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Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics

## Chairman's Report 2024/2025

### 1 Introduction

It has been a pleasure to serve as Chairman of HKIOA for the term 2024-2026 since the AGM in May 2024. Over the past year, HKIOA has achieved great success and organized a variety of activities. I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to the Executive Committee and the organizing committees for their dedicated efforts, as well as to all our members for their participation.

### 2 Executive Committee of the Institute

The Executive Committee met around monthly and managed the business of the Institute, organized and promoted various activities to foster professional knowledge and development of our members and recognition of the acoustics profession. The 2024-2025 Executive Committee comprised a Chairman, 12 elected Committee Members, 4 Co-opted Members. Moreover, the Immediate Past Chairman and the 2 Honorary Advisers also assisted and advised the Committee on various Institute matters.

#### 2.1 Committee Members (Session 2024 – 2025)

Chairman	Mr Henry CHAN
Hon Secretary	Mr Aaron LUI
Hon Treasurer	Mr Chris KWOK
Chairman, Membership SC	Mr Ken WONG
Chairman, Professional Development & Education SC	Mr Franki CHIU
Chairman, Noise & Vibration SC	Dr Randolph LEUNG
Chairman, Environmental Noise SC	Mr Alson PANG
Chairman, Construction Noise SC	Mr Joe LEUNG
Chairman, Electroacoustics SC	Mr Him TANG
Chairman, Building Acoustics SC	Dr Jeffery TAM
Chairman, IT SC	Mr James CHOI
Chairlady, Publication SC	Dr Cindy CHEUNG
Chairlady, Women in Acoustics SC	Ms Claudine LEE

#### 2.2 Others

Immediate Past Chairman	Dr Calvin CHIU
Hon Adviser (Institution Advancement & Discipline)	Prof. K. C. LAM Ir KK IU
Co-Opt	Mr Edward CHAN Mr Jackel LAW Dr Mors LEUNG Mr Nick SHUM



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### 3 Finance

The Institute maintained a strong financial position for the year ending 31 December 2024, despite organizing and subsidizing various events. An external independent auditor has audited the Institute's accounts, and the details regarding our financial situation and tax liability will be provided and explained by the Honorary Treasurer, Mr. Chris Kwok, in a separate report.

### 4 Membership

The Institute has seen a steady influx of inquiries from local acoustics practitioners interested in becoming members. Since the last AGM until the end of April this year, we have welcomed 21 new Corporate Members and 30 Associate Members. We are optimistic that the Institute will continue to grow, attracting members from diverse disciplines, which will enhance our knowledge, experience, and culture.

#### 4.1 Membership Profile

The trend of membership and its profile up to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024 are given as follows:

Grade	12/3/15	19/2/16	28/2/17	15/3/18	1/3/19	30/4/20	28/2/21	30/4/22	30/4/23	30/4/24	30/4/24
Hon. Fellow	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Fellows	21	21	18	19	21	21	21	21	22	22	22
Members	231	242	235	250	260	275	277	281	290	316	337
Associate Members	86	93	76	73	82	86	91	101	122	129	159
Students	120	120	226	226	371	341	341	280	276	258	278
Total	462	480	559	572	738	727	734	687	714	729	800

A new class of Membership, namely Sponsor Member, was established since January 2011 and opened to firms, organizations or persons engaged in or having an interest in acoustics. An annual subscription was 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.

#### 4.2 Student Branch

One of the key directions of the Institute is to nurture the growth and development of the younger generation through our interaction and support to the Student Branch. We have Ms Sung Wai Yan representing the Shatin IVE Student Branch. We will actively liaise with the lecturers of HKPolyU Student Branch and the Morrison Hill IVE Student Branch for their representatives in coming years.



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## 5 Education

### 5.1 Professional certificate on acoustics, noise and vibration control

Our certificate course was tailored for industry people, which includes compulsory and elective modules. The topics of the compulsory modules included basic acoustics principles, architectural acoustics, Noise Control Ordinance, noise pollution sources and impacts, noise prediction modelling, calculation of road traffic noise methodology, experience and practical solutions on road traffic noise assessment, hands-on experience on road traffic noise measurement and latest developments in instrumentation, practice on onsite road traffic noise measurement, and noise monitoring and measurement.

