二〇〇〇年度理事會報告
1999/2000 was a very busy year for all of us. While celebrating a new millennium, we have diligently examined and equipped ourselves as we realise that the new era is meant for those who are ready.

General Issues

Changes of Council Members

At the last Annual General Meeting, Cho Lung Pui Lan, Stella and Kennedy Tat-yin Liu were newly elected to the Council. The Council wishes to thank the two elected members who retired from it, namely, Charles S.W. Chan and past president Tim T.L. Lui, for their contributions during their tenure of office.

Paul M.P. Chan and Chung Shui Ming were newly co-opted under section 10(4) of the Professional Accountants Ordinance. The Council wishes to thank Michael T.L. Pang who retired as a co-opted member for his contributions during his term of office.

Fourth Long Range Plan

Members of the Council have just completed their review on the draft report prepared by the Fourth Long Range Plan Working Group.

The Report, which is expected to be published before the end of the year, will focus on the development of the services and practices of professional accountants, the development of professional competences and attitudes, the relationship between the Society and its strategic alliances and the governance of the Society. Strategic aims and action plans have been formulated with a strong reference to the nexus between the profession and the changing external environment.


九九九／二〇〇〇年度理事會報告

二〇〇〇年度對於本會上下全人是非常繁忙的一年。在慶祝千禧來臨之際，我們亦同時努力不懈地檢討和裝備自己，因為我們知道只有預備充足的人才能適應新紀元。

會務綜述

理事會成員變動

於上屆公會周年大會中，左龍佩蘭及廖達賢獲選為新任理事。理事會對卸任的兩位獲選理事陳尚偉及前會長雷添良在任內的貢獻表示感謝。

第四個長遠計劃

理事會理事剛審核完畢由第四個長遠計劃工作小組呈交的草擬報告。

這份預計在年底前發表的報告將集中探討如何拓展專業會計師的服務和實務工作、提升專業會計師的專業能力和取向、公會與其合作夥伴的關係及公會管治等工作事務。所擬定的策略性目標及行動計劃，均以會計專業與不斷改變的外在環境之間的關係為前提。
The education and development of accountants, particularly in relation to information technology and communication skills, governance and self-regulation of the profession, the future development of the Professional Qualification Programme and the promotion of the Society’s qualification internationally are the major areas on which the Society will allocate its resources over the next few years.

**Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs)**

The Society signed mutual recognition agreements for the first time with two overseas accounting bodies, the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) and CPA Australia (formerly the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants), in May 2000.

The agreements are a significant breakthrough in that they enable members qualified under the HKSA’s Qualification Programme to apply for either one or both of the ACCA and CPA Australia memberships. The MRAs represent an achievement in the Society’s history as they affirm the quality of Professional Qualification Programme and are a telling reflection of the Society’s international standing and contribution to the development of the accountancy profession in the region.

**Membership Review Task Force**

During the year, a task force was set up under the President’s chairmanship to recommend to the Council an appropriate structure, status, name and designation of the Society’s membership. The Task Force’s recommendations, subject to Council’s endorsement in principle, would soon be put out for members’ comments.

**LegCo election activities**

Under the Basic Law of the Hong Kong SAR, 24 seats of the second Legislative Council were to be returned from five geographical constituencies, 30 from 28 functional
constituencies and 6 from an Election Committee (EC). The Accountancy Subsector was to return 20 members to the 800-member EC.

At the EC election that took place in July, 40 candidates contested for the seats under the Accountancy Subsector, and 20 members were duly elected.

Three candidates stood for the election under the Accountancy Functional Constituency and a forum for the candidates was organised. A total of 6,404 or over 50% of the registered voters turned out to vote and Eric Li was elected to the second Legislative Council of the Hong Kong SAR.

A forum was also organised in September for the accountancy profession to meet with the ten candidates standing for election under the EC.

Membership

Membership Statistics

During the period under review, a net increase of 1,541 members was recorded and the number of professional accountants at the reporting date stood at 17,645. This represented an increase of 9.6% over the number in October 1999, which was 16,104.

The number of members holding practising certificates increased by 6.6% from last year’s 2,711 to 2,891, representing 16.4% of the total membership. The number of practising certificate holders continued to grow at a slower rate than the total membership.

The number of registered practices increased by 4.8% from 1,040 to 1,090 of which 73 were registered in corporate mode.

會籍

會員統計資料

期內會員淨額增加1,541名，而截至本報告日期專業會計師總數為17,645名，與一九九九年十月的16,104名比較，增加9.6%。

持有執業證書的會員有2,891名，與去年同期的2,711名比較，增加6.6%，佔全體會員人數16.4%。持有執業證書的會員人數增長幅度仍然低於會員總人數的增長。

執業會計師事務所的註冊數目由1,040家增至1,090家，增幅4.8%，其中73家以有限公司形式執業。
Charts showing membership statistics are presented at Appendix A.

Registration and Practising Matters

The Registration and Practising Committee processed 1,736 applications for membership, 236 applications for a practising certificate, 76 applications for the registration of a new firm and 26 applications for the registration of a corporate practice during the reporting period.

Standard Setting

Ethics

The Committee made progress with the Revisions Project to update the Society’s Professional Ethics Statements with due regard to the IFAC Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants. The objective of this review is to ensure that the new rules are in line with the international standard and will be able to meet the challenges in the new Millennium. The Revisions Project will keep the Committee busy for the foreseeable future.

The Committee reviewed Statement 1.205 “Practice promotion” during the year in the light of feedback and enquiries from members on the liberalised publicity and advertising rules, and would make recommendations to Council on certain proposed further amendments to the rules.

The Committee considered the issue of applicability of HKSA ethical rules to registered students and made recommendation to Council that registered students of the Society should be required to comply with the Professional Ethics Statements of the Society. This recommendation was endorsed by Council and registered students had been informed of the Council’s decision.
The Committee considered and compiled a submission on an exposure draft (ED) of “Proposed Changes to the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants” in respect of independence which was issued by the IFAC for consultation.

In addition, the Committee dealt with numerous enquiries on the ethical rules and considered 3 complaints of a serious nature.

**Accounting**

Further progress has been made during the year in developing new and revised accounting standards in line with International Accounting Standards (IAS). Harmonisation with IAS has been pursued by the Society since 1993/1994. Now that the International Accounting Standards Committee has completed its work on developing core standards and obtained endorsement for them by the International Organisation of Securities Commissions, the pace of work to complete the harmonisation process, as far as is possible in Hong Kong, has been speeded up. For example, the Financial Accounting Standards Committee (FASC) issued 5 accounting standards, 9 exposure drafts and 4 other Statements as set out in Appendix B. With the assistance of the Urgent Issues and Interpretations Subcommittee, the FASC also issued 3 Interpretations and 4 draft interpretations aimed at providing guidance on emerging issues in areas that are considered likely to receive divergent or unacceptable treatments. The FASC reviewed new statements and exposure drafts issued by the International Accounting Standards Committee (IASC) and commented on these as appropriate.

Among the significant developments during the year were the introduction of a new accounting standard specific to Hong Kong on group reconstructions, which was necessitated by the amendment of the Companies Ordinance to allow merger relief and the exposure of a package of six...
new draft standards, modelled on the equivalent IAS, dealing with various aspects of business combinations and accounting for intangible assets, provisions and asset impairment. These will be finalised in the coming year. In addition, close liaison with Government has commenced with a view to finding a way to amend the Companies Ordinance to permit the consolidation of subsidiary undertakings which fall outside the scope of the current statutory definition.

Meanwhile, the Accounting Standards Advisory Panel continued to monitor the development of accounting standards and the progress towards harmonization with IAS.

The Working Group on GAAP for Smaller Businesses was established during the year and it developed proposals for streamlining financial reporting (within the framework of Hong Kong accounting standards) by small enterprises. The Working Group is developing a draft accounting standard for small enterprises as well as proposals for eventual reform of the Companies Ordinance in this area. This is a big project which has become both necessary and urgent because of the proliferation of accounting standards based on IAS which risk putting an increased burden of compliance on both smaller enterprises and practitioners. The Society recognises the importance of small enterprises to Hong Kong’s economy and has undertaken this project (which we do not believe has been undertaken in relation to IAS-based standards before) to improve the quality and relevance of financial reporting by small enterprises while keeping the cost of compliance commensurate with the benefits to the enterprise and the community. Detailed proposals will be issued for consultation in the coming year.

Auditing Standards Committee

Year 2000 was as demanding and as productive as any that has gone before for the Committee. SAS 700...
“Engagements to review interim financial reports” and revised SAS 600 “Auditors’ reports on financial statements” were issued as final Statements after earlier consultation with members. With the issuance of the revised SAS 600 which is closely in line with the equivalent International Standard on Auditing 700, the issue of the “dating of audit report” had been resolved. In response to the revisions made to the Securities (Accounts and Audit) Rules and Commodities Trading (Accounts and Audit) Rules, and the enactment of the Securities (Margin Financing) (Amendment) Ordinance, the example auditors’ reports for securities dealers and commodities dealers had been revised and a new example auditors’ report for securities margin financiers had been inserted in the Appendix to SAS 600 after discussion with the Securities & Futures Commission.

The Committee continued to make progress with the SAS Revisions Project with the issuance of re-exposure drafts of proposed SAS 130 “Going concern”, SAS 150 “Subsequent events” and SAS 450 “Opening balances and comparatives” for further consultation during the year. The Committee was finalising SAS 160 “Other information in documents containing audited financial statements” for issuance as a final Statement in the near future.

Another major initiative of the Committee during the year was the development of a proposed PN “The assessments of Certification Authorities under the Electronic Transactions Ordinance” providing guidance to members acting as assessors of an assessment pursuant to the requirements under the Electronic Transactions Ordinance. Comments on the ED were under consideration by the Committee.

The Committee considered the Building Management (Amendment) Bill 2000 and Urban Renewal Authority Bill during the year and made a submission on the respective
audit reporting requirements, and as a result the Bills had been amended accordingly.

The Committee developed and issued as an Appendix to PN 850 “Review of flag day accounts” a suggested Chinese translation of the example Flag Day Review Report after discussion with the Social Welfare Department. The Chinese translation of example audit engagement letter in SAS 140 “Engagement letters” was modified during the year. The Committee was in the process of updating PN 600.1 “Reports by auditors under the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance”, particularly by incorporating as an Appendix the suggested Chinese translation of the example auditors’ reports as contained in SAS 600.

During the year the Committee considered an ED of proposed revised ISA 240 “The auditor’s responsibility to consider fraud and errors in an audit of financial statements”, and audit issues referred to it by other Committees, and worked closely with other Committees on the topical cross-discipline technical issues identified.

### Monitoring and Enforcement

**Complaints and enquiries**

The Society handled 86 complaints and enquiries on professional conduct matters during the period. By the reporting date, 46 such cases were completed and 40 cases were under investigation.

