

HONG KONG BRANCH

Institution of
**MECHANICAL
ENGINEERS**

**Hong Kong Branch
Annual General Meeting (AGM) for Session 2008-2009
Held on Thursday 14 May 2009 commencing at 6.50pm
In the World Trade Centre Club, 38/F World Trade Centre Club
Causeway Bay, Hong Kong**

Present :

Dr C W Tso	Chairman
Mr Chow Wai Keung	Vice Chairman / Membership Sub-Committee Chairman
Mr Simon Mak	Honorary Secretary
Dr Arthur Wong	Honorary Treasurer
Mr Edmund Leung	Past Chairman
Dr Simon Ho	Member of Membership Sub-Committee
Mr Yat Yin Kwok	Activity Convenor
Mr Louis KS Szeto	Committee Member
Mr K K Lo	Committee Member
Mr Lawrence Chan	Chairman, Young Member Section
Mr Ricky Kan	Immediate Past Chairman, Young Member Section

Plus 42 Branch Members and 6 Guests

Apologies :

Prof Ronald So	Immediate Past Chairman
Prof Dennis Leung	Committee Member
Mr Coleman Ng	Information & Communication Officer
Mr Otto Poon	Past Chairman
Mr Franky Shum	Activity Convenor
Mr Kenneth Wu	Past Chairman, Young Member Section

The Minutes :

Item

The Honorary Secretary of Session 2008-09, Mr Simon Mak, invited Chairman, Dr CW Tso, to chair the AGM

1 Confirmation of Minutes of AGM 2008 held on 15 May 2008

The Branch Chairman, Dr C W Tso, welcomed Members and guests to the Annual General Meeting (AGM) for session 2008-2009, and outlined the Agenda of AGM. He brought to the attention of Members that copy of the Minutes of last AGM held on 15 May 2008 was issued to members with the Notice of this AGM.

As there were no comments received or raised at the meeting, the Chairman invited proposer and seconder to adopt the Minutes. Mr Edmund Leung proposed and Dr Simon Ho seconded and no objections were received. The Minutes of AGM for Session 2007-2008 were approved and adopted as true record.

2 Chairman's Report for Session 2008-09

The Chairman gave a PowerPoint presentation on his Annual Report touched briefly on the 50+ learned society events/activities that took place and achievements made in Session 2008-2009 with the following highlights:

1. Membership of HK Branch increased by 3% to 2,532 (93 Fellows, 1,256 Members, 389 Associates and 793 Affiliates) with significant 10.3% jump in Affiliates due to free membership
2. President Banks delivered a George Stephenson Lecture and hosted Presidential Reception in Nov 2008
3. Formation of Asia Oceanic Form (AOF) with 1st meeting attend by President Banks and Branch Chairmen/Correspondence Members in Kuala Lumpur in April 2009
4. Young Inventor Competition
5. AOF Speak Out for Engineers Presentation held in Kuala Lumpur in April was won by Hong Kong Representative
6. Professional Review Interview Assessor Workshop
7. Route to Membership cum Tutorship Program for Associates

The Chairman reported that the Council and International Strategy Board (ISB) meetings would be held in London on 26-28 May 2009 during which the following issues/concerns based on feedbacks from Members would be raised:

1. Membership Subscription Fee significantly higher than HKIE
2. Value of Membership in doubt - triggered off by the adoption of electronic PE Magazine instead of hard copy
3. Requirement of Master Degree for corporate membership higher than HKIE
4. Great difficulty to achieve HQs target for membership growth - priority should be membership retention
5. Replacement of Branch Chairman by AOF Chairman at Council and ISB meetings in London not acceptable

Mr Edmund Leung expressed that the establishment of the Forum to replace representation of Branches was a major step back of the Institution. Given HK Kong branch Chairman was the largest, most established and dynamic branch outside the UK, HK Branch should have the voice in the Council and ISB to reflect the view and safeguard the interests of HK members. The Chairman was actioned to stand firm on this issue at the forthcoming meetings.

