

# The IEM 54th Annual General Meeting & Annual Dinner

by Ms. Reika Kua Kee Eng

## THE IEM 54TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The IEM 54th Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held at Wisma IEM, Petaling Jaya, on 20 April 2013. The Annual General Meeting, one of the most celebrated annual events of The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM), had received overwhelming response from participants ranging from a diverse engineering background.

The 54th AGM commenced with a welcome address from Ir. Vincent Chen Kim Kieong, the President for Session 2012/2013. Soon after the welcome address, the AGM continued with the second item on the agenda of the day, which was the confirmation of the minutes of the 53rd AGM, during which several issues of concern were brought up. Subsequent to this, questions from the floor brought interaction among the participants of the meeting who also contributed to discussion on relevant issues.

Consequently, the 54th AGM was followed by a presentation of the Annual Report by the Honorary Secretary of IEM for Session 2012/2013, Ir. Prof. Dr Jeffrey Chiang Choong Luin. The meeting then continued with the presentation of the Annual Accounts by the IEM Honorary Treasurer for Session 2012/2013, Ir. Prof. Dr Lee Teang Shui.

Soon after Ir. Prof. Dr Lee presented the financial standing of IEM for Session 2012/2013, there was the awards presentation session for the IEM Technical Paper and IEM Women Engineer Award. Succeeding the awards presentation was the launching of IEM coffee table book, 'Engineering Heritage of Malaysia'. During the launch, IEM took the opportunity to express its gratitude to the main sponsor of this book, Brunfields International Group, which was represented by Y.Bhg. Dato' Ir. Gan Tian Leong.

Last but not least, the meeting was followed by the Presidential Address for the Session 2013/2014 from the newly appointed President of IEM, Ir. Choo Kok Beng. The title of the Presidential Address was "Forward Engineers Malaysia" which outlined his 7-year strategic plan for 2013-2020 to steer IEM towards achieving financial independence and sustainability.



*The Imperial Ballroom was abuzz with good food and good company*

All in all, the 54th Annual General Meeting of IEM was a great success. After the meeting had adjourned, participants of the AGM made use of the few hours interval to prepare themselves for the much anticipated IEM 54th Annual Dinner.

## THE IEM 54TH ANNUAL DINNER

By half past seven, most of the invited guests and VIPs had filled up the reception area outside the Imperial Ballroom of One World Hotel, Bandar Utama, Petaling Jaya. The invited guests and VIPs enjoyed a cocktail reception and chatted lively with their friends and associates before the start of the event. At 8.00 p.m., all the guests proceeded to their assigned tables to be seated. The IEM 54th Annual Dinner and Awards Night 2013 officially kick-started with an opening gambit soon after the arrival of the Guest of Honour, Y.Bhg. Dato' Seri Ir. Hj. Mohd Noor bin Yaakob, the President of the Board of Engineers Malaysia (BEM). Consequently, a specially arranged presentation was held to signify the commencement of the dinner. All guests were treated to a sumptuous 9-course dinner during the 3-hour event.

The newly appointed IEM President for Session 2013/2014, Ir. Choo Kok Beng, was then invited by the Master of Ceremony to present his speech. In his speech, Ir.



*The 54th Annual General Meeting in session*



*Ir. Choo Kok Beng presenting the Fellowship Certificate to Y.Bhg. Dato' Seri Ir. Hj. Mohd Noor bin Yaakob*

Choo took the opportunity to welcome and thank the Guest of honour, Y.Bhg. Dato' Seri Ir. Hj. Mohd Noor bin Yaakob, as well as all the VIPs and invited guests for gracing the occasion. Ir. Choo also expressed his gratitude to the former IEM President for Session 2012/2013, Ir. Vincent Chen, and the Council Members of 2012/2013 for their excellent work.

"Going forward, IEM will continue to engage closely with the engineering community in the coming session," said Ir. Choo. He added, "We are committed to continue driving new initiatives and programmes so as to add value to our membership and make impactful contributions to the engineering community". Before he ended his speech, Ir. Choo also thanked all the partners, sponsors, members of the organising committee, and the IEM Secretariat staff who had made the IEM 54th Annual Dinner and Awards Night 2013 a huge success.

Following the speech by the current President of IEM, the Guest of Honour was invited to present his speech. After thanking the IEM President, Immediate Past President, the Council Members, the organising committees and all the participants for making the event a successful one, Y.Bhg. Dato Seri Ir. Hj. Mohd Noor bin Yaakob also highlighted some of the amendments proposed by BEM to the Registration of Engineers Act 1967 which are important changes required to meet the current needs, challenges, and also the commitment made by the government to liberalise the professional services sector. "However, I believe that both IEM and BEM should leverage on each other's expertise and capability to synergise and enhance the image of the engineering profession in the country," he commented.

After his speech, a token of appreciation and the IEM Fellowship certificate were presented to Y. Bhg. Dato' Seri Ir. Hj. Mohd Noor by the IEM President, Ir. Choo Kok Beng. The dinner then continued with some very entertaining performances such as some traditional instrumental tunes performed with traditional musical instruments of the various ethnic groups, cultural dances and modern pop and ballad songs. The ballroom was filled with laughter and cheers from the guests.

Various distinguished awards were presented to well-deserving individuals and groups for their



*Ir. Choo Kok Beng with the winners of the Presidential Award of Excellence. (L to R) Ir. Razmahwata Mohd Razalli (OGMTD), Ir. Lam Sing Yew (EETD), Ir. Prof. Dr Dominic Foo Chwan Yee (CETD), Ir. Noor Hisham Yahaya (METD, 1<sup>st</sup> Place), the President, Ir. Ong Sang Woh (CSETD) and Ir. Liew Shaw Shong (GETD)*

excellent performance and contributions to the engineering community and public. The award session started with the presentation of the IEM Gold Medal Awards, followed by the presentation of the Most Supportive Organisation/ Individual Awards, and the Presidential Awards of Excellence. Subsequently, the event continued with a mock cheque presentation of RM 100,000 for IEM Building Fund contributed by the Mechanical Engineering Technical Division. The contribution was raised from the table sale as well as other activities during the annual dinner. Soon after that, the invited guests were again entertained by some interesting dance and singing performances.

Some of the highlights of the night before the dinner ended were the Conferment of the IEM Special Merit Award 2013 to Minconsult Sdn. Bhd., Conferment of IEM Honorary Member to Y.Bhg. Dato' Prof. Dr Mohd. Noh bin Dalimin and also Conferment of IEM Honorary Fellows to the late Ir. Chan Khee Pok and the late Ir. Wong Kin Hong (received by their daughters on behalf of their late fathers respectively). Among other individuals who received the Conferment of IEM Honorary Fellow were Y.Bhg. Dato' Ir. Abdul Rashid bin Ahmad, Ir. Dr Ting Wen Hui, Y.Bhg. Datuk Ir. Prof. Dr Ow Chee Sheng, and Y.Bhg. Ir. Academician Prof. Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik.

Overall, the IEM 54th Annual Dinner and Awards Night 2013 was a huge success owing to the relentless efforts of the organising committee and the staff of IEM as well as the sponsors. ■



*Mock cheque presentation of RM100,000 for IEM Building Fund contributed by the Mechanical Engineering Technical Division*