



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2020

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QUICK UPDATES

Dear Members,

Greetings! The Association of Women in Construction (Singapore), or in short AWiCS, has turned one in June!

Originally, we had planned for a mini-celebration at our Annual General Meeting planned in May 2020 but the COVID-19 pandemic struck so suddenly and all our plans for the year including the International Women's Day in March 2020 had to be postponed to June 2020 and then cancelled. We were extremely disappointed that we could not carry out these activities to meet our members.

MOVING ONLINE

Nevertheless, the AWiCS Committee re-calibrated and adjusted its plans and moved online to continue to serve our members and uphold the Society's mission and vision. We held our Annual General Meeting and first webinar online in May and June 2020 respectively. We will aim to organize more webinars for our members in coming months.

DIFFICULT TIMES

Recognising the difficult situation that our individual and corporate members are in, we will waive membership fees for 2021 and extend the validity of your current membership to December 2021. We hope this would provide some reprieve to members.

We thank members' support to AWiCS for the past 1 year. More than ever, we need your continued support, collaboration and partnership as we chart these turbulent and uncertain times. Do help us to grow by sharing your suggestions and feedback on initiatives.



Er. Emily Tan
Founding President, AWiCS



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM was held on 26 May 2020 via online platform Zoom. It was our first online event. Members were excited to see each other again albeit online during the circuit breaker.



NATIONAL DAY AWARDS 2020

Congratulations to our Committee Member, Ms Han Fei Ni, who has been honoured with the Public Administration Medal (Bronze) at the National Day Awards 2020.

AWiCS 1st Webinar

It is extremely important that we continue to maintain the connection with our members during this pandemic. Thus on the 26 June 2020, AWiCS invited Er Jee Yi Ying, Country Representative AECOM Singapore Pte Ltd to share with our members on her enriching experience in the engineering sector having built up a career spanning more than 22 years. Er Jee gave a webinar for all AWiCS members and it was such an insightful talk as the speaker explained the role of infrastructure and its importance in forging resilience, sustainability and liveability in cities.

HER EXPERIENCE

Er Jee shared how her experience in a career spanning from design engineer to now as the country representative for AECOM. She exchanged views on the need for young engineers to be not afraid to ask questions when they get started in their engineering career. One good advice she gave to young engineers is to create opportunity through more robust discussions with their supervisors or experienced engineers who can be their life mentor too. It is through asking questions, ones gained more knowledge and collective ideas as well as past experiences are then shared. Her mantra is that engineers should always have a responsibility to anticipate the changes underway and have a duty to ensure the infrastructure we build today withstands the test of time.

PLANNING & DESIGN

Planning a project is the most importance as a correct footing will almost secure a good delivery. At the same time, Er Jee said one must take to ensure that the right approaches and solutions are used in the design process. She shared the challenges in some of the Thomson East Coast Line project e.g. at Stevens MRT which requires building over another live station with existing constraints. There were existing utilities requiring complex diversion as well as canal and traffic diversion at the Wayang Satu flyover. This is when with her ever sprightly professionalism led her design team to overcome the constraints through robust planning and coordination of the project. Innovative solutions have transformed the projects enabling a

successful outcome and delivery of the project.

Er Jee said that the sweet success is when the project is successfully implemented and when the client and agencies are satisfied with the outcome. Teamwork in the engineering industry has been the hallmark of her success as she is able to galvanise her team to have the common goal i.e. deliver the project within timeline and cost.

THE FUTURE LIVEABLE CITIES

As for the future, Er Jee observed that for land scarp Singapore, the Government has already embarked on the underground master plan for Singapore. This means going forward, engineers will have more opportunities to challenge themselves to build deeper and safer infrastructure underground. Er Jee is very excited about the future as to her engineering will be at the forefront of infrastructure that will contribute to a more dynamic city that is liveable, sustainable, smart and resilient.

Once again, AWiCS thanked Er Jee for her generous sharing and lively exchanges with our members.

By Estella Kueh



ABOUT THE SPEAKER



Yi Ying (YY) is the Singapore Country Representative at AECOM, the world's premier infrastructure firm delivering professional services across the project lifecycle – from planning, design and engineering to consulting and construction management.

In this role, YY leads a diverse team of close to 700 professionals based in Singapore, charting strategic growth for the organization through serving public and private sector clients across key infrastructure and property sectors including transportation, water, environment, energy as well as facets of city planning and design.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On 29 May 2020, AWiCS had her first Annual General Meeting. In this unprecedented time, the AGM is held in an online platform.

As the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve, we are seeing a much wider impact on all our lives as well as the global economy. However, the outbreak does not dampen the spirit of the members. we are very delighted to receive a highly significant numbers of attendees in the virtual meeting. There were 20 attendees out of a membership of 43.

The meeting was called to order by our Hon Secretary, Ms. Vimalatulasi followed by a very warm welcome address by the founding president, Er. Emily Tan.

Er. Tan said "Since the founding of AWiCS in 2019, we shall continue with our aim to unify individuals and corporations in the Built Environment Industry in aid of the working women in this trying time."

Several matters were discussed in the AGM. In addition to Annual updates on AWiCS matters and financial reviews, we are also looking at more interactive webinar sessions this year.

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OUR VISION

To realise AWiCS as the distinctive organisation that unites individuals and corporations in the Built Environment Industry in aid of the working women.

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AWiCS Annual General Meeting 2020



EMILY TAN
President



ESTELLA KUEH
Vice President
Chairperson (Membership)



VIMALATULASI
Secretary



FINN TAY
Treasurer
Chairperson (Finance)



HAN FEI NEE
Chairperson
(Knowledge Management)



MAGDALINE YEO
Chairperson (Mentorship)



RABITA JAMAL
Chairperson
(Industrial Relations)



MUN WAI KWAN
Member (Finance)

AWiCS
Committee
FY20/22



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OUR MISSION

We are dedicated to retaining women in the Built Environment workforce, mentoring young adults and integrating people in the different sectors of the Built Environment industry.

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Our 1st event held at Paya Lebar Quarters in 2019, sponsored by Lendlease Asia Holdings was an overwhelming success. Hence, we are looking forward to other exciting events happening next year. Webinars has been planned for the rest of the year, as part of our talk series. Onward 2021, interesting activities have been planned such as talks, seminar, technical site visits to various Built Environment Industries.

During the AGM, the Executive Committee had proposed to extend the membership subscription collected to 31st December 2021 instead of 31 December 2020 due to the COVID-19. We are pleased to inform you that the meeting had agreed.

We hope this small gesture will help you in some way during these uncertain times.

Thank you for joining in our very first AGM, we look forward to your participation in our upcoming interactive webinar and e-networking session.

By Erin Rosli

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



Event	: Webinar
Date and Time	: Wednesday, 30 th September 2020, 6pm-7pm
Topic	: Infection Control through Fire Protection in Mission Critical Facilities
Fees	: Complimentary
Sign up at	: Click here



Event	: AWiCS Webinar in Collaboration with BuildTech Asia Virtual Exhibition and Webinar 2020
Date and Time	: Thursday, 15 th October 2020, 2pm-3pm
Topic	: Build It! How Women can forge the development of the Built Environment
Fees	: Complimentary for AWiCS Members
Sign up at	: Click here
Website	: Click here