



Dr Victor Ong Chee Wee

President's Message

Dear Fellow Members,

I am glad to be elected as the new President of SIBL for the term of 38th and 39th. I am also pleased and happy to welcome the new Board of Directors with many new faces. We would also like to thank our Immediate Past President, Mr. Peter Chua and his team for their great contribution to SIBL

In line with our government's Construction Industry Transformation Map, the Institute is working with the members and collaborating with the government agencies/Trade Associations & Chambers (TACs) to provide strategic direction to meet the immediate and longer-term manpower and skills needed in the Built Environment Sector, as well as strategies to attract and retain talent.

Team SIBL will continue to be active in local and international arenas. We are committed to providing good training and platform for our individual and Enterprise Members to adopt to the latest technology and expand their business network both locally and internationally.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank all Members for your strong support over the years. Wishing you a Happy Healthy and Prosperous New Year 2019.

Strategic Partners



\$72 million boost for Built Environment Workforce Development and Training

The Government has committed \$72 million for workforce development and training for the Built Environment (BE) sector till 2020. This will include enhancements to the iBuildSG Scholarship and Sponsorship programme (formerly known as the Built Environment Scholarship and Sponsorship programme) for the full-time Undergraduate, Diploma and ITE tracks. Recipients can expect structured On-Job-Training (OJT) when they start full-time employment at the sponsoring firm. Beyond their bond period, graduates can look forward to a further training grant of \$3,000 to upgrade their skills and competencies. Those who continue their career in the BE sector for an additional year following their bond period will also receive a retention incentive of \$7,000.

In addition, the Building Specialist Sponsorship (BSS) will be enhanced with an additional year of support under the revised 3-year programme to better align with the part-time NITEC, Higher NITEC and post-ITE development courses. The BSS is a collaboration between BCA and the industry to attract and retain talent at the specialist and supervisor level, e.g. Lift & Escalator specialists.

Minister for National Development and Second Minister for Finance, Mr Lawrence Wong announced this at the inaugural iBuildSG Scholarship and Sponsorship Ceremony, held today at the NUS University Cultural Centre. A total of 448 scholarships and sponsorships were awarded by BCA and 108 industry firms during the event.

One of the industry firms joining the iBuildSG Scholarship and Sponsorship programme for the first time this year is KKLim & Associates. Managing Director Mr Lim Kok Kim believes in

continual improvement of staff. Mr Lim said, "Our belief is that when staff improve and grow, the company will grow together with them. The joint sponsorship offered by BCA certainly gives a boost to people who wish to upgrade but are limited by financial constraints. As an engineering design company, we need technically competent and progressive staff who possess great interest and passion to upgrade themselves."

To look into deepening ongoing tripartite collaboration for developing the industry's workforce, BCA will be setting up a standing iBuildSG Tripartite Committee (TC). The TC will focus on talent attraction, retention and building competencies, and will also provide advice and inputs to the Skills Framework for the sector. This framework, which will be developed jointly by BCA, SkillsFuture Singapore and Workforce Singapore, will map out career pathways for identified job roles in the sector, existing and emerging skills and competencies needed to stay relevant. It will also provide guidance on the available training programmes to help them acquire these skills and competencies.

-Enhancements to the iBuildSG Scholarship and Sponsorship programme to offer training grants and retention incentives

- The iBuildSG Tripartite Committee (TC) will be set up to deepen the ongoing tripartite collaboration in workforce development among industry stakeholders, academia, professional boards, unions and the government

- The iBuildSG Club will be set up in April 2019, to engage and interest youths to take up Built Environment-related courses and nurture them for careers in the sector

BCA will also engage students through the iBuildSG Club for students in secondary schools and tertiary institutions. To be launched in April 2019, the iBuildSG club will introduce students to the BE sector and all that it offers. Its aim would be to attract youths to take up courses which enable them to pursue meaningful careers in the sector. Members will be able to take part in activities such as learning journeys, interdisciplinary projects and hands-on workshops/competitions, as well as visits to places of interest to learn about the transformation in the sector and the important role it plays in building Singapore. Members will be able to stay updated on the latest news about our built environment, club events and activities through the Club's social media platforms.