Following established policy, the Society always tries to resolve minor complaints at the secretariat level by conciliation between the parties concerned. Only serious cases are referred to the Ethics Committee or the Council for further consideration.

### Monitoring and Enforcement

**Complaints and enquiries**

The Society handled 86 complaints and enquiries on professional conduct matters during the period. By the reporting date, 46 such cases were completed and 40 cases were under investigation.

Following established policy, the Society always tries to resolve minor complaints at the secretariat level by conciliation between the parties concerned. Only serious cases are referred to the Ethics Committee or the Council for further consideration.

### Monitoring and Enforcement

**Complaints and enquiries**

The Society handled 86 complaints and enquiries on professional conduct matters during the period. By the reporting date, 46 such cases were completed and 40 cases were under investigation.

Following established policy, the Society always tries to resolve minor complaints at the secretariat level by conciliation between the parties concerned. Only serious cases are referred to the Ethics Committee or the Council for further consideration.
A breakdown of the complaint cases completed is set out below:

**Subject matter**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject matter</th>
<th>Number of cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality of services 服務質素</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-compliance with professional standards</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or statutory requirements 不遵守專業準則或法定要求</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improper advertising and promotional activities 不適當的廣告宣傳及推廣活動</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delay 延誤</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dishonesty 不誠實</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Request for assistance 要求協助</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others 其他</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Findings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Findings</th>
<th>Number of cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not pursuable 不能跟進</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaint unfounded 投訴不成立</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conciliated at secretariat level 由秘書處進行調解</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaint founded 投訴成立：</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Verbal warning 口頭警告</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Disapproval letters 發出責備函件</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Disciplinary proceedings 展開紀律處分程序：</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Removed from the register of professional accountants/registered students 自專業會計師／註冊學生的註冊紀錄冊中除名</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Reprimanded 譴責</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Practice Review**

The practice review programme is now in its eighth year of operation. The Practice Review Committee practically completed the first cycle of reviewing 1,000 cases during the period. It is developing the approach for the second review cycle.

**執業審核**

執業審核計劃進行至今已是第八年。期內，執業審核委員會基本上完成了審核首循環的1,000宗個案。委員會目前正考慮如何制定次循環審核的方針。
The Practice Review Committee lodged complaints against three practitioners to the Council during the period. The Council referred all three complaints to the Disciplinary Panel. In one of the cases, a complaint was lodged against a practitioner for failing to comply with the practice review procedures in respect of the second review of his practice. The Disciplinary Committee found that the complaint was proved and ordered that the name of the professional accountant be removed from the register of professional accountants for a period of 18 months. An appeal to the Court of Appeal on the penalty ordered by the Disciplinary Committee has been lodged by the professional accountant concerned. The disciplinary hearings of the two other cases are scheduled for December 2000.

The Practice Review Committee also resolved to raise a complaint concerning a second review case to the Council during the period. The complaint is under preparation.

**Monitoring of financial statements**

The Professional Standards Monitoring Committee reviewed over 150 annual reports of listed companies during the reporting period and wrote to the auditors of 54 companies asking for an elaboration of certain accounting treatments and recommending improvements to the annual reports to be considered in the following year. It has maintained its current target to review all published financial statements in a cycle of five years.

The Society was pleased to note that compliance with reporting standards over the years has been satisfactory.

**Referrals from the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong**

In 1998 and 1999, the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong referred to the Society in total 11 cases concerning the audit of listed companies. The Council instructed the Professional Standards Monitoring Committee to conduct a...
fact-finding exercise concerning three cases. Subsequently the Stock Exchange put on hold two cases because of problems in making available further information to the Society and withdrew one other. As a result of the initial enquiries of the Professional Standards Monitoring Committee, the Council found no case to answer in respect of two of the cases and instigated formal investigations under Part VA of the Professional Accountants Ordinance in respect of four cases in the last reporting period and one more case in the current reporting period. The Committee is still studying the one remaining case.

**Task Force on Corporate Failures**

The Task Force has substantially agreed with the Securities and Futures Commission and the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong the procedures to be followed in referring cases to the Society for investigation.

The need for such an arrangement became clear after concerns were raised following a number of corporate failures in 1998. Where regulators have questions regarding the performance of audit work, it is agreed by all that it is the Society’s responsibility to look into this. The Society has reaffirmed its willingness to pursue inquiries and investigations into member firms, while the regulators needed to understand what kinds of concerns would legitimately give rise to inquiries into audit performance. All parties now have a clearer understanding of how to deal with such matters in an effective and fair manner.

**Investigation**

During the reporting period, there were seven formal investigations under way, of which five were brought forward from the last reporting period. As a result of the judicial reviews brought by the member firms concerned, three of these cases had been put on hold. These judicial review cases were determined by the Court of First Instance
during the reporting period in favour of the Society and the Society has taken steps to recommence the investigations. Appeals to the Court of Appeal on the decisions of the Court of First Instance have been lodged by the member firms concerned in two of these cases.

**Disciplinary**

Apart from the complaints raised by the Practice Review Committee reported above, three other cases were heard by the Disciplinary Committees during the period.

One of the cases was a complaint against a registered student. The registered student had been guilty of conduct which rendered him unfit to become a professional accountant. The complaint was proved and the name of the student was removed from the student’s register.

The second case was a complaint against a professional accountant in respect of negligence in the conduct of the audit of a set of financial statements. The complaint was proved and the professional accountant was reprimanded. Appeal to the Court of Appeal on the decision of the Disciplinary Committee has been lodged by the professional accountant concerned.

The third case related to non-compliance with the Society’s ethical standards by two professional accountants. The Disciplinary Committee found that one of the respondents was guilty and ordered that the professional accountant be reprimanded. The complaint against the second respondent was not proved.

**Proposed changes to the disciplinary and regulatory process**

During the reporting period, a task force appointed by Council to review the Disciplinary Committee Proceedings Rules (“the Proceedings Rules”) and regulatory process of the Society submitted a report of recommendations to

中兩宗個案的有關核數師事務所經裁原審法庭的裁決向上訴法院提出上訴。

**紀律**

除了上述來自執業審核委員會的投訴外，紀律委員會於期內聆訊了另外三宗個案。

其中一宗個案涉及一名註冊學生被投訴犯有失當行為，令其不適宜成為專業會計師。該宗投訴證據成立，而該學生的名字已於公會註冊學生的註冊紀錄冊上刪除。

第二宗個案是對一名專業會計師在審核一份財務報表時出現疏忽的投訴。該宗投訴證據成立，而該名專業會計師亦受到譴責。有關的專業會計師已就紀律委員會的裁決向上訴法院提出上訴。

第三宗個案涉及兩名專業會計師被投訴不遵守公會專業操守準則。紀律委員會裁定其中一名答辯人的投訴證據成立，並對該名專業會計師作出譴責。另一名答辯人的投訴則並不成立。

**紀律及監管程序更改建議**

於期內，由理事會委任，就紀律委員會程序規則（「程序規則」）及公會監管程序作出檢討的一個專責小組，經向理事會呈交報告。該專責小組建議對程序規則及公會監管程序作出
Council. The task force has proposed important changes to the Proceedings Rules and our regulatory process to enhance the transparency, independence and effectiveness of the whole self-regulatory system.

Council intends to adopt all the recommendations of the task force as a major step in improving our self-regulatory system. Council is currently seeking the views of our members and major bodies representing users of the services of professional accountants, before implementing the proposed changes.

**Representation and Advocacy**

**Corporate Governance**

The Corporate Governance Committee continues its mission to develop and promote good corporate governance in Hong Kong. In line with this mission, the Committee organised two major events on behalf of the Society this year.

In June, the Society, the Securities and Futures Commission and the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong jointly hosted the Second OECD Asian Corporate Governance Roundtable in Hong Kong. The Roundtable adopted the theme of “The Role of Disclosure in Strengthening Corporate Governance and Accountability” was attended by over 140 delegates from the world’s highest profile financial and professional institutions and a great success.

In support of the Roundtable theme and with the objective of promoting and encouraging good corporate governance disclosures in Hong Kong, the Society launched its first Best Corporate Governance Disclosure Awards. The competition was open to all Hong Kong listed companies and public sector/not-for-profit corporations. Entries were judged by the quality and standard of presentation and disclosure of corporate governance information in their
annual reports. The Awards Presentation Ceremony made the highlight of the Society’s Annual Dinner this year.

Legal

The Legal Committee as usual had a full agenda of legislation and consultation documents to consider.

The Committee continued to liaise with the Security Bureau over the scope of the Security and Guarding Services Ordinance. The Bureau ultimately put forward an amendment to narrow down the definition of “security work” which should establish finally that forensic accountancy is not an activity that is required to be licensed under that Ordinance. A lengthy series of communications was exchanged with the Administration and Legislative Council over the Telecommunication (Amendment) Bill 1999. The main area of concern was a provision which enabled the Telecommunications Authority, armed with a magistrate’s warrant, to obtain access information held by third parties such as auditors. The Society argued long and hard that the third party should have a proper opportunity to make representations which should also be put before the magistrate when a decision was made. Although, prima facie, this was a fairly technical piece of legislation, the Committee saw it as establishing a precedent as far as the rights of third parties to protect information held by them was concerned. The combined efforts of the Committee and the Legislative Council representative were eventually rewarded when significant safeguards were added into the Bill.

The breadth of the Securities and Futures Legislation (Provision of False Information) Bill 2000 also raised concerns in the Committee. The Society made a robust submission on it, which, in the light of similar doubts expressed by other professional bodies, led to substantial changes being made to the Bill to define and limit its scope.

The breadth of the Securities and Futures Legislation (Provision of False Information) Bill 2000 also raised concerns in the Committee. The Society made a robust submission on it, which, in the light of similar doubts expressed by other professional bodies, led to substantial changes being made to the Bill to define and limit its scope.

頒獎典禮成為了本年度公會周年晚宴上的高潮。

法律事務

法律事務委員會如常地處理了多項立法事務及諮詢文件。

委員會就《保安及護衛服務條例》的範疇繼續與保安局進行磋商。保安局最終提出一項修訂，更加精確地闡明「保安工作」的定義。此項修訂制訂了司法會計學並非一項須經上述條例特許的活動。委員會就《1999年電訊（修訂）條例草案》與政府機關及立法會多次交換意見。委員會最為關注的是該草案的其中一項條款，容許電訊管理局在持有裁判官手令的情況下，向第三者（如核數師）索取資料。公會費盡唇舌提出爭辯，認為在裁判官作出裁決之前，當局應當給予第三者機會向裁判官陳情。雖然表面上這是一個相對技術性的條例，但委員會認為就第三者保障其所持資料的權利而言，該條例將會開創一個先例。委員會及立法會會計界功能界別代表的共同努力終有成果，該草案最終加入了重要條款，適當限制了電訊管理局的權力。

《2000年證券及期貨法例（提供虛假資料）條例草案》的範疇也引起委員會的關注。公會就此作出了雄辯，加上其他專業團體所提出的同様疑問，當局終於對該草案作出重大修改，進一步闡明和限制其範疇。
Work by the Committee on revising the technical bulletin on the reporting of money laundering activities was held in abeyance in the light of proposals to lower the threshold for reporting under the Drug Trafficking and Organised Crimes (Amendment) Bill 1999. The Committee wrote to the Commissioner for Narcotics and later to the Legislative Council expressing reservations. The Bill subsequently remained on the waiting list for a Bills Committee to be formed during the 1999/2000 legislative session and therefore lapsed at the end of the session.

