

The IEM 53rd Annual General Meeting and Annual Dinner and Awards Night 2012

by Ms. Suvarna Ooi

THE Institution of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM) successfully held its 53rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Annual Dinner on 21 April 2012. The day began with the Annual General Meeting, held at Wisma IEM, which was chaired by Ir. Vincent Chen Kim Kieong, the Institution's President for the 2012/2013 session. The Presidential Address was themed "VISION 100k", which highlighted the President's target for IEM to increase its membership from the current 20,000 to 100,000 accredited engineers within the next five years.



IEM 53rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) was chaired by Ir. Vincent Chen Kim Kieong

The AGM started off with the confirmation of the minutes of the 52nd AGM held on 16 April 2011. Thereafter, the Honorary Secretary presented his report for the session which highlighted various events held during the year as well as some information on the membership. A total of 5,360 candidates were approved for admission, election or transfer to the various membership grades. He also touched on the progress of the fund-raising drive for Wisma IEM's Building Fund.

The Honorary Treasurer thereafter presented good news by announcing that the Institution had made a surplus of approximately RM500,000 in the year 2011. The major income earner was still membership subscriptions although rental had started to show an impact on the total income. IEM had also received a grant from MIDA amounting to RM1 million for upgrading of IT Infrastructure, a project which was completed in 2011.

Various amendments to be made to the Constitution and Bylaws were also presented at the AGM, the key changes being the introduction of a few new grades of membership to attract more engineers to join the Institution, and paving the way to realise the President's target for the increase in membership. New grades such as Senior Member and Companion were readily accepted and approved by the members.

In the evening, the IEM Annual Dinner was held at the Grand Ballroom of the Sime Darby Convention Centre,

Bukit Kiara, Kuala Lumpur, and the event enjoyed one of the highest turnouts of all time with more than 1,000 members, spouses and guests attending. The guest of honour was Y.B. Dato' Sri Douglas Uggah Embas, the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Malaysia, and his spouse Datin Sri Doreen Mayang.

Also present at the dinner were IEM's Immediate Past President, Y.Bhg. Academician Dato' Ir. Prof. Dr Chuah Hean Teik, heads of Government departments, statutory bodies and agencies, vice chancellors of local institutions of higher learning as well as representatives from other professional bodies, universities, institutions and the private sector, and distinguished personalities in the engineering field.

Y.Bhg. Dato' Ir. Lim Chow Hock, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Activities, said, "This year's event has been very well supported by the members as we have sold more than 1,000 tickets." Ir. Ti Lian Keong, Chairman of the IEM 53rd Annual Dinner Organising Committee 2012, who concurred with him, added that, "Indeed, this dinner would not have been possible without the teamwork of members of the organising committee and support from all the engineers."

The Annual Dinner and Awards Night began with an opening address by IEM President Ir. Vincent Chen followed by a speech by the minister who urged engineers to put environmental concerns at the forefront of their work and address the issue of climate change as they were in the best position to act on these issues.



Y.B. Dato' Sri Douglas Uggah Embas, the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Malaysia delivering his speech

One of the highlights of the event was when the IEM President conferred the coveted IEM Honorary Fellowship Award to a total of nine distinguished engineers, namely, Y.Bhg. Dato' Paduka Ir. Prof. (Dr) Haji Keizrul bin Abdullah, Y.Bhg. Dato' Ir. Prof. Abang Abdullah bin Abang Ali, Ir. Dr Gue See Sew, Y.Bhg. Academician Datuk Ir. (Dr) Haji Ahmad Zaidee bin Laidin, Ir. Tuan Haji Mohd. Mazlan bin Md. Ismail Merican, Ir. P.E. Chong, Ir. Tuan Haji Abdul Rahman bin



Recipients of IEM Honorary Fellowship 2012

Yaacob (represented by his son Ir. Mohd. Amran bin Abdul Rahman), Allahyarham Tan Sri Dato' Ir. Haji Halaluddin bin Mohd. Ishak (represented by his wife, Y.Bhg. Puan Seri Datin Khasmah binti Mohd. Khalil) and Ir. Dr Ooi Teik Aun.

