



Newsletter

Editor : Yoshinosuke Fukuchi
Associate Editors : Takashi Horie, J. Patrick Barron, H. Sato Cochrane

Message from the New President



It was a great honor to assume the presidency of the APSR following Professor Wah Kit Lam who made such outstanding achievements during his two-year term 2002-2004. He is an impeccable role model for me to follow as a highly motivated leader of a growing society. I learned many lessons from him through my collaboration as Secretary General and President-elect. His many achievements included innovative proposals, rapid and efficient decision-making, and an unsurpassed sense of balance at any meeting he chaired. It is my sincere wish that I work with comparable efficiency. I am fully determined to keep the activity of the APSR at the high standard it has been for the last two years.

I am very fortunate to have two eminent respirologists working with me for the next two years. The new Secretary General, Professor Norbert Berend, is a director of the Ann J Woolcock Institute of Respiratory Medicine and Professor of Medicine at the University of Sydney. He was associated with Professor Woolcock for a long time and naturally became involved with the running the APSR at an early stage of its development. He served as chairperson of the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) and became truly instrumental in revising the Charter & Bylaws of the Society. He was also responsible for drafting various memos for en-bloc membership of the Japanese Respiratory Society (JRS) now ratified by both parties. He will remain as chair of the SPC in addition to serving as Secretary General.

The Treasurer, Professor Takashi Horie, will be in charge of financial administration again for a second term. He is Dean of the Department of Medicine at Nihon University in Tokyo and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the JRS. His precise monitoring of finance, based on extensive experience and insight, helped the society to grow in a sound manner during his first term of office. I am afraid that work for the treasurer will become increasingly demanding in the face of the expanding activities of the APSR. Yet I am firmly convinced that Professor Horie will continue to support as many projects as possible with his thoughtful management of the finances.

I was privileged to witness the development of the APSR since its infancy, growing steadily until it has become deemed a respectable international academic respiratory society. It has been a long journey since the launch in 1985 in Tokyo, and I would like to express appreciation to all the preceding executives who have contributed in so many ways. For me, the World Lung Health Conference in 2000 at Firenze was probably the most memorable in our history. The APSR was invited as the representative regional society from Asia, along with the ATS, ERS and ACCP. Our prime goal of reaching global recognition was achieved for the first time under the Presidency of Professor Woolcock. Then two epoch making achievements followed: the Joint meeting with the ACCP to replace APCDC, and the first en-bloc membership with the JRS. I have no doubt that the souls of both Professors Harasawa and Woolcock are greatly pleased with all of these achievements.

I would like to commit myself to four aims during my term. First, to promote scientific and educational activities both inside and outside the framework of Assemblies that will have a significant effect on the annual Congress. The recent introduction of a system in program-making is an example of the internal progress and development we are aiming at. Closer and more regular involvement of society workshops at national congresses of the membership countries, is one practical approach in developing external connections. Second, to promote closer relationships

with various sister societies, in addition to our cooperation with the ACCP. In view of our historic joint meeting with the ACCP in November 2005 and in odd-numbered years thereafter, I would like to seek ways to have closely integrated scientific exchange programs, especially in even years (e.g. 2006). I remember how much we were encouraged by the generous gift from the ATS (Professor Kenneth Moser, President) in 1985 at the first meeting to launch the APSR. The third goal is to provide other regions of the world with our original scientific statements or guidelines, either alone or jointly with our sister societies. Fourth, to create a structure in the society where public advisory members (e.g. patient organizations) can join us to fight the common battle against respiratory disease.

It is vitally essential to receive rich input from all the members of the APSR. I would welcome your comments or advice. The great achievements of my predecessors and colleagues and the tremendous sense of progress and movement by the Society, particularly with our excellently edited and Index Medicus listed journal scheduled to receive an Impact Factor this year, and with interest being shown in en bloc membership by several national societies, all combine to give me the enthusiasm to do my utmost for the APSR in the coming years.

Yoshinosuke Fukuchi
APSR, President

Report on the 9th Congress of the APSR

The 9th Congress of the APSR was held from 10 to 13 December 2004 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Hong Kong. It was co-organized by the Hong Kong Thoracic Society and the Hong Kong & Macau Chapter of the American College of Chest Physicians, and supported by the Hong Kong Lung Foundation. The Congress turned out to be a great success with over 1,300 delegates from 34 countries and regions. Hong Kong and mainland China



Delegates at the Congress Exhibition Area

accounted for 475 and 257 delegates respectively, and countries/regions with over 35 delegates included Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. Elsewhere, the delegates came from Australasia (20), S Asia (47), Singapore (18), S Korea (10), Middle East (6), N America (22), Europe (18), Africa (3) and S America (2).

