## CHAPTER 5 : CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND SHORT COURSES

Short courses, seminars and conferences provide platforms for researchers, engineers and academicians to meet and share ideas, achievements as well as experiences through the presentation of papers and discussion. These events are important to promote and encourage the applications of the new techniques to practitioners as well as enhancing the knowledge of the engineers with the current requirements of the analysis, design and construction of any civil engineering projects.

Participants at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional Conference on Computer Application in Civil Engineering (RCCACE '94) at Hotel Istana, Kuala Lumpur.

The seminars and conferences also function as a platform to recommend any appropriate remedial action for the implementation and enforcement of policy related to civil engineering fields.

Furthermore the seminars and conferences are organised to market the faculty expertise in the fields of structural engineering, environmental engineering, geotechnical engineering and hydraulic and hydrology engineering.

One of the participant giving his presentation at the faculty seminar

Realising the important of these factors, the faculty has set up various working committees to organise various conferences related to civil engineering fields. The working committees are normally represented by the member of academic and clerical staff. In the early 80's the seminars, short courses and conferences were organised by respective departments in the faculty. However, in the 90's, most of the seminars are organised by the faculty excellence centres of the faculty such as Steel Technology Centre (STC), Institute of Environmental & Water Resource Management (IEWRM), Coastal and Offshore Engineering Institute (COEI) and Construction Technology and Management Centre (CTMC).

The major series of conferences organised by the Department of Structures and Materials are Regional Conference on Computer Applications in Civil Engineering (RCCACE) and Asia Pacific Conference on Structural and Construction Engineering (APSEC). The Department of Geotechnics Transportation organises Regional Seminar on Geotechnical Engineering in Tropical Region (GEOTROPIKA). The Department of Hydraulic and Hydrology organises Symposium on Urban Planning and Storm Water Management and Basic Course on Evaluation of Water Resources which is sponsored by UNESCO.

Conference dinner organised by the faculty

The Department of Environment organises series of continuing conferences such as International Seminar on Environmental Control & Technology (ENVIROTECH), National Seminar on Water and Wastewater Management and National Seminar on Advances in Environmental Control Technology.

Participants at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia Pacific Conference on Structural Engineering & Construction at the Puteri Pan Pacific Hotel, Johor Bahru

The seminars and major conferences are normally attended by many participants from local as well as from overseas such as Japan, Korea, United Kingdom, Canada, United States, Singapore, Thailand and Indonesia.

Besides organising seminars and conferences, the faculty has also managed to organise many short courses for inhouse training as well as for training civil engineers from various departments in Malaysia. The courses are normally

assisted by distinguished professors from overseas such as United Kingdom, United States of America and Japan. In addition, the faculty has also successfully conducted many courses to increase the awareness of civil engineering contractors on the current requirements and issues in civil engineering in Malaysia.

Basic Course in Water Resources Assessment organised by IHP-UNESCO and the faculty

The seminars and short courses are usually co-organised with other professional institutions such Institute of Engineers

Malaysia (IEM). The faculty also has received many supports from various organisations such as Malaysian Airline System (MAS), Johor Corporation, PLUS and many others to sponsor the seminars.

The lists of short courses, seminars and conferences that have been organised by the faculty are given in Appendix E.

The faculty is committed to provide continuing education, training and informative knowledge by organising more series of seminars, conferences and short courses in the future. The faculty believes that such approaches are effective in creating awareness among engineers and those involved in civil engineering projects, enhancing relation between industry-university as well as promoting the faculty expertise.

Closing ceremony of the Regional conference in Geotechnical Engineering (GEOTROPIKA '94)