BCA CEO, Mr Hugh Lim said, "Singapore's built environment is in the midst of an exciting

transformation and this demands new technology, higher skills and innovation in how we build Singapore. Powering the engine of transformation are talented and committed individuals and this is why we have enhanced our existing programmes and created new touchpoints to reach out to as many individuals as possible. Students are a natural starting point and by reaching out to them at an early stage through the iBuildSG Club, they can be better advised how to prepare themselves to seize new career opportunities in the sector. We also hope that the enhancements made to the iBuildSG Scholarship and Sponsorship programme will continue to attract and retain talent in our sector. We will continue to collaborate closely with the industry to press on with our transformation efforts, through the iBuildSG Tripartite Committee."

NUS launches Singapore's first new-build net-zero energy building

New building is also the first component of a 'well and green' precinct that integrates human-centric designs within a sustainable environment

The National University of Singapore (NUS) unveiled the first new-build net-zero energy building in Singapore. Located within its School of Design and Environment (SDE), the new SDE4 building is energy efficient and environmentally friendly, with a suite of innovative building strategies to improve the comfort and well-being of building users.

Mr Heng Swee Keat, Minister for Finance and Chairman of the National Research Foundation, officiated the launch of SDE4, and visited the building's new facilities.

SDE4 is a new addition to the existing constellation of three buildings serving students and staff of the School. Designed to be climate



Mr. Heng Swee Keat (centre), Minister for Finance and Chairman of the National Research Foundation, viewing the rooftop photovoltaic panels at SDE4, Singapore's first new-build net-zero energy building.

responsive with net-zero energy consumption, the building features a range of sustainable building designs, such as solar roof installations, a hybrid cooling system, as well as approaches to optimise natural ventilation and lighting. The

building has been awarded a Green Mark Platinum certification, and the School is applying for certification by the International WELL Building Institute, which recognises best practices in design and construction with evidence-based health and wellness interventions.

Professor Tan Eng Chye, NUS President, said, “NUS is proud to be home to the first new-build net-zero energy building in Singapore. This is testament to our continuous efforts in incorporating sustainability in various aspects of our campus life – from operations, planning, construction, research and education. The conceptualisation and construction of SDE4, which is also our very first net-zero energy building on campus, involved a collaborative partnership between our resident experts at the NUS School of Design and Environment as well as external consultants, builders and developers. The result is a dynamic living laboratory, showcasing the latest ideas and solutions in sustainable development.”

“The School will continue to push the boundaries of innovative design as it embarks on the next phase of transforming three other buildings in the precinct to embrace a ‘well and green’ philosophy. We hope that this novel concept will inspire future high-performance buildings and sustainable development designs in Singapore and beyond,” Prof Tan added.

Pioneering a ‘well and green’ precinct on campus

As part of its continual efforts to explore new frontiers of sustainable development, the School has incorporated a ‘well and green’ approach in its teaching and design approaches, with an emphasis on the integration of human-centric design within a sustainable natural and built environment. The completion of SDE4 marks the first milestone in realising the School’s vision of creating a ‘well and green’ zone, called the

Engineering and Design & Environment precinct, that will be a prototype of human-centric approaches to future sustainable development in NUS.

Two existing buildings are currently being renovated. One more building will be redeveloped, and this new building will demonstrate the ambitious goal of being net-positive energy, net-zero water, wellness certified and low carbon construction.

Professor Lam Khee Poh, Dean of the NUS School of Design and Environment, said, “The successful completion of SDE4 demonstrates that stringent energy targets for buildings in the tropics are achievable. Through a well-executed integrated design process, the building will also provide a comfortable and biophilic experience coupled with a low carbon footprint. This principle of fusing beauty, comfort, wellness and sustainability will be applied to the other three buildings in the precinct.”