Comments by the Committee were also made on a number of other legislative proposals and government consultation papers. The Committee continues to play an essential role in monitoring legislative developments that could have a significant impact on the profession and the interests of the wider community.

**Taxation**

The Taxation Committee’s principal recommendation in its 2000 Budget Proposals submission to the Financial Secretary was for a major review of the regime to be conducted on various levels, including a review of the revenue-raising system and the tax base.

The Government subsequently set up two committees, one internal and one external panel of experts, to examine, respectively, whether the situation of budget deficits was cyclical or structural and the scope for the introduction of new broad-based taxes. It is clear that the Committee, and through it the Society, remains adept at identifying and commenting upon the major issues facing the community in relation to taxation.

The Chairman of the Committee, Tim Lui was subsequently appointed on a personal basis to the independent panel of experts on broad-based taxes. The

由於有建議將《1999年販毒及有組織罪行（修訂）條例草案》內有關對舉報要求的界限降低，委員會暫時搁置修訂有關舉報洗黑錢活動的專業公報。委員會曾致函禁毒專員，之後也致函立法會，表示對有關建議有所保留。該草案的修訂工作因而暫時擱置，以便立法會在一九九九／二〇〇〇年度會期內設立法案委員會，對草案進行審議。因此，在該年度立法會會期結束時，該草案亦無法如期通過。

委員會也就數項立法建議和政府諮詢文件提出意見。委員會繼續扮演重要角色，監察任何對會計專業及廣大社會有重大影響的立法建議。

**稅務**

在稅務委員會呈交予財政司司長的二〇〇〇年度財政預算案建議中，最主要的建議為在多個層面上改革稅務政策，包括對稅收系統和稅基的檢討。

政府隨後成立了兩個內部及外部的專家小組，分別探討預算案的赤字情況是否屬於循環性或結構性，以及擴闊新稅基的可行範圍。很明顯地，稅務委員會及公會仍然善於界定及評論社會大眾所面對的主要稅務問題。

委員會主席雷添良隨後以個人身份獲委任為擴闊稅基獨立專家小組成員。稅務委員會將會透過他作為該小組成員的身份與他緊密地合
Committee will work closely with him in his capacity as a member of the panel to communicate views on the subject of the tax base. It was suggested that this process should also involve tapping into the thinking of the wider membership of the Society and the Committee has been considering how best to do this.

Representatives of the Committee as usual held an annual meeting with the Commissioner of Inland Revenue Department on matters of mutual interest. One of the issues arising from this was the proposed amendments to the tax return for businesses which included removing the requirement for small corporations (with turnover of under HK$500,000) to submit audited accounts with their return. Representatives of the Committee and the Legislative Council representative, Eric Li, held a separate meeting with the Commissioner to express concern over the implications of this proposal. Confirmation was sought and obtained from the Commissioner that this did not represent a change in IRD’s policy and that all companies were still expected to have audited accounts ready which they might be asked to produce if IRD raised questions on their returns. The Committee took some assurance from the Commissioner’s statement that this policy would be emphasized in the context of publicity for the new tax returns. The Committee will nevertheless continue to monitor the situation and may need to follow up on it when providing feedback to the IRD on the practical application of the new returns.

During the year a small group was set up under the Committee to liaise with the IRD on technical issues relating to introduction of electronic filing of tax information.

作，向當局表達有關稅基的意見。委員會正就該研究過程應該廣泛搜集公會會員意見的建議作出考慮，制定實行該建議的最佳方法。

稅務委員會的代表如常與稅務局局長舉行一年一度的會議，討論雙方共同關注的事宜。會議中所討論的其中一項事宜為公司報稅表的修訂建議，建議豁免小型企業（營業額低於50萬港元）在呈交報稅表時須附上經審核帳目的要求。委員會代表及立法會會計界功能界別代表李家祥與稅務局局長特別舉行了另一個會議，對此項建議所帶來的影響表示關注。稅務局局長證實這並不代表稅務局的政策將有所改變，並表示所有的公司都仍須備有經審核的帳目，以便稅務局對它們的報稅表產生疑問時能夠查閱。稅務局局長更保證在推行该项新報稅表措施時將會強調這個政策。然而，委員會將繼續監察有關情況，並會在新報稅表的執行上向稅務局作出建議，並在有需要時，作出跟進。

委員會於期內成立了一個小組，就電子報稅的技術問題與稅務局聯繫。
Securities Industry

The Society maintained close contacts with regulators of the securities industry, the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) and the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong. Three tripartite meetings were held during the year to exchange views on subjects of mutual concern.

Since January 2000, the Securities Industry Committee was split into two Committees, namely the Advisory Committee on Listing and Takeover Regulations and the Advisory Committee for Securities Intermediaries, in response to the increasing complexity of regulations for different types of market participants.

The release of the Securities and Futures Bill by the Government marked a significant step forward in the reform of the securities and futures industry in Hong Kong. The above two Advisory Committees held a number of meetings to review the relevant clauses in the Bill. The Society made a submission on Clause 165 of the Bill setting out comments in respect of the proposed power to be given to the SFC to have access to auditors’ working papers.

The Advisory Committee on Listing and Takeover Regulations considered and commented on four consultation papers issued by The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited concerning the proposed revisions to Chapter 3A and Chapter 17 of the Listing Rules of the Main Board on sponsors and financial advisers, and share option schemes respectively, the proposed revisions to the Listing Rules of the Growth Enterprise Market, and dissemination of announcements through the Exchange’s website. The Committee also reviewed and commented on two codes of conduct on regulated persons and corporate financial advisers issued by the SFC.
The Advisory Committee for Securities Intermediaries reviewed proposed legislative changes in relation to Financial Resources Rules and Securities (Accounts and Audit) Rules. The Committee also reviewed the consultation paper on a proposed practice note on investment incidental advice provided by solicitors and accountants issued by the SFC. Submissions were made in respect of the above proposals.

The Financial Services Interest Group, which operates under the auspices of the Advisory Committee for Securities Intermediaries, held 5 luncheon seminars on subjects relating to the securities industry.

Banking
The Advisory Committee for Banking dealt with matters relating to accounting and auditing in the banking sector and proposals issued by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) where these affect the interests of the accountancy profession.

The Committee maintained regular contacts with the HKMA in relation to financial disclosure by authorised institutions. The Committee reviewed and provided comments on various proposals on financial disclosure, including those for locally incorporated authorised institutions and overseas incorporated authorised institutions in respect of their interim and annual reporting. One liaison meeting with the HKMA was held. Members of the Committee also participated in the HKMA’s Working Party on Financial Disclosure.

In the area of accounting standard setting, the Society issued an exposure draft which proposed to withdraw the exemptions from compliance with SSAP 13 “Accounting for investment properties” by locally incorporated authorised institutions. This proposal will further enhance comparability of financial statements of authorised institutions in Hong Kong.
Insurance

A major task carried out by the Advisory Committee for Insurance was to study the Issues Paper on Insurance issued by the International Accounting Standards Committee (IASC) in response to the diversity of insurance reporting standards around the world. The Committee reviewed the major principles set out in the Issues Paper and a submission was made to convey the Society’s comments on the proposal to adopt the fair value concept and the proposed scope of the IASC’s insurance accounting project.

In view of the changes in requirements under the Insurance Companies Ordinance in recent years, the Committee reviewed and updated Industry Accounting Guideline “Accounting for general insurance business” during the year.

The Committee has just started a project on developing guidance in relation to accounting and auditing requirements of mandatory provident fund schemes. The project will involve updating the existing Industry Accounting Guideline “Financial statements of retirement schemes” and developing a new Practice Note on mandatory provident fund related audit matters.

In addition, the Committee commented on the draft Guidelines issued by the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority, the Insurance Companies (Amendment) Bill 2000 and a number of insurance/retirement schemes related consultation documents during the year.

Insolvency Practice

The Committee continued efforts to resolve the issue of liquidators’ fees. A group of accountants and lawyers, including members of the Committee and of the Insolvency Interest Group, finished work on a set of draft guidelines which aimed to improve consistency, transparency and

保陰事務

保險業諮詢委員會所完成的一項重要工作是研究國際會計準則委員會所刊發的保險業會計問題大綱。國際會計準則委員會因應世界各地保險業財務報表呈報準則有異而出發該問題大綱。保險業諮詢委員會審閱了問題大綱內所列的主要原則，並就問題大綱對採納公允值概念及國際會計準則委員會保險業會計研究計劃的範圍所作的建議，提出了公會的意見。

鑑於近年來《保險公司條例》所定的要求有所改變，委員會於期內檢討和修訂了公會所發的行業會計指引《一般保險業的會計處理》。

委員會剛展開了一項工作，旨在制定有關強制性公積金（“強積金”）計劃的會計和核數要求的指引。該項工作將包括修訂公會現行的行業會計指引《退休計劃的財務報表》，以及制訂一份有關強積金核數事宜的新實務說明。

此外，委員會於期內對由強制性公積金計劃管理局刊發的草擬指引、《2000年保險公司（修訂）條例草案》及幾份有關保險／退休金計劃的諮詢文件作出建議。

破產管理

破產管理會計師委員會繼續設法解決有關清盤人費用的問題。一個由會計師和律師（包括委員會及破產事務關注小組成員）組成的小組草擬了一套指引，旨在加強清盤人收費計算過程中的一致性、透明度和可接受性。該指引獲得

accountability in the billing process. The guidelines were agreed by the Committee and the Official Receiver’s Working Group on Insolvency Practitioners Fees and were then issued by the Official Receiver for wider consultation. The Judiciary subsequently identified certain problems with aspects of the guidelines and offered to meet the Official Receiver to discuss these. This continues to be a difficult issue and one that is still under discussion in other jurisdictions. The Committee remains ready to consider any reasonable steps that might assist in a long-term solution. The key lies in achieving consensus amongst all affected parties that will result in work fairly undertaken and completed being fairly rewarded.

