



香港聲學學會

Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics

Chairman's Report 2009/2010

Introduction

It has been my pleasure to serve as Chairman for HKIOA for the past two years and I must take this opportunity to thank the Executive Committee for their supports and hard work during the past two years of my terms. We have accomplished a lot. Our membership remains stable and our finance is sound and well. HKIOA continued to provide professional developments to its member by organizing technical seminars for both sound and vibration topics. After many years of discussion, I am glad that we finally managed to organize two seminars in subject of Building Acoustics.

I am delighted to report that I had the privilege to represent HKIOA in attending the following important events:

- InterNoise in Ottawa, Canada (August 2009)
- Wespac in Beijing, PRC (September 2009)
- ASA in San Antonio, Texas USA (October 2009)
- HK/Taiwan/Shanghai Joint Meeting in Taipei (November 2009)
- AGM of Acoustical Society of Taiwan in Taipei (November 2009)

I am particularly excited to inform our members that HKIOA has bided successfully to host the first international ASA/ASC/WESPAC joint meeting in Hong Kong (May 2012). Special thanks go to Ir Maurice Yeung, Ir CL Wong and Dr Kin Cheng for their hard work in winning this bid. I know there are still a lot of works ahead of us but I am confident that with the help and dedication of our members we will make this event a success.

I would like to thank the Executive Committee again for their participations and contributions to HKIOA.

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 2009/2010 Executive Committee comprises of the Chairman, the Immediate Past Chairman, 10 other elected Committee Members, 2 Co-opted Member and 3 invited Advisers as follows:

Elected Committee Members:

Chairman	Mr. Tom Ho, PEng
Immediate Past Chairman	Dr. C. M. Mak
Honorary Secretary	Dr. K. W. Cheng
Honorary Treasurer	Ms. Grace Kwok
Sub-committee	
Chairman, Activities Sub-committee	Mr. Wilson Ho
Chairman, Building Acoustics Sub-committee	Ir. Y N Au Yeung & Dr. C. M. Mak
Chairman, Environment Noise Sub-committee:	Mr. Rodney Ip
Chairman, Information Technology Sub-committee	Mr. Wilson Ho
Chairman, Industrial Noise Sub-committee	Ir. Dr. Randolph Leung
Chairman, Membership Sub-committee	Dr. C. W. Law
Chairman, Professional Development & Education Sub-committee	Dr. Lixi Huang
Chairman, Publication Sub-committee	Ir. C.L. Wong
Chairman, Soundscapes Sub-committee:	Ir. Maurice Yeung
Chairman, Vibrations Sub-committee	Mr. Wilson Ho
Committee Member	Ir. N.C. Cheung
Co-opted Member (appointed by the Committee)	Dr. S.K. Tang Mr. Albert Li
Invited Advisor (Education)	Ir. Dr. Westwood Hong
Invited Advisor (Institution Advancement & Discipline)	Ir. K.K. lu
Invited Advisor (External Liaison)	Ir. Maurice Yeung

Finance

Our Institute remained in a healthy financial position for the year ended 31 December 2009. Most of our income came from membership fees, seminar / course fees, and bank interest. The accounts of the Institute have been audited and details of the financial situation would be provided by Mr. Tom Ho in a separate report.

Student Branch

The Student Branch 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. The functions organized for/by the Branch in 2009 included:

- Manning of a booth in IVE (Morrison Hill)'s Open Day in November 2009 publicizing HKIOA
- Site visit: Development of Anderson Road in May 2009
- Site visit: Ko Shan Theatre in October 2009
- Building Acoustics - Seminar 2- Building Acoustics Fundamentals and Measurements

Membership

The numbers of application remain the same trend during the year 2009/2010, comparing with last year. The Institute has continued to receive enquires from local practitioners in acoustics expressing their interest in joining the Institute. From 6th February 2009 to 19th February 2010, we have so far processed a total of twenty-four membership applications. Among these applicants, seven were elected as Corporate Members and three were elected as Associate Members. We are also glad that there is a rapid growth in the number of student members due to the establishment of Student Branch. On top of that, we have also assisted our counter-part, Institute of Acoustics of United Kingdom in assessing two of their membership applications. We hope 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 growth of membership and its profile up to 19th February 2010 are given as follows:

Grade	Number of Members					
	As at Feb 2005	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
Asso. Fellows	4	4	4	4		
Hon. Fellows	2	2	2	2	2	2
Associate Members	54	51	53	54	58	58
Fellows	21	21	21	21	21	21
Members	150	155	171	182	187	193
Students	4	3	3	3	71	173
Total	235	236	254	266	339	447

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.