SDE4: Energy-efficient spaces that promote well-being

The SDE4 building houses a mix of research laboratories, design studios, as well as teaching and common learning spaces over six floors, covering a gross floor area of 8,588 square metres.

A key aspect of the building is its contemporary architecture design which demonstrates a deep understanding of the tropical climate of Singapore. The concept incorporates a large overhanging roof, together with the double facades on the east and west sides of the building, to shade it from the sun’s heat and provide a cooler interior.

Designed to consume only as much energy as it produces, SDE4 is equipped with a solar ‘farm’ on the roof top comprising more than 1,200 solar photovoltaic panels to harvest solar energy. On days when there is insufficient sunlight, the

building will draw energy from the University's power grid.

To effectively manage the building's energy consumption, SDE4 adopts an innovative hybrid cooling system which ensures that rooms would not be over-cooled. Rooms within the building are supplied with cool air at higher temperatures and humidity levels than a conventional air-conditioning system. Ceiling fans circulate the cool air to generate a comfort condition that is significantly better than overcooled spaces.

The building also makes use of the architectural concept of 'floating boxes', where its shallow plan depth and porous layout allows for cross-ventilation, natural lighting and views to the outdoors. Rooms can also be opened to let in natural breezes. Air-conditioning can be used only where it is needed, reducing the overall electricity usage.

Premised on the idea that a connection with natural systems can enhance human comfort and well-being, SDE4 integrates natural elements and nature-like qualities into its environment, with features that offer uninterrupted views to greenery, visibility of water systems, and access to daylight.

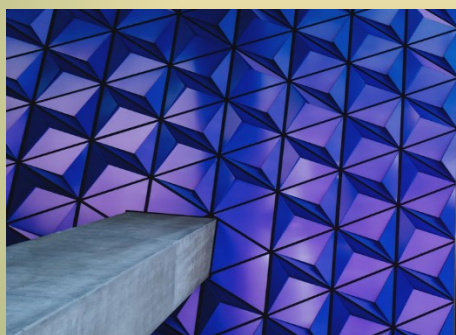
These features make up an architecture that functions as a living laboratory, facilitating the test-bedding and developing of green building technologies, and promoting research collaboration with public agencies and industry partners.

Celebrating 50 years of achievements

The opening of the new SDE4 building also kicked off the year-long celebration of the School's 50th anniversary. In the coming months, the School will hold a bowling tournament to promote interaction and cohesion among students, staff and alumni. The SDE50 Gala Dinner will also be held in October to raise funds for the SDE Development Fund.



UPCOMING EVENTS



REDAS-RICS Smart Buildings Conference

06 March 2019

Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, Singapore

Book now

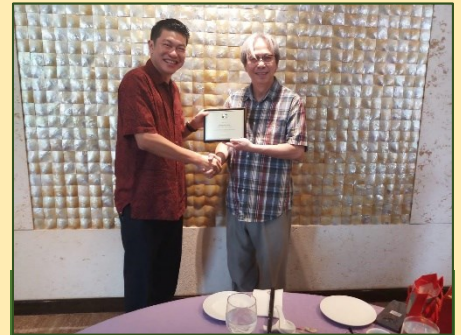
Smart city development isn't only reliant on new buildings, but also retrofitting existing buildings and infrastructure. Book now to **attend REDAS-RICS Smart Buildings Conference** in Singapore on **6 March 2019** - www.rics.org/smartbuildings

EVENT WRAP-UPS

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

HUAT AHHHH!!!!

Chinese New Year is an auspicious occasion to celebrate. SIBL organised its **Lo Hei** for all the Enterprise members. SIBL wish all our partners and supporters a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year.



President Dr. Ong presenting a token of appreciation for the years of hard work by our immediate Past President Peter Chua.



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