Candidates who successfully completed two compulsory modules plus at least one elective module with overall not less than 40 hours are considered fulfilling the corporate membership requirements of the HKIOA as have been educated in acoustics or in a discipline relevant to the practice of acoustics.

The compulsory Modules (module 1 and 2) of the professional certificate on acoustics, noise and vibration control was successfully held in Sep – Nov 2024. In Oct 2024, elective module (module 3) soundscape & modelling was successfully held.

HKIOA will organize another series of professional courses from May to July 2025. Feedback and suggestions regarding these courses are encouraged, particularly concerning additional topics that could be included in the elective modules and potential improvements to the overall course structure.

## 6 Activities

The Institute has proactively organized a diverse array of activities aimed at keeping our members informed about the latest trends and developments in the fields of noise and acoustics. These initiatives included a series of webinars, seminars, workshops, and technical visits. Additionally, our committee participated in international conferences by invitation from various esteemed societies, enhancing the visibility and promotion of HKIOA.

Over the past year, we successfully conducted webinars and seminars that addressed a wide range of pertinent topics, including environmental noise, indoor acoustics, and noise and vibration control. Notable sessions featured discussions on:

1. Noise Reduction Enabling Natural Ventilation Technologies
2. Novel Technology for Quantifying Tyre/Road Noise for Urban Noise Management
3. Innovative Strategies for Increasing Damping in Tall Buildings and Bridges, including Tuned Mass Dampers and Vibration Isolation Technologies for Structures Adjacent to Subways.

In addition to these educational sessions, we organized several technical visits to key facilities, including:

1. Kai Tak Sports Park Main Stadium
2. Aerodynamic and Acoustics Facility
3. HKUST Shaw Auditorium

We also fostered community engagement by hosting a Christmas party in collaboration with HKIEIA, alongside a Sound & Vibrational Healing Workshop organized by the Women in Acoustics (WIA) sub-committee of HKIOA.



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Our participation in international conferences further exemplifies our commitment to knowledge exchange and collaboration. We attended several notable events, including:

1. The 14th Cross-Strait Acoustical Conference in Yangzhou, China
2. ASA ESEA Acoustic and Noise Control: 30 Years Next and Beyond
3. The 2024 Annual Meeting and the 37th Symposium of the Taiwan Acoustical Association.

Through these initiatives, the Institute continues to strengthen its role as a leading organization in the field of acoustics, promoting professional development and fostering collaboration within the global acoustics community.

The table below is a brief summary and highlights of some of the events during the 2024/2025:

Date	Activity
<b>Webinar/Seminar</b>	
2Aug 24	Noise Reduction Enabling Natural Ventilation Technologies
18Aug 24	Novel Technology for Quantifying Tyre/Road Noise for Urban Noise Management
18Oct 24	Innovative Strategies for Increasing Damping in Tall Buildings and Bridges, including Tuned Mass Dampers and Vibration Isolation Technologies for Structures Adjacent to Subways
<b>Social Event</b>	
19Dec 24	Festive HKIEIA x HKIOA Christmas Party 2024 (co-organised by HKIOA, HKIEIA)
11Apr 24	Social Gathering by HKIOA WIA Sound & Vibrational Healing Workshop
<b>Conference</b>	
24-26Oct 24	14th Cross-Strait Acoustics Conference (第 14 屆海峽兩岸聲學學術交流研討會議)
8Nov 24	37th Symposium of the Taiwan Acoustical Association
9-10 Dec 24	ASA ESEA 2024 Acoustics and Noise Control – 30 Years Next and Beyond
<b>Technical Visit</b>	
24Aug 24	HKUST Shaw Auditorium
5Oct 24	Aerodynamic and Acoustics Facility
15Msr 25	Kai Tak Sports Park Main Stadium
<b>Others</b>	
Sep-Nov 24	Professional Certificate on Acoustics, Noise and Vibration Control
July 24 to now	HKIOA Qualified Environmental Noise Modeller



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#### **6.1 Seminar on Noise Reduction Enabling Natural Ventilation Technologies**

