PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

會長的話



Sr Winnie SHIU

n the month of August, we had seen the peak of the coronavirus in Hong Kong. It is our sincere hope that the pandemic will fade away and that normalcy will be restored soon.

Striking balance

At the Institute, we care about your safety and health, as well as your need for services and career planning. As the prevalent third wave came, our divisions attended to candidates' concerns to postpone the Assessment of Professional Competence (APC) examinations, in the hope that they could be held later this year.

We understand probationers' wish to take examinations in time for qualification and career advancement. You can rest assured that we will make arrangements for APC examinations as soon as the situation allows. We take precautionary measures that are consistent with government requirements, including temperature screening and spatial separation of seating arrangement.

In this connection, I would like to thank our divisions for being accommodating and for making such special provisions so as not to risk the well-being of candidates and staff members, while striking a balance to avoid significant delay.

Soliciting feedback on office accommodation

The Institute makes enduring efforts to protect the best interest of our members, which includes optimising our services and office space to ensure efficiency. As the three-year tenancy agreement of our office expires next year, our Task Force on HKIS Office Accommodation, led by Sr Winnie Koo and comprising representatives of all divisions as well as the Young Surveyors Group, is currently reviewing the use of our office space and exploring options such as tenancy renewal and relocation. As the Task Office solicits members' opinions, our comprehensive review can only be possible with your timely and valuable feedback to our questionnaire by early September.

There is room for review as the 5,000-square-feet HKIS office consists of a 2,300-square-feet administrative office, a 1,700-square-feet Surveyors Learning Centre (SLC-CPD area), and meeting rooms of over 1,000 square feet in total. The combination of rental cost, rates and management fees means an annual expenditure that is equal to about 16% of the HKIS Secretariat's administrative and operating expenses. The SLC, often used for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) events in the evening, is rarely occupied during the day time. During the pandemic in particular, we have purchased members' licenses for online platforms which enable us to deliver CPD events via the now highly popular online webinars.

Technological advancement thus creates the possibility for us to enhance cost-effectiveness by potentially downsizing our rented office space. For instance, our meeting rooms could be merged into a multi-purpose venue for press conferences, APC interviews and face-to-face meetings. When face-to-face interaction is preferred for CPD events,

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we could hire available venues around the city—just as we do for annual conferences. In the market today, we hope that we could achieve rent reduction when negotiating new contracts with owners. With all these potential measures, the money saved could then be invested on our e-payment, e-registration and e-learning systems that could bring more direct and immediate benefits to our members.

We therefore look forward to receiving your feedback to our questionnaire. The consultation exercise is an opportunity for you to indicate your preferences regarding tenancy renewal, relocation or purchase, as well as your preferred location for our office which will be important to you in the years to come. The Task Force will then pass on your comments to the Strategic Planning Committee for the General Council's consideration.

Scholarship and Dissertation Awards

It is one of our core missions to inspire the younger generation to pursue surveying and foster academic research in the field. To this end, one of our initiatives is the scholarship programme that has been in place for more than three decades. This year, the HKIS Scholarship will be awarded to 54 outstanding students engaged in surveying programs in the University of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, City University of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education and the Technological and Higher Institute of Hong Kong.

The Outstanding Final Year Dissertation Awards and Dissertation/Thesis Awards for Postgraduate Students on the other hand, will be presented to 15 awardees from local institutions. Their academic research covers meaningful topics ranging from industrial building revitalisation, transitional

housing, building information modelling to the Land Sharing Pilot Scheme.

Our Chairman of Board of Education Sr Alan Sin and Chair of Research Committee Sr Dr Lennon Choy will join me to encourage these bright talents at the HKIS Scholarship and 2019 Dissertation Awards Presentation Ceremony. It is now scheduled to be held on 8 September, subject to situations regarding the pandemic.

Starting afresh

The month of September signifies a new beginning not only for students and scholars but for all people alike. Let us leave behind distress and uncertainties, and head towards a brighter future as early Autumn comes.

