DRC’s Message

Dear members,

As I sit down to write my last DRC’s message, I find it’s hard to believe that my three year term as Director and Regional Chair (Region XIII) is coming to completion. I am truly amazed at what has been accomplished in our Region XIII.

I would like to thank each and every one of the Regional Team for their tireless work and unwavering support over the past three years. I have been humbled and honoured to serve you and the Region as well as the Society with such a dedicated and talented team. Also, I appreciate those Region XIII ex-DRCs and some Society past presidents for their mentoring and advice.

Region XIII will have some exciting event coming in the month of September 2016, which is the Combined CRC, a CRC of Region XIII and Region-at-Large (RAL) at September 30 to October 2, 2016 in Bangkok Thailand. This combined CRC will employ a “mega CRC” model, which has been discussed within ASHRAE Society as a possible strategy to be used in other regions. We expect more than 400 members representing 35 chapters (10 from Region XIII and 25 from RAL) to attend.

Even more exciting is the first ASHRAE Society Board of Directors meeting held outside North America will be in Region XIII, follows this combined CRC. It will not only expand the Board’s perspective but also present a unique opportunity for you and members from dozens of chapters to meet and work with the Board members. I would encourage you all to consider getting involved in this exciting events that are not just working, but also build relationships and friendship.

I look forward to the year ahead, leading by the incoming DRC, Mr. NG Yong Kong, from Malaysia chapter. Mr. Ng has dedicated countless hours to Region XIII as one of the Regional Team. We will be no doubt that Region XIII will continue the growth and realize tremendous potential under Mr. Ng’s leadership.

Personally, I am deeply appreciative of the hard work and contribution of Mr. Ching-Loon ONG (RVC-CTTC), to establish the Region XIII Technology Award; Ms. Chiachi HSU (Treasurer) to launch and manage well the Regional Fund; as well as Ms. Tracy PANG, to make our newsletter, ARI-XIII, reborn.

Region XIII, we CAN.

Yours sincerely,

Edward Tsui
Director and Regional Chair

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Region XIII CRC 2015 in Philippines

The 18th Region XIII Chapters Regional Conference with the theme of ‘Improving the quality of life thru HVAC’ was successfully held at New World Hotel, Makati City, Philippines on 21-22 August 2015. This conference had attracted speakers and participants from US and countries of RXIII. Let’s us recap the enjoyable moment through the following nice pictures.

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APCBE 2015 in Hong Kong
Dr C S WONG, HK Chapter President

The 13th Asia Pacific Conference on Built Environment (APCBE) with the theme of ‘Next Gen Technology to make Green Building Sustainable’ was successfully held at Crowne Plaza Kowloon East Hotel on 19-20 November 2015. The conference theme was not simply about the hi-tech products available today but the future technology being developed for more sustainable built environment, including design approach, system controls, construction management, commissioning, facility operation & maintenance, etc. It was intended to bring together international speakers to meet and discuss the advanced technologies with mindful of our next generation. Conference logo was selected from the Logo Design Competition submitted by students from local university of engineering aspects.

There are around 300 delegates from all over the world joined the conference. Society President, Mr. David Underwood and the friends from Region XIII were also participated. The Secretary for the Environment of the HKSAR Government, Mr. Wong Kam-sing, had been invited as the guest of honour to officiate the opening ceremony.

There were 3 keynote speeches, 28 oral presentations and 18 poster presentations given by experts from China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Netherlands, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan and USA, addressing different topics of session themes including Architecture & Building Materials, Design & Commissioning for High Performance, HVAC Technology & Refrigerant, Indoor Environment & Safety, Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency and Simulation & Optimization for Sustainability. The poster presentation covered the topics including HVAC&R Technology, HVAC&R System Applications and Environmental Assessment & System Evaluation.

Technical visits to Kai Tak District Cooling System (North Plant) and Zero Carbon Building (ZCB) in Kowloon Bay were organized after the Day 2 Conference on 20 November 2015 which provided our delegates with invaluable insight into energy efficient DCS plant and in-depth understanding of the key facilities in ZCB & the green technologies during the visits.

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Hong Kong Chapter RP Walk 2015, 22 November 2015
Mr. LEONG Cheng Wee, RP RVC

Hong Kong Chapter organized a RP Walk to hiking at Tai Tam Country Park with evening BBQ on 22 November 2015 to raise RP funding. It was successfully held with about 50 participants with the slight wind lovely weather and total amount of US$7,341 funding had been raised. Everyone had enjoyed a relaxing Saturday with the beautiful views of the dam and reservoir, and so was the sunset. At the finishing point, I sensed a great deal of hype and satisfaction among the participants at accomplishing the RP Walk mission. Truely, it was a good feeling inside our hearts. During the walk, many photographs were taken and they would remind us of the fun time, friendship and great teamwork in raising RP funds.