This was followed by numerous award presentations including the IEM Gold Medal Award to the best final year engineering students at local universities and institutions of higher learning for the year 2011. The recipients are indicated below:

Cik Fathin Ayuni binti Azizan
Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) (Aerospace)
En. Syed Taufiqulrahman bin Said Abu Hassan
University of Malaya (UM)
En. Sufi Habibullah bin Roslan
Universiti Industri Selangor (UNISEL)
Cik Firdaus binti Abdol Kalary
Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) (Civil)
En. Abdul Hadi bin Abdul Ghani
Universiti Tenaga Nasional (UNITEN) (Electrical and Electronic)
Cik Nurfatehah binti Baharudin
Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) (Civil)
Ms. Francisca Marie Tan
University of Nottingham (Malaysia Campus) (Electrical and Electronic)
Mr. Lai Chin Leong
Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS (UTP) (Civil)
En. Mohamad Nazrin Kooy bin Mohd. Daniel Kooy
Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) (Mechanical)
Ms. Daisy Wendy Pau
Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) (Chemical)
Mr. Khor Kang Nan
Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP) (Microelectronic)
Mr. Andrew Chai Chern Yung
Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) (Electrical and Electronic)
Mr. Lim Yu Hung
Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) (Mechatronics)
Ms. Tang Lu Wee
Curtin University (Sarawak Campus) (Engineering and Science)
Mr. Tay Wei Shan
Kuala Lumpur Infrastructure University College (KLIUC) (Civil Engineering)
Mr. Tan Yong Tat
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) (Electrical and Electronic System)
Mr. Cheng Huiyuan
Monash University (Electrical and Computer Systems)
Mr. Shum E. Han
Multimedia University (MMU) (Electronics)

The Ir. Tan Sri Hj. Yusoff Prize was awarded to Ir. Prof. Dr Arazi bin Idrus for the best technical paper contributed by a Corporate Member in the civil engineering discipline. His

paper was on "Tubular Strength Comparison of Offshore Jacket Structures under ARI RP 2A and ISO 19902".

The Ir. Raja Tan Sri Zainal Prize, on the other hand, was awarded to Engr. Dr Lau Teck Leong for the best technical paper contributed by a Graduate Member in the civil engineering discipline, on "Shear Design of Wide Beam Ribbed Slabs".

Meanwhile, Sdr. Poon Wai Keat was awarded the Ir. Thean Lip Thong Prize for the best technical paper contributed by a Student Member for his paper entitled "The Flexural Toughness Performance of Ultra-High Performance Ductile Concrete (UHpdC)".

The Most Supportive Award for graduate membership was presented to Ir. Ahmad bin Thamby Kadir for the individual category, while, under the corporate membership category, Puan Noor Hakimah binti Che Mohd. of Technip Geoproduction Sdn. Bhd. received the award.



Recipients of IEM Best Technical Papers Award 2012



Recipients of The Most Supportive Award for graduate membership individual category, corporate membership category and organisation category

Tenaga Nasional Bhd. bagged both the Most Supportive Award for graduate membership in the organisation category and the award for the Most Active Organisation in IEM's membership drive, and was represented by Y.Bhg. Dato' Ir. Azman bin Mohd., its Chief Operating Officer/ Executive Director.

Six technical divisions were awarded the IEM Presidential Award of Excellence 2011 for their active participation in the institution's activities for 2011. Once again, the Mechanical Engineering Technical Division (METD) was declared the winner, followed by the Civil and Structural Engineering Technical Division (CSETD) and the Electrical Engineering Technical Division (EETD) as the first and second runners-up respectively.

The Environmental Engineering Technical Division (ENVETD) was selected for the Most Improved Technical Division Award, followed by the Geotechnical Engineering Technical Division (GETD) and the Project Management Technical Division (PMTD). The next event was a mock check presentation by Gamuda Berhad, which was represented by

COVER STORY

Ir. Chan Kong Wah. Gamuda Berhad had donated a total of RM50,000 towards the IEM Building Fund.

The IEM President then inducted Allahyarham Raja Tan Sri Ir. Zainal bin Raja Sulaiman, Y.Bhg. Tan Sri Dato' (Dr) Ir. Haji Abu Zarim bin Haji Omar, Ir. T.T. Chiam and Y.Bhg. Academician Dato' Ir. Lee Yee Cheong into the Engineering Hall of Fame 2012. The IEM Young Engineers Award 2012 went to Engr. Dr Lee Tin Sin.



