It is a tradition for the President to deliver a message in each issue of *Surveyors Times*. As the President of the HKIS, I see and treasure this opportunity and platform to communicate with you on matters important to the development of our profession.

I have struggled for a while to figure out how my message could attract your attention and interest for just a few minutes. As reporting on the activities conducted and works done by the Institute could appear on many other columns of *Surveyors Times*, I would rather make use of this platform to exchange my views and thoughts on issues relating to the profession.

Sr Vincent Ho
何鉅業測量師

Revamp of *Surveyors Times (ST)*

Re-branding and enhancing the institute's image is the major task of my tenure. As a monthly publication, *ST* should be attractive enough to read in the sense that it should be informative, yet carry sufficient substance for professionals. Compared to similar newsletters and journals of other professional organisations in Hong Kong and overseas, *ST* has obviously been unable to arouse the attention of many members and, needless to say, non-members.

In other words, we have not succeeded in connecting to members and promoting the Institute through the publication of *ST*. I believe that it is high time for *ST* to be revamped to incorporate more high-level professional knowledge exchanges, market information, deliberations over government policies, sharing among members to promote professional enhancement, and similar content. I understand that the Editorial Board is considering a feasible way to make better use of *ST* and hope that a facelift will be presented to members in the not-too-remote future.

The official HKIS Facebook page

I mentioned in the last issue of *ST* that a wider spectrum of communication will be provided for exchanges between the Institute and members, as well as among members themselves. New social media is a trend and has proven to successfully create closer bonds within a community or social group. In order to bring about a more vibrant and younger look to the Institute, I have initiated an official HKIS Facebook page to serve as an informal, but more interactive, way to reach out to our members and the public.

A working group for steering the housekeeping works of this fan page has been formed and we expect the page to be launched in early March. I fully acknowledge the potential risks and difficulties in maintaining this fairly open communications portal, but I welcome the even greater benefits that it could bring us. Here, I wish to request the active participation and "like" by members, particularly our younger members, to make the page a pleasure ground for surveyors!

Green Building Participation

Have we ever considered linking "green buildings" to the surveying profession in our daily works and practices? How relevant do we think surveyors are to green buildings? Also, are we sufficiently involved in green building design, construction, and operations?

If our answers to the above questions tend to be no, then we probably have to put greater efforts into strengthening the roles and skills of surveyors in this field. In order to catch up with the fast-growing developments on sustainable buildings, we recently decided to set up a "green group" to embrace cross-divisional expertise on green buildings to promote the greater involvement and development of surveyors in this aspect. But establishing a "green group" within the Institute alone cannot help us gain a greater role in the field. True success rests with the active participation and training of our surveyors in this practice. I want to see our senior members take the lead to explore the business opportunities in this service sector.

Heritage Conservation

I attended an international conference on heritage conservation in early January. The conservation and revitalisation of heritage buildings is a core traditional skill and expertise of surveyors – particularly building surveyors. I still have a very clear picture in my mind of a design sketch for a facade retention works that I put in the answer book of my final examination in pursuit of my professional qualifications a long time ago. Although heritage conservation works may not constitute a significant portion of Hong Kong's construction sector, it carries high social and cultural value for society. Apart from engaging in physical conservation or revitalisation work on dilapidated or neglected heritage buildings, members of the Institute should be able to offer a wide range of comments and advice on conservation policy

and strategies to integrate conservation and sustainable development in Hong Kong.

I understand that the Building Surveying Division has done a lot to promote an awareness of and knowledge-sharing on heritage works among members in recent years. But the present participation of surveyors in such works is still far from satisfactory. In view of the recent government policy on this matter, I trust that every division's members will collectively contribute more to heritage conservation by combining their expertise and experience for a common purpose. A dedicated working group will be set up to lead future developments on heritage conservation works so that the Institute will not be outdone by other professions in this field again.

Finally, I look forward to receiving any new and creative idea that may bring about the better development of the Institute.

