



香港聲學學會

Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics

Chairman's Report 2013/2014

Introduction

It is my honor to serve as Chairman for HKIOA during the past months since the last AGM in March 2013. Year 2013 was very special and it marked the 20th Anniversary of the Institute, an important milestone. Through organizing a series of activities, I felt the tremendous support from the Executive Committee and the Celebration Committee, without them I could not accomplish all the tasks. Indeed, over the past months, the Executive Committee, Celebration Committee and I were able to focus on the following:

- Organizing and diversifying the Institute's activities, aiming at bringing benefit to members as well as helping those in the community who deserve more care;
- Maintaining close collaborations with the counterparts in PRC and Taiwan;
- Nurturing graduates/post-graduates from university for running institutional activities; and
- Maintaining the healthy financial conditions of the institute, while seeking opportunity to look for returns for the Institute's assets;

I must thank the Executive Committee and Celebration Committee for their dedicated supports and hard work in the past months. We did achieve a lot, the highlights of which are in the ensuing paragraphs. Overall, the Institute has continued to provide professional support to its members through various activities like technical seminars, overseas delegation visits, etc. Our membership has been steadily growing, which gives indication of gaining recognition of the Institute by the industries. Our finance is continued to be healthy, and was again able to offer members with 50% concession to 2014 membership subscription, despite during the prevailing inflation climate.

Executive Committee of the Institute

The Executive Committee met on a monthly basis and continued to manage the business of the Institute, organize and promote various activities to foster professional development of our members. The 2013/2014 Executive Committee comprises of the Chairman, 12 elected Committee Members, 1 Co-opted Member and 2 invited Advisers as follows:

Elected Committee Members:
Committee Members (Session 2013-14)

Chairman	Dr. K. W. Cheng
Immediate Past Chairman	Mr. Tom Ho
Honorary Secretary	Dr. C. W. Law
Honorary Treasurer	Mr. William Fung
Chairman, Membership Sub-committee	Dr. C. K. Chau
Chairman, Publication Sub-committee	Ir. Y N Au Yeung
Chairman, Information Technology Sub-committee	Mr. Aaron Lui
Chairman, Indoor Acoustics Sub-committee	Ms. Grace Kwok
Chairman, Activities Sub-committee	Mr. Wilson Ho
Chairman, Environmental Noise Sub-committee	Mr. Aaron Lui
Sub-committee member	
Chairman, Noise & Vibration Sub-committee	Ir. Dr. Randolph Leung
Sub-committee member	Mr. Wilson Ho
Chairman, Professional Development & Education Sub-committee	Dr. Raymond Lee
Sub-committee member	Dr. Clief Tang
Sub-committee member	Dr. C.W. Law
Chairman, Construction Noise Sub-committee	Mr. M.K. Cheung
Sub-committee member	Mr. Schroeder Tam [#]
Invited Advisor (Institution Advancement & Discipline)	Ir. K.K. lu
Invited Advisor (External Liaison)	Ir. Maurice Yeung

Appointed by the 2013/14 Executive Committee as Co-opted Member

Finance

Our Institute remained in a healthy financial position for the year ended 31 December 2013. Most of our income came from membership fees, seminar / course fees, and bank interest (fixed deposit). The accounts of the Institute have been audited and details of the financial situation would be provided by our Treasurer, Mr. William Fung in a separate report.

Student Branch

The Student Branches at the IVE's Morrison Hill campus continued to function and provided students opportunities to organize activities and to be more familiar with the acoustics field. Furthermore, the 1st University Student Branch was established in collaboration with The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) and housed in

Department of Mechanical Engineering of the university. The inauguration ceremony of the Student Branch was held on 14 May 2013 at in PolyU campus. The branch provided opportunities for graduates/post-graduates in PolyU to interact and network with professional acousticians in the industry and to interact with students from other PolyU departments and IVE Student Branch with the same career interest.

On 19 July 2013, PolyU Student Branch of HKIOA organized a career sharing activity at PolyU campus. Senior professionals from different sectors in the field, including consulting firms, contractors, government department, R&D companies and mass transport service provider, who had participated in the career sharing to let students have a broad view about the environmental and acoustics industries. Different from traditional career talk, the session was held in an informal atmosphere. Students could ask questions freely and the invited speakers could discuss with one another and elaborate more on topics that students found interesting. During the event, the speakers had much sharing on their experiences, expectations on students and views on the prospect in different fields.

Membership

The number of membership applications has been slightly increased during the year 2013/2014, as compared with last year. The Institute has continued to receive enquires from local practitioners in acoustics expressing their interest in joining the Institute. From 21st February 2013 to 21st February 2014, we have so far processed a total of 23 membership applications. Among these applicants, 5 were elected as Corporate Members and 6 were elected as Associate Members, and 12 membership applications are still in progress. In 2013/2014, no membership application for Institute of Acoustics of United Kingdom was received. Despite the drop-out of a few members, we are hoping that the Institute will continue to grow with more new comers from various disciplines, which in turn will enrich the knowledge and the culture of the Institute.

