

From the Section Chair

It is my great honor to serve as the Chairman of ASME Hong Kong Section for the term 2015-16. I would like to take the opportunity to introduce to you once again the other key officers of the Section:

- Immediate Past Chairman: Chris K.C. Cheung
- Vice Chairman: Thomas Cheong
- Honorary Secretary: Ms. Kitty K.Y. Leung
- Honorary Treasurer: Leo Chan

As said in the last AGM, I have engaged in Mechanical Engineering education for almost 2 decades and witnessed how significantly mechanical engineering has evolved over the years in its contribution to humans. To the Hong Kong city, it has contributed extraordinarily to a number of industries and the city infrastructure. The contributions are increasingly appreciated by the general public, as reflected by the increasing popularity of degree and sub-degree programmes on ME in Hong Kong and internationally.

New advances in mechanical engineering areas like robotics and automation, energy sourcing, environment preservation and sustainability, smart material and systems, and micro- and nano- systems emerge almost every day. Take robotics as an example. When I was a postgraduate student in the 80's, robotics had been a key technology in manufacturing industries but then its mundane use in daily life of human beings was inconceivable. Yet starting from the last decade, various lines of robots that can walk reliably on legs, climb stairs, dance, conduct Tai-chi exercise, and fly have appeared now and then in the market. Today, robot vacuuming tools and flying droids can be bought at rather low cost.

ASME is keen in being a hub for knowledge sharing, career enrichment, and skills development across all engineering disciplines, toward a goal of helping the global engineering community develop solutions to benefit lives and livelihoods. The Hong Kong Section of ASME, in particular, would like to serve as the arm of that hub for Hong Kong and the neighboring places.

I know many of us miss the ASME Hong Kong Newsletters greatly. I am glad to see that with great effort from the Publication Committee Chair John Hung and a number of other fellow Section Officers, we have this newsletter see light again. The objective of the newsletter is to make it easier for our fellow ASME members in Hong Kong to know what has been going on in the Hong Kong Section. There is always the web site of ASME Hong Kong Section that serves the communication purpose, but then we know that having a newsletter copy in hand or on the phone screen for reading is something that gives us a different kind of sensation.

I will not re-list here what have been the past activities and what are the forthcoming activities in the Hong Kong Section, as you will get to read them from this newsletter or from the Section web site. However, I do encourage that you spare the time to join some of the Section activities in the year. Without your participation, the effort of Section colleagues and students in organizing the activities will be in vain.

On the development of the Section I must acknowledge the great support and advices of the Advisory Committee members including WK Chow, Henry Ho, and Randolph Leung. They have put in tremendous time and effort to help connect the Section to overseas associations and ASME offices outside Hong Kong, to make Hong Kong Section an even more international section. The Section is also indebted to Education Committee Chairs and Student Section Advisors K.K. Lo and Curtis Ng, who have one succeeding the other in steering, advising, and supporting student competitions and activities.

I wish you all great health and great contribution to engineering.

Ronald Chung
2015-16 Chair of ASME Hong Kong Section



Forthcoming Events

2016 Annual General Meeting & Dinner
Date: June 10, 2016
Time: 6:00pm to 10:00pm
Venue: Football Club, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong
Keynote Speaker:
Mr Morton Holbrook III
Executive Director of Hong Kong America Center

Recent Events

March 11, 2016: ASME Fellow Public Lecture: How Mechanical Engineers Could Power Aviation Future delivered by Professor So, Ronald Ming Cho, Professor Emeritus of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Jan 16, 2016: Hong Kong Electric's Lamma Island Power Station Visit

What's New

ASME signed an MOU with Morton Holbrook III, Executive Director of Hong Kong American Center at March 31, 2016



Morton Holbrook III became Executive Director of the Hong Kong America Center in November, 2013, replacing Dr. Glenn Shive, who had served in that position for 13 years. Mr. Holbrook is a retired United States diplomat (Foreign Service Officer), with 32 years' experience in diplomatic posts in Taipei, Beijing, Shenyang, Tokyo, Manila, Paris, and Hong Kong, as well as US State Department positions in Washington DC and New York City. He helped open the US Embassy in Beijing in 1979, and later served as US Consul General in Shenyang. After retirement in 2007, he was a Professor of Government and International Relations at United International College in Zhuhai, China for five years, and taught courses on US and Chinese foreign policy, international law, and related subjects. He has degrees from Vanderbilt University (BA, economics), the University of Michigan (MA, Chinese language and history), and the law schools of the University of Chicago (JD) and Columbia University (LLM). Mr. Holbrook is a native of Owensboro, Kentucky.

Liaison Committee Report

Liaison Committee is responsible for the communication and exchange of information, principally events, with our kindred learned societies in Hong Kong and lately extended to ASME Beijing Office. In spite of rooted in mechanical engineering, not only have we connection with Institution of Mechanical Engineers Hong Kong Branch (IMEchE-HKB) and Mechanical, Marine, Naval Architecture and Chemical Division of The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE-MMNC), but also Hong Kong Joint Branch of The Royal Institution of Naval Architects and The Institution of Marine Engineering, Science & Technology, Institution of Engineering and Technology and Hong Kong Institution of Acoustics. These organizations have rendered their support to our events by publicizing them with their channels, hence broadening the outreach of our events to more people. In particular, to our next of kin, we have extended our unique ASME-proprietary advanced technical certificate courses to the members of IMechE-HKB and HKIE-MMNC by offering them concessionary rate, while likewise their fee-charging courses ASME members have been provided discount to mutually. Together we have fostered a strong and effective network of training and development support to the local mechanical engineering practitioners with our respective strengths.

Collaboration events in the past year include Technical Visit to Panyu Chu Kong Steel Pipe Works in Zhuhai (June 2015), 24th Boilers and Pressure Vessels Safety Seminar of Labour Department of the government (November 2015) in Hong Kong, Boiler Design & Inspection Technical Seminar in Hong Kong (November 2015), ASME Fellow Public Lecture (March 2016) and ASME Certification 360 Workshop in Shanghai (April 2016).

In future, Liaison Committee would continue nurturing relationship with our local kindred learned societies and ASME Beijing Office to better serve the industry in joint forces.

W.H. Tsang, Liaison Committee Chair

Publication Committee Report

In the past year, Publication committee has been involving in our official Hong Kong website maintenance and updating. We had set up our own domain, www.asmekh.org. In addition, we have produce our ASME Hong Kong Section Lapin and club ties.

In year ahead, we are going to publish newsletter twice a year to maintenance our members in Hong Kong informed the latest news and activities at Hong Kong.

John K. Hung,
Publication Committee Chair

Education Committee Report

July 16, 2015

The first ASME Fellow Public Lecture

With the aim of sharing ASME Fellow's Knowledge to promote mechanical engineering education and application in Hong Kong industry and community, ASME Hong Kong Section organized the first ASME Fellow Public Lecture to take place in the evening of July 16, 2015 at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

In the public lecture, Professor Timothy W. Tong, President of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, delivered a topic of "Technology and Sustainability". Due to the overwhelming response, more than 230 engineers, scientists and University Students attended the lecture.

In this Public Lecture, Professor Tong briefly introduced a triangle relationship among "Progress of Human Race", "Carbon Dioxide emissions" and "Global Climate Change". In order to resolve the impact of overusing of fossil fuels to cause global warming effect, Prof Tong unveiled the importance of developing new technologies to improve the efficiency of using the most abundant renewable energy - Solar Energy. Professor Tong further cited a short history and rapid development of airplane industry to encourage audiences to imagine and become a practical dreamer.

Professor Timothy W. Tong was born and raised in Hong Kong. After completing his secondary education, he pursued further studies in the United States, where he received his B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from Oregon State University (OSU) in 1976, and his M.S. and Ph.D. in the same discipline from the University of California at Berkeley in 1978 and 1980 respectively.

Professor Tong takes office as President of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University with effect from 1 January 2009. Prior to his current appointment, Professor Tong was Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science at The George Washington University in the United States.

Being an expert in the field of heat transfer, Professor Tong has been actively involved in addressing issues connected to energy use and sustainable development. He has published over eighty technical articles and edited seven conference proceedings. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the Hong Kong Academy of Engineering Sciences and the International Thermal Conductivity Conference. Professor Tong was inducted into the Academy of Distinguished Engineers and the Engineering Hall of Fame by the College of Engineering of OSU in 2001 and 2010 respectively.

Professor Tong is also engaged in public service in Hong Kong. He is Chairman of the Steering Committee of the Pilot Green Transport Fund (2013-17) and a member of the Steering Committee on the Promotion of Electric Vehicles (2013-15) of the Environmental Protection Department, a member of the Advisory Committee on Innovation and Technology (2015-17), a member of the Advisory Committee on Corruption of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (2012-15), and a member of the Public Service Commission of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government (2013-15). He was appointed a Non-official Justice of the Peace in 2010 and a member of the 12th Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference in 2013.



