Mr ZHANG Xinyu (MTR Corporation Limited (Projects)); the Second Prize Winner was Mr CHAN Tsz Lap (The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited) and the Third Prize Winner was Miss CHENG Tsz Kwai (CLP Power Hong Kong Limited (Power Systems)). President Ir Raymond K S CHAN presented the prizes to the three winners and their company representatives.

LEARNED SOCIETY BOARD

As a learned society, the HKIE encourages the exchange of technical information and ideas through the co-ordination of the Learned Society Board, so that members can keep abreast of knowledge and expertise required to fulfill their role in industry and society. For the year under review, a total of 700 activities were organised by Divisions/AMC/YMC/SSC, ranging from technical talks, symposia, site visits, self-development workshops to social activities. These activities are reported separately in the later sections of the Report.

We are pleased to welcome on board the newly established Logistics & Transportation (LT) Division, which will commence its operation in Session 2014/2015. With the addition of the LT Division, there are now a total of 19 Divisions under the umbrella of the HKIE.

To foster a spirit of friendly collaboration among members residing overseas and to encourage them to maintain a close link with the Institution, two gatherings in London and Sydney were organised in October 2013 and March 2014 respectively, during which updates on the development of the engineering profession and the local community were given.

To better communicate the Institution's various plans and new initiatives to Divisions/AMC/SSC/YMC, special gatherings were organised in addition to the regular LSB meetings. Subsequent to the signing of the pledge in support of the theme of the Session during the Presidential Address last September, an array of events were organised by Divisions/Committees to promote mindset change and new technology.



Chairman

Ir Joseph K H CHOI

The LSB acceded to the Associate Members Committee's request for a review of the Composition and Terms of Reference of the Safety Specialist Committee (SSC), to allow Associate Members to stand for election as Committee Members of SSC. Also, to further promote safety and health in various engineering disciplines, the Division Rules were revised to include a representative from SSC in each of the Division Committees as ex-officio member. With the approval of the Council, both measures will take effect in the Session 2014/2015.

The HKIE also attaches great importance to nurturing young talents for the sustainability of the profession. To recognise the outstanding academic achievements of student members, the HKIE presents various awards every year. Following the introduction of the "3-3-4" education system in 2012, the HKIE Scholarship was awarded to two students from HKALE and two students from HKDSE respectively.

The Board is pleased with the level of support from and enthusiasm of the Divisions and Committees. This has been essential to the solid development and enhancement of learned society activities over the past year.



Community Service Committee

Chairman

Ir Dr KOON Chi Ming

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

The continuing support of our members to the HKIE Professional Volunteers Service Accreditation Programme is noteworthy. During this Session, 22 members were awarded under the Programme, which was set up to recognise our members' contribution of their expertise and efforts in serving the community.

As a member organisation of the Hong Kong Council of Volunteering, the Institution was invited to contribute articles to

the free column on volunteering and business in the local printed media, to enhance the general public's understanding of the profession and our volunteering service. The Committee is pleased to note that the first article to be published on 12 May 2014 with its co-ordination, “以工以情抗衡天災”, received very encouraging feedback from our members as well as the community.

The Committee also continues to provide comments and professional views on consultation papers covering engineering-related matters and issues of public concern as well as to nominate members to external boards and committees upon request. During the Session, 23 invitations for opinions were received from various government departments, higher educational institutions as well as professional organisations. In response to invitations from government departments and external organisations, a total of 128 members were nominated through the HKIE to serve on various boards and committees. Lists of the HKIE's submissions and nominations are included in the later part of this Report.

With the dedicated support and earnest efforts of our members, the Committee is pleased to play an important role in enhancing the HKIE's public image.

Conference Committee

The Conference Committee was actively involved in the planning and organisation of various local and regional conferences during Session 2013/2014.

The Shanghai and Hong Kong Symposium on Science and Technology, which was co-organised by the Institution and the Shanghai Association for Science and Technology (SAST), was successfully held on 27-28 September 2013 in Shanghai. The theme of the Symposium was “生態文明建設與城市品質提升” and was attended by some 100 delegates, including 44 delegates from Hong Kong. A total of 18 presentations were delivered by experts from Hong Kong and Shanghai in three parallel sessions, addressing different topics. The Symposium provided an excellent opportunity for engineers in Hong Kong and Shanghai to foster the exchange of technical knowledge and information.

The International Conference on Post-disaster Reconstruction, which was hosted by the HKIE and jointly organised by the Development Bureau, the HKSAR Government and the Sichuan Association for Science and Technology, was successfully held on 8 November 2013 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre and followed by a technical visit on 9 November 2013. The theme of the Conference was “The Review and Prospects of Sichuan (5.12) Post-disaster Reconstruction” (四川5.12災後重建回顧與展望). The Conference was attended by more than 300 delegates, including Hong Kong engineers, our Mainland counterparts and



Chairman

Ir TAI Tak Him

international experts. A total of 24 presentations were made at the Conference, which included four keynote sessions, three invited guest sessions and 17 technical sessions.