The trend of membership and its profile up to 21st February 2014 are given as follows:

Grade	As at 1 Mar 2006	As at 1 Feb 2007	As at 4 Feb 2008	As at 6 Feb 2009	As at 19 Feb 2010	As at 3 Mar 2011	As at 31 May 2012	As at 21 Feb 2013	As at 21 Feb 2014
Asso. Fellows	4	4	4	#	#	#	#	#	#
Hon. Fellows	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	4	4

Grade	As at 1 Mar 2006	As at 1 Feb 2007	As at 4 Feb 2008	As at 6 Feb 2009	As at 19 Feb 2010	As at 3 Mar 2011	As at 31 May 2012	As at 21 Feb 2013	As at 21 Feb 2014
Associate Members	51	53	54	58	58	64	74	74	80
Fellows	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
Members	155	171	182	187	193	199	194	205	210
Students (IVE & PolyU)	3	3	3	71	173	119	119	119	120 (IVE) + 82 (PolyU)
Total	236	254	266	339	447	406	411	423	517

It should be noted that the grade of "Associate Fellows" has been dispensed according to the MOA of the HKIOA Limited since 2008. The members according to this grade of membership have been transformed to other grades.

A class of Sponsor Membership has been established since January 2011 and opened to firms, organizations or persons engaged in or having an interest in acoustics. An annual subscription is required. Staffs of a Sponsor Member would gain better vision and wider exposure through participating events and activities organized by the Institute to keep abreast of the acoustics development while enjoying member's privileges and price. Representatives of Sponsor Members will receive flyers, notifications and publications of the Institute from time to time. Full details are available from the HKIOA website.

Education

Meyer Poon Memorial Awards for 2013

In 2013, a total of 9 entries were received by 23 July for the Meyer Poon Memorial Award, 5 in the undergraduate category and 4 in the postgraduate category. All nine were short-listed, but the presentations originally scheduled on 14 August 2014 at EF305, HKPolyU were cancelled due to typhoon, and the assessments had to be done via circulation among individual assessors. The prizes and certificates were presented to the aforementioned participants in the HKIOA executive committee meeting held on Oct 2013

We congratulated the following students for winning this year's awards and thanked all supervisors for encouraging their students to participate in this annual activity.

Undergraduate category:

- **Winner: Chan Man Hung, Ho Ka Man : Natural Ventilation, Noise Control and Cooling Using Window and Wing Wall with Aid of Water Tank**
- **1st runner-up: Ting Kam Tung: A Study on Temperature Impacts on Tire/Road Noise**
- **2nd runner-up: Choi Hon Yin, Keung Man Lok, Ng Ka Kui : Reduction of Factory Noise**

Postgraduate category:

- **Winner: Huang Yan Ping: Development of an Arthroscopy-based Water-jet Ultrasound Indentation System for the Morphological, Acoustic and Mechanical Assessment of Articulate Cartilage Degeneration**
- **1st runner-up: Garret, Lam Chi Yan: Aero-acoustics of Merging Flows at Duct Junctions**
- **2nd runner-up: Cheng Yang : A new look of the performance deterioration of noise barrier due to the reflecting wall**

Certificate Courses on Noise Control, Road Traffic Noise Assessment, Architectural Acoustics Design & Road Traffic Noise & Railway Noise Measurement

To foster continuous professional development, HKIOA, together with Hong Kong Institution of Engineers - Mechanical, Marine, Naval Architecture and Chemical (HKIE-MMNC) Division, ASME Hong Kong Section (ASME-HK) and BEAM Society Limited (BSL) had organized Certificate Courses on Noise Control, Road Traffic Noise Assessment, Architectural Acoustics Design, Road Traffic Noise & Railway Noise Measurement from 17 February 2014 to 19 April 2014. The courses aim at providing the local professionals with a structured frame starting from refreshing the basic acoustics concept, noise design, assessment and measurement. The courses also include practical sessions with hands-on experience on three dimensional (3D) noise assessment, architectural acoustics design, road traffic noise and railway noise measurement. The 20 sessions of courses were held mainly at the IVE's venue in Cheung Sha Wan. Practical session of noise modelling and in-situ session on road traffic noise measurement would also be conducted.

