



Message from the Chairman



Tom HO

After being deeply involved with the Acoustical Society of Hong Kong for the past twenty two years, I am particularly honoured and excited to be elected as the chairman of HKIOA. I will try my best to uphold the traditions and values of the society with the new executive committee which took effect after the AGM held on the 12th March, 2008.

We will continue our usual activities such as technical visits, both local and abroad, seminars on various noise and vibration topics and Meyer Poon awards for students. We intend to strengthen our education and professional development programs through more structured certified training courses such as Traffic Noise Measurement and Assessment, Construction Noise Management and Building Acoustics, etc.

We are continuing our association with "Technical Acoustics" journal with Shanghai Institute of Acoustics. Dr C M Mak and Dr Randolph Leung will be members of the editorial board. Members are encouraged to submit papers to the Journal to share their knowledge on Acoustics.

Please do not forget to contribute to our own "Sounding Board". We will endeavor to reach out farther than before regarding our contacts with other Acoustical Societies in Asia. We welcome all members to join us on these fun and meaningful trips.

We plan to improve our communications and interactions with our members through our newly updated website. I am pleased to inform you that after years of discussions and planning, we are ready to launch our Advertisement Program for our members. We will also post a current events and membership list on our website for reference. We hope to have a members forum for feedback and exchange of ideas.

We would like to remind our members of an important upcoming event. We will be participating in InterNoise 2008 in Shanghai (26th-29th Oct, 2008) in full force. We strongly encourage all our members to join us in Shanghai because we will also be bidding for InterNoise 2011 to be held in Hong Kong.

We wish all our members a fruitful and successful year.

Highlights of 2008 AGM

CL WONG

The 2008 AGM was held on 12nd March 2008 at the Lawn of the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club. Apart from some 50 members joining the AGM, we have pleasure to see guests from other institutions that we have collaborated with in one way or the other.

The AGM began with the 2007-08 Annual Report from the then Chairman, C.M. Mak. His report included the development of the Institute's website, the promotion of education and study in acoustics (through the Meyer Poon Memorial Award, courses on Road Traffic Noise



Student Branch had been successfully set up at the IVE's Morrison Hill campus. Indeed, student representatives also joined and helped in the AGM, and a banner cum Charter was presented



CM MAK

Measurement, and supporting the PolyU in a CPD workshop on product acoustics). He also reported on a series of Railway Noise Control Seminars organized during the past year, and the delegation visit to Japan in May 2007, and members' participation in various international conferences and seminars.

It was encouraging to know from his report that the first registration fee for any member who could present the road traffic noise study report on behalf of the Institute. He also indicated that the Institute had in August 2007 bid for hosting InterNoise 2011, and was subsequently selected as one of the two member societies to submit a final proposal.



CM MAK & IVE Student Branch Representatives

The Chairman appealed for members' participation in the coming InterNoise 2008 at Shanghai in October. As a support to that event, he told us that the HKIOA would fully subsidize the



Tom HO



Discussion generated among HKIOA members

The Chairman's report was followed by the report from the then Honorary Treasurer, Tom Ho on the Institute's financial status. His report generated discussions on the need to further explore on the use of the Institute's money in promoting the profession.

A Special Resolution was passed in that AGM to empower the Committee to remove those non-paying members from the register.



Grace KWOK

While thanks were given to the retired Committee Member YT Tang, the forum elected and congratulated Tom Ho as the new Chairman and Grace Kwok, our new Committee Member. The happy ending of the AGM brought forward an interesting speech by our guest speaker, CK Lau, who shared with us his wealth of experience in Hong Kong's property development. Yes, we were filled not only with the



CK LAU & CM MAK



enlightening words, but also with nice foods and friendly talks that followed.



Annual Dinner

Workshop on Designing for Product Acoustics



Dr Randolph CK LEUNG

Product acoustics contributes to the consumer's overall perception and evaluation of a product in terms of its acceptability and functionality. It has become an important product attribute for high-value and international markets. Nowadays product development firms are often faced with customers' negative reactions to high noise of their products. However, acoustics may indicate how smooth the product is working, and may enhance the pleasure in using a product (e.g. high-quality home-theatre audio). Therefore, modern product design engineers should be able to incorporate acoustical knowledge into design processes so that the positive attributes of acoustics are enhanced, while the negative ones are reduced.



