

# When I was the President .....

我做會長的日子.....

30週年  
Anniversary

閱風履浪三十年 帶點社會道向前  
30 Years of Surveying Service with Pride,  
For the Community's Betterment We Strive



**Sr Serena Lau**  
Past President (2011-2012)

Having served the Institute for over ten years, from the Divisional Council to the General Council, my accumulated experiences and observations gave me a good idea of the priority and necessity of what to focus on during my Presidency. Meanwhile, I must again thank my predecessors and fellow Council members who tendered great support for and advice to me along the way.

As the HKIS's membership approaches 8,000, it has reviewed the strength of its administration and corporate governance to cope with competition from other professional institutions and the heightened expectations from the public and members. We believe a fundamental success factor is to uphold the quality of our recruits and to focus on our members' professional development.

You may recall that 2012 was an "Election Year". With the other professional institutes, the HKIS co-organised two special forums. One was for the Chief Executive election and the other was for the Legislative Council election, as we are under the Architectural Surveying and Planning Functional Constituency. Incidentally, both elections had candidates who were past HKIS Presidents. Therefore, they drew great attention from the surveying profession. We also became the talk of the town because during the year, topics such as "unauthorised building works" had raised the public's awareness of us significantly. Meanwhile, such exposure also posed great challenges to us once the public queries on the competency of surveying professionals and the specialisations among our different divisions started to come in. Thanks to our spokespersons and members who managed to provide impartial and professional answers to the queries, which enhanced the public's perception of us.

That year also witnessed a relatively unhealthy property market, leading the government to impose measures to attempt to manager it. As one of Hong Kong's major property-related professional institutions, we were frequently approached by the media and the government on issues related to it.

Last, but not least, the preparations to relocate our office happened during my term. As with other commercial tenants, the HKIS also faced escalating rents and had to identify more affordable premises to control our costs.

Perhaps you may ask what I believe I had missed out on during my term. I think the work to promote the Institute globally was inadequate. The HKIS is not a local institution. It helped set and promote internationally recognised standards and best practices and should continue its exposure to the rest of the world.

Although many local issues over the year 2012 occupied much of our time, they also posed opportunities for more forums and gatherings to engage members' participation. Saying "Thank you for coming and remember to fulfill your CPD requirements" and "please add 'S' to your name card" were probably the most frequent sentences I spoke.

The last thing I recall was drinking yellow wine during our promotional trip to Hangzhou. Despite the efforts from the other office bearers and chairmen, I still could not drink less than the others! ■



30th Anniversary Cocktails Reception

30週年 Anniversary

測量服務三十年 精益求精  
30 Years of Surveying Service with Pride  
For the Community's Betterment We Strive



Tech Visit to Zhejiang



Annual Conference 2012



Joint Institute Forum for Candidates of LegCo Election



WithURD Conference



財政部企業局



HKIS-Diploma Presentation 2012