



Editorial

Heritage – Stories of Hong Kong

Have you wondered how the present is linked to the past? Have you gone in any heritage trails or enjoyed any heritage activities? Heritage conservation has been gaining increasing influence in our society. They have a story to tell in helping to define a city's character and the values they represent.

In line with the community's aspiration toward Hong Kong's historic past, the completion of a comprehensive assessment of the heritage value of 1,444 buildings was announced by Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB) in March 2009. Out of some 8,800 buildings recorded in Hong Kong, an in-depth survey of these 1,444 selected historic buildings with higher heritage value was carried out by Antiquities Monuments Office (AMO) in 2002-2004. A comprehensive assessment of the heritage value of these buildings were subsequently undertaken by an Expert Panel. Based on the assessment results, AMO recently proposed new gradings for consideration by Members of the AAB.

The public was invited to provide their views and/or additional information to AAB within the next four months for their subsequent decision on the gradings. These will affect EIA professionals in the coming months in their heritage impact assessments.

A list of the proposed gradings can be found in the following website:

<http://www.amo.gov.hk/en/aab.php>

More interesting read on revitalization and adaptive-reuse of historical buildings is found below:

<http://www.heritage.gov.hk/en/rhbt/about.htm>

Lisa POON

Chairman's Remarks

Thanks to the great effort from the members of the activities sub-committee, it has been a fruitful year for us with a wide range of events including technical visits, seminars and conferences. With the assistance from Clara, enjoyable memories of these events were being posted on our own photo gallery for members to share. Please check it out at <http://hkieia.shutterfly.com/> and let us have your suggestions to further improve on it. In addition, we appreciate any suggestion from Members so that these quality events could be provided as a means for exchanging views and sharing knowledge on environmental issues. Any wild ideas or organizing events in an alternative format are always welcome.

In a few months' time, two studies will go public "Engineering Investigation and Environmental Studies for Integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase 1 – Feasibility Study" and "Review of Air Quality Objectives and Development of a Long-Term Air Quality Strategy for Hong Kong". Members are encouraged to express their views to the Government to finalize the actions for the long term key environmental strategy for Hong Kong on waste management and air quality.

Our AGM will be held on 21 May, with Professor Anthony Hedley, Chair Professor of Community Medicine at the University of Hong Kong, as our honorary speaker. I look forward to seeing you all in the AGM and thanks for your support to the Institute.

David YEUNG

Report from the Secretary

In the last issue of the Newsletter, I touched on the financial crisis and the Government's efforts in pushing ahead with the ten priority infrastructure projects. You may have noticed that a large portion of these important projects are related to the facilitation or enhancement of cooperation within the Pearl River Delta, including cross-border roads or railways linking Hong Kong with Mainland China and Macau and large scale developments within areas close to or within the former closed border areas.

The phrase "one country, two systems" has already become a cliché but the differences in the EIA practices do present some issues in the planning and design of projects that involve more than one jurisdiction. These projects will present challenges but they will also provide great opportunities for EIA professionals to think out of the box, to grow intellectually and to broaden their views. The Institute is glad to see these opportunities for growth of knowledge for the EIA industry, which is one of our principal objectives.

Marcus IP

China Strategic Environmental Assessment Forum – Five Years after Implementing the EIA Law in China: Review and Prospect

The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and Nankai University co-organized a China Strategic Environmental Assessment Forum from February 27 to March 1, 2009 with HKIEIA sponsoring the event and the "Best Paper Award for Young EA Practitioners". This forum attracted over 200 participants, coming from Mainland China, Hong Kong SAR and other parts of the world. Several international and national agencies including Hong Kong Environmental Protection Department also participated. Among the delegates, Dr. Li Tianwei, Director in charge of EIA/SEA in the Ministry of Environmental Protection, attended the Forum.



An overview of the Forum venue



A souvenir presented to Mr Simon Hui (left) by Prof. Fung Tung of CUHK (right)

David YEUNG

HKIEIA Activities

Technical Visit to CEDD Contract No. CV/2007/06 - Kwai Chung Incineration Plant Demolition and Decontamination Works

HKIEIA successfully held a technical visit to the Kwai Chung Incineration Plant on 20 December 2008. The scope of the Project is to demolish a municipal incinerator and the associated structure of the project site. It was an informative as well as interesting event to give participants an in depth understanding of the methodologies and technologies utilised in the removal of dioxin and asbestos from the chimney and associated structures.

