



Young Surveyors Group Chairman's Message

Sr Michelle Chung YSG Committee Chairman



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

Big Brother and Big Sister Scheme

After launching the Stage 1 recruitment of Big Brothers and Big Sisters, we have now received applications from over 55 applicants who could take up over 100 probationers. With reference to our latest statistics up to 30 June, there were 1,745 young qualified members among the seven divisions and 1,747 probationers. In addition to the senior councilors, working supervisors, and mentors, all of whom are very experienced and busy surveyors, we believe that our younger qualified members can help the probationers in a more casual way, such as becoming their buddies and sharing their APC experiences and career development paths. To those probationers who are undergoing APC training to become corporate members, please grab this chance to register as our younger brothers and sisters through our Stage 2 recruitment process. Details and applications are available in our flyer below or online at <http://tinyurl.com/yysg-probationers>. We look forward to seeing you all at our launch ceremony on 18 September 2013.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: Can I join the Big Brother/Sister Scheme if I am 40 years old?

A1: A member is welcome to join the Scheme if s/he is our qualified member aged 40 before/at the time of his/her registration to this Scheme and whose participation is limited to a one-year term.

Q2: Can I join the Big Brother/Sister Scheme if I am over 40 years old?

A2: Thanks for your interest in the Scheme, but as we intend to develop a friendship between younger qualified members and probationers of similar ages, we regret to say that we cannot accept more senior members at this moment. You are still welcome to join the divisional council as an assessor or helper. Please make any other enquiry to the HKIS.

Q3: Will the Big Brother/Sister Scheme contribute to any CPD?

A3: This scheme can be considered a form of institutional service under YSG. With reference to the "Guidance Notes for Mandatory Continuing Professional Development June 2007," the scheme allows for a registered big brother/sister to claim five CPD hours (maximum) per year and up to 15 hours over any three-year period by joining our workshops and self-initiated gatherings with their probationers. YSG reserves the right of final decision on any dispute over the CPD hours.

Q4: I am a counselor/supervisor of a probationer who is taking the APC. Is there any conflict of interest with the role/responsibility of a Big Brother/Sister?

A4: The Big Brother/Sister Scheme has no intention of replacing or overriding the roles and responsibilities of counselors and supervisors. Big Brothers and Sisters can befriend their younger counterparts and share their experiences to help probationers prepare for the APC, career development, and technical knowledge.

Q5: I am an APC assessor. Is there any conflict of interest if I join the Big Brother/Sister Scheme?

A5: A conflict of interest normally refers to the Big Brother/Sister's personal and career relationship with a candidate and other similar relationships that may lead to favoritism, bias, per-determination, etc. APC assessors should report any potential conflict of interest, even if they were not a Big Brother/Sister before receiving the name of the candidate during any APC assessment or interview.

Q6: Will there be an upper limit to the number of Applications?

A6: There is no upper limit for this scheme. However, YSG reserves the right of final decision on the scheme and its enrollment.



Macaroon-Making Class

A total of 13 members, including our Immediate Past President, Ms. Serena Lau, joined our macaroon-making class on 22 June 2013. Our members were happy to draw cartoon characters on their Macaroons, which they treated as a French confection that resembles a pastel-colored sandwich cookie.



CPS Joint Professional Charity Band Show – Charisound

The Coalition of Professional Services (CPS) delegated CYPG to organize a joint professional charity band show named Charisound (“Charity Sound”) to raise funds for the earthquake victims in Sichuan. The show was successfully held on 23 June at the Sugar at East Hotel.

The show was enthusiastically oversubscribed by over 130 Surveyors, Dentists, Doctors, Lawyers, Barristers, and Accountants. Over HK\$110,000 were raised and donated to the World Vision charity for its services in Sichuan without any deduction. As one of the performing groups from the various professional groups, our surveyors’ band, S!R, won appreciation for its performance. We are very proud to see some of our younger members represented in the band.

They are George Chan, Mandy Ko, Jeffrey Wong, John Lau, Alison Lo, Jerry Chau, Chris Mook, William Lai, Lesly Lam, Tony Wan, Peter Dy, Kenny Chan, Bessie Liu, Jacky Lo, and I. For those interested in singing or playing instruments, please contact us or S!R directly.



“Meet the Professionals” Networking Party 2013 – Let’s Go “R” by YCPG

With over 400 young professionals from 11 professional institutes, the networking party organized under the YCPG was successfully held on 18 July 2013. Every member enjoyed the evening by mingling with young professionals from the different sectors with glasses of sprinkling and wine. With a theme of “R,” members dressed as rock stars, rabbit girls, or in red. A group of architects, engineers, planners, and surveyors won the Best Costume Award as the Rocking LEAPS. Thanks go out to the task force committee’s efforts in organizing this event and the YCPG will continue to organize future networking and academic events. The next one is the Youth Forum on 2 August. I will report on this big event in my Chairman’s Message next month.





COMING EVENTS

Study Tour 2013 – Xiamen

One of our annual biggest events, the YSG Study Tour 2013, is coming. Apart from those professional-related visits, we aim to conduct an informative tour in a more leisurely manner to Xiamen this year. The tour will be held from 10-13 October, and our committee is now planning the visit to government departments, private developments, and heritage places in Tolou (土樓) and Gulangyu Island (鼓浪嶼). Please refer to our flyer for more details.