The two-day workshop during December 13–14, 2007 was organized by Department of Mechanical Engineering, HKPolyU, and co-organized with HKIOA, HKIE-MMNC, ASME-HK and The Institution of Engineering Designers, Hong Kong Region (IED-HK). It was well attended by senior engineers, engineering managers and product planners from local appliances manufacturers, product component manufacturers and testing laboratories. In the first day of the workshop the workshop chairman, Ir Dr Randolph C. K. Leung, gave three thematic lectures on the fundamentals

of product acoustics, design integration and quality control issues. It was followed three design case studies by three experienced acoustics engineers on (1) air-conditioning & refrigeration products and systems, (2) the application of vibration to machine diagnosis, and (3) better acoustics design for DC motors. The second day of the workshop was a practicum on computer-aided design of product acoustics, in which the attendants had a chance to use state-of-the-art software technology to simulate and design the acoustics and vibration of simple product components.

Symposium on Architectural & Environmental Acoustics in Hong Kong, Shanghai & Taipei

Wilson HO



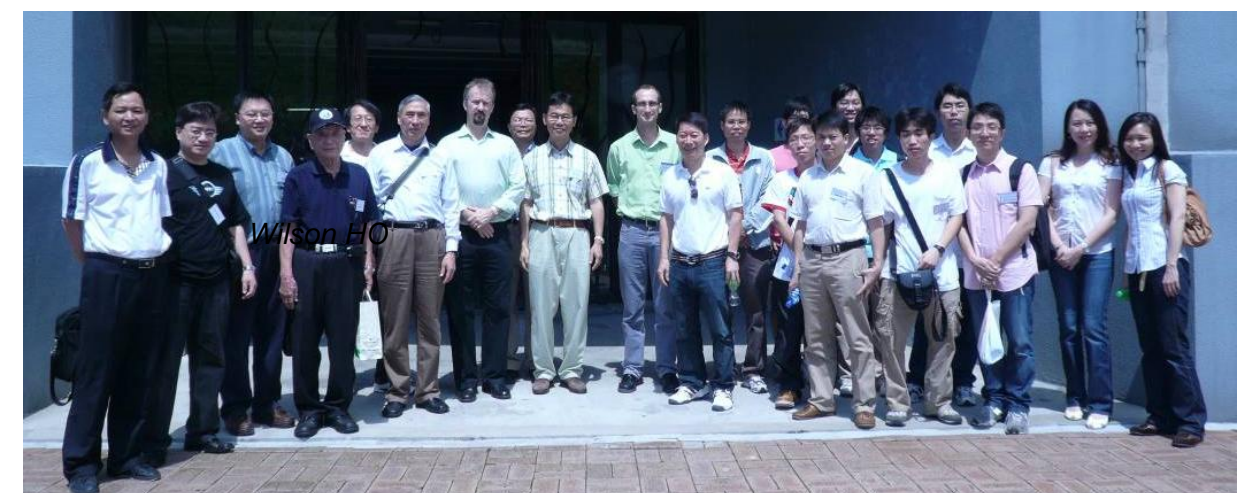
A 3-days workshop (19-21 June 2008) on Architectural & Environmental Acoustics has been successfully completed with overwhelming responses of more than 60 participants from Hong Kong, Shanghai and Taipei. In the past few



decades, all the 3 metropolitan cities are growing concerns on the noise problems associated with the vibrant nature, rapid development and dense population. Acousticians have made significant progress in architectural and environmental acoustic research and applications.

In order to keep acoustic professionals updated on the latest noise control technologies, the Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Building Services Engineering Department) jointly organized a 3-days workshop on Architectural & Environmental Acoustics. The major event was the Symposium on 20 June where guest speakers from Hong Kong, Shanghai and Taipei were invited to share their invaluable experiences on architectural acoustic design, noise control ordinances, noise mapping as well as latest research developments as follows.

Speaker	Title
何德建先生	《開幕致辭》
章奎生教授	《章奎生聲學設計研究所概況及建築聲學設計技術進展》
楊志剛高工	《蘇州科技文化藝術中心劇院聲學設計》
徐淵靜教授、余忠和總經理	《台灣都會地區噪音管制架構》
陳炳祥教授	《悉尼歌劇院與香港大會堂略述》
王靜波高工	《中央電視台新台工程聲學設計概述》
宋擁民博士	《賓館酒店工程中的噪音與振動控制設計》
張曉嵐碩士	《耦合空間在多功能廳堂超聲設計中的應用》
郭宏亮教授、余忠和總經理	《台中市精華區噪音地圖介紹》
許榮林工程師	《多廳電影院的聲學設計技術》
麥卓明博士	《建築聲學研究》
周允基教授	《閉幕致辭》



Acoustic research knowledge was exchanged on 19 June 2008 during visit to Building Services

Engineering Department and Mechanical Engineering Department Hong Kong Polytechnic University, and Mechanical Engineering Department of Hong Kong University. The workshop was completed with technical visits to the acoustic facilities of Hong Kong Cultural Centre and Hong Kong Movie City on 21 June 2008.