As a result of legal impediments, the Official Receiver’s “Panel B” scheme to contract out court-ordered winding up cases with limited assets ($200,000 or less) was suspended for a period. Following enactment of the Companies (Amendment) Ordinance 2000 which provided for practitioners to be appointed as full liquidators under the scheme, the contracting out work commenced again in September 2000. However, the Administration decided to call for tenders rather than continuing with the previous roster system. The Committee raised doubts about this arrangement as it meant that, at least for this year, given the limited funding for the scheme, the number of firms that would be awarded work under Panel B would be greatly reduced. The Society will continue to discuss with the Official Receiver the ways to improve long-term arrangements for the scheme.

The Society’s new Diploma course in insolvency is scheduled to begin towards the end of the calendar year. The establishment of this course should help to provide members planning to enter the field with a properly structured training programme to acquire the specialist skills. This accords with what the Society understands to be the

破產管理署署長的「B小組」計劃，是將被法院命令清盤的公司（其資產相等於或低於二十萬港元）的清盤工作外判。但基於法律上的障礙，該計劃曾暫停一段時間。在《2000年公司（修訂）條例》生效後，由於該條例允許破產管理工作者在「B小組」計劃下被委任為清盤人，外判計劃於二○○○年九月重開。然而，政府卻決定暫停以往向「B小組」成員輪流外判的方式，而以招標方式進行外判。委員會對此安排提出質疑，原因是由於該外判計劃的經費不足，獲得外判工作的「B小組」會計師事務所數目至少在今年內將大幅度減少。公會將繼續與破產管理署署長討論如何改善該計劃的長遠安排。

公會新的破產管理文憑課程將於年底開課。該課程的設立將為有意投身破產管理工作的公會會員提供有組織的訓練計劃，讓他們獲取此項工作的專門技能。公會認為這符合了政府銳意發展破產管理行業的政策。委員會若干成員獲委任為公會的破產教育幹部委員會委員。該
Government’s policy of trying to broaden the base of insolvency practice. Members of the Committee were appointed to the Insolvency Education Steering Committee (IESC) reporting to Council which is overseeing arrangements for the course. The Chairman of the Committee, John Lees, is currently also Chairman of IESC.

During the year, the Committee commented on various legislative proposals and consultation documents. Chief amongst these were the corporate rescue and insolvent trading proposals contained in the Companies (Amendment) Bill 2000. Although the Committee fully supported the early introduction of a legal framework for corporate rescue, a close examination of the Bill revealed uncertainties in a number of key areas. These included the potential personal liabilities of the provisional supervisor of a rescue and the limited legal backing for carrying out and completing an agreed voluntary arrangement. The Society made an extensive submission on the Bill, as did other the professional and business bodies, as a result of which the Legislative Council concluded that there was insufficient time to pass the Bill before its term of office ended. The provisions on corporate rescue and insolvent trading were subsequently withdrawn from the Bill with a view to being re-introduced into the new legislature at a later date.

The Committee also made extensive comments on section 228A of the Companies Ordinance, the special procedure for voluntary windings up. Although the original proposal in the Bill to repeal the section was withdrawn, amendments were made to the section which will in practice restrict its use. The Committee, through the accountancy profession’s Legislative Council representative, proposed to the legislature an alternative wording which would have provided for greater flexibility. However, given the technical nature of the proposal and the time constraints on the legislature, further changes did not prove possible on this occasion.
Professional Risk Management

The Committee reviewed the performance of the brokers of the professional indemnity insurance (PII) Master Policy scheme, as their initial three-year contract came to an end. While it was felt that there was scope enhancing their communication with members of the Society, generally it was considered that the policy still offered an extensive cover for a reasonable cost and that it was in the overall interests of members to renew the contract for a further three-year term. At the same time, the Committee proposed refining and strengthening some of the specific terms of the contract.

The PII Subcommittee set up under the Committee continued to have regular liaison meetings with the brokers and periodically the underwriters to discuss how the scheme could be further developed and marketed. It was noted that most of the large and medium-sized firms were taking out insurance cover. Discussions covered how smaller practitioners could be made more aware of their potential risk exposure and how the scheme might geared more to their needs.

The Committee continued work on a proposal for the introduction of proportionate liability in place of joint and several liability under the law of tort. A Hong Kong senior counsel was engaged to assist in reviewing the proposal and to make recommendations as to the best means of presenting it. Information was also obtained regarding developments overseas in respect of similar legislative reforms.

During the year, advice on the risk management aspects of various proposals was also sought by other committees within the Society. One such proposal was a draft auditing standard on subsequent events and subsequent discovery of facts existing at the time of an audit report.
PRC Technical Matters

The Ministry of Finance issued an exposure draft of a proposed Accounting Standard for Business Enterprises “Interim financial reporting”. The PRC Technical Committee studied and made comments on the exposure draft. A submission was sent to the Ministry of Finance in early 2000.

Statutory immunity for auditors of listed companies

The Task Force submitted comments on legislative proposals to provide statutory immunity for auditors of listed companies who wish to report suspected fraud to the SFC. The draft legislation included in the draft Securities and Futures Bill in April 2000 has been reviewed and work will commence next year on drafting appropriate guidance for auditors.

The Task Force also assisted in liaison with Government and the SFC on the proposal to give access to auditors’ working papers to the SFC when it is conducting inquiries into listed companies. This is a delicate issue requiring a fine balance to be struck between giving adequate regulatory power to the SFC to enable it to discharge its functions, while at the same time giving adequate safeguards to the position of auditors. Discussions are expected to continue and the Society hopes that, with goodwill on all sides, a satisfactory compromise can be achieved.

Members Services

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

The mandatory system of continuing professional development (CPD), prescribed in Statement 1.500 of the Members’ Handbook Volume I, became effective in January 1999. As at the end of 1999, for the first time members were required to file an annual declaration of compliance to the Society. To date, an impressive compliance rate (over 99% of total membership) had been recorded. As part of the monitoring system, some members had been randomly

中國專業事務

中國財政部發出了一份企業會計準則《中期財務報告》的徵求意見稿。中國專業事務委員會研究了該份徵求意見稿，並於二○○○年年初向財政部提交意見。

上市公司核數師的法定豁免

由於立法建議為願意向監管會舉報涉嫌詐騙事宜的上市公司核數師提供法定豁免，公會成立了專責小組並對此提出了意見。專家小組檢討了於二○○○年四月提出的《證券及期貨條例草案》內的立法草擬，並將於明年開始草擬給予核數師的適當指引。

就賦予監管會權力，在其向上公司作出初步調查時可以審閱核數師工作底稿的建議，專責小組肩負起公會與政府和監管會聯絡的工作。公會認為有關當局必須對建議詳加考慮，因為有關的立法建議必須在給予監管會足夠權力執行任務和在給予核數師的專業責任適當保護之間取得平衡。雖然有關討論預計將繼續進行，公會希望在各方面和衷共濟的情況下，一個令人滿意的折衷解決方法得以達成。

專業進修

公會會員手冊第一冊第1,500號準則規定的強制性專業進修制度於已於一九九九年一月實行。由一九九九年年底開始，公會會員必須每年向公會呈交一份已遵守規定的聲明。公會會員的遵守率令人鼓舞，至今經有超過會員總數99%的會員遵照有關規定。公會亦對部分會員進行抽樣審核，以起監察作用。在一九九九年年度的審核中，所有被挑選的會員均準時向公會呈
selected for an audit of their compliance with the CPD requirements. For the 1999 audit, all selected members submitted their CPD Record Forms to the Society on time, i.e. 100% compliance rate. This demonstrates that members are very much aware of the need for life long learning and active in updating their knowledge and skills and maintaining their professional competencies.

To support professional development needs, the CPD Committee organised a wide range of programmes covering a broad variety of topics, catering for the needs of both practising and non-practising members (see Appendix C for details). Altogether 122 programmes were organised, offering 321 CPD hours comprising 4 conferences, 94 seminars and 24 workshops. A total of 26,433 enrolments were registered. These figures represented an increase of 10% structured CPD hours offered and 17% increase in the number of participants over the previous reporting period.

A new monograph entitled “The Companies (Amendment) Ordinance 1999 - Merger Relief for Hong Kong Companies” was published, bringing the total number of monographs produced so far to 11.

Financial Management

The Financial Management Committee is in the final stages of completing a benchmarking study on the finance and accounting function in listed companies. The report of this study would be run as a series in The Hong Kong Accountant.

A Chief Financial Officers (CFO) Forum, in the form of a luncheon talk, was held to address the importance of corporate governance. Various activities were organised for members of the Building, Construction and Properties Interest Group. These included two discussion forums on the subjects of the current position and the way forward for member companies.
the building and construction industries and the relationship between Feng Shui and architectural design, a study trip to Shanghai and Suzhou, and a 12-session introductory construction course. Write-ups of these activities were published in the Professional Interest Group Column of The Hong Kong Accountant.

The Committee also made industry comments to the Financial Accounting Standards Committee on exposure drafts of accounting standards and accounting interpretations, and provided input to the CPD Committee in putting together a series of CPD seminars on financial management and management accounting subjects.

In addition, the Committee has, together with the Information Technology Committee and Corporate Governance Committee, commenced a study on Business Reporting on the Internet, the subject of a recent IASC Discussion Paper.

Information Technology

The Information Technology Committee provided members with up-to-date information and guidance on key IT developments and initiatives through publications, seminars and site visits.

Two IT Bulletins were issued on the subjects of “The Impact of Electronic Business on Professional Accountants” and “Information Technology (IT) Skills and Education for Accountants in the New Millennium”, and a series of CPD seminars on IT subjects were organised.

A range of activities were organised for members of the IT Interest Group, including a number of site visits, a discussion forum on the subject of issues faced by accountants in dotcom companies and an industry-specific lunch seminar on e-banking.

以及建築設計與風水的關係。活動也包括了前往上海及蘇州的考察活動，以及一個分12個講座的建築介紹課程。有關該等活動的報導刊載於《香港會計師》的專業關注小組專欄。

委員會亦對會計準則委員會的多份會計準則及會計詮釋的徵求意見稿提出業界的意見。委員會亦為專業進修事務委員會所舉辦的一系列與財務管理及管理會計有關的專業進修研討會，提供意見。

此外，委員會亦開始與資訊科技委員會及公司管治委員會共同研究互聯網上的商業報告，該項事宜正屬一份由國際會計準則委員會最近發表的討論文件之主題。

資訊科技

資訊科技委員會透過出版刊物、舉辦研習班、研討會及實地考察等活動，為會員提供最新資訊和指引，介紹資訊科技的主要發展和動向。

委員會出版了兩份分別以「電子商業對專業會計師的影響」及「會計師在千禧新紀元的資訊科技技能和教育」為主題的資訊科技公報，同時也籌辦了一系列有關資訊科技的專業進修研討會。

委員會亦為資訊科技關注小組的成員舉辦了一系列的活動，包括實地考察，一個主題為在互聯網公司工作的會計師所面對的問題的論壇和一個有關電子銀行的特定行業午餐研討會。
The Committee also reviewed and provided written
comments to IFAC’s Information Technology Committee on
its exposure drafts of international guidelines on IT.

