



30th Annual General Meeting (AGM), 2018
The Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects
Friday, 27 April 2018

Secretary's Report

It is my honour to continue to serve the HKILA as Secretary over the past year. In the council year of 2017–18, I have continued to oversee the Secretariat's operation, and initiated the review of the Institute's archival system.

I would like to express my gratitude to our Council Members and all institute members who have invested their time and energy into the operations the HKILA. While not duplicating what has already been reported by the President, I will summarise some of the other major work of the Council over the past year.

Vice President 1: Mr SC LO

Mr. SC LO has continued to serve as our Vice President. In the year of 2017–18, his major duties have been to oversee education-related matters and attend public functions on behalf of the Institute. He has worked with the Educational Committee and the Board of Examiners on the Professional Practice Examination (PPE) 2017. The results and recommendation from the Board of Examiners were endorsed by Council in March 2017 and released thereafter. He also worked with the Education Committee on the accreditation review of the MLA programme of HKU and the BLA programme of THEi.

The definition of Qualified Landscape Architect in AACSB documentation was resolved. HKILA had amended its Bye-Laws to create a new direct admission pathway for all RLAs who are not Members of HKILA to professional membership of HKILA without further admission assessment.

Vice President 2: Ms Iris HOI

Aside from carrying out the duties of chairing the Education Committee and attending the monthly Council meetings, Iris volunteered in numerous duties that included communicating with external parties including the UKLI, the China Liaison Office, Transport Department, and the Architectural Services Department; organised and gave CPD and secondary school talks; and served as juror for the Greening School Project Award.

Her other major duties are reported in the Education Committee section.

Education Committee

Chair: Ms Iris HOI

This year, the work of the Education Committee involved (1) organising the 2017 Professional Practice Examination (PPE); (2) conducting the accreditation exercises for HKU's MLA and THEi's BLA programmes; and (3) commissioning the Study on Senior Practitioners' Pathways to Professional Membership.

The written and oral exams were held on Saturdays 25th Nov 2017 and 24th February 2018 respectively. Thirty-four (34) candidates sat the written exam. Sixteen (16) persons passed this written exam and were permitted to proceed to the oral exam. The passing rate of the written exam

was 47%. Fifteen (15) persons passed the oral exam resulting in a passing rate of 57.7%. The passing rate amongst the written exam candidates at the oral exam was nine (9) out of thirty-four (34), at 26.5%.

The University of Hong Kong (HKU) applied for re-accreditation of their Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) Programme in Nov 2016 and an accreditation panel reported in the previous annual Education Committee report visited the school on 1st and 2nd June 2017. The accreditation panel recommended granting accreditation to HKU's MLA degree for a period of five years. This recommendation was endorsed by Council.

The Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong (THEi) applied for accreditation of their new Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (Honour) (BLA) programme on 22nd February 2016. The same accreditation panel mentioned above visited the school on 29th and 30th May 2017. Following a number of discussions, the Education Committee's final recommendation, which was endorsed by Council, was to refuse the application. The essential reason for refusal was that the BLA programme, which is accredited as a first degree by the government, is a two-year programme, which does not satisfy the HKILA accreditation policy for first degree studies, which must be minimum four years in length. THEi re-applied in March 2018 with the combination of its two current degrees—the 4-year Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Landscape Architecture (BALA) and the final year of the BLA degree, resulting in total five years of study. This accreditation exercise is currently in progress.

The Education Committee commissioned a study to review possibilities of admitting people who have been practicing landscape architecture in for 10 years or more, with a certain years in Hong Kong. The 13-page report with extensive appendices has been completed and is available for viewing. The onward action of this proposal shall be discussed in this AGM.

Function & Events Committee

Chair: Mr Charles KUO

Thanks to the event organising committee led by Mr Charles Kuo, The 29th HKILA Anniversary Dinner, with the event theme "Metamorphosis", was successfully held on 17th November, 2017 at The Grand Stage of Western Market. It was our great honour to have Mr. Michael Wong, JP, Secretary for Development of the Development Bureau, as the Guest of Honour for the event. More than 270 guests attended and enjoyed a fun and entertaining evening.