The completion of the Walk is not the final activity of the day. There was a BBQ nearby the finishing point. After the Walk, everyone was hungry and could not wait for the fire to start. Lots of food and drinks were served. We had fun grilling the meat and all the lovely food prepared. The beer drinking contest was won by Joe, the Membership Chair of Hong Kong Chapter. Joe down the can of beer in not more than five seconds. Actually before I could count, he has already finished the beer. My advice to all is that do not challenge Joe to drinking; he is the best I have seen....

Overall, I enjoyed the RP Walk and BBQ very much. I am sure the Mr. David Underwood (Society President), Jane (his wife), and Bill (Past President), Mr. Den Low and family (Malaysia Chapter) all agreed it was a great event. The Hong Kong Chapter has done very well.

To everyone who walked, to all who donated and everyone who contributed towards the Hong Kong Chapter RP Walk 2015, a big "Thank You" to all of you. I salute the Hong Kong Chapter for the great effort. To all those in the Organising Committee, BOG, Past Presidents and Young Members, all of you are the reasons why the Hong Kong Chapter is so successful, not only in RP but in everything you do....

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Malaysia Chapter 30th Anniversary
Mr Andes Quek, Malaysia Chapter President

Malaysia Chapter (MASHRAE) held 30th Annual Dinner on 30th October 2015 at the Setia City Convention Centre, Shah Alam. This momentous event was graced by ASHRAE Region XIII Director Edward Tsui, Presidents of Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Thailand Chapters, Presidents of Malaysian professional bodies such as ACEM, MACRA, PAM, IEM, GBI, TEEAM, MGBC, MFPA and MAESCO, and also HVAC&R suppliers / contractors / consultants / developers/ building owners who made up the total of 715 participants in the banquet hall.

The morning of 30th October started with MASHRAE hosting the 1-Day National Symposium on “Refrigerants: Now & The Future”. The key speakers for this symposium were representatives from Department of Environment (DOE), Energy Commission (ST), Malaysia Air Conditioning Refrigeration Association (MACRA), Malaysia Fire & Rescue Department (Bomba), ASHRAE DL Ir. TL Chen, and representatives from various HVAC&R suppliers and manufacturers. There were more than 80 participants who attended this symposium.

The foyer at the banquet was filled with activities with HVAC&R industry players exhibiting their respective products and services. It was a highly anticipated networking session where members and guests were presented with opportunities to get updates on the latest HVAC&R products and services as well as to touch base with each other. The evening finally came alive when all participants were seated in the hall, feasted with sumptuous banquet meals while their networking continued. The dinner programme included speeches from the MASHRAE President and Annual Dinner Organising Chair, and witnessing ASHRAE Malaysia Chapter’s tradition of the installation of the president and introduction of the new office bearers. The participants were kept entertained by performances and lucky draws arranged by the organising committee.
2016 ASHRAE Winter Conference & AHR Expo in Orlando, USA

2016 ASHRAE Winter Conference was held at Orlando Hilton on 23-27 January 2016 and AHR Expo was held at Orange County Convention Center on 25-27 January 2016 in Orlando. Region XIII DRC, Edward Tsui, RVCs and chapter presidents also attended the conference. A welcome party was held at the first day of the conference, 23 January 2016, for the participants.

Following night, 24 January 2016, was a dinner gathering organized by Region XIII participants and spouses which occupied 3 tables with yummy Chinese dishes.

Region XIII also take this valuable opportunity to have a Super CRC committee meeting with Region-At-Large in Orlando for better preparation of the upcoming Super CRC in Thailand in September 2016.