WebTrust

The Society signed a letter of Intent with the American
Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and the
Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) in
November last year, expressing the signing parties’ intention
to enter into contract for the granting of an exclusive
WebTrust license in Hong Kong. Negotiations ensued with
the two bodies on the terms and conditions of the license
agreement.

In the earlier half of this year, the Committee made a
number of presentations to introduce WebTrust to relevant
government authorities, including the Information
Technology and Broadcasting Bureau, the Office of the
Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data, the Securities and
Futures Commission and the Consumer Council. Theme
articles were published in The Hong Kong Accountant to
introduce this web assurance service to members.

The Committee also worked towards setting up the
required infrastructure for the HKSA WebTrust Programme.
An information session was held in June for all member
practices. Over three hundred members attended.

A delegation of the WebTrust Committee, led by the
Chairman, took part in a three-day global WebTrust summit
in Paris from 26 - 28 July at which most of the accountancy
institutes offering the service discussed WebTrust as an e-
business solution that independently tests and verifies a
Website’s compliance with established principles and
criteria. The conference explored solutions to the risks of e-
commerce, including protection of online privacy.
During the three-day global WebTrust Summit in Paris, the Society signed the WebTrust License Agreement to become the exclusive WebTrust Licensing Body in Hong Kong and AICPA and CICA’s first WebTrust partner in Asia. The signing of this agreement also established the HKSA as part of an important alliance of the world accountancy profession in providing global protection for businesses and consumers conducting transactions over the Internet.

Twenty-two members attended a Train the Trainers’ Course conducted by two AICPA/CICA WebTrust experts in September to become the first local trainers of the WebTrust Orientation Course, soon to be offered to members.

The Society is planning to launch the practitioners’ license at the end of this year.

Apart from working full speed at the development of the WebTrust Programme, the Committee also embarked on drawing up a guideline for members on the conduct of an independent assessment for Certification Authorities under the Electronic Transactions Ordinance enacted in January. Working jointly with the Auditing Standards Committee, the exposure draft of an Auditing Practice Note was released in May. This is being finalized for release soon.

Public Sector

Members of the Public Sector Committee and the Council were invited to attend a Government Financial Reporting Symposium organised by the Treasury. Feedbacks were provided to the Director of Accounting Services on issues highlighted at the symposium.

The Committee also reviewed a number of International Public Sector Accounting Standards, exposure drafts and other papers and studies issued by IFAC Public Sector Committee.
The Public Sector Interest Group organised an outing to The Jockey Club Kau Sai Chau Public Golf Course to learn about the Club’s experience of managing a not-for-profit centre under a self-financing mandate. Other activities organised included an evening seminar on MPF, and a site visit to the Airport Authority.

Smaller Practitioners Committee
The Smaller Practitioners Committee continued to serve as a useful channel between the Council and members in smaller practices. It made a number of comments from the perspective of smaller practitioners on exposure drafts on professional standards and guidelines, as well as on the Report of the Standing Committee on Company Law Reform.

The 15 discussion groups, formed under the auspices of the Committee with a membership of some 180 practitioners, held two dinner forums to discuss topics of current interest.

In addition to the annual training programmes for audit trainees and audit seniors, and the company secretarial courses for employees of CPA practices, the Committee organised jointly with the Society of Chinese Accountants and Auditors a seminar to examine the Companies (Amendment) Ordinance 1999.

Updating work for the “Practice Manual” and “Sample Working Papers” was underway.

Two promotional leaflets were produced for use by the smaller practitioners to market their professional services to their clients.

Fellowship activities and services
The four sports interest groups, namely, basketball, dragon boat/water sports, football and golf, organised...
various activities for their group members and formed representative teams to participate in a number of sports competitions for the Society. In April, a football match was organised jointly with the Guangzhou Institute of Certified Public Accountants to foster relationship among accountants in the two cities.

Tournaments were held in basketball, football, golf and tennis.

A total of 2,057 members and their guests patronised the Society’s private boxes at the Shatin and Happy Valley Racecourses for the 78 race meetings during the season.

In addition to the annual dinner for members, two cocktail receptions were held to welcome newly admitted members.

The Society’s homepage on the Internet has enhanced communication with its members and the public. Over 200,000 surfers visited the homepage during the period under review. The homepage is under reconstruction to enrich its contents and functionality.

Over 180 new titles were added to the collections of the Society’s library.

More than 11,300 HKSA Gold Credit Cards are in circulation among members and their families. Of the $1.26M rebates received during the reporting financial year, $360,000 was allocated to the HKSA Trust Fund for the relief of HKSA members in need. Two applications were approved during the reporting period.

A number of discount offers on commercial products and services were made available to members.
Other membership services included bulk purchase of professional publications at discounted rate, employment information service and group insurance programmes.

**Research Board**

The Research Board organised the Eleventh International Conference of Accounting Academics, held on 15-16 June 2000 on the theme “Current Issues in Accounting: Asia Pacific & Beyond”. The Conference was hosted by the Society and co-organised by Lingnan University and Hong Kong Academic Accounting Association, in co-operation with International Accounting Section of the American Accounting Association. It attracted more than 150 delegates from all over the world and provided an excellent opportunity for participants to exchange views on the latest developments in accounting research and education. The keynote speakers included renowned academics such as Professor Jerold L. Zimmerman, Professor Nicholas Dopuch, Professor Chi-Wen Jevons Lee.

The Research Board was also organising an “Accounting Case Competition”. Its aim is to promote the development of Hong Kong-based accounting cases as reference materials and our training purposes.

With effect from March 2000, the Research Board took on the new responsibility of considering sponsorship requests of journals published in Hong Kong. The purpose was to encourage the publication of quality research and findings. To date, the Society has sponsored two very well-received journals: the China Accounting and Finance Review published by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the Asia-Pacific Journal of Accounting & Economics published by the City University of Hong Kong.
Communications and Public Relations

Communications and Image Promotion

The Society continued its efforts to foster a close working relation with the media and rapport with the public after the spate of company failure cases that generated some debate over the Society’s regulatory role in 1999. In March 2000, a new Communications Advisory Panel was set up to give broad directives and strategies as to the Society’s long-term communications needs and goals targeting internal and external audiences.

A host of media relation programmes have been run since. One of them is the Society’s hosting of regular media briefings every quarter. The briefings are intended to enhance the Society’s transparency through proactive dissemination of information on its latest work and current issues. In addition, a media luncheon programme resumed in July for senior editors and reporters to meet and exchange views with the President and Council members.

To effectively publicise the Society’s efforts in updating accounting standards, the exposure drafts and standard statements issued by the Society are announced to the public in press releases on a monthly basis.

A media audit would be held at the year end to gauge the media’s understanding and general opinions of the Society’s operation and its regulatory role. The audit results are instrumental to the Society’s review of its media positioning and overall public relations strategies.

Alongside the media audit would be a journalist workshop in late November to enhance better understanding of the Society’s operation and a topical issue in the accountancy profession.
The Society continued its active image promotion through a series of institutional advertising campaigns. Since May, a new series of radio programme has been launched on RTHK entitled “The Accountant Professor Hotline”. A disc jockey plays out the Accountant Professor character in a lively style to address people’s daily concerns on an array of accounting and financial issues. The 48 weekly episodes, aired every Tuesday morning, will conclude in April 2001.

The Society placed an outdoor advertising billboard at the Kowloon entrance of the Cross Harbour Tunnel from November to December this year to promote its forward-looking image as well as the Qualification Programme.

The Society continued to organise the Young Accountant of the Year Award for the fourth year to recognise young accountants’ outstanding professional achievements and contributions to community service. This year, the Award was promoted with a new set of attractive brochure and sponsored by the Hong Kong Economic Journal. In 1999, Kennedy Liu Tat-yin from Arthur Andersen received the Award.

The Professional Accreditation Scheme Publicity Task Force, which markets and promotes the Society’s new Qualification Programme (QP), has changed its name to QP Promotion Task Force to better reflect its scope of work and responsibilities.

To tap local accounting undergraduates’ contacts and as a goodwill gesture, the Society hosted a premiere for them on a blockbuster movie in Christmas 1999. Free tickets were distributed to over 400 students in two screenings in exchange of their contact details. The data collected are useful for the Task Force’s future direct mailing and rapport building. In addition, a one-minute advert on the QP was clipped and screened in eight cinemas in over 300 showings.
The Task Force continued to target its promotional efforts at local students, overseas returnees and employers following the signing of the mutual recognition agreements with ACCA and CPA Australia in May this year. A host of activities ranging from advertising, direct mailing, road shows, career talks and special events have been lined up locally and overseas to market the QP in the short and long term.

The Accountant Ambassadors Programme (AA Programme) has continued to run as part of the Society’s commitment to community service. The HKSA Charity Walk was held on 12 December 1999 to raise funds totalling $360,000 for Mother’s Choice to help it purchase a sedan car for the needy children. Officiated by the Financial Secretary Mr. Donald Tsang, the event was attended by nearly 400 accountancy professionals and business associates with their families and friends.

In 2000, another 200 Society members joined the AA Programme in five projects and working groups. The AAs’ voluntary efforts were further recognised this year in a project with the Education Department whereby free advisory service was offered to schools under its School-Based Management Scheme, covering such aspects as budget development, review and enhancement of accounting systems/procedures, internal control and reporting system. The scheme is particularly helpful to schools being given full autonomy in the management of their finances.

On another note, the popular Free Public Advisory Service Scheme (FPASS) celebrated its tenth anniversary in September. Under this scheme, enquiries from all walks of life could get free advice on accounting, taxation and financial matters. A cocktail reception was held on 14 September to celebrate the occasion, with Miss Shelley Lee, Director of Home Affairs as the officiating guest.

The Accountant Ambassadors Programme (AA Programme) has continued to run as part of the Society’s commitment to community service. The HKSA Charity Walk was held on 12 December 1999 to raise funds totalling $360,000 for Mother’s Choice to help it purchase a sedan car for the needy children. Officiated by the Financial Secretary Mr. Donald Tsang, the event was attended by nearly 400 accountancy professionals and business associates with their families and friends.

In 2000, another 200 Society members joined the AA Programme in five projects and working groups. The AAs’ voluntary efforts were further recognised this year in a project with the Education Department whereby free advisory service was offered to schools under its School-Based Management Scheme, covering such aspects as budget development, review and enhancement of accounting systems/procedures, internal control and reporting system. The scheme is particularly helpful to schools being given full autonomy in the management of their finances.

