

**The Hong Kong Institute of Architects
Second Quarterly General Meeting
27 June 2019
President's Report**

Dear Members,

The second quarter of 2019 has been fruitful. I am pleased to share with you some of the encouraging endeavors and advancements for the Institute.

Promoting Architectural Excellence

HKIA Public Engagement Programme "Co-Vitalize our Heritage" financed by Built Heritage Conservation Fund

Our public engagement programme "Co-Vitalize Our Heritage (共建活力築蹟)" is in full swing. We partner with 15 local revitalized heritage sites to promote the importance of heritage conservation and revitalization. The Programme covers four series of events, namely Co-Tour with Docents, Co-Craft with Masters, Co-Create with Students and Co-Design with Architects. "Co-Create with Students" was kicked off on 13 April 2019. Students joined an induction with architect mentors and were then led by architects to explore built heritage conservation and revitalization in To Kwa Wan, Kowloon City and Hung Hum. On 27 April 2019, participants of "Co-Craft with Masters" joined in the Shanghai Plaster workshop at Haw Par to learn the background of and try out this technique under the guidance of our architects and craftsmen. More events are ongoing and we feel encouraging to have received plenty of positive feedbacks.

Exhibition of Exploring Hong Kong's Living Style and Cultures Through Architecture

We believe Architecture is not only a building style but also a living style. HKIA is collaborating with Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) Design Gallery for an exhibition of Hong Kong Architects' Works at HKTDC Design Gallery Wanchai Shop from 12 June – 7 July 2019. The exhibition aims at showcasing the works of younger architects of the Institute on Hong Kong culture related design to both the public of Hong Kong as well as to international visitors.

The Soft Opening was held on 12 June 2019 where 12 teams showcased their work at Design Gallery. Two Design Talks were then held on 22 and 29 June 2019 with presentations by hosts, guest speakers and the 12 selected teams. Let's visit the exhibition before it ends!

The 16th Venice Biennale International Architecture Exhibition – Hong Kong Response Exhibition

Vertical Fabric: Density in Landscape

Organised by The Hong Kong Institute of Architects Biennale Foundation, Hong Kong Arts Development Council and the Planning Department of the HKSAR Government with The Hong Kong Institute of Architects as the Partner, and Create Hong Kong of the HKSAR Government as the Lead Sponsor, the 16th Venice Biennale International Architecture Exhibition – Hong Kong Response Exhibition was successfully held in the City Gallery and the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Center from mid-March to June 2019. Every exhibit demonstrates the architects' innovations and vision through vertical architecture and free space. To tie in with the exhibition, a series of forums and workshops was held to enhance public understanding of Hong Kong's architectural landscape and urban development.

HKIA Cross-Strait Architectural Design Symposium and Awards (CADSA)

Supported by Lead Sponsor Create Hong Kong of the Government of the HKSAR, the CADSA is conceived as a vital platform to assemble those eminent and well experienced architects. This year, themed 'Shape the Shapeless: Cross Strait Architects and Architecture of the Belt and Road and Africa', the Symposium held on 21 June 2019 received overwhelming response with attendance of more than 250 professionals from Hong Kong, Mainland, Taiwan, Macau and around the world.

Communication within Institute

HKIA Young Architect Award 2018

To honour and acknowledge the talents and contribution of our young members, we continue to host the HKIA Young Architect Award this year with the theme “Waterfront Recreation Centre”. We have received 16 submissions by the deadline and the result will be announced in October. Let’s wait and see how our young architects create a harbourfront for the community to enjoy the stunning views and design facilities to provide support to water-related recreation.

Launching of New HKIA Website

It is always our first goal to keep interacting with members. The new HKIA website was launched with a brand-new look in early April 2019. We hope that the website can give efficient and convenient surfing experience to all of you. We always welcome recommendations of improvement. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any ideas to share.

Facebook Live Chat

Thanks to members’ keen participation, three Facebook live chats were successfully broadcasted this year. In the live chat just held on 13 June, latest news of the HKIA were shared with the members and get their important and fruitful feedback as return to enhance the two ways communications between the members and the Institute.