On 2 August 2024, HKIOA held a seminar at Hong Kong Metropolitan University titled “Noise Reduction Enabling Natural Ventilation Technologies”, featuring the esteemed Dr. Liangfen Du from Hong Kong Polytechnic University. In collaboration with the Australian Institute of Building (AIB), the event attracted over 50 participants to explore innovative solutions at the intersection of noise reduction and natural ventilation. During the seminar, Dr. Du shared insights on advanced technologies, including acoustic-friendly ventilation windows, ventilated acoustic meta-barriers, and ultracompact double-layered acoustic gratings. Through a detailed exploration of the principles, designs, and performance metrics of these advancements, along with insightful case studies, attendees gained a deeper understanding of how these solutions can be effectively integrated to optimise both ventilation and acoustic quality in various settings. The seminar provided a valuable platform for participants to learn about the practical applications of these technologies, inspiring further exploration and implementation in building design and environmental comfort.

#### **6.2 Seminar - Novel Technology for Quantifying Tyre/Road Noise for Urban Noise Management**

The seminar took place on 18 August 2024, at Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Ir Dr. Randolph C. K. Leung from the Department of Mechanical Engineering delivered a presentation on measuring tyre /road noise in accordance with the ISO/CD 11819-2 (2017) standards. He discussed the development of these standards and shared findings from noise measurements conducted on roads in Hong Kong, emphasising the potential for managing urban noise through the assessment of tyre /road noise power levels. Dr. Leung also demonstrated PolyU's measurement setup, highlighting the practical applications of advanced technology in noise quantification and management. The seminar, co-organised with the Department of Mechanical Engineering, attracted over 40 participants who gained valuable insights into innovative solutions for addressing urban noise pollution.

#### **6.3 Seminar - Innovative Strategies for Increasing Damping in Tall Buildings and Bridges, including Tuned Mass Dampers and Vibration Isolation Technologies for Structures Adjacent to Subways**

On 18 October 2024, the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Hong Kong Polytechnic University hosted a seminar on advanced damping technologies for tall buildings and bridges. Over 40 participants, including engineers and researchers, attended. Dr. Christian Meinhardt from GERB presented on Tuned Mass Dampers (TMDs), explaining their role in reducing vibrations from wind and seismic activity. They discussed vibration isolation technology for buildings above high-speed railways, addressing engineering challenges and innovative solutions. The seminar highlighted the importance of vibration control in ensuring the safety and comfort of modern urban structures.

#### **6.4 HKIEIA x HKIOA Christmas Party 2024 (co-organized by HKIOA, HKIEIA)**

On December 19, 2024, HKIOA and the Hong Kong Institute of Environmental Impact Assessment (HKIEIA) jointly hosted a Christmas party attended by 59 participants. The event created a festive and welcoming atmosphere, allowing members to connect and celebrate the season. Attendees enjoyed an evening of social networking, delicious food and drinks, and engaging party games. This gathering strengthened community relationships and provided a meaningful way to conclude the year.





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#### **6.5 Social Gathering by HKIOA WIA – Sound & Vibrational Healing Workshop**

On the evening of April 11, 2025, we hosted an introductory workshop on vibrational healing, which proved to be an enlightening experience. Participants explored the calming effects of singing bowls and chanting, discovering how different sound frequencies positively impacted the body and mind.

#### **6.6 14th Cross-Strait Acoustics Conference (第14屆海峽兩岸聲學學術交流研討會議)**

The 14th Cross-Strait Acoustics Conference was held in Yangzhou, Jiangsu Province, from October 24 to 26, 2024, hosted by the Shanghai Acoustical Society. Representing the HKIOA were current Chairman Mr. Henry Chan, past Chairman Mr. William Fung, and Dr. Jeffery Tam. The conference served as a valuable platform for knowledge exchange and strengthened connections among acoustics experts from across the strait. A highlight of the event was a visit to Slender West Lake (瘦西湖), where attendees experienced the unique soundscape of classical Chinese gardens.