On another note, the popular Free Public Advisory Service Scheme (FPASS) celebrated its tenth anniversary in September. Under this scheme, enquiries from all walks of life could get free advice on accounting, taxation and financial matters. A cocktail reception was held on 14 September to celebrate the occasion, with Miss Shelley Lee, Director of Home Affairs as the officiating guest.
On environmental protection, the AAs had organised two tree planting events at Sai Kung and Mui Wo, Lantau respectively in April. Both activities were well patronised by Society members and their families.

During the year, the Society sponsored the second Case Analysis Study Competition organised by the Management Development Centre of the Vocational Training Council in April.

The Society had also supported a number of charity activities such as the “Dress Casual Day” and assisted in the direct mailer distribution for organisations such as Oxfam, Green Peace and World Vision.

The Society’s Journal, The Hong Kong Accountant, continued to serve as an important means of communications between the Society and its members, with its production overseen by the Editorial Board.

External Relations

At the International Federation of Accountants, Hong Kong was represented by Peter H.Y. Wong on the Council/Board, Michael K.H. Chan on the Compliance Committee, and Nicholas Etches on the Anti-Corruption Task Force.

Aloysius H.Y. Tse represented Hong Kong on the Executive Committee of the Confederation of Asian and Pacific Accountants.

Andrew Williamson represented the Society on the Steering Committee on Disclosure by Banks and Similar Financial Institutions of the International Accounting Standards Committee.

In environmental protection, the accountants had organised two tree planting events at Sai Kung and Mui Wo, Lantau respectively in April. Both activities were well patronised by Society members and their families.

During the year, the Society sponsored the second Case Analysis Study Competition organised by the Management Development Centre of the Vocational Training Council in April.

The Society had also supported a number of charity activities such as the “Dress Casual Day” and assisted in the direct mailer distribution for organisations such as Oxfam, Green Peace and World Vision.

The Society’s Journal, The Hong Kong Accountant, continued to serve as an important means of communications between the Society and its members, with its production overseen by the Editorial Board.

External Relations

At the International Federation of Accountants, Hong Kong was represented by Peter H.Y. Wong on the Council/Board, Michael K.H. Chan on the Compliance Committee, and Nicholas Etches on the Anti-Corruption Task Force.

Aloysius H.Y. Tse represented Hong Kong on the Executive Committee of the Confederation of Asian and Pacific Accountants.

Andrew Williamson represented the Society on the Steering Committee on Disclosure by Banks and Similar Financial Institutions of the International Accounting Standards Committee.
At the International Federation of Insolvency Professionals (INSOL International), Paul M.P. Chan represented the Society on the Small Practice Issues Committee and Johnson Kong on the Consumer Debtor Committee respectively.

William Gee represented the Society to attend the APEC E-commerce Steering Group meeting in Bangkok in mid July.

The Council continued to sponsor and adjudicate at the Best Annual Report Awards organised by the Hong Kong Management Association.

The Society co-hosted the OECD Second Asian Corporate Governance Roundtable with the Securities and Futures Commission and the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong from 31 May to 2 June.

The Society joined nine other professional bodies in Hong Kong to participate in the Joint Professional Centre Project. Michael K.H. Chan was appointed by the Council to be the Vice Chairman and a director of this Centre.

Michael K.H. Chan served as the Society’s representative on the Joint Training Committee for Mainland officials and business people.

Paul M.P. Chan was appointed the Society’s representative to serve on the Coalition of Professional Services.

Andy S.C. Lee represented the Society to serve on the International Year of Volunteers Steering Committee.

陳茂波及江智蛟分別代表公會出任International Federation of Insolvency Professionals的小微企業事務委員會及消費者債務人委員會成員。

季瑞華代表公會於七月參加了在曼谷舉行的亞太經濟論壇電子商貿側向小組會議。

理事會繼續贊助及評審由香港管理專業協會舉辦的「最佳年報獎」。

公會、證券及期貨事務監察委員會及聯交所於五月三十一日至六月二日聯合舉辦了第二屆經濟合作與發展組織亞洲區公司管治圓桌會議。

公會聯同另外九個專業團體參與創辦專業聯合中心。理事會並委任陳記煒出任該中心的副主席及董事。

陳記煒代表公會出任內地官員及商人共同參與的聯合培訓委員會。

陳茂波被委任為香港專業聯盟的公會代表。

李兆銓代表公會出任國際義工年專向委員會成員。
Locally, many members of the Society served on civil and public bodies including the Executive Council, Legislative Council, District Councils, various statutory boards, panels, advisory committees and tribunals. Liaison with government officials, regulators, academic institutions and other community bodies were organised on a regular basis to cultivate stronger ties.

The 16th World Congress of Accountants

The Organising Committee of the World Congress of Accountants 2002 had a busy schedule during the period under review.

Representatives of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), the international governing body of the accountancy profession, maintained a close liaison with the Society on issues relating to the forthcoming Congress and a Memorandum of Understanding was signed in December 1999. The theme “Knowledge Economy and the Accountants” had been chosen for this international event which would be organised on a self-financing basis.

A professional conference organiser had been appointed to work together with the five working groups formed under the auspices of the Organising Committee in preparation for this global prestigious event which would take place in Hong Kong on 10-13 November 2002. This would be the first time that accountants from around the world would meet in Chinese territory to exchange views on areas of both international and domestic interest to the accountancy profession, the financial market participants and regulators.

在本港，許多公會會員均參與民間團體及公共機構的服務，包括行政會議、立法會、區議會、不同的法定委員會、小組、諮詢委員會及審裁組織等。公會亦定期與政府官員，監管機構，學術團體及其他社區組織聯絡，藉此加強相互的聯繫。

第十六屆世界會計師大會

期内，二〇〇二年世界會計師大會籌備委員會的工作非常繁忙。

全球會計專業的領導機構——國際會計聯合會——的代表就屆大會事宜與公會保持密切聯繫，雙方並於一九九九年十二月簽署了一份合作備忘錄。該項國際會議的主題已被定為「知識型經濟與會計師」。該會議將由公會以負盈虧的方式籌辦。

公會委任了一家專業會議籌劃公司與籌備委員會轄下的五個工作小組合作，籌備這項將於二〇〇二年十一月十日至十三日在香港舉行的國際盛事。來自世界各地的會計師將首次在中國領土舉首一堂，就會計業者，金融市場參與者及監管機構均感興趣的國際及本地事務互相交換意見。
Relationship with the Mainland

Visit to China

A 22-member delegation visited Beijing in July. It was received by the Ministry of Finance (MOF), the Chinese Institute of Certified Public Accountants (CICPA) and a number of PRC ministries and organisations.

Eric Li represented the Society to speak at the CICPA’s Symposium on Professional Services and Development of Market Economy held on 15-16 June 2000 in Beijing.

Joint Projects with CICPA and Other Mainland Organisations

The Society jointly produced with the CICPA an English translation of the third batch of nine Specific Independent Auditing Standards and two Independent Auditing Practice Pronouncements promulgated by the MOF. A bound volume containing these and other standards issued previously was published.

The Society participated as speakers in a seminar on practice management organised by the CICPA in Shenzhen.

In co-operation with the PRC National Audit Office (NAO), the Society organised a nine-day study programme in Hong Kong for a delegation of 19 NAO staff in October 1999. With the assistance provided by the Public Sector Committee, the delegation was given an insight into Hong Kong public sector accounting and auditing systems by way of visits to some public sector entities and CPA firms.

The Society co-organised with the PRC State Bureau of Foreign Experts a two-day seminar in January 2000 on strategic planning and financial management in Beijing.

與中國大陸的關係

訪問中國

公會於七月派出22人代表團訪問北京，並獲財政部、中國注冊會計師協會（「中注協」）以及多個其他部級單位及機構接見。

李家祥代表公會，在中注協於二○○○年六月十五日至十六日在北京舉辦的「中介服務與市場經濟發展」研討會中發表演說。

與中注協及其內地組織的合作計劃

公會與中注協聯合出版財政部頒布的第三批共九條的獨立審計具體準則及兩項獨立審計實務公告的英文譯本。該等準則及較早前頒布的準則已以合訂本形式發行。

公會派出代表到深圳，出席一個由中注協舉辦的會計師事務所管理研討會，並發表專題演講。

公會與中華人民共和國審計署合作，為19名審計員於一九九九年十月在香港籌辦了一個為期九天的學習課程。在公共及政府機構委員會的協助下，藉著實地參觀一些公共及政府機構和會計師事務所，代表團得以加深其對香港公共及政府機構的會計及核數系統的瞭解。

公會與中華人民共和國國家外國專家局於二○○○年一月在北京聯合舉辦一個為期兩天的企業策劃及財務主管研討會。
A Glossary of Accounting Terms (Millennium Edition), which is a joint publication with the Accounting Society of China, was published. This third edition of the Glossary, with the addition of over 4,000 new and commonly used terms related to the banking, corporate finance, economics and insurance sectors, carries a Sino-English version in parallel to the original Anglo-Chinese version for the first time.

**Serving Members**

The China Column in The Hong Kong Accountant continued to provide members with useful information on professional matters relating to the Mainland.

To assist members in acquiring an understanding of the Mainland accounting system in an integral manner, the Society organised a workshop series on PRC accounting and auditing for beginners in November 1999. The Society subsequently added to the course some taxation topics at the request of participants. So far, three runs (5 classes) of the workshops have been organised.

To tie in with the Society’s move to revamp its homepage, a new “China Affairs” column will appear on the menu of the HKSA homepage.

**PRC Interest Group**

On completion of a survey to identify members’ professional needs on matters relating to the Mainland, a PRC Interest Group was set up under the auspices of the China Affairs Committee for experience-sharing and networking purposes. To date, 557 members have joined the interest group. So far, two seminars had been organised on areas where Society members had encountered difficulties in the course of doing business in the Mainland.

公會與中國會計學會聯合編纂的《英漢會計詞匯》（千禧版）已經出版。這第三版詞匯內容增添了四千多條常用的，與銀行業、公司財務、經濟及保險業有關的條目，並首次同時出版漢英對照版本。

**服務會員**

《香港會計師》的「中國專欄」繼續為會員提供有關內地專業事務的實用資料。

為了協助會員整體瞭解國內的會計系統，公會於一九九九年十一月為初入門的會員舉辦了多個與中國會計及審計課題有關的工作坊。應參加者的要求，公會其後增添了一些與中國稅務有關的課題。至今已經舉辦了三輪共五班的工作坊。

公會的網頁現正進行革新，經重整後的網頁將包括一個「中國事務」專欄。

**中國興趣小組**

為確定會員就內地事務的專業需要，公會作了一次問卷調查，並在調查完成後在中國事務委員會轄下成立了中國興趣小組，其目的為讓公會會員分享經驗和互相聯繫。小組至今已有557名會員參加，並主辦了兩個研討會，討論會員在內地經營業務過程中所遭遇到的問題。
PRC CPA Uniform Examinations

A total of 1,095 candidates, comprising 854 Hong Kong and 241 overseas candidates, sat the Examination in Hong Kong in September.