On the subject of membership value, Mr Raja Natarajan commented that HKIE focused more on local needs whereas IMechE offered international recognised professional qualification. He further noted that international firms with overseas projects/works would prefer to hire engineers with Chartered Engineer qualifications and membership of IMechE, ICE or IEE.

Chairman concurred and recapped the following when asked HQs on membership retention in Hong Kong

1. Those who graduated, worked or lived in the UK would likely have the sentiment with the UK and keep their IMechE membership.
2. Overseas Clients, such as in Middle East, would prefer and have more confidence in firms operating in Hong Kong have chartered Engineers to undertake projects/works.

As there were no further questions from the floor, the Chairman thanked Members for their continuous advice, guidance, support and active participation in activities without which the Branch would not operate effectively and efficiently. He then invited proposer and seconder to adopt the Chairman's Report. Mr Alex Leung proposed and Mr Louis K S Szeto Tan seconded and no objections were received. The Chairman Report for Session 2008-09 was accepted.

3 Honorary Treasurer's Financial Report for Financial Year 2008

The Hon Treasurer, Dr Arthur Wong, presented the Treasurer's Report for Financial Year 2008, and advised that the Financial Report had been audited by Messrs John Collier and Leung Cham Tim.

Dr Wong highlighted that there was an income of HK\$107,691.73 from a jointly organised conference "International Conference on Climate Change". It was noted that the Branch registered a healthy balance of HK\$454,349.68 at end 2008, compared with HK\$317,499.26 at end 2007.

As there were no further comments, Dr Wong invited adoption of the Financial Report for 2008. Professor Matthew Yuen proposed and Mr Francis Leung seconded and no objections were received. Financial Report for Financial Year 2007 was approved.

The service of Messrs John Collier and Leung Cham Tim as Honorary Auditor for Financial Year 2008 was greatly appreciated.

4 Appointment of Honorary Auditor for Financial Year 2009

The Hon Secretary, Mr Simon Mak, advised that the Branch Committee had nominated Messrs John Collier and Professor Matthew Yuen to be the Branch Honorary Auditors for Financial Year 2009, and invited comments/acceptance of the nomination.

Dr King Wong proposed and Mr WK Chow seconded and no objections were received. The nomination of auditors for Financial Year 2009 was approved.

5 Results of the Branch Committee Election of Officers for Session 2009-2010

The Hon Secretary, Mr Simon Mak, announced that there were single nomination for each of the FOUR Officers of the Branch Committee, viz. Chairman, Vice Chairman, Hon Secretary, and Hon Treasurer. As the nominations did not exceed the number of vacancies available in the Committee Election for the four officers, no postal election was conducted. The results of election were as follows:

Mr W K Chow	Chairman
Mr K S Szeto	Vice Chairman
Mr Simon Mak	Hon Secretary
Mr Y Y Kwok	Hon Treasurer

Mr Mak invited proposer and seconder to accept the election results. Dr King Wong proposed and Dr Simon Ho seconded and no objections were received. Election results for Session 2008-09 was accepted.

The Chairman invited the Branch Chairman-Elect, Mr WK Chow, to say few words.

Mr Chow thanked Members for giving him the opportunity to chair the Hong Kong Branch for the next session, stressed that the most important role for the branch is

to provide value-added services to our members. In order to strive for continued improvement, he understood the importance to listen to the members to meet their needs and expectation. He invited Members to give views and suggestions, and looked forward to working with the new Branch Committee.

6 Presentation of Certificates of Services/Awards

The Chairman presented Certificates of Appreciation to Branch Committee Officers/Members, and remarked that the Certificates were signed by the President, Professor William Bank and the Chief Executive, Mr Stephen Tetlow in appreciation of the recipient' efforts, dedication and contributions.

Mr Edmund Leung, Past Branch Chairman, presented Certificate of Service to the Chairman.

7 Any Other Business

There being no other business, AGM was declared close at 7.25pm.