Education

HKIOA Professional Diploma on Acoustics

From time to time enquiries are made for the availability of the diploma which was discontinued for a number of years. In response to this, the committee felt that there was a need to re-launch the diploma course to satisfy the needs of our professionals. From July 2009, the work of re-launching the diploma was carried out by a group which was later to become the Diploma Course Committee (DCC) consisting of Dr. Lixi Huang (chair), Dr. Randolph Leung (deputy), Mr. Albert Li, Dr. Kin Cheng (Hon. Secretary) and Mr. Wilson Ho. The draft document took reference of the UK practice but it was essentially a new model which was felt to be suitable for the needs in Hong Kong. The document went through a few iterations and was approved by the Executive Committee in August 2009 for initial launch in September 2009. Full details are given at the HKIOA website: <http://hkioa.org/diploma.html>.

As a very brief summary, the student needs to take a compulsory module (fundamentals of sound and vibration), two technical elective modules, and a project module, each broadly equivalent to a formal lecturing and contact hours of 36 or above. All modules can be taken from a pool of subjects taken from local tertiary institutions which are considered by the DCC to be of suitable level and content (current list provided in the website). HKIOA seminars, conferences or short courses may also be used by students to claim credits for an elective subject. Students need to apply to the individual tertiary institutions as visiting students and the course committee provides all necessary assistance in the process. This is a de-centralized system making use of the extensive resources already available in Hong Kong, and the perceived advantage of this operation model is that it caters for the needs of any number of students at anytime. The Executive Committee is hoping that the diploma course could gain more publicity as it moves along, and facilitate those who wish to acquire more knowledge and gain qualifications in the acoustics field.

Meyer Poon Memorial Awards for 2009

In 2009, a total of 10 entries were received by the deadline of 1 July 2009. All were given in soft-copy and uploaded to a website for panel review. Six entries were in the undergraduate category (4 from PolyU-Mechanical, 2 from PolyU-Civil) and four in postgraduate category (2 from PolyU-Mechanical, 1 from PolyU-Health Tech & Informatics, and 1 from HKU-Architecture). The diversity of entries from the

postgraduate category was particularly encouraging.

A total of 7 entries were short-listed, 4 for undergraduates and 3 for postgraduates. The presentation seminars were held in the evening of 18 August 2009 at EF305 in HKPolyU. One postgraduate presentation was made via skype from USA. With the usual assessment criteria of 30% for oral presentation and 70% for written thesis, the following emerged as winners

Undergraduates:

Winner: FONG Henry, LEE Pui Kuen, WONG Yin Wai

Title: Improvement of Noise and Performance of Domestic Product Installed with Fans.

First runner-up: KAN Man Hong Leo

Title: The effect of transparent material on improving the impact of noise on occupational health and safety condition in the workplace.

Second runner-up: HO Pui Chi, LAW Shek Chun, SO Pak Hei

Title: Flow through silencer by absorption

Postgraduates:

Winner: CHAN, King-chung Kenny

Title: Assessment of Lung Diseases In-vivo using Acoustic Transmission.

First runner-up: KAM Wing Sze Elizabeth

Title: Prediction of Noise Generation by using Modeled Boltzmann Equation (BE)

Second runner-up: TSANG Vivien Wai

Title: Touching sound

The awards were given by HKIOA Chairman, Mr. Tom Ho, immediately following the short-list panel recess. The awards included a certificate and a monetary vouchere which can be used by the winners to claim for technical purposes of presenting papers in conferences/meetings or expenses arising from publishing the award-winning work. All short-listed candidates were given two-year free HKIOA (associate) membership.