Despite approaching Christmas time, the event attracted over 25 participants over a variety of industrial backgrounds. Mr. James Chau of CEDD, representatives of the Engineer and the Contractor gave a brief talk explaining the project constraints and requirement. The technical visit also included a guided tour and demonstration on the pioneer technologies developed in the removal of dioxin from the chimney and asbestos from the associated structures.



A souvenir presented to Mr James Chau (right) by our Chairman, Mr David Yeung (left)



Group photo

David YEUNG

Regional Conference on Sustainable Waste Management in Carbon-conscious Cities

With the rapid development of economy and urbanization, the amount of solid waste in Southern China has been growing in a tremendous pace. The management of municipal and industrial wastes is an emerging challenge to environmental, social and economic development. This conference was well attended by more than 100 practitioners from government departments, consulting firms, utility companies and academics who aim to share recent technological advancement in waste management and

its applicability to reduce the climate change for the region.

The emerging and burning topic of carbon emission has seemed to draw much attention from the audience among the agenda discussed in the seminar. The Chairman of our Institute, Mr. David Yeung, presented a paper “A Greenhouse Gas and Air Quality Comparison of Disposal Options for Green Waste: Composting and Use as Alternative Daily Cover for Landfills” in this conference and attracted a lot of attention during the question and answer session.

David YEUNG

Managing the Outdoor Acoustic Environment – A Public Lecture on Soundscape

A public lecture, “Managing The Outdoor Acoustic Environment” was jointly organized by The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics, the Institution of Engineers – Mechanical, Marine, Naval Architecture and Chemical Division and the Institute on 26 February 2009. Professor Lex Brown is Wai Lun Visiting Professor of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Professor Brown introduced the idea of considering environmental noise as “soundscapes”. He shared on how human development has changed the sound profile of an environment. We rely largely on our visual sense but become devoiced from positive aural experience outdoors. Similar to environmental conservation, we could also choose to preserve and manage soundscapes that we consider important, not just for human but also for wildlife benefit.



Professor Brown sharing the concept of soundscapes



Attentive audience

Claudine LEE

Mai Po/Pak Nai Photo Tour and Competition

Though it was the first ever social event on photo shooting organised by our Institute, it was truly a successful one that I personally would request for an encore. It was a whole day social and photo-taking event with a lot of excitement. We started off at the Mai Po Marshes with unexpected sunshine and a clear sky and finished off at Pak Nai with unforgettable sunset and a romantic scenery. Needless to say more as these pictures would tell you all.



First Prize [maipo1_Apr2009.jpg]



Second Prize [maipo2_Apr2009.jpg]



Third Prize – [maipo3_Apr2009.jpg]



Merit – [maipo4_Apr2009.jpg]



Merit – [maipo6_Apr2009.jpg]



Merit – [maipo5_Apr2009.jpg]



Merit – [maipo7_Apr2009.jpg]



Merit – [maipo8_Apr2009.jpg]

I would like to thank the members from the Hong Kong Creart Photographic Association who shared with us their skill and techniques on nature photo-shooting throughout the tour.

A photo competition was also held after the event. There were about 200 photos submitted to the photo contest. The winning photos are as follows:

First Prize – Clara U [maipo1_Apr2009.jpg]
Second Prize – 麥耀東 [maipo2_Apr2009.jpg]
Third Prize – Laurent Cheung [maipo3_Apr2009.jpg]
Merit – Mark Shea [maipo4_Apr2009.jpg]
Merit – 鄭蘊儀 [maipo5_Apr2009.jpg]
Merit – 廖麗珊 [maipo6_Apr2009.jpg]
Merit – 吳穎堅 [maipo7_Apr2009.jpg]
Merit – Wong Chi Man [maipo8_Apr2009.jpg]

Clara U

Annual General Meeting 2009

It is that time of the year again and the Committee is busily preparing for the Annual General Meeting 2009. The AGM this year has been scheduled to be held on 21 May 2009 (Thursday) at Kowloon Club (please note that the Kowloon Club has been relocated from

Tsimshatsui to Hung Hom). The AGM Package will be circulated in due course.

Marcus IP

HKIEIA Membership

The Institute has currently a total of 222 members, including 20 Fellows, 163 Corporate Members, 36 Associate/Student Members and 3 Honorary Members.

Members are reminded to make your annual membership renewal together with the completed CPD record immediately to Ms. Clara U.

HKIEIA Finances

We are still in a very healthy financial state with HK\$817,726.64 in our Bank Accounts. The incomes and expenses for financial year 2008-2009 have been submitted to Louise Lai and Luk for audit purpose and we should be able to get an audited account for presentation at the AGM.

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