



Quantity Surveying Division  
Sr Sunny Choi QSD Council Chairman

## PAQS Congress 2023 in Kuala Lumpur (22-26 September 2023)

The Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors (PAQS) Congress 2023 was held at the Berjaya Times Square in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 22-26 September. The theme of the Congress was “Decarbonising the Future – The Role of Quantity Surveyors”. In his welcome message, Sr Nazir Bin Mohamed Nor, Chairman of the PAQS 2023 Organising Committee, mentioned that the building sector is responsible for nearly half of the world’s annual global carbon dioxide emissions. Therefore, reducing them should be the goal for current and future buildings. He stressed that QSs have a pivotal role to play in shaping a sustainable future. The potential of their impact on sustainability is immense.

The HKIS sent a delegation of 20 members to the Congress including HKIS President Sr Paul Wong and myself; HKIS Past President and Past PAQS Chairman Sr Francis Leung and HKIS Past President Sr Thomas Ho; Past QSD Chairmen Sr Amelia Fok, Sr Daniel Ho, Sr Dr Paul Ho, and Sr Antony Man; QSD Vice Chairman Sr Tim Ngai; QSD Honorary Treasurer Sr Eric Ting; QSD Council members Sr Joe Chong, Sr KC Tang, Sr Dr Leung Mei-yung, Sr Karen Wong, and Sr Sunny Wong; QSD members Sr Peter Ng, Sr Dr Sandy Tang, Sr Jacqueline Leung, and Sr Sasa Zhang; and YSG representative Sr Samuel Law.

I, along with Sr Paul Wong, Sr Tim Ngai, and other HKIS delegates joined the PAQS Board Meeting on 24 September. After that, Paul signed a renewed reciprocity agreement with the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (AIQS).

There were keynote speeches during the two-day Congress and paper presentations on the following sub-themes:

- a) Sub-theme 1 Quantity Surveyor’s Roles, Practices, and Management in Carbon Efficiency
- b) Sub-theme 2 Building Livable and Resilient Cities
- c) Sub-theme 3 Integrative and Collaborative Project Delivery
- d) Sub-theme 4 Construction Materials for a Low-carbon Future

Two young QS members, Sr Jacqueline Leung and Sr Sara Zhang, presented a paper titled, “An Expanded Role for the Quantity Surveying Practice in Carbon Efficiency,” under Sub-theme 1 and won the Best Paper Award for the session. Congratulations!

The QS delegates were inspired by the Congress’s keynote speeches and research presentations. It was a good opportunity for delegates to connect with fellow PAQS members and exchange information on the latest developments in quantity surveying and the construction industries of different countries.





# DIVISIONAL NEWS & ACTIVITIES

## 組別簡訊

### (A) PAQS Digitalisation (Renamed from BIM) Committee

On 23 September, I chaired a PAQS BIM Committee meeting during the PAQS Congress 2023. Sr Dr Paul Ho and senior member Sr KC Tang joined the meeting together with 13 representatives from ten other PAQS organisations.

Members agreed to change the Committee's name from the PAQS BIM Committee to the PAQS Digitalisation Committee to reflect the construction industry's embrace of technology. The Committee's mission is to improve QS performance, productivity, etc, through digital transformation. It will prioritise strengthening knowledge and sharing of the latest practices among members. It immediately made good on its vow by inviting Mr Muhammad Khairi B. Sulaiman of JKR Malaysia to present the groundwork done in his country to allow for a consistent and smooth implementation of BIM in construction projects.

I presented a newly-completed BIM document, "BIM Measurement Information Requirements," which covers HKIS's efforts to facilitate greater project collaboration among professionals of different disciplines in BIM projects and provides guidance to younger surveyors.





### (B) PAQS Sustainability Committee

QSD Past Chairman Sr Daniel Ho chaired the PAQS Sustainability Committee on 23 September. Representatives of ten PAQS organisations – ASAQS, BSIJ, HKIS, IQSI, IQSSL, PICQS, PUJA, RISM, SISV, and NZIQS – attended the meeting, during which they:

1. Shared the latest green building developments in their countries.
2. Confirmed uploading a list of identified carbon assessment tools to the PAQS website for members' information.
3. Agreed that:
  - a) Online CPDs will be organised before the next PAQS congress. The topics will be related to carbon assessment and reporting. The CPDs will be open to all PAQS members.
  - b) The promotion of quantity surveying services in the area of sustainability will be further discussed and explored.

International Cost Summary table, conducted two seminars, prepared a new PAQS newsletter, completed an international digitalisation study, and submitted a PAQS conference paper and report.

The RC also plans to conduct two more seminars, issue a second PAQS newsletter, and propose a new study on procurement methods in all PAQS country members within the next year.



### (D) PAQS Accreditation and Education Committee

QSD Council Member Sr Dr Sandy Tang represented the HKIS in this Committee. The PAQS accreditation panels conducted accreditation visits to the University of Technology Sarawak, Malaysia (UTS), and UCSI University, Malaysia (UCSI), to accredit their BSc (Hons) Quantity Surveying programmes; as well as the University of Reading, Johor, Malaysia (URM), and University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka (UOM), to re-accredit their BSc (Hons) in Quantity Surveying programmes.

The panels also made valuable recommendations to each university on how to improve its programme. The Accreditation and Education Committee (AEC) endorsed the accreditation of UTS and UCSI and the re-accreditation of URM and UOM.

### (C) PAQS Research Committee

QSD Council Co-opted Member Sr Dr Leung Mei-yung chaired the PAQS Research Committee (RC) on 23 September. Fifteen representatives from ten PAQS organisations joined the meeting. In the past year, the RC revised the PAQS (RC) website, updated the





PAQS Accreditation and Education Committee

## Visit to MiC Mock-up of HKU's High West Site Development (30 August 2023)

The High West Site Development is located at 142 Pokfulam Road adjacent to the University Hall declared monument. The project will provide two 19-storey towers on a single-storey common podium. It will provide at least 938 student flats, living accommodations for management staff, common spaces, a canteen, and supporting facilities. In addition, the project will redevelop two 20-storey towers of senior staff quarters. MiC will be fully adopted to build or rebuild all towers.

A group of 30 QSD members visited an MiC mock-up site at Tai Tong in Yuen Long. Dr Louis Chu, Associate Director (Project Management) of the HKU Estates Office, briefed the visitors on the features of the modules, which are made of concrete and steel with balconies and a horizontal-cut module layout for staff quarters, which are different from traditional vertical-cut modules.

