

**ANNUAL REPORT  
2015 - 2016**

**I. Office bearers for the session 2015 - 2016**

The following members served on the committee for the session 2015 – 2016:

Chairman	Mr SHUN Chi-ming Hong Kong Observatory
Vice Chairman	Dr LI Ping-wah Hong Kong Observatory
Hon Secretary	Mr Terence KUNG Hong Kong Observatory
Hon Treasurer	Dr David LAM Hok-yin Hong Kong Observatory
Committee Members	Mr William CHENG Community Weather Information Network  Mr Clarence FONG Chi-kong Weather Underground of Hong Kong  Dr LAM Ka-se Hong Kong Polytechnic University  Dr Alexis LAU Kai-hon Hong Kong University of Science and Technology  Dr Lau Ngar Cheung, Gabriel Chinese University of Hong Kong  Mr Leung Wing Mo Hong Kong Polytechnic University  Dr NG Cho-nam University of Hong Kong  Dr Edward NG Yan-yung Chinese University of Hong Kong  Dr Wen Zhou City University of Hong Kong

The Society also benefited from the service of:

Honorary Auditor Ms Eunice Lee

Honorary Legal Advisor Ms Venus CHOY

## **II. Membership**

As of 30 November 2016, the membership register included 6 Honorary Members, 109 Fellows, 44 Full Members, 49 Student Members and 10 Corresponding Members, making a total of 218 members.

## **III. Review of the year**

### **Activities**

In response to the 2015 Paris Climate Change Conference (COP21), the Society has established a position statement to COP21 (Annex). The Chairman, Profs. Edward Ng and CN Ng appeared on RTHK 講東講西 to explain the Society's position on COP21. The Society then co-organized with the CUHK Jockey Club Initiative GAIA a forum titled 'What's Next After COP21?' which was held on 29 April 2016 at Choi Hung Estate Catholic Secondary School. The forum gathered experts from different sectors to share knowledge about, and insights into, the next steps after COP21. The forum has received enthusiastic response and attracted more than 180 participants from the public and private sectors, local schools and tertiary institutions. Furthermore, HKO cooperated with the CUHK Jockey Club Initiative GAIA to organize the "Green Leadership Camp 2016" in July 2016 with lectures on climate change delivered by the Chairman and Dr Rebecca Lee. The lectures were subsequently broadcasted by Radio Television Hong Kong as part of its 《大學堂》 programme. The roving exhibition "Climate Change - Our Response" under the Science in Public Service (SIPS) Campaign coordinated by the HKO was launched in June 2016 and officiated by the Chief Secretary for Administration, Secretary for Education, Secretary for the Environment, Under Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, and Director of Hong Kong Observatory. The roving exhibition ended in November 2016 with the exhibits displayed at 14 venues, attracting some 107,000 visitors.

Mr LEUNG Wing-mo spoke to the local and overseas media on behalf of the Society on several occasions this year, including the severe cold surge in January, the Red and Black rainstorm warnings, and on the approach of typhoons to Hong Kong, notably Typhoon Nida and Super Typhoon Haima. He also appeared on a couple of TV talk shows in the capacity as the spokesperson of the Society

In connection with the same theme, a "How Can We Survive? – Post COP21" Popular Meteorological Science Lecture Series was organized on 15 October 2016 afternoon in collaboration with the Hong Kong Science Museum. It was then followed by a Popular Science Talk For Teens on "The Tolling Of Climate Alarm Bells" in that evening in collaboration with the Hong Kong Central Library. The details are as follows:

Title	Speaker
Road to Sustainable Development?	Dr. LAM Ka-se Associate Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Urban Living after COP21	Dr. Edward NG Yan-yung Professor, School of Architecture The Chinese University of Hong Kong
The Ethics of Climate Change	Mr. LEUNG Wing-mo Adjunct Professor, Department of Land Surveying and Geo-Informatics The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
The Tolling of Climate Alarm Bells	Mr. TONG Hang-wai Scientific Officer The Hong Kong Observatory

The lecture series was well received with a total of around 400 participants.

The Society co-organized with WMO World Weather Research Programme (WWRP), Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) and Institute of Environment, Energy and Sustainability (IEES) of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) the WMO/WWRP 4th International Symposium on Nowcasting and Very short range Forecast (WSN16) from 25-29 July 2016. The theme of WSN16 was “From Nowcasting and Mesoscale Modelling Sciences to Services”. Over 160 overseas and local experts/students participated in the Symposium to share latest advances in the science and applications of nowcasting and mesoscale numerical modelling. Nowcasting and mesoscale numerical modelling are currently among the most active research areas in meteorology with an objective of predicting high impact weather that comes up shortly. The 4<sup>th</sup> Symposium also carried a special theme on aviation nowcasting with participation of air traffic management and airlines representatives. The Society’s Chairman, WMO representatives and Associate Vice-President of CUHK officiated in the Symposium. The success of the Symposium was commended by WMO and attracted some number of media reports (please visit <http://wsn16.hk>, <http://www.facebook.com/wsn16hk> for more details).