Seminar by Mr Shih Wing Ching

We are very pleased to invite Mr Shih Wing Ching as our CPD speaker so that he can share his views on the High Land Cost Environment – its causes, pros, and cons – on 15 October. As the Chairman of AM730, Mr Shih is now a columnist who comments on the current issues of the world and shares his insights and life experiences as an entrepreneur. As Mr. Shih has diverse interests and his analysis is always based on a macroscopic view, he has become one of the most popular public commentators in Hong Kong. We look forward to hearing his views on high land cost issues and the subsequent interactive Q&A session with our members. Please refer to our CPD flyer for more details and don't miss this chance to attend the talk!

YSG Annual Dinner

Our Annual Dinner will be held on 16 November. Our committee is now working on the theme, venue, and exiting games for the dinner. If you have any interesting idea or

thought for it, please do not hesitate to join our working group.

CPD/PQSL/Site Visits

Upcoming seminars include:

- 3 August: Youth Forum by YCPG
- 16 August, 22 August & 5 September: BSD/ YSG PQSL Series 2013 included "Processing of Application for Licensed Premises", "Basic E&M Design Considerations: What a Building Surveyor Needs to Know?" and "Mandatory Building Inspection and Its Implication on Existing Building Control"
- 7, 14, 20 and 28 August: QSD/ YSG PQSL Series 2013 included "Liquidated Damages and Extension of Time", "Direct Loss and Expense Claims", "Dispute Resolution" and "Drafting Letters, Emails and Documents"

Social Events

- 3 August: Oyster-Shucking, Wine-Tasting Class
- October: Indoor Climbing
- November: YSG Annual Dinner
- December: Make-up Class

Contacting YSG

If you have any idea, advice, or comment on our events or if you are interested in joining us, kindly e-mail us at ysg@hkis.org.hk. You are also welcome to attend our monthly meetings, which are held on the second Monday

of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for 12 August at 7 PM. Please remember that we have moved to our new office at 12/F Wing On Centre, Sheung Wan (Exit E3 from the Sheung Wan MTR Station). 📍

Correction:

This is to clarify that the QS APC workshop mentioned in the YSG Chairman Message in the May issue will be solely conducted by the Quantity Surveying Division. YSG is only co-organizing the PQSL series with the QSD. Sorry for any misleading information.



QSD/YSG PQSL series – Payment Valuation and Post-contract Cost Monitoring

Sr Chris Mook, YSG Committee

The event was successfully held on 10 July 2013 with a full house attendance of more than 160. We would like to thank Sr Kenneth Poon for the fruitful sharing of his expertise.

Sr Poon first pointed out the importance of accurate and timely interim payments to various contracting parties. In explaining how to achieve these, he discussed the headings of payments and valuation techniques. Points worth noticing in the adjustments of the valuation amount (e.g. entitled losses & expenses, deductions for the non-submission of bonds, and offsetting by liquidated & ascertained damages) were also mentioned.

For post-contract monitoring, Sr Poon started by introducing the three main factors that affect the total cost of a construction project, namely design changes, supplemental information to works not yet designed/completed, and external factors (e.g. inflation and new regulations that specifically affect a particular construction project). In order to raise an alarm when any of the above may cause a budget overrun, Sr Poon stressed the

responsibility of the QS to continuously track the costs of a construction project.

Sr Poon then introduced a cost control system called "Architect Instruction Pre-approval (AIP)". In the AIP system, before an architect issues an instruction, the QS has to carry out a preliminary estimate of its financial effect. The project manager would subsequently decide if the instruction should be approved. Within such a procedure and time frame, the cost of the construction project could be monitored proactively. Last, Sr Poon shared the challenges of using AIP at the seminar.

We believe that the valuable knowledge and experiences shared by Sr Poon will help our QS probationers prepare well for their APCs. We also want to thank all helpers for such a successful event.



BSD/YSG PQSL Series 2013

Mr Refeal Leung, YSG Committee

The BSD/YSG PQSL Series 2013 has kicked off! The first two seminars, "Building Condition Survey and Diagnosis" and "Building, Lease and Planning Control of Development," were successfully held on 8 July and 18 July, respectively. Both events recorded over 100 registrations.

Building Condition Survey and Diagnosis

Professional building surveyors would be familiar with condition surveys and building defects diagnoses. In this talk, we were delighted to have Sr Alan Sin from the public sector to deliver an informative presentation to our probationers. Sr Sin shared with us the requirements and procedures of condition surveys, common building defects and causes, the various standards regarding concrete, and the different tests for concrete defects. As concrete tests are rare, it was stunning and impressive that we could understand more about this testing procedure with photos.

Building, Lease and Planning Control of Development

Another PQSL, delivered by Sr Philip Tse from the private sector, discussed the three main aspects of development control. Sr Tse shared some essential concepts of the

Buildings Ordinance for development control, such as the duty of A.P., the conditions of and procedures for approval, consent for a development, plot ratio, the planning controls for and lease controls of a development such as an OZP, height restrictions, special conditions of land lease, etc. All the information presented will be useful for our probationers when they take the APC and in their future professional development.

Last but not least, we would like to express our gratitude to our speaker Sr. Alan Sin and Sr. Philip Tse, conveyor Sr. Peter Dy and helpers named Gigi, Rock and Yasmin from the YSG.

If you missed the first two revision sessions, don't worry. The BSD PQSL Series 2013 is still ongoing. We will have more PQSL seminars in August and September. Please refer to the CPD schedule for details.

