Professor Barry Fegan Will 1945-2019

- ARB Hong Kong Chairman, 1991-1992
- HKIA President, 1999-2000
- ARCASIA Chairman, 2003-2004

Professor Barry F Will, served as Chairman of Architects Registration Board (ARB) Hong Kong from 1991 to 1992 and the President of the Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA) from 1999 to 2000

Born in Australia in 1945, he attended the University of Queensland and graduated with a Bachelor of Architecture and Master of Urban Studies. In 1971, he came to Hong Kong on his appointment as Lecturer in the Department of Architecture, at the University of Hong Kong (HKU), serving as Dean of the Faculty of Architecture from 1990 to 1998. While on sabbatical leave from HKU, between 1973 and 1988, he taught at a number of schools overseas including University of Edinburgh, UK, Rice University, University of Houston and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA, and Peihua Institute, Shenzhen, China.

Prof. Will was actively engaged in private practice as Executive Director of WCWP International Ltd. He continued to be closely involved in architectural education, as Adjunct Professor / Honorary Professor at the University of Hong Kong and as External Reviewer for the M. Arch programme at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Shortly after his arrival in Hong Kong, he became active in the affairs of the then Hong Kong Society of Architects, was instrumental in reconstituting it as the present Hong Kong Institute of Architects in 1972 and played an important role in rewriting its constitution and rules. Later, he was a strong advocate in the campaign for legislation to protect the title of ‘Architect’ which culminated in the Architects Registration Ordinance of 1990.

His public duties included service as co-opted member of the Planning Development Conservation Committee of the Urban Renewal Authority, from 2001 to 2008 and as Chairman of the Authorized Person Registration Committee, from 2001 to 2003.

Outside of Hong Kong, he was a protagonist for international cooperation in the promotion of architectural excellence, having been Chairman of ARCASIA, 2003-2004, and served ARCASIA as an Advisor during 2019-2020.
In his later years, he devoted time and resources to elevate the HKIA/ARB accreditation system to international standing, by revamping its rules and terms of reference to match the requirements of the Canberra Accord. That the Institute is now a signatory of the Accord owes much to his relentless efforts and guidance, particularly as a member of the HKIA/ARB Joint Taskforce. Under his leadership in chairing accreditation and revalidation visits to local tertiary institutions, from 2012 to 2017, he vindicated the reliability of the Institute’s accreditation system through practical application and set an example to other accreditors.

In keeping with his strong will power and unfailing sense of duty, he never gave up even in his later years, attending regular meetings, analyzing problems and arguing with unequivocal clarity for open-mindedness in approaching new challenges.

His charming smiles and selfless dedication will be forever missed.