Professor Tong is currently an Honorary Professor (Mechanical Engineering) of Tongji University; a member of Talloires Network Steering Committee of the United States, a member of the International Board of Overseers of Sabanci University of Turkey, a member of the International Innovation and Entrepreneurship Board of Advisors of King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology in Saudi Arabia, and a member of The 9th Nuclear Safety Consultative Committee of the Guangdong Nuclear Power Station and the Lingao Nuclear Power Station.

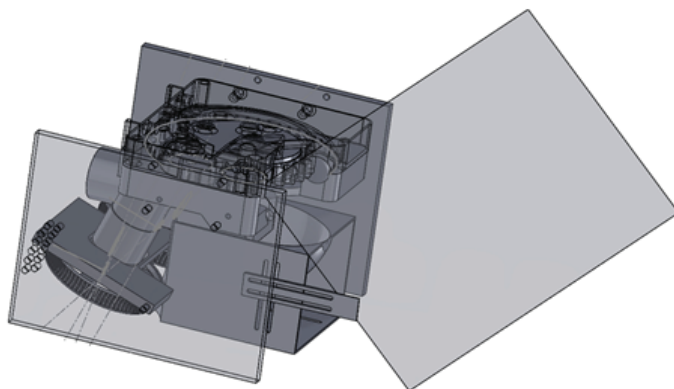


Education Committee Report (Continue)

2016 ASME Student Design Competition: Manufacturing the Future

The Department of Mechanical Engineering, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University formed a student team to participate the ASME 2016 Student Design Competition for manufacturing a compact engineering projectile from a standard sheet A4 paper and test it by propelling a maximum distance. The testing will take place on a competition course that consists of a 3-meter-wide strip along the length of the room, with a 1.5-m X 3-m setup area.

The student team designed and manufactured an excellent compact engineering projectile for participating the ASME Student Design Competition (SDC) in India, and try to win the only one entry ticket for competing in the Final of ASME IMECE 2016, in November, 2016 in US.



Unfortunately, the student team faced a great difficulty for applying conference Visa to enter India for participating SDC 2016. In order to avoid students' passion and months efforts going down to the drain, the ASME Hong Kong Section tried very hard to communicate with ASME Head Quarter to seek an alternative to demonstrate students' efforts and talents to obtain an entry ticket for the Final Competition in US. However, the ASME Head Quarter delivered their concerns, but didn't deliver a concrete help to the student team for participating the competition.

There was a turning point happened in the mid of Mar, after several times liaison between

Chairman of ASME Hong Kong Section and ASME HQ, ASME HQ agreed to allow our student team to submit a video demonstration under the witness under senior ASME members. The ASME Student Design Team Committee reviewed the video demonstration and was impressed by the good performance of the demonstrated paper projectile system. Therefore, ASME HQ confirmed our Student Team as a viable entrant to compete with other regional champion teams for the SDC in Nov, in Phoenix, US. On Apr 12, the office of ASME Student Programs Development issued invitation letters to our students for the coming Finals in Nov in Phoenix, US.

Curtis Ng, Education Committee Chair



Industrial Committee Report

To cater with the fast evolution of technology and enhance the sharing among the peers, Industrial Committee is aimed to organize various events and establish a platform among the industrial experts, academic professionals and students in the field of mechanical engineering.

Developing the young mechanical talent is always the prime objective of industrial committee. Co-operating with Student Committee, there were two visits arranged, namely Technical Visit to Black Point Power Station (12 Nov 2015) and Lamma Power Station (16 Jan 2016). During the visit, the students were able to understand the general power plant theory and visualize real components taken from the power units during outage.

Fellow lectures have been arranged in 2015 and 2016. It is the highest honor of ASME to invite the distinguished guests to give a number of lectures for the ASME members and public, namely

- On Jul 16, 2015, Professor Timothy Tong (President of Hong Kong Polytechnic University) delivered a lecture on "Technology and Sustainability"
- On Mar 11, 2016, Professor Ronald So delivered a lecture on "How Mechanical Engineers Could Power Aviation Future"

Both lectures have been received high attendance and appreciation from the ASME members and public.

Looking in the future, we are targeting to have more collaboration among the industrial stakeholders which could bring with the benefits for the mechanical industry in Hong Kong.

Ki On Ng
Industrial Committee Chair

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