In Memoriam: Ir Dr The Honourable CHEN Shoulum

It is with much regret that The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers announces the passing of Ir Dr The Honourable Chen Shoulum, a former Group Managing Director of HK Electric, peacefully on 27 August 2018, aged 92.

Ir Dr The Hon Chen was born on 30 August 1925 in mainland China. He graduated from Shanghai Jiao Tung University in 1947 and obtained his M.Sc (Engineering) degree from Imperial College in 1953. He was conferred a D.Sc (Hon) degree by The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1985.

Known as SL to friends and colleagues, Ir Dr The Hon Chen started his long career at HK Electric as Chief Development Engineer. He was appointed as General Manager in 1976 and subsequently as Group Managing Director. Having served the Company for 18 years contributing his unwavering efforts and engineering expertise, SL retired in 1987 and was appointed as Advisor of the Company. He was instrumental in the construction of the Lamma Power Station, the 275kV Submarine Infrastructure and the highly reliable electricity network of HK Electric to meet the development needs of Hong Kong.

Ir Dr The Hon Chen had a very distinguished public service. He was appointed as an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council in 1976 and of the Executive Council in 1983. He was also the Chairman of the Hong Kong Productivity Council from 1977 to 1981. In recognition of his outstanding public service, Ir Dr The Hon Chen was made a Justice of the Peace (JP), Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE) and in 1984 a Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (CBE). SL was also very committed to the education of young people in his various roles as the Deputy Chairman of The Hong Kong Polytechnic, Chairman of the Council of City Polytechnic of Hong Kong, and a member of the University Council of The Chinese University of Hong Kong.
Ir Dr The Hon Chen had made significant and wide-ranging contributions to the engineering profession having served as President of Engineering Society of Hong Kong (Session 1972/1973), the predecessor of The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers which was incorporated in 1975. He was a Fellow of Institution of Electrical Engineers, UK, an Hon Fellow of The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers and a Senior Member of Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers of USA.

We will remember SL’s dedication, passion, support and encouragement to the engineering community over the years and are sure that all members of The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers will join us in offering condolences to his family. He was survived by two sons, one goddaughter and three grandchildren.

The funeral service for Ir Dr The Hon Chen was held at Hong Kong Funeral Home, North Point on 23 September 2018. Donations in lieu of flowers were collected for Medecins Sans Frontieres.