To highlight the importance of sound and related sciences and technologies for all in society, International Commission for Acoustics (ICA) initiated the International Year of Sound (IYS) 2020 globally, which consists of coordinated activities on regional, national and international levels. These activities aim to stimulate the understanding throughout the world of the important role that sound plays in all aspects of our society. Moreover, these activities will also encourage an understanding of the need for the control of noise in nature, in the built environment, and in the workplace.

As part of the family of global professional body, and to endorse with the objectives, HKIOA is pleased to take part in supporting this meaningful event. Representatives of HKIOA had also joined the Steering Committee Meeting and Opening Ceremony of the IYS on 31 January 2020 in Paris, France. To get in line with the goals of the Year of Sound, and to enhance the friendship and cooperation, all the news of our activities and events with the acoustical outreach component will be announced and promoted through the international platform. HKIOA is going to jointly organize the Student Competition of the IYS 2020, which is an educational event with fun and encouragement. More details can be found in the website of IYS 2020 (https://sound2020.org/society/student-competition) and through separate flyer from HKIOA.
Steering Committee Meeting of IYS2020.

Speech by Prof Marion Burgess, IYS 2020 Coordinator

Representatives of HKIOA, Dr. CW Law and Mr. William Fung, and other representatives from HK attended the Opening Ceremony in the famous Grand Amphitheatre La Sorbonne.
The technical seminar on “Innovative Vibration Isolation Design for Building Elements in Europe and US” was held on 16 October 2019 in the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. The social tension and early closure of train services in mid October in Hong Kong did not stop the 50 participants from attending the seminar.

The honorary speaker, Mr. Patrick Carels, the Executive Chairman of the CDM group, shared some of his experience in vibration isolation design for various special building elements within building such as gym facilities, helipad and swimming pool. The frozen bearing technology, which serves as a way of pre-compression, was also shown to the audience.

After the seminar, Wilson Ho, on behalf of HKIOA, presented a certificate of appreciation to Patrick, and Patrick shared with the audience his souvenir from his home country Belgium – 2 boxes of chocolate.

By Wilson Ho / Cindy Cheung
The International Noise Seminar on Innovative Acoustic Windows, organized by ESEA Regional Chapter of the Acoustical Society of America and co-organized by the HKIOA, was held in Shanghai on 25 October 2019. It attracted some 70 delegates and there was a total of 7 presentations.

Mr Elvis Au, the Deputy Director of Environmental Protection Department, set the scene for the seminar by giving us an outline why and how Environmental Protection Department developed this novel design and how significant was this design to Hong Kong in the context of developing new residential buildings. Then, a case study is presented by Mr. David Yeung (Ramboll Hong Kong), Mr. Kelvin Ip (Ronald Lu & Partners (HK) Ltd) and Mr. Andy Chung (Macau Institute of Acoustics) in sharing with delegates the noise assessment process, the design process and the actual results at the end through Virtual Reality technology.
Mr. K K Iu (Supreme Acoustics Research Ltd) gave an innovative idea on effective evaluation of the noise reduction achieved by the acoustic windows through measurements following ISO standard. Mr. Lars Sommer Sondergaard (Force Technology of Denmark) shared the trendy designs of ventilated windows in Denmark; and Dr. Du (National University of Singapore) shared the experience how the design configurations would affect the noise reduction effectiveness of ventilated windows. Prof. Zhou Yide and Dr. Xiaonan Wang, both from Shanghai Academy of Environmental Science, shared with the delegates the research and development and actual installation in Shanghai.

By William Fung / Nicole Chan
The 2019 Annual Meeting and the 32\textsuperscript{nd} Symposium organized by the Taiwan Acoustical Association, was successfully held at National Taiwan University of Science and Technology, Taipei on 14-15 November 2019.

This year, we are pleased to have Mr. William Fung and Mr. N C Cheung to represent HKIOA to join the symposium.

It is a privilege to have Dr. Yamamoto Kohei and Prof. Wang Bor Tsuen to share their thoughts respectively on Shinkansen Express Railway noise and vibration analysis for percussion musical instruments. During the symposium, over 25 technical papers was presented.

By William Fung / Nicole Chan
On the beautiful sunny morning of 8th December 2019 at the Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park in Sai Ying Pun, the Annual Marathon for Benji's Centre was held. Once again, Women In Acoustics of the HKIOA was honoured to be one of the supporters this year.

Welcomed by the warm winter breeze and the gorgeous sunshine, we knew that the marathon would be a successful one as soon as we arrived at the park in the early morning. The opening ceremony was kicked started by the welcoming speech by Mrs. Susanne Wong, JP, District Officer(Central and Western) and followed by the wonderful songs of the children from Benji's Centre. Led by the iconic cat mascot from the main supporter, all the guests started the walk following the trail surrounding the park. It took about 30 minutes for most of the guests to complete the walk. Greeting at the finishing point were lots of delicious hot dishes and drinks for all the guests to enjoy. Game stalls were set up for the children to have great fun with their parents as well.

Although we did not have time to enjoy the lunch provided by the Centre, we did leave the Centre with a contented smile on our face. We do hope that we can be their supporter in the years to come and continue to bring happiness to the children of the Centre in our next visit.

By Valerie Kung