Since 1994, 98 candidates from Hong Kong have completed the CPA Examinations. Eight of them have obtained the right to practise as Certified Public Accountants in the Mainland and the others have been admitted as overseas non-practising members of the CICPA.

PRC Legal and Taxation Sub-Committee

The Sub-Committee, formed under the auspices of the China Affairs Committee for the purpose of maintaining a close dialogue with the Mainland tax authorities, held its annual meeting with the State Administration of Taxation during the Society’s visit to Beijing in 2000.

Visitors from the Mainland

The Society received a number of visitors from different government entities and units from the Mainland. These included visitors from Shenzhen, Shandong and Beijing.

Contributions to Mainland Publications

The Society continued its contribution to the Accounting Year Book of China by providing an update on the work of the Society. The article will be published in the year 2000 edition.

Starting from its January 2000 issue, the CICPA’s monthly magazine, ‘The Chinese Certified Public Accountant’ has carried a column for articles extracted from The Hong Kong Accountant.

中國注冊會計師統一考試

九月在香港舉行的考試中，合共有1,095名考生參加，包括854名香港考生及241名海外考生。

自一九九四年起，香港已有98名考生成功通過該項考試。其中八名考生經已取得註冊會計師資格，可在內地執業，其餘合格考生亦已成為中注協的海外非執業會員。

中國法律及稅務小組

中國事務委員會轄下的中國法律及稅務小組，一直與內地稅務機關維持緊密聯繫。小組於二○○○年公會訪問北京時與國家稅務總局舉行了年度會議。

來自內地的訪客

公會接待了來自內地不同地方政府機構及單位的多位訪客，包括來自深圳、山東及北京的訪客。

為內地刊物提供內容

公會繼續為《中國會計年鑒》提供內容，撰寫了一篇介紹公會的文章。該篇文章將刊載於二○○○年版的年鑒內。

自一一九四年起，香港已有98名考生成功通過該項考試。其中八名考生經已取得註冊會計師資格，可在內地執業，其餘合格考生亦已成為中注協的海外非執業會員。
Professional Examinations and Student Services

Students’ Statistics

The Society’s student population was 20,356 as at October 2000. This figure included candidates registered under the Society’s Qualification Programme and students under the HKSA/ACCA Joint Examination Scheme.

Professional Qualification Programme

Since the launching of the Qualification Programme on 1 January 1999, three module sessions have been held and the Society expects to hold its first Final Professional Examination in December 2000. The Qualification Programme will see its first cohort graduating next year. Candidates who have successfully completed the Qualification Programme will be awarded an HKSA Certificate as a formal recognition of their interim achievements prior to attaining HKSA membership. They may describe themselves as “Qualification Programme Graduates”.

With the signing of the mutual recognition agreements, Qualification Programme graduates who become HKSA members can now apply for membership of CPA Australia (formerly the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants) and the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA). The Society will continue to explore bilateral arrangements for membership recognition with other professional bodies.

In total 13 accountancy degree programmes (comprising 12 offered by local tertiary institutions and one offered locally by an overseas tertiary institution) have been accredited by the Accountancy Accreditation Board. Graduates of these programmes will be eligible to register under the Qualification Programme as registered students. For non-accountancy degree holders and non-degree holders who

專業考試及學生服務

學生統計資料

於二〇〇〇年十月，公會的註冊學生共計20,356名。這個數字包括報讀公會專業資格課程及參加香港會計師公會與英國特許公認會計師公會聯合考試的學生。

專業資格課程

自一九九九年一月一日專業資格課程推出以来，除已舉辦了三期課程外，公會亦會於二〇〇〇年十二月舉辦首次期終專業考試。此預計明年將有首批專業資格課程的畢業生。這些畢業生在成功完成專業資格課程後，將會獲領香港會計師公會證書，以確認他們在獲得公會會籍前的成就。他們同時亦可稱自己為「專業資格課程畢業生」。

公會相繼與澳洲會計師公會及英國特許公認會計師公會簽訂相互認可協議。通過專業資格課程成為公會會員的人士，可在該協議下分別申請上述會計團體的會籍。公會將繼續研究與其他會計專業團體達成雙邊協議，相互承認會籍。

會計專業資格評審委員會一共評審了13項會計學學位課程，其中包括12項由香港各大學舉辦的課程及一項由海外大學在本港舉辦的課程。這些課程的畢業生將有資格成為專業資格課程的註冊學生。非會計學學位或非學位持有人，則可以於成功完成轉制課程或基礎課程後
wish to become Qualification Programme students, the conversion and foundation programmes offer them alternative routes to do so. To date, five conversion programmes and two foundation programmes have been accredited.

**Professional Examinations**

The Examinations Board oversaw the policies and operation of the Society’s professional examinations. Until December 2001, the Board will administer two schemes to examine professional competence for membership admission, the well-regarded Qualification Programme, launched last year, and the Joint Examination Scheme, which will be phased out next year. A steady growth of Qualification Programme candidates was seen during the year. Following the successful offering of Modules A and C last year, Module B - Financial Management and Module D - Taxation were offered in March 2000, with the module examinations held in June 2000.

A total of 18,408 registered students sat in various stages of the Joint Examinations, held in December 1999 and June 2000, and 1,489 completed the Examinations. A total of 1,554 candidates sat the Practising Certificate Examinations.

The Professional Programme Task Force of the Examinations Board spent a significant amount of time to develop and review the study materials for the Qualification Programme modules, which form the core technical guidance given to candidates taking the Qualification Programme. Two training sessions were conducted to train workshop facilitators to lead the Qualification Programme workshops. During the year, the Board also set its first open book examinations, a new format aimed at better equipping candidates for professional challenges in the new Millennium.

報告專業資格課程。至今，共五項轉制課程及兩項基礎課程已獲評審，可供這些人士選讀。

**專業考試**

考試評議會負責監察公會專業考試的政策及運作。直至二○○一年十二月，考試評議會仍需繼續同時處理兩項考試計劃，以評定考生達致成為公會會員所需的專業水平。該兩項考試計劃分別為於去年推出而備受好評的專業資格課程，以及將於明年年底結束的聯合考試計劃。年內專業資格課程的註冊學生人數不斷增加。自去年成功推出單元A及單元C課程後，公會亦於二○○○年三月推出了單元B——財務管理及單元D——稅務兩項課程。並於二○○○年六月舉行有關單元考試。

共有18,408名註冊學生成立於一九九九年十二月及二○○○年六月舉行的不同階段的聯合考試，完成整個聯合考試的畢業生共1,489名。另有1,554名考生參加了執業證書考試。

為了向專業資格課程的學生提供一套完善的專業課程資料及指引，考試評議會的專業課程專責小組花了大量時間審閱一套新撰寫的專業資格課程輔導教材。公會舉辦了兩個訓練班以訓練專業資格課程研習班的導師。年內考試評議會亦首次編撰了開卷考試試卷。此項新考試形式的目的在於讓考生能夠具備面對千禧新紀元的專業挑戰的條件。
The Annual Award Presentation Ceremony was held in May 2000. Besides the awards for top students in the Professional Stage papers of the Joint Examinations, this year also marked the first awards for top candidates of Qualification Programme modules. In addition to presenting awards to the eight HKSA Scholarship recipients, the Society also presented, for the first time, the HKSA Qualification Programme Scholarship. This newly established Scholarship was awarded to nine local top accountancy undergraduates to recognise their academic merits, as well as to encourage them to pursue the Society’s Qualification Programme.

Student Training and Development

The Student Training and Development Committee provided a wide range of training programmes and other services for registered students.

A total of 71 classes of Revision Courses were organised for the December 1999 and June 2000 Joint Examination diets, with 3,542 enrolment applications being accepted. In addition, 22 Examination Assistance Seminars were run and attended by 827 students. The three Joint Accountancy Programmes, organised in conjunction with three local universities, offered a total of 127 classes with a total enrolment of 3,242.

Three student orientation sessions were held to give newly registered students under the Qualification Programme an introduction about the Society and the supporting services that help students prepare their professional examinations. A total of 239 students attended. Practical training programmes, consisting of eight seminars, 11 workshops on various topical issues and two language training courses, were attended by 733 students. To enable registered students to keep abreast of the latest issues relevant to their profession, a Seminar on China Accounting & Auditing Systems and a Seminar on E-Commerce were...
respectively held in October 1999 and April 2000. Both seminars were sponsored by the CAPA Trust Fund and received overwhelming responses. A series of social visits had also been organised for registered students, including to Mai Po Nature Reserve, The Hong Kong International Airport, Po Leung Kuk and Shenzhen Institute of CPA.

The bi-monthly Students’ Journal, The Prospective Accountant, remained the principal channel through which the Society communicated with its registered students. It had an average circulation of over 24,000 copies per issue. Selected parts of the Journal had been posted on the Society’s website.

The Society continued to participate in the annual Education and Careers Expo, co-organised by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and the Labour Department. During the four-day exhibition held on 24-27 February 2000, the Society received over 17,000 visitors in its booth and gave career advice on how to attain professional accountancy qualification in Hong Kong.

Upon the invitation of tertiary institutions and other organisations, 23 career talks and seminars were delivered to 2,231 students and interested parties. The two receptions for graduates of the professional examinations attracted 320 participants in total.

To build up strong links with accounting faculties and student societies at the local tertiary institutions, the Society regularly sponsored activities organised by them. A full-time student relations officer was appointed to foster closer ties between the Society and the local universities. Members of the Committee also regularly supported functions organised by these student societies. The Society also organised roving exhibitions at universities to promote the profession and the Qualification Programme.
In addition, the Society has established a Prospective Students Society (PSS) to be launched in November 2000. It aims to develop a closer linkage between the Society and university students with a view to promulgate and promote Society’s Qualification Programme. Although targeted at accounting and business undergraduates and postgraduates primarily, students from other disciplines are also welcome to join the PSS. A series of interesting activities including an overnight camp, topical seminars, social events, firm visits are planned for PSS members to participate in the coming year. A newsletter will be issued on a quarterly basis to foster closer communication between the Society and the PSS student members and to update them on the latest developments of the Society and the Qualification Programme.

**Language Proficiency**

The Society continued to offer through accredited providers the English writing course, “Written Business Communications: A Course for Accountants”, developed from a project funded by the Government Language Fund. The Society accredited four providers to offer this course to members, registered students and other interested parties. They are: the Centre for Professional and Business English of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Li Ka Shing Institute of Professional & Continuing Education of the Open University of Hong Kong, the British Council, and Jockey Club Centre for the Advancement of English for Professionals of the Hong Kong Baptist University. To-date, 52 classes have been offered, attended by 840 participants.