Sr Vincent Ho
President

一直以來會長可於每期的《測量師時代》撰寫「會長的話」。身為學會會長，我十分珍惜這個機會及溝通平台，與各會員分享一些有關測量專業發展的重要議題。

我多番思索，想找出如何能吸引你們有興趣上花幾分鐘時間去閱讀「會長的話」。由於學會舉辦的活動和工作，已於《測量師時代》的其他欄目作出報告，所以我將利用這平台，就有關測量專業的議題，交換自己的想法和意見。

《測量師時代》的新面貌

重新定位及提高學會形象是我任期內的主要工作。作為學會月刊，《測量師時代》應該是一本提供豐富行業資訊的刊物，以吸引讀者。相比其他在香港或海外專業學會的類似會訊或刊物，我們的《測量師時代》相對並不十分吸引非會員讀者，就學會會員也顯然沒有太大的關注。

換句話說，似乎我們並未能透過出版《測量師時代》，成功聯繫會員及推廣學會。我相信現在是時候將《測量師時代》重新包裝，加入更多專業知識交流、市場資訊及政府政策討論，向會員分享交流有關訊息，以促進及提升測量專業。《測量師時代》編輯委會正考慮將《測量師時代》重新包裝及豐富其內容，我期望在不久將來，《測量師時代》將以新面貌出版。

香港測量師學會的官方 Facebook 專頁

我於上期的《測量師時代》提及到將建立更多的溝通平台，令會員與學會，以及會員之間有更廣泛的溝通。新社交媒體是一種趨勢及已被引證為一個成功的平台，令一個團體組織，建立更密切的聯繫。為令學會建立一個充滿活力和年輕的形象，我已建議設立香港測量師學會的官方 Facebook 專頁，作為一個非正式，但更互動平台，去聯繫我們的會員，以及公眾。

我們已成立管理專頁的工作小組，期望專頁可於今年 3 月初推出。我十分理解這公開的溝通平台，在管理上潛在一定的風險和困難，但我相信它可為學會帶來更大的益處。在此，我想呼籲會員，尤其年青會員，積極參與並“讚好”學會官方專頁，令專頁成為測量師樂於分享的一個互動平台!

參與綠色建築

有沒有想過“綠色建築”可連繫到測量師的日常工作？測量師與綠色建築關係有幾多？我們於綠色建築的設計、建造和營運上，又有沒有足夠的參與度？

如果我們回答上述問題的答案都傾向於否定，相信我們必須投放更大的努力，以加強測量師在這範疇的角色和專長。為趕上可持續建築的快速發展，我們最近已決定成立“綠色建築工作小組”，函概各組別於“綠色建築”的專業知識，以促進更多測量師在這範疇的參與和發展。於學會設立“綠色建築工作小組”並不可令我們提升市場的佔有率，真正的成功在於令我們的測量師會員在這範疇更積極參與及進行培訓，我期望學會資深會員可帶領學會，探討這範疇的發展商機。

歷史建築保育

在一月初，我參加了一個文物保育的國際會議。保護和活化歷史建築物是測量師，尤其是建築測量師的專長之一。猶記得，很多年前，我曾在測量師考試有關建築保育答題中所畫上的保留古建築外型及外牆的活化工程設計圖。 雖然文物保育工作在香港的建造業並不佔著很重要的份額，但對社會整體是有著重要的文化及社會價值。除歷史建築物的保養及維修工作，學會亦可就保育政策提供廣泛的意見和建議，令香港得以持續發展。

近幾年，我知道建築測量組在推廣及分享保育工作亦已舉行不少活動。可是，測量師在相關工作的參與度仍顯得不足。我相信學會各組別會員，可匯集專長，集思廣益，就有關保育政策提出更多專業意見。我們將成立一個工作小組，帶領我們發展歷史建築保育工作，以不致再落後於其他專業。

最後，我期望收到各會員提出創新的建議，令學會繼續持續發展。

會長
何鉅業測量師