On behalf of HKIOA, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the speakers for their generous sharing of experiences and knowledge. We hope the symposium and technical visits would provide enlightening ideas for acoustic experts to cope with the challenges in noise issues in the three metropolitan cities.

The 15th International Congress on Sound and Vibration & Board of Directors Meeting of IIAV

Dr CW LAW

The 15th International Congress on Sound and Vibration (ICSV15) was held during 6-10 July 2008 at Daejeon, Korea. ICSV15 was the annual Congress of the International Institute of Acoustics and Vibration (IIAV). This was cosponsored by The Korean Society for Noise and Vibration Engineering (KSNVE), and in cooperation with the International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (IUTAM), The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) and The Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE). The Congress was well attended. According to the organizer, more than 550 participants from 46 countries joined the Congress. The scientific program of ICSV15 consisted of 6 keynote lectures, 37 structured sessions and 26 congress topics. Our members Dr Randolph LEUNG and Dr CW LAW were invited as the members of International Scientific Committee and to organize and chair the structured sessions on "Computational Aeroacoustics" and "The Advances of GIS Application in Noise Impact Assessment" respectively.



Dr LAW also represented the Institute to join the IIAV Board of Directors Meeting on 6 July 2008. It was an annual meeting about the major events in last year, including financial matter, public relationship issues and journal. The officers briefly reported the works they did during the year. Moreover, the presentations of the proposals from Brazil, Egypt and Prague to bid the hosting of ICSV17



IIAV Board of Directors Meeting

(year 2010) were conducted and discussed (the coming ICSV16 will be held in Krakow of Poland). The board of IIAV will announce the outcome in the near future.

Meyer Poon Memorial Award 2007

Dr Lixi HUANG

The 2007 Meyer Poon Memorial Award was concluded in April 2008. Totally 11 entries were received from PolyU and CityU: 6 in the undergraduate category and 5 in the postgraduate category. The winners of the two categories are as follows:

BEng and below Category

Participants: LEE Cham Him, LI Kin Wah, CHEUNG Chi Shing
Department/University: Mechanical Engineering of HK Polytechnic University
Title: Vacuum Cleaner Noise Design Using Product Sound Quality Approach

MSc/MEng and above Category

Participant: HUI Chun Kam
Department/University: Civil and Structural Engineering of HK Polytechnic University
Title: The control of bending resonance of vibration isolation system

The award ceremony was conducted on Monday 14 April 2008 from 6:30-7:30pm at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. The winners of the two categories gave a talk of 20 min each on their projects.

Technical Acoustics 声学技术

全国中文核心期刊, 中国科技核心期刊, 中国科技论文统计源期刊

Dr CM MAK



We started our collaboration with the Editorial Board of the Journal "Technical Acoustics" on publication of the journal in Jan 2006. In the past, Ir NC Cheung and I were the members of the Editorial Board of the Journal. Dr Randolph Leung and I will represent HKIOA to be the Member and the Associate Editor in Chief of the Editorial Board respectively. They will be responsible for handling editorial matter and ensure the quality of the articles through them published in the journal.

The journal is published bi-monthly. Articles are either in Chinese or in English. The first to fifth issues are usually in Chinese. The sixth issue in December is usually in English. Our members and acoustic professionals are highly encouraged to submit articles in English to the journal to share their knowledge of acoustics. In order to encourage more articles from Hong Kong, HKIOA will pay publishing fee for papers from our fellow members. You can obtain more information about the journal and the guidelines for authors to prepare the manuscripts at http://www.hkioa.org/web/technical_acoustics.htm. If fellow members are interested in publishing an article in this journal, please send them directly to Ir Dr CM Mak at becmmak@polyu.edu.hk.

SCMP Interview

Noise Travels: Bad noise, like bad news, travels fast. And as far.
(Extracted from SCMP)



A telephone interview was carried out by South China Morning Post with Tom HO, Chairman of HKIOA, on 11 June 2008 on noise related issues. The article is extracted from SCMP as follows:

Can we ever be certain where the noise is coming from?

