The Future Engineers 2014 – “Be Connected” One-day Workshop

The Future Engineers 2014 – “Be Connected” was successfully held on 12 July 2014 in The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. 80 students from 18 secondary schools participated in the one-day workshop and demonstrated their creative thinking in railway network development and railway station design.

The workshop was organized by the Institution of Engineering and Technology (The IET) Hong Kong, Younger Members Section, the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE), Young Members Committee, Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) Hong Kong Branch, Young Member Section and Institute of Industrial Engineers (Hong Kong) (IIE (HK)) with an objective to raise students’ interests in the field of engineering, science and technology, and provide a platform for students from different schools to share views and collaborate ideas. Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University was the supporting organization.

The workshop started with two seminar sessions. Three guest speakers Ir Albert Yuen, Ir Veronica Choi and Mr Frankie Ng from MTR Corporation Limited were invited in the seminar sessions with the topics of “Railway Network Planning and Development” and “The MTR Train Operation” to foster students’ practical
knowledge in the railway industry and equip them to be engineers in the future. Students were not only offered a great opportunity to have a better understanding of design, operation & maintenance of railway systems, but they also had a chance to expand their network among different schools.

In afternoon session, the students were assigned with two tasks to the design of railway network that connected with various cities in China and select one of the cities to design the railway station. Before starting the railway and station design, the students had to complete the tasks in the checkpoints within the campus to get a certain length of railway with the guidance of helpers, so as to construct the railway network in China. Finally, the students had to present their designs to the judges and explained the rationale behind. The judges based on five areas including “completeness”, “logical thinking”, “creativity”, “aesthetic” of the railway network and station and “presentation skills” to select the winners of the game. Throughout the activities, the students could apply what they learned in the seminars.

The event was a great success and provided an enjoyable learning experience for students. Students can have better understanding about engineering and the institution. We would like to express our sincere thanks the honorable guest speakers, the organization committees and over 60 helpers from the four institutions.