

New PAM president has big plans for NGO's future

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THE Malaysian Institute of Architects (PAM) has a new president and he is looking to take the non-governmental organisation (NGO) to greater heights during his tenure for the next two years.

Chan Seong Aun, who took over from immediate past president Saifuddin Ahmad, has housekeeping on top of his to-do list.

"We want everything in-house to run smoothly first," said Chan.

"We are looking to complete our PAM centre next year and we are also looking to elevate the quality of our architects," he added.

The new PAM centre is set to house a members' service centre, an administration office, a conference centre and training centre for the future of architects in Malaysia.

Besides this, Chan is also looking to advocate the Building Information Modeling

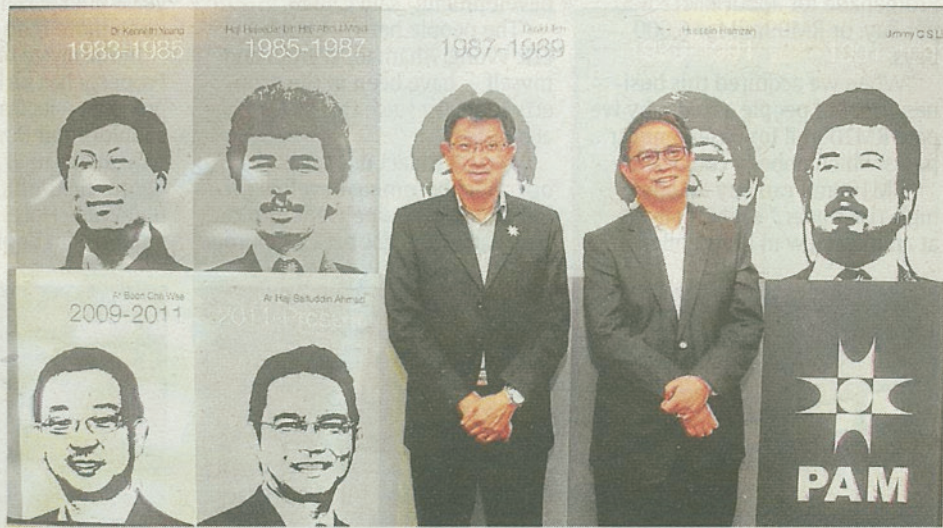
(BIM) system among local architecture firms. This system is an intelligent model-based process that help firms achieve business results by enabling more accessible and accurate insight throughout project execution.

"We want to promote BIM to our members. This will bring our firms up to par with some of the international firms," said Chan.

Currently the principal for Arkitek Daya Seni Sdn Bhd, Chan has more than 25 years experience as a professional architect and has successfully completed high-rise condominiums, hotels, resorts, shopping malls and housing developments across Malaysia over the past 20 years.

PAM is the national professional institute representing architects in Malaysia and it was founded in 1920 as the Institute of Architects Malaya.

Twenty-eight years later, the name and, consequently, the Constitution were



Transition: Chan (left) took over from immediate past president Saifuddin.

changed to the Federation of Malaya Society of Architects (FMSA), which was allied to the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). Another change in name to reflect national sovereignty, and registration under the current name, came about when PAM was registered with the Registrar of Societies on January 20, 1967.

The Institute is managed by an elected council comprising a president, deputy president, vice-president, honorary secretary, honorary treasurer and 10 council members. Also in the council is the immediate past president, three nominated past presidents and four elected representatives from the Chapters.