#### **6.7 37th Symposium of the Taiwan Acoustical Association**

On November 8, 2024, Mr. Ken Wong represented the HKIOA at the 2024 Annual Meeting and 37th Symposium of the Taiwan Acoustical Association at National Cheng Kung University in Tainan City. He conveyed greetings and best wishes on behalf of the HKIOA, emphasizing the importance of open communication and collaboration between the two organizations. Ken highlighted past partnerships that facilitated the exchange of academic insights and advancements in acoustic technologies. He expressed HKIOA's commitment to ongoing collaboration, gratitude for the invitation, and eagerness to explore potential projects and discuss future initiatives with the Taiwan Acoustical Association.

#### **6.8 Conference ASA ESEA 2024 Acoustics and Noise Control – 30 Years Next and Beyond**

The ASA ESEA 2024 Acoustics Event, titled "Acoustics and Noise Control – 30 Years Next and Beyond," took place in Ho Chi Minh City on December 9-10, 2024. Organized by several esteemed organizations, including the Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics, Macau Institute of Acoustics, Taiwan Acoustical Association, and Shanghai Acoustical Society, the event featured local visits, meetings, and a conference. Notable speakers such as Henry Chan, KK Iu, and Maurice Yeung presented on topics like soundscape integration and noise control innovations. The conference fostered international collaboration and strengthened ties with local Vietnamese professionals, enhancing knowledge exchange for future acoustics initiatives.

#### **6.9 Technical Visit to HKUST Shaw Auditorium**

On August 24, 2024, a technical visit was organized to explore the Shaw Auditorium at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST). This event provided participants with an in-depth understanding of the design and operational considerations of this state-of-the-art facility. Mr. Sam Tsen, Senior Manager of Development at HKUST, began with a briefing on the auditorium's functions and daily operations. He was followed by Mr. Ivan Chan, Technical Director at WSP, who addressed the mechanical noise challenges encountered during the design phase. Additionally, Mr. K. K. Kwok, Senior Consultant at Marshall Day Acoustics, outlined the acoustic design concepts implemented in the auditorium. With over 30 attendees, the event included a video presentation highlighting the auditorium's sound and visual capabilities. The visit culminated in a guided tour of key noise-sensitive areas, such as the backstage and catwalk, offering participants valuable insights into the complexities of balancing functionality and acoustic performance.



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#### **6.10 Technical Visit to Aerodynamic and Acoustics Facility**

On the morning of October 5, 2024, a technical visit to the Aerodynamics and Acoustics Facility (AAF) at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST). Professor Zhang Xin and his research team provided an informative introduction to the state-of-the-art facilities. Due to capacity limitations, only 32 members from HKIOA were able to attend. Participants were particularly intrigued by the noise research for drones, which are vital for the growth of the low-altitude economy in China and Hong Kong. Professor Zhang also discussed the contributions of the low-speed wind tunnel to sports science research, enhancing athlete performance through critical aerodynamic insights. The tour included advanced reverberation and anechoic rooms essential for acoustic testing. Additionally, the high-speed wind tunnel at the Aerodynamics Acoustic and Noise Control Technology Centre was showcased, offering valuable data for product performance testing. Overall, the visit highlighted the AAF's significant contributions to both industrial and academic research.

#### **6.11 Visit to Kai Tak Sports Park Main Stadium**

On March 15, 2025, the Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics (HKIOA) hosted a visit event at the newly inaugurated Kai Tak Sports Park Main Stadium, which opened to the public on March 1, 2025. This state-of-the-art facility left a remarkable impression on the 51 HKIOA members who attended the visit. Participants were captivated by the stadium's stunning architectural design, which seamlessly combines acoustic functionality with aesthetic appeal.

The tour offered an opportunity to explore the exceptional spectator experience. This visit not only allowed members to appreciate the innovative infrastructure but also highlighted the stadium's potential to establish new benchmarks for sports and entertainment events in our region.

#### **6.12 Scheme for Qualified Noise Modelers (HKIOA QNM)**

HKIOA has launched the "HKIOA Qualified Environmental Noise Modeller (HKIOA QNM)" qualification scheme to enhance the recognition of specialized skills among its Corporate Members. This initiative aims to formalize qualifications in environmental noise modeling, addressing the industry's evolving needs.

