

ASHRAE (2007-2008)

President Address at AGM

Fellow members of ASC. Thank you for your vote of confidence in me this afternoon.

Before I share with you on other issues, I would like to take this opportunity to represent you all, to express a vote of thanks to the outgoing President, Steven Leong. Also, I would also like to thank the outgoing President-Elect, Norman Ng, for his presence here this afternoon, in spite of his busy schedule.

By tradition, you would expect to hear from the incoming President, after the election, a speech from him to the effect that he would continue with his policies that he upheld when he was the President-Elect. By tradition of the ASC, the President-Elect would automatically be the incoming President of the Chapter. In this instance, we had not had such luxury this year. You all had to elect me today instead. I was the 2nd President of ASC in 1984, some 25 years ago. Then I do not need to be elected. You can then consider me today as your 1st re-cycled President.

The past presidents at the Nomination Committee felt very strongly about this Ashrae Chapter. They were very passionate about the health of the Chapter, and the bonding of comradeship that they had of close friends of the HVAC industry, within this Chapter, as well as those in other Chapters at large. For this reason, they had fervently persuaded me to take on the leadership role for this coming year.

Your election of the incoming Committee Members showed your maturity in today's election. You had also demonstrated your continued support and interest in the Society, for which I am sure you are proud to be the members.

My acceptance of the President-ship was not an easy decision. Few years ago, I decided that I would slow down in my work. Instead, my work got more intense and my personal interests have increased. I am now busier in the evenings than in the day time.

But, Parkinson's Law prevails – it is the busy people who have time to spare.

I have spoken to a few of you about our Chapter. It is clear that there are 2 distinct areas of concern.

Firstly - how we can motivate the BOG members and the members at large, to participate more actively in the events of the Chapter.

Secondly - they are concerned on how to get more new young members to join this Chapter? Without new members, the Chapter may not have leaders in time to come.

So, allow me some time, to get to know the BOG members better, and to work closely with them. As for the details of this year's programme, I will leave it to the good hands of the new BOG to inform you all in due course.

Nevertheless, I would like share with you this. Intensive and proper training will be provided to all the BOG members, and their sub-committee members. Take a good look at them now and watch their performance in a year's time. This would be likened to a contest.

Very shortly, the chairpersons of the various sub-committees will be looking out for the sub-committee members. Be sure that you volunteer your service. Be immersed with the operation of the Chapter. Understudy from the various chairpersons and be a chairperson in time to come. We would like to see new potential Presidential candidates groomed for the future years.

Next we will enhance your membership at the Chapter. Why join as a member of a Chapter, if it is not relevant to us. Time is precious to us nowadays. Our time spent at the Chapter must be worthwhile.

Ashrae is in the fore-front in research and knowledge of HVAC, in the English speaking world.

Let us translate such synergy into our Chapter. There is no reason why Chapter members are not kept better informed about what is going on around town in the HVAC industries. We will see to it that this will happen in our Chapter.

Programmes will be designed so that if we do not turn up to hear about them, we may be behind in your knowledge on the things to come. We must be the champion around town in the field of Clean and Green Energy, which is what the Authority is emphasizing so much nowadays.

Times have changed. We must change. The Chapter must also change too. We must make our Chapter activities, and happening relevant to our members and especially to our new and younger members.

Just getting together for talks alone is not good enough. In this era, we must be sensitive to the need for good connectivity.

All our activities must still be solid. There must not give way to commercialism. But we can still have good fun and make our activities very enjoyable.

Davis Ong was my colleague before. I am sure that he is sure to make it more financially worthwhile to be an ASC member, than for those who are not members.

It is our 25th year and this is significant. It is our Silver Anniversary. We must celebrate it well, for it may be well cherished, in time to come.

So on behalf of the incoming BOG, I seek your good support. We must close file and work together for the next 25 good years ahead of all of us.

Y. P. Chee
President 2007-2008
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