

**The Hong Kong Institute of Architects
The Third Quarterly General Meeting
President's Report**

Dear Members,

This summer has gone really quickly in the blink of an eye. Out of a busy schedule packed with both internal and external events, I am pleased to share with you some of the encouraging endeavors and advancements for the Institute.

International Communications

International Presidents Roundtable Meeting, London

I was honoured to be invited by the Royal Institute of British Architects ("RIBA") to attend the International Presidents Roundtable at RIBA Headquarter in London and was presented with the International Presidential Medal, which was the highlight event in the RIBA International Week from 3 - 6 July 2017.

This was the first time that the presidents of major international and national architects organisations sat together and exchanged on challenges for architects' profession from global perspective. Apart from HKIA, the participants include

- International Union of Architects (UIA),
- Architects Council of Europe (ACE),
- Architects Regional Council Asia (ARCASIA),
- Africa Union of Architects (AUA),
- Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA),
- American Institute of Architects (AIA),
- Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC),
- The Indian Institute of Architects (IIA), and of course the host,
- Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)

The western parties showed keen interest in Belt & Road initiative and possible collaboration on various fronts. I also took the opportunity to introduce the unique role and experience of HKIA in local registration/accreditation and the impact on Mainland China for full architects services.

AIA (HK Chapter)

HKIA met with the leaders of American Institute of Architects (Hong Kong Chapter) in June 2017 to explore opportunities for co-operation.

RIBA (HK Chapter)

On 2 September 2017, HKIA invited the leaders of RIBA (HK Chapter) together with RIBA President Jane Duncan, who visited Hong Kong enroute to Seoul for UIA Assembly, for a lunch meeting to reinforce the communications and to explore accreditation collaboration opportunities.

UIA Congress and General Assembly 2017 Seoul

I just returned from Seoul after participating in the triennial UIA Congress and General Assembly from 3 to 10 September.

Over 15 HKIA members attended the UIA Congress this year. I understood that most, if not all, found the trip fruitful and inspiring. Moreover the research papers and design

works presented by our HKIA members were of such good quality that we managed to scoop 6 awards in the Congress including the Best Paper Award! My congratulations to Edward LEUNG, Alice YEUNG, Thomas WAN, Castle WONG and Kenneth TSE ! I would also like to record my appreciation to our Board of External Affairs, in particular Joseph KWAN, Stephen HO and Calvin CHAN for the leadership as well as UIA Committee for their enthusiastic effort in setting up the HKIA exhibition booth. I still kept receiving positive feedback for the upon my return to Hong Kong. Thanks to for the marvelous job for promoting HKIA!

As reported at the UIA General Assembly, it was noted that substantial progress on various professional aspects had been made in the last 3 years including architectural education, accreditation system, procurement of architectural services, standard of professionalism in architectural practice, code of professional conduct etc. These guidelines established would be a good reference for advancing our professional practice and professionalism.

The UIA General Assembly elected UIA Bureau/Vice Presidents /Regional Directors for 2017-2010. I had the opportunity to have a good dialogue with the new UIA President Thomas VONIER from USA, who expressed keen interest to foster a closer tie with our Institute on various fronts.

Connections with Mainland HKIA Council Visit to Beijing

Thanks for the coordination of Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR, me and 9 Council Members undertook a 2-day visit to the Central Governmental Departments in Beijing, which were of relevance to our Institute or practice, in late July.

This year at the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development 住房和城鄉建設部 ("MOHURD"), we were received by the Deputy Minister YI Jun, followed by a 3-hours meeting well attended by many senior department officials. They were all very responsive with great interest in our comprehensive PowerPoint presentation on HKIA /ARB, the Registered Architects and Authorized Persons Systems in Hong Kong as well as our Full Architectural Services. This face to face exchange helped to dissolve any misunderstanding over the years and enhanced mutual understanding and communications for the future professional development.

At the meeting with Ministry of Commerce 商務部, a PowerPoint to highlight 'Hong Kong Architects' Edge on Belt and Road Initiatives.' was presented so as to connect with Mainland counterparts for collaboration opportunities arising from Belt and Road and Great Bay Area initiative.

