



At the 3rd WE-AFEO Meeting 2014 in Myanmar.



The 3rd WE-AFEO Meeting 2014 in Myanmar

The other representative is Mrs. Khin Sandar Tun, the Joint General Secretary of Myanmar Engineering Society.

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Myanmar, there are 8 major national ethnic races in the country, comprising the different ethnic groups: Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Burma, Rakhine and Shan. The country's population in 2014 was recorded at 51.4 million, with males at 24.8 million and females at nearly 27 million. This means females make up 51% of the population.

According to Myanmar's history, culture and laws, all its citizens have equal rights at all levels. Women have the same access as men to human resource endowments, rights and economic opportunities. The people believe that giving women equal opportunities will allow them to emerge as social and economic actors, influencing and shaping more inclusive policies.

Besides, improving the status of women also results in a greater investment in the children's education, health and overall well-being. The Myanmar Government also accepts that empowering women and the promotion of gender equality are key to achieving sustainable development. This is why there are many famous Myanmar women, not only in the country, but also in the world.

Technological universities in Myanmar have 19 academic engineering departments such as architecture, chemical, civil, electrical power, electronic information technology, mechanical, mechatronics, metallurgy, mining, petroleum, textile, physics engineering, chemistry engineering and geology engineering. In all technological universities, females make up 75% of the total student population. From 2013 till



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now, the ratio of female students in Yangan Technological University has increased by 50%.

In Myanmar, women as well as women engineers can occupy positions of leadership and decision-making. As Myanmar is a society in which there is gender equality at all levels, all women can be empowered, can fully realise their rights, are in position where they can effectively lead, and are treated with dignity and respect.

According to the data, women engineers in Myanmar are equal to men engineers and they can participate in all sectors of the country's development. They can play a vital sector in building the nation into a peaceful, developed country. ■

ITEM DIARY OF EVENTS

Title: 10th Brunei International Lecture, Collectively
We Are Stronger

15 June 2015

Organised by : Consulting Engineering Special Interest Group

Time : 5.30 p.m. - 7.30 p.m.

CPD/PDP : 2

Title: Talk on "New Tunnel Excavation Method using
Abrasive Waterjet"

15 June 2015

Organised by : Tunneling and Underground Space Engineering Technical Division

Time : 5.30 p.m. - 7.30 p.m.

CPD/PDP : 2

Title: 45th Annual General Meeting Graduate and
Student Section (Young Engineers Section), IEM
20 June 2015

Organised by : Graduates & Student - The Young Engineers Section

Time : 11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

CPD/PDP : 2

Title: First Annual General Meeting of the Seniors
Special Interest Group

27 June 2015

Organised by : Senior Special Interest Group

Time : 11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

CPD/PDP : 2

Kindly note that the scheduled events below are subject to change. Please visit the IEM website at www.myiem.org.my for more information on the upcoming events.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Institution would like to inform that En. Zakaria bin Abdullah (IC: 5908274-04-5213) is not a member of the Institution.

Thank you.

IEM Women Engineer Award



by Ir. Rafiah Mahfar

Ir. Rafiah Mahfar is the Chairman of IEM Women Engineers Section for Session 2014/2015. She is currently a Director of SCB Consultants Sdn. Bhd., a consultant for Structural, Civil, Infrastructure, Geotechnical and Railway engineering. She is a Professional Engineer and an active Member of IEM. She was also the committee member of the IEM Women Engineers Sub Committee since year 2008 and has held the post of Chairperson for session 2012/2013.

The IEM Women Engineer (IEM WE) Award is a showcase of women engineers who have made exceptional contributions to the community and the engineering profession in the country. The award will enable women engineers to highlight their accomplishments, become more visible and inspire other women within the industry.



Ir. Associate Professor Hayati Abdullah, the recipient of IEM WE Award 2015, believes that women engineers need to be visible with the right attitude, not to draw attention to the fact that they are in a male-dominated world but to the fact that they are extraordinary engineers in their own right.

Ir. Associate Professor Hayati Abdullah was raised in a multi-cultural community in Penang. A former student of Tunku Kurshiah College in Seremban, she obtained her Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Clemson University, USA. She then pursued her Masters in Mechanical Engineering at Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM).

Her career took off in Politeknik Ungku Omar, Ipoh, in 1985. The following year, she took up a position as lecturer in UTM and in 1995, she was seconded to the Malaysian Armed Forces Academy (now Universiti Pertahanan Nasional Malaysia) and held the position of Deputy Director and Head of Mechanical Engineering Department. She was responsible for infrastructure and curriculum development. She is currently Deputy Director at the Centre for Academic Leadership and Professional Development, UTM.

She feels blessed that she had a great mentor, Professor Ir. Dr K. S. Kannan, who first took her out of the campus to the industries. During the long semester break and away from campus, her involvement as an energy management consultant to the Ministry of Energy, Telecommunication and Post Malaysia in the 1990s allowed her

to work in many National Energy Conservation and Auditing projects in the country.

She believes she has an important role to play in bridging the industry-university gap - "I practise what I teach and I teach what I practise".

Ir. Hayati's ability to interconnect her knowledge and experience acquired through teaching, research and consultancy, has contributed to developing her own innovative teaching style. In 2010, she was awarded the prestigious Anugerah Akademik Negara, the national award for the Teaching of Engineering.

She appreciates the support she gets from her family and has always tried to maintain a balance between work and family. Away from work, she enjoys bowling with her family and friends. She plays an active role in IEM Southern Branch (Johar & Singapore) and is currently the Branch Chairman.

She feels strongly about increasing women's roles in engineering and believes there is a need for a strong network of women in engineering. It is for this reason that she actively participates in IEM WE activities and founded the IEM Women Engineers Southern and the Young Women Engineers Section of IEM - UTM Student Chapter.



An educational field trip is an integral part of Ir. Associate Professor Hayati Abdullah class activities.