

## Design of Buildings for Sustainability – Case Study Presentation



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### **Abstract**

In Hong Kong, a city with a high building density, institutional buildings are however normally low-rise. The Hong Kong Community College (Hung Hom Bay Campus) is a unique high-rise institutional building with gardens in the air and spiral arrangements throughout the building, to provide plenty of communal spaces for teachers and students to share and interact. Besides, the construction is innovative. The modular planning that enables the use of fully-precast elements is a careful consideration to ensure quality as well as protect the environment. It is the first institutional building that uses not only precast façade but also columns and beams.

The conspicuous form could be easily perceived from the vicinity and along the footbridge to the nearby Student Hostels adjacent to the royal Peninsula Complex. The form composes of various teaching blocks stacked spirally in the air, which are separated with sky gardens at different levels. The continuous spiral-chain of communal sky gardens could be perceived along the tower block periphery extending from the lower-ground floor to the upper-most floors. The gardens enrich the building elevation with a natural, pleasant environment and help to create different open learning and communal environment.

### **Speaker**

**Professor Bernard V. Lim** is the Principal of AD+RG Architecture Design and Research Group Ltd., and Professor (Fractional Appointment), School of Architecture, CUHK. For years, he has been Architects Registration Board Member and a Council Member of HKIA, contributing particularly in community development and local affairs. He was the President of HKIA from 2005 to 2006; a member of Town Planning Board from 2004 to 2010; Antiquities Advisory Board, Energy Advisory Committee and Tourism Strategy Group since 2005; and Specialist Architectural Advisor to the Legislative Council Commission in 2002. He is a Housing Authority Committee member and Convener of Support Group on “Building Design to Foster a Quality and Sustainable Built Environment” for the Council for Sustainable Development.

Bernard establishes professional specialization/research in sustainable designs, institutional, educational, healthcare and elderly buildings, and community participatory planning and workshops. His research on Innovative School Designs and Public Participation has been supported by the Quality Education Fund and Sustainable Development Fund.

His designs show great concern on sustainability. In Hong Kong Green Building Award 2008, the URA Vertical Greening Research Study received Merit Award in Research and Planning Studies Category, and Hong Kong Community College received Merit Award in the New Construction Category. The project is also the first institutional building rating Platinum in HKBEAM. In 2009 and 2010, AD+RG was awarded “BCI Asia Top 10 Architects”, in recognition of “Most-Significant Architecture Firms” with the largest active portfolios in key Asian cities.