The Faculty included 74 distinguished respirologists and scientists from the Asian Pacific region and from N America, Europe and S Africa, and included the Presidents/Past Presidents of the ACCP, ATS, ERS, JRS and TSANZ. The scientific programmes were packed into five workshops, five plenary lectures and two memorial lectures (Ann Woolcock Memorial Lecture by Dr Peter Gibson and Michiyoshi Harasawa Memorial Lecture by Prof Hidetada Sasaki), 14 symposia, a Radiology Grand Round Session (with discussants including the Presidents/Past Presidents from ACCP, ATS, ERS, TSANZ and representative from JRS), and a Presidential Symposium (in which the Presidents or Ex-Presidents of ACCP, APSR, ATS and ERS gave lectures of their research interests). There were 50 exhibition booths including a very popular one showing daily radiology quizzes with prizes, plus booths for APSR and our sister societies. The following activities were held to encourage and support young respirologists and scientists:

(1) Structured Poster Discussion sessions on 351 poster presentations from 21 countries/regions under 12 themes (the top five countries/regions submitting abstracts being mainland China, Japan, Hong Kong, Indian Subcontinent, and USA/S Korea). Each session was chaired by



The Officiating Party of the 9th Congress of APSR, Hong Kong : from left to right : Dr. D Hui (President, HKTS), Dr. R Dahl (President, ERS), Dr. P Kvale (President, ACCP), Dr. Y Fukuchi (Secretary General & President-Elect, APSR), Dr. WK Lam (President, APSR & Congress President), The Honourable Donald Tsang (Chief Secretary for Administration, Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region), Dr. M Ip (Chairman, Congress Organizing Committee), Dr. T Horie (Treasurer, APSR), Dr. S Rounds (President, ATS), Dr. HS Chan (Chairman, HKLF), Dr. KS Chan (President, HK & Macau Chapter of ACCP)

two senior scientists (one local and one from overseas), and prizes were awarded for the best posters presentations. (2) Presidential Best Free Papers oral presentations (with four scholarships awarded as judged by an international panel), in which senior members of the profession asked questions and made constructive comments. (3) Seven Travelling Fellowships to young members from less-well-off countries, who presented good abstracts as judged by an invited international panel. (4) The Fok Ying Tung Foundation, the Li Ka Shing Foundation and the Hong Kong Lung Foundation, supported 68 young scientists from mainland China with high-quality abstracts. In addition, the TSANZ offered an Ann Woolcock Fellowship to support a young scientist from TSANZ to orally present his research in this APSR Congress. They also offered a TSANZ Fellowship to support the best paper presented by a young investigator in this Congress to present his work in the upcoming TSANZ Annual Meeting in Perth in 2005.

The Opening Ceremony was graced by the Honourable Donald Tsang, the Chief Secretary for Administration of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, who in his opening speech emphasized the importance of respirology in the aftermath of SARS and avian flu, and when cigarette smoking, tuberculosis and air pollution continue to be problems in this part of the world. The Congress Dinner was very well attended and everybody was happy with the multinational performances. In appreciation of the tremendous support of our sister societies, we presented to the Presidents of the ACCP, ATS, ERS, JRS and TSANZ plaques of appreciation during the Dinner.

Apart from scientific programmes, a series of business meetings were held before and during the Congress, including an APSR Editorial Meeting, Council Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting, and APSR Leadership Meetings with ACCP (focusing on preparations for the 10th Congress of APSR and the 1st Joint APSR/ACCP Congress in Guangzhou in November 2005), ATS, and TSANZ. Decisions were made and action plans were set. The WAM and FIRS groups also made use of this Congress opportunity to meet. Overall, the Congress has turned out to be rewarding scientifically, socially and business-wise.

I would like to thank the Organizing Committee for their hard work, the APSR Secretariat from Tokyo for their tremendous help and the pharmaceutical companies for their strong support. I am happy that the ACCP, ATS, ERS, JRS and TSANZ participated in such a big way in the Congress. We are now looking forward to the milestone 10th Congress of APSR, which will also be the first Joint APSR/ACCP Congress in

Guangzhou, China in November, 2005.

Wah Kit Lam
President, 9th Congress of APSR, Hong Kong

Special Expression of Gratitude

The entire Society would like to express its gratitude to Dr. Chong Kin Liam and his colleagues in the Malaysian Thoracic Society for hosting the excellent 8th APSR Congress in December 2003, and their subsequent extremely generous donation to the Society.

Takashi Horie
APSR, Treasurer

Message from the New Secretary General



It was a great honour to be elected Secretary - General at the Executive Meeting in association with the 9th Congress of the APSR in Hong Kong. The next two years promise to be busy and challenging and I predict a substantial increase in membership as well as a large increase in activity of the Society.

The JRS joined the APSR as a Member Society in 2004 and negotiations have occurred with both the Philippine College of Chest Physicians and the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand for similar affiliations. Amendments to the Charter and Bylaws of the APSR were approved in Hong Kong which should facilitate this process and we are now very hopeful of concluding these arrangements in 2005. A number of other National Societies have indicated an interest in becoming Member Societies and we will be commencing detailed dialogue to see if this can become a reality. This augurs well for constructive relationships with National Societies in the region.