The Society continued to co-organize with Hong Kong Society for Education in Art a Primary School painting competition on the theme “更熱、更乾、更多雨 - 面對未來”. More than 150 highly creative artworks were received. The awards presentation ceremony was held on 19 March 2016 during the HKO Open Day.

The Society has been jointly organizing with the University of Hong Kong and the HKO on the “Earthquake Detector Design Competition” since mid 2016. Over 210 students from primary, secondary and international schools have registered to compete for various prizes. A number of lectures and DIY workshops for students to help them acquire the basic knowledge of earthquake and the various technologies to design innovative earthquake detectors were organized in November and December 2016. It is on-going with the deadline due in April 2017.

About 20 members of the Hong Kong Meteorological Society joined the Archi-Walk: “Sailing to Secret Islands” activity organized by Hong Kong Architecture Centre to visit the Waglan

Island on 28 May 2016. The Chairman was invited to introduce the history of weather observation at Waglan and provide a guided tour around the island.

### **Society Bulletin and Proceedings**

Vol. 23 (2013) and Vol. 24 (2014) are under preparation. A special issue on the 5th Conference on East Asia and Western Pacific Meteorology and Climate cum the 25th Anniversary of the Society held in 2013 will also be prepared. The EC maintains the long-term goal to improve the status of the Bulletin to become a Science Citation Indexed publication.

### **Website and Facebook**

The Society's website <http://www.meteorology.org.hk> has been well maintained and operating with up-to-date information. The website is being revamped to include more weather information and to facilitate browsing on mobile devices. The number of Friends of the Facebook page "Hong Kong Meteorological Society 香港氣象學會 - weather & climate" has continued to increase.

### **Heywood Young Scientists Award and Zhu Kezhen Prize**

Invitations for submissions for the "Heywood Young Scientists Award" R-prize (for outstanding research papers of meritorious publication in the field of meteorology or related subjects with researcher aged below 35); and E-prize (for outstanding educational projects in the field of meteorology or related subjects) have been announced. Deadline will be due on 31 December 2016. The R-Prize and E-Prize Award Panels for 2016 have been formed. The 1<sup>st</sup> E-Prize and R-Prize are expected to be awarded in mid/end 2017. Invitation letters for nominations on the Zhu Kezhen Prize have been sent to tertiary institutions in Hong Kong.

## **IV. Looking Ahead**

In the coming year, we will continue to: (a) organize competitions, public lectures and other public engagement activities to promote climate change, extreme weather awareness and preparedness; (b) extend collaboration with local and overseas meteorology and climate related societies and institutes (including International Forum of Meteorological Society, Met Societies in Mainland and Taiwan, and other regional Met Societies); (c) further promoting the Society's activities by increasing collaboration and synergy with existing and new partners (e.g. Co-WIN, MoCC, Friends of the Observatory, Youth Hong Kong etc), recruiting more student members, further developing the Facebook page (noting in particular HKO's plan to launch official Facebook page in late 2017), etc. More efforts will particularly be made to engage the youth community; (d) organize a few visits/trips to familiarize with other societies/organizations; and (e) seek opportunities to make synergistic collaboration with other societies, partners or stakeholders both local and overseas.

We will make good use of the Heywood Young Scientists Award to promote meteorology and related subjects' research and educational activities in Hong Kong. We will continue to keep in view of other potential sponsors and donors with common interests to support the Society's activities.

**V. Acknowledgements**

The Society wishes to express its sincere thanks to Heywood's family and Dr BY Lee for their generous donations of Heywood Fund to the Society.

CM Shun  
Chairman

13 December 2016

The Hong Kong Meteorological Society (the Society) welcomes the agreement reached by the parties in COP21 held in Paris in early December 2015 to limit global CO<sub>2</sub> emission.

The Society also welcomes the nations' determination to collectively tackle the challenges of climate change.

Given that global CO<sub>2</sub> emission is the main driver of climate change, realistically executing the pledges made by the countries to reduce emissions will steer the world away from the worst scenario, also known as the "business-as-usual" scenario, by 2030 (see Figure).

However, we must be cautious that a significant gap still remains if we aim at limiting the global temperature increase to below 2 °C by 2100. The world is already 1 °C warmer than the pre-industrial levels. How much warmer the world would get would critically depend on how hard we step up our effort to cut greenhouse gas emissions from now on.

While we should spare no effort in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, adaptation strategies should also be developed promptly to cope with the unavoidable climate change impacts associated with extreme weather, heat waves, rising sea levels, droughts, etc. The Society strongly urges all sectors and all members of the public to act responsibly now to help meeting, and hopefully, exceeding the pledges made in COP21.