The Functions and Events Committee also organised, in collaboration with YLAG, the Concept & Logo Design Competition for HKILA's 30th Anniversary Celebration. The winner was announced earlier in March 2018.

Practice Committee

Chair: Mr Benni PONG

The Practice Committee has continued to work with matters relating to developing HKILA's formal complaint procedures, reviewing government circulars, establishing working groups and issuing statements on public landscape issues. In particular, there are currently two active working groups. The first one, the *Working Group on the Review of Landscape Clause under Lease Conditions and SCC Guideline*, is currently reviewing the Lands Sub-Committee (LSC) proposals on compliance with landscape clause under lease conditions as recommended in LSC Paper 3/2017. The working group's responsibility also included reviewing and drafting SCC guideline(s) for both tree preservation clause and landscape clause under lease conditions.

The second one, the *Working Group on Land Supply*, attempts to formulate HKILA's comments to the government's Task Force on Land Supply during the public engagement period from Mar. 2018 to Sep. 2018. The working group would also collaborate with land supply working groups from other professional institutes. The first land supply workshop had been completed in Mar. 2018.

Public Affairs Committee

Chair: Mr Patrick LAU

2017 was quite an unusual year for Public Affairs Committee (PAC) since we initiated an idea of standardisation of soft landscape specification for Hong Kong and Guangdong in 2016. A special task force consisting both LAs and AAP has been very busy working with GDLAA to achieve our common goal. Subsequently, a further Agreement of Collaboration has been extended to include Macau was signed on 13 Dec 2017 in which the scope and time frame of the task have been agreed. The task force is currently seeking government assistance and funding to complete this worthwhile initiative.

Furthermore, PAC has recently represented HKILA to participate in the dialogue with government to explore LA's involvement in the development of Belt and Road and Greater Bay initiative. Apart from these, PAC has continued to voice out our concern on local landscape issues such as issuing statement with Practice Committee regarding damage of protected Tai Po Market Egretty during Tree Pruning in June 2017.

Publication Committee

Chair: Mr Augustine LAM

The HKILA Newsletter *L-pod* Autumn 2017 (No. 27) edition was published in October 2017. We would like to express special thanks to those who have submitted articles. *L-pod* will continue to serve as a professional platform to exchange information and ideas in relation to all aspects of landscape architecture.

2018 marks the 30th anniversary of the Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects (HKILA). To celebrate thirty years of the success and achievement of all member of the HKILA over the last 30 years, the Publication Committee is preparing a *30th Anniversary Special Edition Yuan Lin* for all HKILA members to share their works, experience, memories, thoughts, ideas and vision in relation to landscape architecture in Hong Kong. The Special Edition is expected to be published by October 2018.

Registration Committee

Chair: Mr Grant LIU

The total number of HKILA members as of 31 March 2018 was 451, which had decreased from the 536 from the previous year. The net decrease in the total number of HKILA members during the period from 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018 was 85 due to decrease in the number of Student Members.

Young Landscape Architects' Group (YLAG) Committee

Chair: Mr Keith HUANG

The target of 2017–18 for the Young Landscape Architects' Group (YLAG) was to create a confident working committee and to provide regular activities for the young members. YLAG introduced the additional positions of secretary and treasury, whom assisted the committee with its communications and records of all activities. YLAG held various events and activities for the young members during 2017–18.

To provide a platform for information exchange among young members and promoting the landscape community spirit, YLAG continued the management of the social networking websites on facebook



and Instagram. To ensure regular updates and know of the latest events for members YLAG also introduced the notification signup form (<https://goo.gl/97KYem>).

For more details, please refer to the individual reports of our Council Members and Committee chairpersons. Last but not least, we would like to thank our Secretariat staff, Ms. Jennifer Li and Ms. Elsie Law, for their tremendous effort, which has continually facilitated the daily operations of the Institute and provided our members with efficient and reliable services.

Yin-Lun CHAN
Honorary Secretary