Communication with Local and Professional Communities

Joint Institutes Symposium on Measures to Streamline Development Control

In response to the new Joint Practice Note issued by Buildings Department, Lands Department and Planning Department regarding measures to streamline development control, HKIA, HKILA, HKIP, HKIS and office of Hon Tony Tse organised a symposium on the subject matter on 27 May 2019. Ms. Linn Hon Ho Bernadette, JP, Permanent Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands) and representatives from Buildings Department, Lands Department and Planning Department were invited to explain the issues and exchanged views with participants.

Sharing Session with Small and Medium Practices

In the first sharing session with registered practices held on 22 January 2019, we started the dialogue through update on the latest policies of Development Bureau and associated issues. Plenty of feedbacks were received on issues and difficulties being faced in their day to day practices. Since we have architectural practices in varying scales, we arranged an in-depth discussion with small and medium practices on 26 April 2019 to hear their voice. Various issues were discussed such as the possible ways to enhance job opportunities and to promote younger Architects.

Joint Institutes Statement on Lantau Tomorrow Vision in response to LegCo Public Works Subcommittee paper

HKIA, HKILA and HKIP issued a joint statement on Lantau Tomorrow Vision in response to LegCo Public Works Subcommittee paper on 27 May 2019. Since the proposal will bring about far-reaching impacts to Hong Kong’s social and economic development, we, as professionals, urge that it should be built upon a sustainable and foresighted plan with multi-disciplinary and all-round studies by experts of urban planning, architecture, engineering, environment, cost-effectiveness, etc. The Government should also involve the public in different stages to collect ideas and draw consensus. A monitoring mechanism should be established as well to ensure this long-term planning could advance with the time.

Professional concerns on Fugitive Offenders Ordinance

HKIA Council noted that there are views and concerns from some members on the proposed amendments to the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance (FOO) by the SAR Government. As such, HKIA have arranged a joint Institutes discussion session on 21 May 2019 for members to

express their views directly to our constituent LegCo representative - Hon. Tony TSE. HKIA have also relayed to Hon. TSE all the queries received from the members regarding the implications of FOO towards our profession and our practice, especially in the Mainland, for his due communication and follow up with the SAR Government. The Council shall continue to reflect to the relevant stakeholders and the public the views of our members related to our professional and the practice.

Communication with Mainland

Delegation to Henan

During 4 – 8 April 2019, 8 HKIA members and I participated in the tour to Henan organised by office of Hon Tony Tse and Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR. We visited and studied various old districts and revitalization projects in Zhengzhou, Luoyang and Kaifeng, and shared thoughts on urban planning and heritage conservation with local authorities and professionals.

Second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in Beijing

During 24 – 26 April 2019, I joined the HKSAR delegation led by Chief Executive Mr. Carrie LAM to participate in the thematic forums of the Second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in Beijing. We attended forums on financial connectivity, policy, infrastructure, trade, etc. and exchanged views with participants on how to enhance international and regional cooperation in the context of the Belt and Road Initiative.

HKIA Delegation Visit in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

Organised by the Board of Mainland Affairs, 30 participants joined the HKIA's first-ever delegation to visit the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area during 24 – 26 May 2019 in Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Foshan and Zhaoqing. In the 3-day-2-night tour, the delegates not only visited some modern architectural arts and heritage conservation projects, but also acquired skills of Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) and carried out an in-depth experience exchange on various seminars discussing Architects' Full Services and collaboration opportunities between young architects in Hong Kong and the Mainland.

Connection with Overseas

Exhibition in the London Festival of Architecture (LFA)

HKIA's first-participating exhibition in the London Festival of Architecture was smoothly conducted during 3 to 28 June 2019. The curatorial team, Alvin KUNG, Justin LAW, Suanne CHEUNG, Jessica LAI and Zachary WONG, showcased various "meta/physical" boundaries in recent architectural projects and cityscapes via a series of objects, models, prints and short films. These projects explore and interplay with various boundary conditions of Hong Kong as a city, at different scales and intensity. Visitors experienced the theme of "Boundaries" in ways closely related to Chinese philosophies: the two states of being, physical vs. meta-physical (實、虛) and the two states of act, establish vs. diffuse (立、破).

Thank you again for the staunch support to HKIA.

Yours sincerely,
Felix Li *FHKIA, Registered Architect*
President