Riding on the success of the Distinguished Lectures last year, the Institution will host three more series of Distinguished Lectures revolving around the theme “Urban Planning and Development”, starting with Session 2013/2014. This year, two Distinguished Lectures were held at the Chiang Chen Studio Theatre of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. The Institution was honoured to have two prominent speakers, Prof LI Deren (李德仁院士) and Ir Prof C C CHAN to share with participants their valuable insights into the topics of “On Big Data in Smart City (智慧城市中的大數據)” and “Renaissance and Global Outlook of Electric Vehicles (文藝復興與全球電動車發展展望)” respectively. Both lectures were attended by some 250 participants from the engineering profession, academia and the general public.



Continuing Professional Development Committee

Chairman

Ir CHAN Siu Tack

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

With support from 12 CPD course providers, the Committee planned around 380 courses covering occupational safety and health, technical matters and general professional subjects during this 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, with fruitful results.

The CPD has become a mandatory requirement for Corporate Members. In order to ascertain compliance, the CPDC has set up a special panel (CPDCSP) to review CPD submissions and make recommendations to the CPDC each year. An audit mechanism is in place for the purpose. A round of audit on members' CPD attainment in 2012 has been completed and a recent round on members' attainment in 2013 has started. For 2012, the CPDCSP reviewed a total of 129 cases and 123 of them were in compliance with the requirements.

The CPDC has also established the Task Force on Competence-based Approach to CPD Activities to review the mandatory CPD requirements for Corporate Members with a view to a move towards specifying competence areas in enhancing the focus of the existing requirements and to propose any implementation measures. Consultation on the proposal from the Task Force, which was approved by the CPDC, to all Division members and the HKIE members at large will commence in Session 2014/2015.

HKIE Transactions Committee

With the concerted effort and unswerving support of the Transactions International Advisors, Editors, Associate Editors and paper reviewers, the Committee's work ran smoothly throughout Session 2013/2014.

Over the past two decades, *HKIE Transactions* has provided an excellent platform for the exchange of knowledge and information among engineering professionals. Since the establishment of a publishing partnership with the international publisher, Taylor & Francis Group, a number of special features have been set up. In particular, the online paper submission system, ScholarOne Manuscript System, was launched in November 2013 to maximise outreach to international authors and speed up the peer review process. Free access to more engineering-related journal(s) on the Taylor & Francis platform is being arranged and will be available in Session 2014/2015.

In the year ahead, one of the Committee's goals is to continue to raise the profile and international status of the Journal. The Committee is pleased to announce that, starting from the next Session, a special issue on a selected topic with a renowned Guest Editor will be arranged to attract high-quality papers from around the world.



Chairman

Ir Prof Keith K C CHAN

At the Presidential Dinner held in September 2013, two high-quality papers published in *HKIE Transactions* were awarded the HKIE Best Transactions Paper Prize 2013. A number of quality submissions for the HKIE Outstanding Paper Award for Young Engineers/Researchers 2013 were also received. Four shortlisted papers were published in the special issue of *HKIE Transactions* in December 2013.

The Committee will continue to uphold the standard of *HKIE Transactions* by publishing high-quality papers for members of the Institution, practitioners and researchers in different engineering disciplines.



Public Relations Committee

Chairman

Ir Duncan W O WONG

The Public Relations Committee (PRC) strives to promote the image of the HKIE and to uplift the visibility of the engineering profession among its members, the media, the younger generation and the general public.

In this Session, the fun-filled and first-ever HKIE Hi-Tech Fiesta 2014 was organised to promote awareness of the engineering profession among the general public by showcasing the latest technologies employed by engineers for the sustainable development of the community. Members of the Committee provided professional advice on publicity for the event. The Fiesta received an overwhelming response with thousands of participants attended.

In addition, a roving exhibition was successfully held on 7-9 March 2014 in the concourse of the MTR Olympic Station to introduce the Hong Kong People Engineering Wonders in the 21st Century to the public.

Cultivating the younger generation's interest in engineering is always a major focus of the Institution. The Committee initiated the HKIE School Ambassadors Programme in 2003 and has participated in the Education and Careers Expo for 20 consecutive years. The Committee is pleased to report that 132 School Ambassadors were recruited to deliver more than 40 school talks to more than 4,300 students of secondary schools and tertiary institutions during this Session. At the school talks, our School Ambassadors introduced the engineering profession to the students and shared with them the bright career prospects enjoyed by engineers. The HKIE booth at the Education and Careers Expo, which was held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre on 13-16 February 2014, received about 1,900 visitors.

To foster a closer relationship with the community, the PRC has arranged courtesy visits to the Kowloon City, Kwun Tong, Tuen Mun, Wong Tai Sin, Yau Tsim Mong and Yuen Long District Councils to gain a better understanding of the needs of the community and reinforce a mutually beneficial relationship with the public at large.

The accomplishments of the Committee are made possible by the unfailing support and dedication of the PRC members, School Ambassadors and other volunteers. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Consistent with the effort made by the Planning Committee in previous Sessions in formulating the long-term strategies, the Committee continues to review and update the Institution's development plans.