Recipients of IEM Engineering Hall of Fame Award 2012



Engr. Dr Lee Tin Sin receiving the IEM Young Engineers Award 2012



Ir. Lim Kok Khong from M.E.I. Project Engineers Sdn. Bhd. receiving the IEM Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award 2012

The Guest of Honour then presented the final award of the night, the IEM Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award 2012, to M.E.I. Project Engineers Sdn. Bhd., represented by Ir. Lim Kok Khong, on the successful completion of engineering, procurement and construction management (EPCM) for the AUO Sunpower Plant located on a 51.2 hectare site within the Melaka Solar Valley, Rembia Industrial Park, Alor Gajah, Melaka. ■

A Summary of the 2012 Presidential Address entitled "VISION 100k" by Ir. Vincent Chen Kim Kieong, President for the 2012/2013 Session

IEM President Ir. Vincent Chen Kim Kieong began his presidential address by expressing his gratitude to the IEM Council for re-electing him to the office of the President of the IEM for the 2012/2013 Session. He also thanked the Executive Committee, Council and IEM Members for their unceasing support, assistance and encouragement over the past year.

He began by revisiting some of the issues and directions raised in his Presidential Address last year, which included the opening up of the equity of Professional

Consultancy Practices to non-professionals. He reiterated IEM's stand that the equity of Consultancy Practices should only be held by Professional Engineers and for Multi Discipline Practices the status quo of the provisions in the Engineers Act on equity ownership should be maintained.

Ir. Chen also pointed out that there had been widespread concerns about the standard of engineering graduates and the quality of the teaching which had allowed the standard of engineering graduates to deteriorate. As such, he had called for the drafting of an IEM Code of Ethics for engineers in the teaching profession.

Towards this end, the Engineering Education Technical Division had drafted a "Code of Ethics for Engineers in the Teaching Profession" which was presented and discussed at a forum on 10 April 2012. The IEM President expressed his wish for the "Code of Ethics" to become a beacon of inspiration for the engineering academic fraternity and to help bring back the dedication that is vital to restore the quality of engineering graduates.

In the past year, Ir. Vincent Chen noted that IEM had formed a Public Sector Engineers' Special Interest Group to spearhead efforts to improve the lot of engineers not only in the civil service, but also in the uniformed services and statutory bodies. As the largest single employer in the country, he believed that it was imperative for the government to maximise the potential of its human resources by opening up a career path for talented professionals including engineers to reach the top.

In addition, he also reported that IEM has been more outward looking by keeping tabs on the many engineering issues that arise

daily and engaging the press as well as the authorities regularly. The IEM President encouraged the continuation of the efforts taken so far to improve IEM's public image and to enhance its role as a Professional Institution.

Finally, with more than 2,000 IEM Members over the age of 60, he proposed that a Senior Engineers' Special Interest Group be formed to serve as a focal point for these engineers to meet, to organise activities of interest to them and where their wealth of experience can be tapped by the Institution.

VISION 100k

Moving on to his Presidential Address, Ir. Vincent Chen shared that this year's theme would be "VISION 100k". The latter is a target for IEM to have within its membership 100,000 accredited engineers, excluding students, within the next five years.

In order for IEM to achieve this, he called upon all IEM members to reach out to their fellow engineers who were not yet members of IEM and ask them to join the Institution as membership can help them stay updated, stay in touch and stay involved with the profession.

By achieving "VISION 100k", Ir. Vincent Chen pointed out that IEM would not only become the largest professional Institution in terms of membership, but it would also have the clout and leverage to lobby for the best interest of the engineers and the profession.

This would also ensure that IEM will be consulted on proposed legislations affecting the engineering profession, and that the Institution will have a huge pool of engineers to represent IEM in external government and private sector committees and to provide the Institution's input.

With 100,000 engineers, he also stressed that IEM would have the necessary financial resources to embark on the best programmes, CPD, training, and activities for the benefit of its members, as well as sufficient funds to undertake proper research on engineering issues for IEM to get its views across to the public and authorities.

The current membership in IEM is around 20,000 engineers, while the number of engineers in the country is estimated at about 140,000. As such, Ir. Vincent Chen pointed out there was a large pool of experienced and senior engineers that is outside the fold of IEM. In order to accommodate this group of senior engineers, he proposed the creation of a new grade of membership, Companion IEM, to enable these senior engineers to be part of IEM. ■