The Language Proficiency Working Group sponsored a project by the Chinese Language Centre of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University to compile a set of Chinese Writing Guides for Accountants. This project involved studying accountants’ Chinese writing needs and compiling a guide to help accountants improve their Chinese writing. The guide is expected to be published early next year.

另外，公會也將於二○○○年十一月正式成立一個Prospective Students Society（「PSS」）。成立該組織的目的是要加強公會與大學學生之間的聯繫，同時推廣公會的專業資格課程。雖然PSS的主要對象是會計和商業學系的大學生和研究生，但其他學系的學生亦歡迎參加。來年公會將籌辦一系列活動供PSS會員參加，如宿營、專題研討會、社交活動等。公會也將編印PSS季刊，加強公會與PSS會員之間的聯繫，並為他們提供公會及專業資格課程的最新發展訊息。

**語文水平**

自獲得政府語文基金撥款資助後，公會繼續推行提高英文寫作素質的計劃，開辦了一個名為「Written Business Communication: A Course for Accountants」的英文寫作課程，由經公會評審的教育機構授課。公會經評審後委託四家教育機構為其會員、註冊學生及其他有興趣人士提供此項課程，這些機構包括香港理工大學的專業及商業英語中心，香港公開大學的李嘉誠專業進修學院，英國文化協會及香港浸會大學的賽馬會專業英語進修中心。至今，合共開辦了52班，報讀人數達840人。

語文水平工作小組贊助了香港理工大學中國語文教學中心一項為會計師編訂中文寫作指引的計劃。該計劃涉及研究會計師的中文寫作需要，並為會計師編訂指引提高他們的中文寫作能力。該指引預計將於明年初出版。
The Working Group was approached by the Department of English of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (HKPU) to participate in a research project. The project aims to set up an online context-led English Language Assessment System for companies wanting to benchmark the English language proficiency levels of its employees. This project is funded through the Research Grants Council of Hong Kong. The Working Group’s collaboration with HKPU involved helping the researcher find suitable CPA firms for data collection and interviews, and providing inputs on project development and the prototype system.

With the trend towards on-line learning, the Working Group continued to explore web-based language training for members.

Practical Experience

The Practical Experience Task Force was established in 1998 to review and update practical experience requirements for membership admission in line with the profession’s current business needs.

Consultants were appointed to research; collate views from members, prospective members and employers; and make recommendations for this project. The intention is to establish a competency-based framework which accurately defines the type and level of skills and knowledge that individuals should acquire during their period of practical experience.

This resulted in the issuance of a consultation paper by the Task Force, which was released following Council’s approval, in September 2000. In the Consultation Paper, it was proposed to implement a new framework for practical experience, after incorporating comments from members, students, employers and interested parties, on 1 January 2002.

香港理工大學的英文系邀請語文水平工作小組參與一項研究計劃。該計劃的目的是要設立一個聯機網上英語評估系統，讓要評估僱員英語語文水平基準的公司使用。該計劃是由香港研究资助局資助的。工作小組將協助理工大學挑選適當的執業會計師事務所，以搜集資料和進行訪問，並為該計劃的進展和系統的原型提供意見。

鉴于联机网络学习的发展渐趋普遍，工作小组继续研究以互聯網作授課媒體，向会员提供语言培训。

實務經驗

公會於一九九八年成立了一個會計實務經驗專責小組，檢討並更新申請成為公會會員的實務經驗要求，以符合會計專業目前的業務需要。

公會委任了顧問就該計劃作出研究及從會員，未來會員及僱主方面搜集意見，並為此項計劃提供建議。其目的是要建立一個以勝任能力為標準的架構，準確地界定個人在實際工作期間所應獲取的專業技能及知識。

經理事會通過後，工作小組於二○○○年九月發出了一份諮詢文件。該文件建議在綜合會員、學生、僱主及其他有關人士的意見後，於二○○一年一月一日推行一個新的實務經驗要求架構。
二〇〇〇年度理事會報告

Insolvency Education

The Society set up an Insolvency Education Steering Committee in 2000 to oversee arrangement for and to advise the Council on matters relating to insolvency education. A new one-year insolvency programme, the HKSA Diploma in Insolvency, was initiated by the IPC.

The Steering Committee has also assumed the responsibilities for organising the Introductory and Intermediate Insolvency Courses, which had been offered for a number of years by the Society. 209 participants attended the courses which were held in September and October 2000.

Hong Kong Association of Accounting Technicians (HKAAT)

The Association’s student population grew by 9% from last year’s 7,404 to 8,152.

A total of 7,509 students enrolled for the two diets of the 8-paper Accounting Technician Examinations during the period, an increase of 20%, with 354 students completing the examinations. The Association has qualified 3,745 Accounting Technicians since its inauguration in 1988.

The Book-keeping and Accounts Examination, which is offered in both English and Chinese, attracted 1,138 candidates for the two diets of examinations. About 9% of the candidates attempted the Chinese paper. 747 candidates passed the examinations, i.e. a pass rate of 66%.

To support its examinations, the Association published a full set of study texts. During the year, five new study texts for all Level I Examination papers and the Chinese Book-keeping and Accounts Examination were published. All study texts are monitored closely to ensure that they are kept up-to-date.
The Association published its first annual report to provide more detailed information on its activities and financial position in May. A total of 13,000 annual reports were distributed to graduates, registered students, employers, local and overseas educational institutes and professional bodies.

Following the introduction of new examination regulations for its Accounting Technicians Examinations with effect from December 1999, the Working Group on Examinations Review had started to revise the syllabus and structure to meet the needs of employers and enhance graduates’ career advancement. Writers for the new syllabuses and pilot papers were appointed and the preparation was underway. Details of the new Examinations will be announced in early 2001 for implementation in June 2002.

For the Book-keeping and Accounts Examination, the syllabus has been revised, to be effective from the June 2001 examination. In addition, a new Examination “Computerised Accounts Examination” will be organised under this level of examinations. A Task Force for implementation of this new Examination was set up to oversee its preparatory work. Writers for the syllabus and pilot paper were appointed and the examination is expected to be launched in June 2001. Details will be announced later in the year.

A new HKAAT Scholarship Trust Fund, funded by rebates from the HKAAT Affinity Credit Card and the Association, was established last year. It aims to promote the study of accounting at technician level by offering financial assistance to registered students to further their study in accounting courses.

協會於五月出版了首份年報，為其活動及財務狀況提供更詳細的資料。協會共發出13,000份年報，供畢業生、註冊學生、僱主、本地與海外教育機構及專業團體查閱。

在新的專業會計員考試規則於一九九九年十二月生效後，考試檢討工作小組已經開始檢討課程大綱和結構以符合僱主的要求，及提升畢業生的就業機會。協會已委任了專人負責編撰新課程大綱及試驗考卷，準備工作正在進行中。新考試的細節將於二〇〇一年初公布，並在二〇〇二年六月實施。

至於簿記與會計考試，其課程大綱亦已經過檢討，新的考試範圍將於二〇〇一年六月的考試生效。另外，一個和簿記與會計考試同一水平的「會計軟件應用考試」將即推出。協會已成立了一個專責小組進行有關的籌備工作，並委任了專人負責編撰新課程大綱及試驗考卷。考試預期在二〇〇一年六月推出，細節將於今年稍後公布。

去年，協會成立了香港專業會計員協會奬學金信託基金，由協會及香港專業會計員協會信用卡回扣款項聯合資助，以推廣研讀專業會計員課程，及提供經濟援助予註冊學生進修會計課程。
At the Annual General Meeting of the Association held on 13 June 2000, Board members to oversee the administration of the HKAAT, were appointed. This comprised 12 incumbent Board members, Messrs. William Chan, Dennis Chung, George Ho, James Kong, Jack Ng, Patrick Ng, Kenneth Pang, David Tam, Joseph S.W. Yau, Joseph Y.K. Yau, Yeung Che Keung and Ulysses Yuen, and two new members, Messrs. Wan Shiu Kee and Andrew Li. Mr. Joseph Y. K. Yau was re-elected as the President and Messrs. David Tam and George Ho, the Vice-Presidents.

Finance and Administration

The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2000 recorded a surplus of $0.1M, compared to $8.8M for the previous financial year. It is worth pointing out that surplus for 1998/1999 of $8.8M was exceptional because of the disposal of a car parking space in Fortis Bank Tower ($0.5M) and the office space in the same building ($6.3M).

Total operating income remained largely the same as last year, i.e. $82.3M in 1999/2000 as compared to $82.2M in 1998/1999. As a result of the unusual large intake of registered students in 1998/1999, the fees income for the current year was decreased by $3.8M as compared to that of the previous financial year. However, this was compensated by an increase in CPD and other member services income.

Operating expenses increased by $4.7M or 6% from $77.7M in 1998/1999 to $82.4M in 1999/2000 for more depreciation charge related to premises and equipments at Lippo Centre ($1M), provision of ex-gratia payments to long servicing staff ($1.4M) and employment of additional staff ($2.1M).
A gross office area of 4,290 sq.ft. was bought at 8/F., Lippo Centre in September 1999. The Education and Training Department moved to the new office in November 1999.

As a result of thorough preparation and planning, we are pleased to report that no problems occurred in our IT infrastructure as a result of the date change. Although 1 January 2000 has come and gone, the Y2K issue would continue to be a top priority throughout the year. Year 2000 is also the year marking the Society entering the e-era, with the implementation of electronic correspondence to our members. We have also started preparations for a major reconstructions of our website which will incorporate facilities such as e-payment, e-shopping, on-line booking of events and activities, new internet version of members’ handbook and a members’ chat room.

The number of staff increased by four to 92.

The Council resolved that membership subscription fees for the calendar year 2001 would remain unchanged.

By order of the Council
Lee Kai-fat
Registrar and Secretary to the Council

3 October 2000

公會於一九九九年九月購置了位於力寶中心
8樓，總建築面積為4,290平方呎的辦事處。教育及
培訓部於一九九九年十一月遷入新的辦事
處。

由於公會作出了周詳的準備和籌劃，公會的
資訊科技基礎設施並未受到公元二千年問題的
影響。雖然二○○○年一月一日已經過去，公
會將繼續關注公元二千年問題。二○○○年也
是公會邁進電子時代的一年。除了使用電郵與
會員通訊外，公會也正準備為公會的網頁換上
新裝，並設置電子付賬、電子購物及網上預訂
活動服務，同時也推出會員手冊網上版及會員
網上聊天室。

員工人數增加了4人至92人。

理事會已宣布不會調整二○○一年的會員年
費。

承理事會命
李啟發
註冊主任兼理事會秘書

二○○○年十月三日