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A full-day technical seminar titled “High Performing Buildings” jointly organized with The Chinese Association of Refrigeration (CAR), ASHRAE, Indoor Air Quality Association Inc. and co-organized by CAR-ASHRAE Beijing Group and CAR-ASHRAE Shanghai Group was held in Crowne Plaza Beijing Sun Palace, Beijing, China on 6 April 2016. The seminar was divided into two sessions. There were around 80 participants attended the technical seminar. Friends from ASHRAE Region XIII also joined this event. DRC of ASHRAE Region XIII, Mr. Edward Tsui, acted as facilitator to arrange the seminar more smoothly. Prof. Xianting Li from Tsinghua University, representative of CAR, delivered the Welcome Speech before the seminar started. For first session, the program theme was Energy Efficiency. Mr. David Underwood, Society President was invited to have a keynote speech with the title of “High Performing Buildings: Energy”. Mr. Timothy Wentz, Society President-Elect was invited to have a keynote speech with the title of “The Future of Building Comfort and Performance” for second session with the program theme of Indoor Air Quality.

“China Refrigeration Expo 2016” was held between 6 and 9 April 2016 in Beijing. China Refrigeration today has developed to become an exhibition for international HVAC&R market, which attracts not only local but also overseas exhibitors and participants from more than 30 countries and regions. This was a great opportunity for the members to explore the technical exchange and development of the technology, product standards and market trend of the industry. ASHRAE RXIII was invited to join this event. Before the Opening Reception of China Refrigeration Expo 2016 on 7 April 2016, ASHRAE Members Gathering Reception was arranged in the evening. Mr. David Underwood and Mr. Timothy G. Wentz had a social gathering with local ASHRAE members as well as the friends from ASHRAE Region XIII and other professional organizations, ACRA, HKAAE and HKRVCA from Hong Kong.
The 2016 RPM2 was held from Saturday, 11 June 2016, till Sunday, 12 June 2016, at the Grand Copthorne Hotel in Singapore. Delegates, representatives and Regional Officers of Region XIII attended the event. A sumptuous Dinner organised by the Singapore Chapter was held on Friday, 10 June 2016, at the Copthorne King's Hotel to welcome our fellow Region XIII friends.

On the Saturday, at 9am in the morning, the RPM2 commenced. Each Chapter presented their activities and plans for the fiscal year. The Thailand Chapter also shared much on the Super CRC to be held later in September in Bangkok. Then the Regional Officers reported on the updates at Society level for the different Committees and post they held. The meeting then adjourned for Lunch at the Hotel's cafe.

Much camaraderie was shared during the lunch break while feasting on the tasty dishes. It was much reluctance to resume the meeting after the Lunch. In the afternoon, the Regional Officers conducted training for Membership Promotion, Research Promotion, and others. The afternoon session of the RPM2 ended at 5pm. A dinner was held at 7pm to freshen up and fill the hungry stomachs after an eventful day.

On Sunday, a debriefing was conducted and the RPM2 ended thereafter. It was very heart warming whenever fellow ASHRAE Region XIII members meet up. The Singapore Chapter and I would like to thank all who came to Singapore for the RPM2. It is our pleasure to be your host and we look forward to your presence here again at the CRC 2017.
ASHRAE HVAC Design Course Level 1
Hong Kong Chapter and Malaysia Chapter

Hong Kong Chapter (May 25 -27, 2016)

A 3-day intensive training course titled “HVAC Design: Level I - Essentials” was jointly organized with ASHRAE Learning Institute on 25-27 May 2016 at HKU Main Campus, Hong Kong. There were 39 participants attending the training course. It was the second time for HK Chapter organizing this course in Hong Kong.

Three speakers, Prof. Julia Keen, Dr. Sam Hui and Mr. Alvin Lo had covered the training topics on basic HVAC design. On Day 1 (25 May 2016), Dr. Sam Hui presented the training topics covered fundamentals, heating & cooling load calculations, psychrometrics and system selection. Prof. Julia Keen explained more details on design process, air system design, hydronic design, HVAC equipment, HVAC systems, codes, standards & guidelines on Day 2 (26 May 2016) and morning session of Day 3 (27 May 2016). After lunchtime of Day 3 (27 May 2016), Mr. Alvin Lo also shared his working experience on sustainable design.

Malaysia Chapter (May 30 – Jun 1, 2016)

ASHRAE Malaysia Chapter had successfully organized the above design course in Empire Hotel, Subang Jaya, Malaysia. This is the second time such a course was successfully conducted. The last course was in 2014. The instructors were Associate Professor Prof. Julia Keen from Kansas State University, USA and Ir. Ng Yong Kong, the incoming DRC (Director and Regional Chair for Region XIII) from Malaysia.

There were 44 participants for this 3 day course with some coming from as far as India, Thailand and East Malaysia. The same course will soon be conducted in Singapore and Indonesia and ASHRAE Region XIII is hoping to conduct this course regularly and is also looking forward in conducting Level 2 in the future.

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