Yes, but not likely, is the answer according to Tom Ho, chairman of the Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics. It depends on the type of noise. He explained that there were high, medium and low frequencies.

"If you can hear light music or a TV programme in your flat, you can suspect that it is your immediate neighbour," he said. This is because mid to high frequency sounds, which these are, do not travel far. They are attenuated easily, meaning they tend to get absorbed, (by walls for example) easier than low frequency sound.

"If you are still in doubt as to which flat is causing the sound, source location is possible. But it is complicated and requires an expert to perform the measurement and interpret the result," Mr Ho explained.

The exception with music would be if a high quality speaker system was used, (characterised by a brain-numbing boom, boom, boom). That would have a low frequency and that type of vibration travelled the farthest.

"That you could hear from far away," Mr Ho said, noting that the sound of drilling also travelled far, but was undoubtedly easier to pinpoint if it was in your building.

"Drilling on a wall structure can come from five or six floors up or down," he said.

Congratulate yourself if you find the source of the annoying noise, but don't be surprised if it doesn't stop - a certain amount of noise is in the very fabric of Hong Kong. It's how we know we're home.

The karaoke singing is tolerable, but when the windows rattle and the floor vibrates it makes your blood boil. It must be stopped. So, you run downstairs to the offending apartment and listen at the door, only to discover it is not the correct one. It must have been above you - up you go. Wrong again. Sound travels in mysterious ways, but now out of breath and out of your mind you're at a loss for how to complain.

Membership Data

as at 31 July 2008

Dr CW LAW

Membership Grade	Number
Honorary Fellow	2
Associate Member	55
Fellow	21
Member + Member (Overseas)	185
Student Member	71
Total	334

Come and Support the Inter-Noise

CL WONG

The INTER-NOISE 2008 will take place at the Shanghai International Convention Center from 26 to 29 October 2008. The Congress is sponsored by the International Institute of Noise Control Engineering (I-INCE), co-organized by the Acoustical Society of China (ASC) and the Institute of Acoustics, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IACAS).

The theme of this Congress is "From Silence to Harmony", and a wide range of technical papers around that theme will be presented. The Congress will feature a broad range of high-level technical papers from around the world. You will also be able to hear from distinguished lecturers in technical sessions as well as discussion forums. Extensive exhibitions of noise and vibration control technology, measurement instrumentation and equipments, various social activities will also be provided. There will certainly be opportunities for you to build connections, exchange views and information with expertise coming from different countries.

In order to encourage members to contribute their professional achievements to the Inter-Noise 2008, we have offered sponsorship to those who were not sponsored by their employers but still wished to participate in their personal capacity and present papers in the Congress. Successful candidates are Marc Buret, Andy Chung, and KC Lam.

Our Institute is now preparing a bid to host the INTER-NOISE 2011 in Hong Kong, and we have partnered with the Hong Kong Polytechnic University as co-organizers of the event. We hope, with your continual support, Hong Kong would become a venue where acousticians could find channels and stimulations for further development of all sorts of noise control initiatives.

HKIOA Executive Committee Members 2008/09

Position	Name
Chairman	Tom HO
Immediate Past Chairman	CM MAK
Honorary Secretary	CL WONG
Honorary Treasurer	Grace KWOK
Chair, Membership Sub-committee	CW LAW
Chair, Publication Sub-committee	YN AU YEUNG
Chair, Information Technology Sub-committee	Andy CHUNG
Chair, Building Acoustics Sub-committee	Rodney IP
Chair, Education Sub-committee	Lixi HUANG
Chair, Activities Sub-committee	Wilson HO
Chair, Construction Noise Sub-committee	Ben HO
Chair, Product Noise Sub-committee	Randolph LEUNG
Advisor (External Liaison)	Maurice YEUNG
Advisor (Education)	Westwood HONG
Advisor (Institution Advancement and Discipline)	KK IU

Message from the Editor

YN AU YEUNG



It is my pleasure to be the editor of Sounding Board again in the new executive committee year. Instead of reporting mainly to you about the past activities, we intend to keep you posted more frequently of the latest developments of our Institute, including for example the up-to-date membership data and upcoming activities. Of course, your contributions to our newsletter are always welcome to enrich the content.

Please contact us if you have any suggestions to improve the Sounding Board.

Articles published in this Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views and opinion of the Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics. Sounding Board is an official journal of the Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics.