Message from Academic Director

The IVE Engineering Discipline covers a wide spectrum of studies including electrical and electronic engineering; mechanical, manufacturing, and industrial engineering; and construction. In the current academic year, it offers 37 Higher Diploma (HD) courses, 15 craft-level courses in 13 academic departments at 8 IVE campuses with a total enrolment of about 9,000 full-time and 8,600 part-time students.

Our courses are developed by subject specialists to meet the manpower needs of industry, and many of the HD courses are accredited by the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers. Hence our graduates have been well received by employers over the years. For instance, employment rates of the HD graduates of the 07/08 cohort were in the 90% range. In addition, graduates have ample opportunities to pursue further studies at universities – about 25% of the HD graduates have enrolled in degree programmes at UGC institutions in this academic year.

We have recently introduced whole person development, industrial attachment in the Mainland, and industry-based student projects to the HD curriculum. The objectives are to enhance students’ soft skills, increase their awareness of working in the Mainland, and widen their experience in tackling real-life projects, which are vital to building a successful career in the engineering field.

This is the first quarterly issue of the IVE Engineering Newsletter. We would like to make use of the Newsletter to connect to our stakeholders and would very much appreciate your input. We are looking forward to receiving your comments and suggestions.

Ir Dr. Lawrence W. CHAN
Academic Director
IVE Engineering Discipline

Bright Future of the Engineering Profession
Interview with Ir Dr. LO Wai Kwok

Faced with an ever-fluctuating global economy, engineers in Hong Kong are tackling the toughest challenges. Equipped with in-depth knowledge and expertise, engineers carry out the mission of creating a better world by continually developing innovative products and building mega-infrastructures.

Nowadays, how do practicing engineers keep abreast of the evolving global technology landscape dominated by fierce competition and characterized by fickle demands? We are honored to have Ir Dr. LO Wai Kwok, Past President of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers and Deputy Chairman and Managing Director of Surface Mount Technology (Holdings) Limited, to share his views on the career prospects of engineers.

Overview of the Engineering Profession

As a veteran engineer who has received many enviable accolades from the community, including an Honorary Fellow of The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology and Vocational Training Council, Ir Dr. LO asserted that engineers always play an indispensable role in the human world.

“Actually, we cannot live without engineers. All the basic necessities of daily life, such as water supply, electricity generation, lighting, and air-conditioning systems... and so on, are the work of engineers,”