

IEM – ICE Joint Conference on “Future Engineers 2017 Malaysia - Inspiring the Workforce of Tomorrow”

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ACTIVITIES

reported by



Ir. Dr Ooi Teik Aun

On 14 January, 2011, the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) held the first Asia Pacific Conference on Infrastructure Development in a Tropical Environment in Petaling Jaya, with over 200 participants. Managed by IEM Training Centre Sdn. Bhd., its success gave ICE the confidence to host a joint conference with IEM this year.

Thus, on 26 October, 2017, two events were held: ICE-IEM Joint Conference on “Future Engineers - Inspiring the Workforce of Tomorrow” and the ICE Presidential lecture-cum-dinner.

This time, IEM Academy Sdn. Bhd. managed both events and was strongly supported by the construction industry and ICE Student Chapters from five universities in Kuala Lumpur. There were 220 participants for the conference and more than 460 people attended the conference dinner.

The conference provided a comprehensive look at the skills, technologies, projects and organisations which will shape the global engineering profession and workforce of tomorrow and which will guide and inspire our fledgling



Prof. Broyd presenting IEM President Ir. Dr Tan Yean Chin with the FICE Certificate

workforce, connecting a diverse group of talent with the career possibilities and opportunities they need to become industry leaders. The partnership between ICE and IEM will



Conference participants with ICE President and IEM President

offer guidance, support and industry foresight for budding engineers. ICE and IEM have had an Agreement of Cooperation (AOC) since 2000. ICE is a global Engineering Benchmark for Civil Engineers and IEM is a leading regional Multi-Engineering Institution that provides secretariat services for many regional engineering organisations.

ICE has had a Country Representative from Malaysia since the 1960s and current CR is Ir. Dr Tan Yean Guan. There are also five ICE Student Chapters at the following universities: UNITEN, UNMC, UTAR, UM and UCSI.

The conference was the first of its kind, in which ICE and IEM joined forces to set new directions for future engineers in dealing with the digital world. There were eight prominent speakers: ICE President Professor Tim Broyd, Mark Enzer (Chief Technical Officer, Mott MacDonald, representing the UK's major infrastructure client organisations), Simon Vaux (Director Digital Engineering, Transport for NSW), Er. Poh Seng Tiok (Director, Planning & Design, Mass Rapid Transit Corporation, Malaysia), Ir. Dr Tan Chee Fai (Practising Mechanical and Manufacturing Consultant), Brian Higgins JP (Business Development Manager, EMEA UK), Dr Khor Cheng Seong (Associate Professor, Xiamen University Malaysia, specialising in mathematical modelling, analytics and optimisation) and Ir. Dr Leong Wai Yie (CEO, SmartBrain Sdn. Bhd., specialising in big data analysis, medical signal processing and telecommunications).

The conference covered ICE-Led Project 13, The Future of Industry: Developing a Strategy for Smart Infrastructure Transformation, Transport for NSW Digital Engineering Strategy, Advances in Engineering Technology and Application in KVMRT Line 2, Emerging Technology and The Need for "Forever Learning", Security Skills and the Need to Build Resilience to Cyber Threats, Incorporating the Systems Approach in Engineering Education Using Modelling and Simulation and Developing the Pie for Industry 4.0.

IEM President Ir. Dr Tan Yean Chin officiated at the opening of the conference and delivered a welcome address. Prof. Broyd also conferred the ICE Fellow (FICE) on Ir. Dr Tan for his contributions and achievements in Civil Engineering.

In conjunction with the conference, a dinner was held in honour of Prof. Tim Broyd who delivered his Presidential Lecture and conferred FICE on four people, including Dato' Sani Abdullah and Er. Poh Seng Tiok. He also presented mementos and certificates of appreciation to the main sponsors, Past ICE Country Representatives for Malaysia, Ir. Dr Ting Wen Hui and Ir. Dr Ooi Teik Aun and UTAR President Dato' Prof. Ir. Chuah Hean Teik, UNITEN Vice Chancellor Dato' Prof. Ir. Dr Kamal Nasharuddin as well as advisors of the ICE Student Chapters. ■