Activities

The Institute has been organizing 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 HKIE (Hong Kong Institute of Engineers) and HKIEIA (Hong Kong Institute of Environmental Impact Assessment) for their continuous support to many of our activities. It was encouraging to see that all activities had successfully attracted the participation from both members and non-members. Here is a brief summary of the events during the 2009/2010 session:

Date	Activities
24 April 09	Transportation Noise Workshop with HKIE- MMNC Division
14 May 09	Birds to Bells, Toads to Car Horns: Listening in to Acoustemologies in New Guinea, Europe, and Africa 1976-2009
2 July 09	Building Acoustics Seminar- 1 Shaping up our future Concert Halls through acoustical analysis of our 5 existing performing venues for classical music in Hong Kong
23 & 24 July 09	Effective Noise Control Policies for Metropolis
18 August 09	Mayer Poon Award & presentations
8 December 09	Building Acoustics Seminar- 2 Building Acoustics Fundamentals and Measurements
6 January 10	Vibration Control Seminar- 1 TBM Groundborne Noise Prediction Models
8 February 10	Environmental noise research and related noise policies
10 February 10	Vibration Control Seminar- 2 Vibration-based Condition Monitoring – Commissioning and Standards
18 March 10	2010 Annual General Meeting

The year 2009 is a fruitful year for HKIOA in terms of organization of technical seminars and training workshops. Apart from the Effective Noise Control Policies for Metropolis workshop, HKIOA has organized 6 technical seminars. Two major themes of the seminars series are started this year, they include building acoustics seminars and vibration control seminars.

Publication

Our newsletter “Sounding Board” continues to be an informative electronic publication on our website, in which members and other readers could find a record of activities conducted by our Institute and share information of mutual interest.

Apart from regular issues in 2009/2010, two special issues were made covering our participation in two international noise conferences, INTER-NOISE 2009 in Ottawa and WESPAC X in Beijing.

The Publication Sub-Committee will continue to explore other opportunities to make the Sounding Board a useful and interesting material for members.

Information Technology

Events organized or co-organized by HKIOA were regularly uploaded to the HKIOA website. Any person who is interested in joining HKIOA can also visit our website to learn about the entry requirements and download an appropriate application form. In year 2009, HKIOA also published through its website the information of the institute's members, and those acoustics related local suppliers/contractors/consultants which have made their subscriptions to this service. We trust that the information will enable better public's access to our members as necessary.

Vibration Control

The vibration sub-committee was newly formed in 2009 in view of growing demand for knowledge and expertise in vibration control relating to environmental issues. With its new formation, a vibration control seminar series has been started since January 2010. Below is a list of the seminars which were already conducted and being planned. More details of the coming seminars will be announced through emails during the year 2010.

Date	Activities
6 January 10	Prediction Models of TBM Groundborne Noise & Vibration – Evolution and Practicality
10 February 10	Vibration Based Conditioning Monitoring – Commissioning and Standards
Under planning	Shock and Vibration Data Analysis
	Vibration Isolation of Buildings
	Railway Noise Control Using Vibration Absorber
	The design and engineering of rubber bearings for vibration isolation
	Active Vibration Control

Building Acoustics

The Building Acoustics sub-committee was co-chaired by Ir. Y.N. Au Yeung and Dr. C.M. Mak. In 2009, two seminars were arranged:

- Building Acoustics – Seminar 1: Shaping up our future concert halls through acoustical analysis of our five existing performing venues for classical music in Hong Kong in July 2009
- Building Acoustics – Seminar 2: Building Acoustics Fundamentals and Measurements in December 2009

The above seminars received overwhelming response locally. It is intended of the institute to organize more building acoustics related activities under the seminar series as a continuous process for members' development.

Soundscape

Two seminars were co-organised in 2009. This marked a very good start for the newly established sub-committee. While it is very likely that more professionals, practitioners and the public would be attracted by this topic, we aim at providing more platforms and venues for this subject to grow and develop.

External Liaison

In 2009/10, we were very busy in attending various international congresses and conferences to bring professionals and practitioners in Hong Kong abreast of the developments at various fronts of noise control and acoustic aspects. Also, we took opportunities to enhance technical collaboration, share experience, and foster relationship. A brief account of the events:

1. "Technical Acoustics" Journal – Ir. Dr. CM MAK and Ir. Dr. Randolph LEUNG are the 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 Taiwan in November 2009 – Following the success of the joint symposium held in Hong Kong in 2008, a joint Taiwan/Hong Kong/Shanghai acoustics symposium was held in November 2009 in Taipei. A wide range of topics were covered in this symposium. The delegation team also attended the Annual General Meeting of the Acoustical Society of Taiwan held in the same week. During the visits, we shared experiences and also acquired very useful technical information.
3. The 11th National Noise and Vibration Control Engineering Conference held from 5 to 7 June 2009 in Beijing – The theme of the conference was "improve the acoustic environment, build a quiet living circle". Ir. KK Lu and Mr. Andy Chung attended the conference on behalf of the Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics.
4. The 16th International Congress on Sound and Vibration was held in Krakow, the beautiful ancient capital of Poland, from 5-9 July 2009. A total of 1,110 people from 61 countries indicated their interest and the final number of participants is 672, which the organizers considered to be very encouraging considering the H1N1 factor. Dr. Lixi Huang attended the Board of Directors of the International Institute of Acoustics and Vibration on behalf of HKIOA. The meeting mainly discussed the efforts to increase the academic recognition of the International Journal of Acoustics and Vibration and the venue of the next congress (2012). Three

shortlisted candidates from Europe presented their exciting bids and members also expressed their hope that the Congress can soon go back to Asia Pacific in normal rotations.

5. Inter-Noise 2009 (held from 23 to 26 Aug in Ottawa, Canada) – Members of HKIOA actively participated in the conference. Mr. Tom Ho was elected a member of Congress Select Committee which oversees the selection of acoustical society in organizing future Inter-Noise. Prof. K.C. Lam, Prof. S.K. Tang and Ir. Maurice Yeung attended TSG#7 on behalf of the Institute. A total of 13 technical papers by professionals of Hong Kong were presented. 2 structured sessions were organised by Prof. K.M. Li, Prof. S.K. Tang and Ir. Maurice Yeung to enable discussion of subjects that were particularly relevant to the situations in Hong Kong.
6. The 10th Western Pacific Acoustics Conference (held in Beijing from 21 – 23 September 2009) – Mr. Tom Ho, Ir. CL Wong and Ir. Maurice YEUNG attended the conference on behalf of the Institute and successfully won the bidding of hosting the 11th Western Pacific Acoustics Conference in Hong Kong in 2012. Besides, over 10 technical papers by the noise professionals and practitioners of Hong Kong were presented.
7. In May 2009, the HKIOA received Prof. Trevor Cox from Salford University and Mr. Tzabar from BBC to discuss about the urban soundscape of Hong Kong and how our unique characteristics were compared with those in EU cities. Prof. Cox and Mr. Tzabar were sponsored by BBC for a world tour on scientific topics of “Sound of Science” and “Save our Sounds”.

We often worked together with HKIE, HKIEIA and HKPolyU 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.

Bid to host the joint ASA/ASC/WESTPRAC 2012 in Hong Kong

Following the success of our bid to host WESTPRAC 2012 in Hong Kong, Mr. Tom Ho and Ir. Maurice Yeung attended the ASA meeting in October 2009 in San Antonio, Texas, USA to discuss further details of a possible meeting integrated WESTPRAC, ASA meeting and ASC meeting. After a few meetings and also very convincing presentations, it was decided that a joint WESTPRAC/ASA/ASC meeting would be hosted by the HKIOA in May 2012 in Hong Kong.

Sponsorship for attending 2010 Inter-Noise

With the objective to promote our members’ active participation in the international arena of our acoustics field, the Executive Committee decided to provide a sponsorship of HK\$ 2,000 and a maximum of 5 sponsorships for members who wish to join and

present their technical papers in the coming 2010 Inter-Noise conference to be held in June 2010 in Portugal. As of end February 2010, the Institute has received 2 applications, one from Prof. K.C. Lam and the other is from Mr. M.K. Cheung. After the deliberation of the Executive Committee, their applications for the sponsorships were accepted. We are hoping that such sponsorship and their participation will not only benefit them in terms of their personal exposure and networking, but also help in sharing Hong Kong's achievements in acoustics field with the overseas counterparts.

The Way Forward

With the efforts and achievements in the past year, I am confident that the Institute would be able to maintain its momentum and move ahead. No doubt, there will be big challenges ahead of us as we move forward with the organization of the ASA/ASC/WESPAC Joint Meeting in Hong Kong in May 2012. Bidding for InterNoise 2014 could be the next target that the new Committee could consider to pursue. In closing, I like to stress that continual support from our members are essential to make our future endeavor a success.



Tom Ho
Chairman