While in Beijing, a dinner was organized with invited guests and HKIA Non-resident Members. We were so delighted to have our Honorary Member Ye Rutong, President of Architectural Society of China President Xiu Long and representatives from HKSARG office in Beijing attended the occasion.

Visit by Guangzhou Government Delegates

From time to time HKIA had received Mainland delegates for exchanges on issues of common interest. On 12 Sept, a 15 plus Guangzhou Government Delegates visited HKIA for an in depth discussion on the complete scope of services that could be

provided by Architects. I together with VP Felix LI had a good sharing on our Hong Kong established practices.

Communication with HKSAR Government

Together with about 2,000 guests, I felt honoured to attend the Inauguration Ceremony of the Fifth Term of HKSARG on 1 July 2017.

So far, I had met the following new HKSAR government secretaries and discussed in length to reflect our professional views and aspirations on various issues.

- Mr. Michael Wong, Secretary for Development
- Mr. Frank Chan, Secretary for Transport and Housing
- Mr. KS Wong, Secretary for Environment
- Mr. Edward Yau, Commerce and Economic Development

In August 2017, I also attended two special invitations by Financial Secretary Mr. Paul Chan on Policy Address Consultation on the aspects of "Professional (專業)" as well as "Cultural Creativity Industry (文化創意產業)".

We hope our ideas and suggestions are useful for the policy makers in formulating the upcoming Policy Address and relevant strategies for the future.

Promoting Architectural Excellence

As HKIA President, I had accepted the invitations to be the juror for the following competitions,

- HKIA Furniture Design Competition 2017
- Hong Kong Young Architects & Designers Competition 2017 – A new competition to design an iconic Temporary Pavilion in the West Kowloon Nursery Park (organized by West Kowloon Cultural District Authority).
- AIA (HK Chapter) Honours and Awards 2017

I believe that the subsequent exhibitions and publicity of the winning and/or finalist projects at various platforms would draw the public attention to our architects' talents and also attract the interest of youngsters considering a career in architecture.

Communication with the Communities

A positive public image is important for enhancing the status of architects and attracting the public interest in the work of our profession. Therefore, I, on HKIA's behalf, have also been proactive to take part in the public exchange activities in August and September 2017:

- Consultation Session on Great Bay Area with the Property Development, Construction and Surveying Industry organized by Savantas Policy Institute (匯賢智庫「大灣區研討會」)
- Closing Ceremony of "Dream Builders" organized by Junior Chamber International Tai Ping Shan (太平山商會之「築夢 青年人理想城市 2017」閉幕禮)
- Opening Ceremony of International Design Furniture Fair Hong Kong 2017
- Launching Ceremony of the Transitional Social Housing Project on 19 September 2017
- Construction Safety Week 2017 Kick-off Ceremony cum Conference on 21 September 2017

Special General Meeting

At a Special General Meeting ("SGM") held on 18 August 2017, Members of the Institute voted to pass 4 motions in relation to the amendment of the Institute's documents namely *The Rules of The Institute*, *HKIA Code of Professional Conduct*, *HKIA Agreement between Client and Architect* HKIA Agreement between Client and Architect and the Scale of Professional Charges, *Guidelines to HKIA Members on Participation in Invited Submission for Architectural Consultancy Proposal*.

The resolution on 4 motions was passed by an affirmative vote of two thirds of those Members having a right to vote at the General Meeting. You may wish to have a recap by reading the meeting minutes of the SGM that could be downloaded from the designated link as revealed on the 3rd QGM notice.

The amendments to the HKIA documents concerned was indeed a complicated issue that must engage collective wisdom. On behalf of the Council, I am greatly indebted to the Taskforce members for your devotion and determinations. Lastly a big applause to all our Members who came and vote, especially those who stayed through the SGM.

Thanks again for your unstinting support to HKIA.

Yours sincerely,

Marvin CHEN
President