Sr Winnie Shiu President



年八月,我們見證香港新冠肺炎的高峰。但願疫情早日緩和,讓大家的生活可以重回正軌。

積極取得平衡

學會關注大家的安全與健康,同時重視會員的服 務與事業規劃。第三波疫情來勢洶洶,學會各組 別在聽取考生意見後,均決定延遲舉行專業評核 試,並期望於今年稍後時間補辦考試。

我們明白見習測量師希望及時應考,從而發展事業。大家可以放心,一旦情況許可,我們將盡快作出復考的安排。我們採取的防疫措施包括量度體温與保持座位分隔等,與政府的要求一致。

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在此,我衷心感謝各組別聽取考生意見並作出特別安排,一方面不會危及考生與職員的安全,另一方面不要將考試延期過久,並致力於兩者之間取得平衡。

就學會辦公室進行諮詢

學會一直竭盡所能保障會員的權益,包括優化我們的服務以及辦公室空間的使用,以提高運作效率。學會辦公室的三年租約將於明年屆滿,由顧慧儀測量師領導、由各個組別以及青年組代表的會址專責小組現正檢討空間使用情況,同時探討續租與搬遷等可能性。專責小組正密鑼緊鼓地向會員徵集意見,而我們的全面檢討必須有你適時與寶貴的回應作配合;我們期望你能於九月初填妥並交回問卷。

我們之所以考慮作出檢討,是因為面積達 5,000 平方呎的學會辦公室,包括由 2,300 呎的行政辦公室、1,700 呎的測量師研習中心及總共達 1,000 呎的數個會議室組成,而租金、差餉與管理費的 總支出大約相等於學會秘書處行政與運作支出的 一成六。雖然研習中心經常於晚間用作學會持續 專業發展項目之用,然而日間使用率不高。於疫 症期間,我們更特地購置網上平台的會員使用許可證,因而能夠透過現已大受歡迎的網上研討會 形式,舉辦持續專業發展項目。

科技發展為我們締造機會,讓我們有可能縮減租 用的辦公室空間,從而提高成本效益。譬如我們 可以將數個會議室融合成為多用途室,以作新聞 發佈會、專業評核試面試與會議之用。而當部分 學會持續專業發展項目需要採用面見形式的時 候,我們可以參考年度會議的做法,在外面租用 場地。於今日的市況下,我們寄望跟業主商討新 租約時,可以得到租金寬減。以上建議若然獲接 納,節省的金錢可投資於電子付款、電子登記與 電子學習系統上,從而為會員帶來更直接和立竿 見影的好處。 因此,我們熱切期待收到你們的問卷回應。是次諮詢是你表達意見的好機會,你可就續租、搬遷或購置單位的選項,以及你揀選的地點等作出回應;這些意見將會對學會的未來發展至為重要。 工作小組之後會將你的意見遞交策略規劃委員會、以供理事會考慮。

獎學金與論文獎

我們的宗旨之一,是鼓勵年輕一代投身測量業,以及促進業界的學術研究;為此,我們的獎學金已成立超過30年。今年,我們將香港測量師學會獎學金授予54位優秀的測量系學生,他們分別來自香港大學、香港理工大學、香港城市大學、香港專業教育學院、以及香港高等教育科技學院。

另外,15 位來自本地專上學院的學生獲頒香港測量師學會傑出畢業論文獎與研究生論文獎。他們的學術研究題材豐富,從工廈活化、過渡性房屋、建築資訊模型以至土地共享先導計劃等等,應有盡有。

我們的教育委員會主席冼國良測量師和研究委員會主席蔡鴻達博士測量師將與我一同於香港測量師學會獎學金暨 2019 傑出論文頒獎典禮上,對得獎者予以嘉許。典禮計劃於 9 月 8 日舉行,需要視乎疫情而定。

重新出發

九月份向來代表新的開始,不但學生與學者迎接 新的學年,市民大眾亦樂見一番新氣象。即將踏 入初秋之際,讓我們告別沮喪與不安,迎接日漸 明朗的前景。

會長 蕭慧儀測量師