The HKIOA, as a leading professional institution in Hong Kong, is well-positioned to implement this scheme. It specifically targets proficiency in modeling works related to environmental noise, which is increasingly emphasized in guidelines for environmental assessments, such as the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO) and recent Environmental Permit Conditions. Qualified noise modellers must prepare and sign off on various submissions, including Construction Noise Management Plans and Road Traffic Noise Impact Assessment Reports.

A register has been established to list members who have proven their competency in acoustic modeling, subject to approval by a Vetting Committee and the Executive Committee. As of today, 51 individuals have qualified under this scheme. This qualification requires annual renewal and is contingent upon maintaining valid HKIOA Corporate Membership, ensuring ongoing professional development and recognition in the field.



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## 7 Publications

### 7.1 Sounding Board

Most of the activities conducted by the Institute were reported in the “Sounding Board” (SB) Bulletin, which was issued as a regular electronic publication for communications with the Members, generally bi-annually. The SB published were all posted in the HKIOA website. It provided a good medium not only for keeping members informed on our activities throughout the year, but also for other interested readers to know more about the development of the acoustics community. The HKIOA would like to thank our members who have contributed to the informative contents in this publication. The Institute would continue to make full use of the SB to promote sharing and communications among the Members.

## 8 Information Technology

The HKIOA website has long been a crucial communication platform between the Institute and its members. We are excited to announce that the website is currently undergoing a complete revamp, with a brand-new look and expanded functionality set to launch at the end of 2025.

This transformation will provide a modern, user-friendly interface that enhances the overall member experience. The redesigned site will feature enriched membership functions, allowing members to create individual accounts for easy updates to personal details, online membership renewals, and convenient payment options via credit cards or PayPal. Members will also be able to register for seminars and conferences with ease. We will ensure that information about the Institute’s corporate membership and specializations is regularly updated for public verification.

For those interested in joining HKIOA, our revamped website will offer a streamlined process to access entry requirements, download application forms, and submit applications electronically.

Stay tuned for the exciting new features and improvements coming to the HKIOA website, designed to better serve our members and the public!

## 9 External Liaison

We promoted and encouraged its members to participate in international conferences by providing subsidies for attending INTERNOISE 2024. This initiative aimed to enhance professional development and facilitate engagement with global peers, allowing members to share knowledge and gain insights into the latest advancements in acoustics research and applications.

As a member society of the International Commission for Acoustics (ICA), HKIOA aligned itself with international standards and practices in the field. This membership not only enhanced the institute's credibility but also enabled contributions to global discussions and initiatives related to acoustics.

In addition to promoting conference participation, HKIOA actively participated in various community and professional events. The institute served as judges for the “My Green Space” competition, which focused on promoting sustainable urban environments, and contributed to the judging panel for the Occupational Health Award, recognizing excellence in workplace health and safety. These activities reflected HKIOA's commitment to supporting its members and the broader community by fostering innovation and advocating for improved environmental and occupational health standards.





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## 10 The Way Forward

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all the Executive Committee Members, Organizing Committee Members, past chairpersons, and members who have been involved or participated in the aforementioned activities. Your dedication and support have been instrumental in our achievements.

Looking ahead, the continuous support from our members is crucial for the Institute's success. With your unwavering support and the diligent efforts of our Committee Members, I am confident that the Institute will continue to grow and reach new heights.

Our strategic initiatives for the coming year include:

1. **Expanding Technical Visits:** We plan to arrange more technical visits not only within Hong Kong but also in the Greater Bay Area. These visits will provide valuable insights into the latest advancements and practices in acoustics and related fields.
2. **Attracting Professionals:** We aim to attract more professionals to join as corporate members, particularly in the electroacoustics stream. This will enrich our community with diverse expertise and foster innovation in this specialized area.
3. **Continuing Training Courses:** We will continue to arrange training courses to enhance the professional development of our members. These courses will cover a wide range of topics, ensuring that our members stay updated with the latest knowledge and skills.
4. **Promoting Specialization:** We will continue to promote specialization through the Qualified Environmental Noise Modeller (QNM) scheme. This initiative will formalize qualifications in environmental noise modeling, addressing the industry's evolving needs and ensuring high standards of practice.

With these initiatives, I am confident that the Institute will continue to thrive and make significant contributions to the field of acoustics.

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Mr. Henry Chan

Chairman (204-26)