The Committee is pleased to report that the planning cycle has been effectively executed in accordance with its set timeframe and that most of the planned action tasks laid down in the Three-Year Rolling Plan for Sessions 2013/2014 to 2015/2016 have been implemented and/or completed. New activities organised for the Session in line with its theme include the first-ever HKIE Hi-Tech Fiesta 2014, a delegation led by the President to visit recent hi-tech projects/initiatives in Shanghai and the implementation of a series of image-building initiatives.

As in previous years, the Committee held a strategic planning meeting (SPM) on 31 August 2013 at Hong Kong Parkview to chart strategies for the future development of the Institution. With the support of Committee Members, Executive Members, Past Presidents, Chairpersons of Standing Committees and the President's Protégés, the meeting deliberated on issues,



Chairman

Ir Prof CHOY Kin Kuen

inter alia, pertaining to the establishment of new discipline(s)/ sub-discipline(s), image-building strategies for the engineering profession and the Institution, measures to enhance the international profile of the HKIE and the meeting frequency for future SPMs.

The Committee also reviewed and accepted the next Three-Year Rolling Plan for Sessions 2014/2015 to 2016/2017 prepared by the three Vice Presidents of the Session, as well as the theme and the Year Plan proposed for Session 2014/2015. Regular review and update on the Plan will continue in the coming Session.



ACCREDITATION BOARD

Chairman

Ir Dr Martin H C KWONG

As a full signatory to the Washington Accord, the Institution has established itself as the internationally-recognised body in Hong Kong for the accreditation of engineering degree programmes. At present, a total of 127 engineering degree programmes (including three in Macau) are accredited by the HKIE. During the past year, the Board carried out four accreditation visits to local institutions to evaluate 41 engineering degree programmes. Of the four visits, two, to the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and the University of Hong Kong respectively, were conducted for the first time under the outcomes based approach for the whole faculty. The other two were for specific programmes. They were all successfully carried out with good feedback from the visiting teams and the universities.

In addition, the Accreditation Board invited Prof Ira JACOBSON, a past overseas member of the Board, to conduct two one-day workshops in November 2013 and April 2014 on “Outcomes based Accreditation for Evaluators”, to familiarise evaluation team members with the revised HKIE accreditation criteria. The new outcomes based criteria for accrediting engineering degree programmes have been implemented on a mandatory basis since September 2012.

The Institution conducted the first out-of-jurisdiction accreditation of engineering degree programmes at the University of Macau in 2012. All signatories of the Washington Accord have now confirmed their recognition of the engineering degree programmes at the University of Macau that were accredited by the HKIE except Malaysia and South Africa, which would recognise them on a case-by-case basis.

The Board is committed to achieving 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, now in its 13th year of operation, has laid a solid foundation for the operation and development of a robust accreditation system for computer science degree programmes in Hong Kong.

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 to 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, a total of 19 computer science degree programmes are accredited by the HKIE.

In response to the implementation of the new “3-3-4” education system in 2012, this Committee granted 13 four-year computer science degree programmes interim recognition from intake year 2012 up to and including the year 2015. The granting of interim recognition to the four-year computer science degree programmes was based on the information submitted by the universities concerned regarding changes in the programmes. This arrangement would facilitate the new programmes in going through accreditation exercises during the transition period.

On the invitation of the Faculty of Information Technology of the Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST) and with the approval given by the Accreditation Board Executive



Chairman

Ir Prof David W L CHEUNG

Committee, an advisory visit to MUST was conducted on 17-18 October 2013. The purpose of the advisory visit is to give accreditation advice and comments to the Faculty and the University for the preparation of its Bachelor of Science in Information Technology Programme to meet the HKIE’s accreditation criteria for computer science programmes.

In view of the international practice of outcomes based accreditation and the implementation of the new “3-3-4” education system, a review of the existing accreditation criteria and procedures for computer science programmes was conducted. Revisions to the accreditation criteria for computer science programmes in line with the development of outcomes based accreditation and the requirements of the Seoul Accord were approved by this Committee. The Committee will proceed with the preparation of all the documentation necessary for implementation of the revised criteria, including submission format and related guidelines.



Accreditation Committee for Higher Diploma Programmes

Chairman

Ir Prof Richard K K YUEN

The Institution has been a full signatory to 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, Korea, New Zealand, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States. At present, a total of 62 higher diploma and equivalent programmes are accredited by the HKIE.

In response to the implementation of the new senior secondary academic structure in 2012, 34 new higher diploma and equivalent programmes were granted interim recognition by this Committee from intake year 2012 up to and including the year 2014. The granting of interim recognition to the new higher diploma and equivalent programmes was based on information submitted by the corresponding higher education institutions concerning changes to the programmes and this arrangement would facilitate the new programmes in going through accreditation exercises during the transition period.

The new outcomes based criteria for accrediting higher diploma and equivalent programmes are effective and will apply in parallel with the existing accreditation criteria until the 2014/15 academic year. Higher education institutions are allowed to choose one of the two sets of accreditation criteria in conducting accreditation during this period. Starting from the 2015/16 academic year, all higher diploma and equivalent programmes will only be accredited under the new outcomes based criteria.