Ir Dr. Clief Tang from Quality Control Consultants Ltd., Ms. Grace Kwok from Allied Environmental Consultants Ltd., Mr. James Choi from EDMS Consulting Ltd., Mr. Joe Leung, Mr. Jimmy Wong, Ir CK Lee, Dr. CW Law, Ir. Isaac Ng from Environmental Protection Department, Mr. Tom Ho from S & V Samford Instruments Co. Ltd. and Mr. Wilson Ho from Wilson Acoustics Ltd. were the speakers. All of them were experienced professionals in the acoustics industry. The responses were encouraging and over 35 participants were enrolled. The courses are still in progress but feedbacks are positive. In short, participants considered that the certificate courses were very useful in the noise control, understanding of the relevant legislation and building/railway acoustics. The Institute will offer the courses on regular basis and those not admitted in this round will be given priority in the next round.

Activities

To celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Institute, we had organized a number of activities to keep our members abreast of the trend and development in acoustics. We fostered partnership and synergy with other educational / professional institutions for some of these activities. Special thanks are given to Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA), The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM) and Hong Kong Institute of Environmental Impact Assessment (HKIEIA), The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE), The Hong Kong Society of Audiology (HKSA), and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (HKPolyU) for their continuous support to many of our activities. Here is a brief summary of the events during the 2013/2014:

Date	Activities
6 March 2013	2013 Annual General Meeting
8 April 2013	Seminar on "The Sound of Speech"
2 May 2013	Seminar on "Acoustics from Engineering Perspective"
14 May 2013	Inauguration of PolyU Student Branch
24 May 2013	The Joint HKIOA-PolyU Symposium – Research, Assessment and Development of Applying Innovation Building Designs for Noise Mitigation – The Latest Trends
14 June 2013	Delegation Visit To Environmental Protection Bureau in Macau
19 July 2013	Career Sharing by Senior Professionals from the Environmental & Acoustics Related Industries
7 August 2013	Laboratory/Field Acoustics Testing of Building Elements

Date	Activities
14 August 2013	Meyer Poon Memorial Awards 2013
22 – 25 August 2013	Delegation Visit to Shanghai
28 September 2013	Soundwalk with Silence – Charity Walk
30 September 2013	Seminar on Rail Damper Latest Development
6 December 2013	Symposium “Contributing to the Acoustic Profession in Hong Kong for 20 Years and Beyond” and Gala Dinner
7 December 2013	Technical Visit to Acoustical Testing Facilities at Huizhou, PRC
17 February 2014 – 9 April 2014	Certificate Courses on Architectural Acoustics Design, Noise Control, Road Traffic Noise Assessment and Measurement

Publication

Most of the activities conducted by the Institute have been reported in our newsletter “Sounding Board”, which is released as an electronic publication on our website. Two issues in September 2013 and March 2014 were circulated and uploaded to our website. It provides a good medium not only for keeping members informed on our achievements throughout the year, but also for other interested readers to know more about our acoustics community. We have to thank those members who have contributed informative and interesting articles for this publication. We will continue to make full use of the Sounding Board to promote sharing and communication among members.

For specially celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Institute, a Commemorative Booklet collating all our achievements, significant events, and good memories in the past were produced and distributed to participants during the Gala Dinner on 6 December 2013.

Information Technology

The HKIOA website (www.hkioa.org) has performed an important function in keeping members up-to-date with major or important events in the acoustics circle both in Hong Kong and Overseas. It was revamped in 2013 as one of the many initiatives in support of the 20th Anniversary celebration, which was to make it more informative and user friendly. Events organized or co-organized by HKIOA were promptly uploaded to the HKIOA website. Any person who is interested in joining HKIOA can visit our website to learn about the entry requirements and download an appropriate application form.

In 2013-14, our website has continued to function well with a view to providing better services to members as well as the public. In the website, a photo gallery containing photos taken in the current and past activities were uploaded for easy sharing among members. It does help to bring back those wonderful memories and joyful moments in the various events and activities. In addition, information on the institute's membership is easily available on the website for verification. Information regarding acoustics related local suppliers / contractors / consultants, for which subscription is required, is also available. Furthermore, a bulletin board was established to facilitate easy sharing of useful information and providing a platform for the companies to advertise their job vacancies, which is a free service to the trade at the moment.

External Liaison

In 2013/14, while we were busy in organizing activities in local, representatives of our institute also attended international conference/meeting to promote the institute, enhance collaborations, and foster long term relationship with the counterparts. A brief account of these events is:

