

## **Chairman's Report**

### **Session 2024/25**

With immense pride and honour, I serve as the 46th Chairman of the HKIE Structural Division for the Session 2024/25. Since taking on this role, I have been deeply inspired by the dedication and progress of the division. Thanks to our Committee Members' unwavering commitment and collaborative efforts, the Division has enjoyed yet another highly productive and successful year. Below, I would like to provide a brief overview of our achievements.

### **Membership**

As of the end of March 2025, the Structural Division has a total membership of 6,009 of which 5 are Hon Fellow Members, 343 are Fellow Members, 4,503 are Corporate Members, 873 are Graduate Members, 76 are Associate Members, 176 are Student Members and Corporate Members and 33 are Affiliates.

### **Committee Major Activities**

With the concerted effort of Committee Members, the Structural Division has organized at least 9 major activities in this session including:

- Technical meetings, seminars, and site visits covering a wide range of topics
- Annual Dinner
- Structural Excellence Awards
- Annual Seminar
- Annual Visit

### **Major Events**

**Annual Dinner 2024-25** was successfully held on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024 at JW Marriott Hotel Hong Kong, with 492 members and guests. The Annual Dinner 2024-25 is privileged to have Ir Professor Jin-Guang TENG, President of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University as the Guest of Honour.

**Structural Excellence Award 2025** was conducted in February 2025. Entries are categorized under Project Award and Research & Development Award. This year we were pleased to have 22 project submissions and 6 research paper submissions selected for the assessment. The Judging Panel was chaired by the Chairman of the HKIE Structural Division and composed of the Senior Vice President of the HKIE, directorate representatives from the Architectural Services Department, Buildings Department, Housing Department, and Highways Department of the HKSAR Government. This year we have also invited 4 renowned local and international professors as our reviewers on the research paper submissions. Each submission was assessed based on the submitted documents and

presentation by the participants. The award winners will be announced at the Division's Annual General Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

**Annual Visit 2025** to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia took place from 27 to 30 March 2025. During the visit, we had the opportunity to explore several key locations, including Merdeka 118, Sunway Square (where we attended a forum at their headquarters in Menara Sunway), and The Institution of Engineers Malaysia (IEM) (where we participated in a workshop at the IEM Training Academy Sdn Bhd). Moreover, we visited Sunway University and Monash University, engaging in several insightful forums at each university. This visit significantly enhanced our understanding of the latest advancements in design and construction practices in Malaysia. Besides, it allowed us to establish strong relationships and explore potential collaboration opportunities with IEM, Sunway University, and Monash University.

**Annual Seminar 2025**, which was conducted back to physical mode this year, was held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025 with the theme "AI and Robotics in Smart Structural Engineering". We were most delighted to have Ir Prof. Thomas HO On-sing, Chairman of the Construction Industry Council as our Guest of Honour, who had delivered a keynote speech at this major annual event. In the Annual Seminar, distinguished overseas and local speakers from academia to prominent practicing professionals shared their insights, experience, and innovative ideas from recent research in structural engineering and applications in construction projects. The Annual Seminar promoted innovation and new technologies to drive forward productivity, efficiency, and enhanced project delivery outcomes in the construction industry. We have all together 280 participants joining the Annual Seminar.

### **Continuous Professional Development**

We have organized four technical seminars and two technical visits to support members in their continuous professional development. In this session, all four technical seminars were conducted in face-to-face. Regarding the technical visits, the first was a visit to the MiC Mock-Up in Wan Chai on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2024. This visit provided members with valuable insights into the application of Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) and Building Information Modeling (BIM) in office building construction. Topics covered included MiC design, off-site fabrication, transportation and logistics, fitting-out, MEP jointing, façade installation, and waterproofing techniques. The second visit was a 2-day Greater Bay Area tour from 7 to 8 December 2024. The delegation visited several key sites, including the China State Construction Engineering Zhuhai Base (中建海龍珠海基地), Far East Curtain Wall Zhuhai Base (遠東幕牆珠海基地), Shenzhen Bay Super Headquarters Tower C Project (深圳灣超級總部 C 塔項目), and the Qianhai Museum Project (前海博物館項目). Through a series of meetings and discussions, members gained significant insights into steel and concrete MiC construction, as well as the latest advancements in building construction technologies in Shenzhen.

In addition to our own initiatives, we collaborated with external institutions and organizations to host

seminars, workshops, conferences, and technical visits for professional development. Notable examples include the 4th World Conference on Floating Solutions (WCFS 2024) held from 2 to 3 December 2024, the IABSE Young Engineers Colloquium East Asia in Hong Kong from 30 November to 1 December 2024, Joint SCCT-HKCI International Conference on Concrete Technologies 2024 held on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024, and the 12<sup>th</sup> Mainland, Hong Kong and Taiwan Steel Conference ( 第十二届海峡两岸及香港钢结构技术交流会 ) held from 21 to 22 February 2025. These activities have allowed us to strengthen our connections with external partners and further promote our profession.

### **Serving the Community**

We have been actively participating in serving the community throughout the year. Members are nominated to various Government committees, task forces, and panels to render our professional advice to the Government in different aspects and at various stages of policy formulation, including the APSEC Discussion Forum of the Buildings Department, various standing technical committees on the drafting/review of local codes of practice of the Buildings Department, etc. Our division's Spokesman also provided prompt and professional responses to the media and public on incidents and matters related to structural safety throughout this year. Furthermore, our Committee Members play an important role as experts in the accreditation of university programmes, training schemes, and the assessment of applications for registration as Registered Professional Engineers under the Engineers Registration Board.

The written examination of the HKIE Structural Examination was held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024 with 343 candidates. The interview part will take place in May - July 2025. Candidates passing the HKIE Structural Examination and professional assessment, and meeting the experience requirements will be eligible to become Corporate Member of the HKIE under the Structural Discipline.

The Structural Division will continue to put in place various activities and events for all parties ranging from practicing engineers, graduated engineers, and university students to secondary school students to enrich the expectations and experiences of our members while facilitating more understanding of the youngsters about the work life of structural engineers to arouse their interest in becoming structural engineers.

### **Appreciation**

The successful years in the past years are all attributed to the collective efforts of our past Chairpersons and Committee Members and, of course, to all members' participation and support. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Committee Members of this session for their unwavering support and dedication to the Division in making the session 2024-25 another fruitful and successful year.

The Structural Division will continue to promote advancement of the structural engineering and to

facilitate the exchange of professional knowledge and experience amongst members. We look forward to receiving your active participation and continuous support to the Division.

**Ir CHIN Sai-ping**

Chairman of the HKIE Structural Division

Session 2024/25