1. "Technical Acoustics" Journal –Ir. Dr. Randolph LEUNG and Ir. Dr. CM MAK continued to contribute as members of the Editorial Board for this journal which is published quarterly. They keenly liaise with the Shanghai Institute of Acoustics to make the collaboration a success, and promote submission of papers from our members for publishing.
2. Delegation visit to the Environmental Protection Bureau (EPB) “環境保護局” – Dr. Kin Cheng and Dr. C.W. Law led the delegation visit to the Environmental Protection Bureau (EPB) “環境保護局” in Macau on 14 June 2013. The event received overwhelming responses from members, and all 15 places were reserved within a few days after the flyer circulation on 23 May 2013. The delegation was comprised of members from different disciplines, including those from acoustics related consultants, contractors, suppliers, MTR as well as executive committee members. The exchanges went well starting with their presentations on overview of environmental noise situation and legislative control in Macau, followed by their noise mapping via mobile measurement vehicle(s) and fixed noise monitoring stations. Dr. Kin Cheng briefly presented the traffic noise situation and the framework to tackle such problems in Hong Kong, followed by presentation on legislative noise control framework by Dr. C.W. Law. In the end, there were fruitful discussions and sharing among the participants.
3. Delegation visit to Shanghai Acoustical Society - HKIOA organized a delegation visit to the Shanghai Acoustical Society from 22 to 25 August 2013. The delegation was comprised of Dr. Kin Cheng, Mr. Tom Ho, Ir. K.K. Iu, Dr. C.W. Law, Mr. William

Fung, Dr. Randolph Leung, Mr. Wylog, W.L. Wong, Dr. S.K. Lau (who is currently working in Shanghai for an acoustics company). We visited a number of key acoustics research laboratories/establishments, including “中科院聲學研究所東海研究站” where acoustics research related to supersonic handling and testing equipment, hearing aids and speech intelligibility were being pursued; “上海申華聲學裝備有限公司” where testing facilities for acoustic silencers and reverberation rooms for testing of absorptive panels/acoustic materials were newly commissioned; and “浙江莫干山參訪第 726 研究所實驗基地” where underwater acoustics research and tests were being conducted. Overall, the exchanges went well and fruitful, and delegates were not only able to gain knowledge from the Shanghai counterparts, they also networked with them well.

4. HKIOA delegation to attend the 6th Cross-strait Acoustical Conference “第六屆 - 海峽兩岸多地聲學技術交流研討會” in Taipei - Following the last Cross-Strait Acoustical Conference (2012) in Hong Kong, in 2013, the conference was held at the National Taiwan University of Science and Technology (NTUST) in Taipei. The 1½-day meeting was successfully co-organised by the Taiwan Acoustical Association and NTUST, with over 100 acousticians from the Mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong participated in the event. Hong Kong’s delegation comprised of Mr. Tom Ho, Ir. K.K. Lu, Dr. Kin Cheng, Prof. Lixi Huang and his undergraduate student Zeyi Zhang, Mr. Ken Lam, Mr. M.K. Cheung and Mr. William Fung. At the meeting, there were exchanges of a wide range of acoustics related topics. Technical papers presented in the conference included subjects like acoustical designs of hall concert halls/theatres, policies research and enforcement related to road traffic problems, and acoustical performance of household appliances, etc. A total of twelve papers had been presented, and participants from HKIOA, Prof. Lixi Huang of HKU and Mr. Ken Y.K. Lam of PolyU, contributed two from their researches in duct and tyre noises respectively.

We often worked together with HKIE, HKIA, HKIEIA, HKSA and HKPolyU & IVE in organizing seminars and courses. This form of cooperation has proved to be a synergy for mutual benefits of our members and we hope to have more similar joint functions in future.

Sponsorship to be provided for attending Inter-Noise 2014

To encourage active participation in international acoustical conferences, the Institute would continue to provide sponsorship of HK\$4,000 for attending Inter-Noise 2014 with a maximum of 5 sponsorships per year. Author(s) need to acknowledge HKIOA for the sponsorship in their publications. We are hoping that through these sponsorships our members can be benefited in terms of their exposure and networking.

The Way Forward

With the efforts, achievements, and healthy financial situation so far, I am sure that the Institute would be able to move ahead and continue to develop.

Year 2013 was a very special and challenging year and marked the 20th Anniversary of the Institute. Through organizing a series of events, such as technical seminars/symposiums, delegation visits, and Gala Dinner, members were benefited and networked well with each others. The establishment of PolyU Student Branch will also help reaching out HKIOA to graduates/post-graduates in university. The Soundwalk with Silence had helped those students with hearing impairment whom indeed deserve more care from the community. I trust all these event/activities will not only consolidate the Institute's achievements so far, but also help the Institute to gain recognition from the community. Again, I must thank the Executive Committee and Celebration Committee for their dedicated support and hard work throughout year 2013 to make all these events/activities successfully held.

Despite I am going to step down as Chairman, I will continue to contribute to the Institute. Under the leadership of the coming chairperson, the Institute will continue to provide professional developments to members through technical seminars and programmes. Bidding for Inter-Noise 2017 would be the target to pursue.

In closing, I would like to stress that continual support from all our members are essential to make our future endeavour a success.



Dr. Kin Cheng
Chairman