There are many issues in respiratory health which our Society has in common with the other major regional Societies such as the ATS and ERS. Increasingly we have been discussing ways in which we can develop a common approach to problems such as tobacco smoke and to collaborate in guideline development and educational activities. At the ATS/APSR Leadership meeting in Hong Kong we agreed to the establishment of an organisational taskforce to maintain this momentum. We have been grateful to both Societies for providing speakers for the APSR Congresses in recent years.

Some time ago we reached an agreement to run biennial Congresses in association with the ACCP and the first such Congress will be held in Guangzhou, China on Nov 11-14, 2005. The planning process with our colleagues from the ACCP is well advanced and there will be an excellent faculty of speakers from both Societies contributing to an exciting program. We urge you all to attend and to participate in the clinical and scientific sessions.

At this stage of the development of the APSR it will be vital to have more involvement from the membership and to focus on improving clinical practice and to support research in a number of disciplines and disease areas. To this end the Executive has agreed to the formation of Assemblies and I will be contacting the membership individually to seek information as to their specific interest in joining a range of suggested Assemblies.

With the growth of the Congresses and increasing involvement by other Societies it has become clear that the APSR needs to have a greater, indeed central, role in developing the program rather than totally delegating this task to a local committee as has been done in the past. The Assemblies, once formed, should make a major contribution to this activity. The development of a protocol for the planning of the Congresses is an urgent priority.

The next 2 years will be very busy and I look forward to contributing to the APSR taking its rightful place among regional Societies dedicated to the global improvement of respiratory health.

Norbert Berend
APSR, Secretary General

Respirology – Report

November 2004

The growth in the Journal has continued unabated during 2004.

- The number of manuscripts being submitted is increasing steadily – 107 in 2001, 146 in 2002, 198 in 2003 and 251 received in the first 11 months of 2004. The quality of the manuscripts submitted is also rising, with the proportion of original articles increasing and case reports decreasing.
- We have instituted a new policy on Case Reports, now published as part of the Instructions for Authors. These guidelines state that “Case report should describe new or novel findings leading to hypotheses to be tested in larger series, report new treatment or diagnostic approaches, or provide a timely and appropriate review of the literature of

rare conditions. Collections of several cases are preferable to reports of single cases.” The complete text of the revised Instructions for Authors can be viewed on the Respirology website, www.blackwellpublishing.com/journals/res.

- We start 2005 with five issues per year, and the plan is to have 6 issues per year from 2006. To optimize this increase we plan to have Issue 1 distributed in January of each year.
- The Editorial Office currently holds 140 manuscripts under review, and 55 accepted awaiting publication. With an average of 21 manuscripts published in each issue we currently have 3 full issues waiting to be published. A manuscript accepted today will not be published until Volume 10 No 3 – June 2005. We are now asking all Associate Editors to raise the standard required for acceptance. Currently the average acceptance rate is 50%, and we will now aim for 40%. At current levels of submission, this would give us around 110 manuscripts accepted in a year, enough to fill 5 issues.
- Blackwell Publishing Asia report exponential growth in the usage of the Synergy website to access Respirology articles and abstracts. They also report a significant increase in the number of institutional subscribers to Respirology.
- The increasing volume of manuscript submissions is making it urgent that we appoint at least two extra Associate Editors.
- Respirology has been listed with the ISI for nearly two years, and we should be informed of our Impact Factor by July 2005. Although it is difficult to know how often articles from the Journal have been cited, figures from Blackwell indicate that many of articles are accessed frequently, which we hope translates to citations.
- The funds provided from the APSR to run Respirology have remained static for nearly 4 years, despite the considerable growth in the number of manuscripts being processed. In 2001 the Assistant Editor was employed 3 days a week, but now it requires 5 days a week to process the current volume of manuscripts. We have made every economy possible to reduce other costs, such as using regular mail rather than Express Post.
- Almost 50% of submissions are now received by us via e-mail, and a move to on-line processing is the next logical step. The specialized software presently used to track manuscripts through the review and publication process is no longer supported by the company which produced it.

Philip J. Thompson
APSR, Editor-in-Chief

Message from the ACCP President

It is an honor and a privilege for the American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) to partner with the Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology (APSR) to organize the first APSR/ACCP Joint Congress to be held November 11 – 14, 2005 in Guangzhou, China. We expect the meeting to showcase the strength of both organizations through a multidisciplinary forum that provides education from the bench to the bedside; for researchers and clinicians.

The APSR/ACCP Joint Congress will cover more than respiratory topics. Together, our organizations have worked diligently to develop an outstanding, comprehensive program. The Congress will cover educational topics in adjacent medical areas so that the entire health care team can participate in this educational event, whether their area is respiratory, critical/intensive care, cardiothoracic surgery, or other ancillary areas of medical research and patient care. Major topics will include sleep medicine, occupational and environmental lung disease, mechanical ventilation, bronchoscopy, hypersensitivity pneumonitis, pulmonary hypertension, asthma, COPD, lung cancer, cough, sepsis, ARDS, pleural disease, pulmonary embolism, and many, many more. In addition to the regular program, the Congress will feature special post-graduate courses that cover specific topics in-depth. We hope that this multidisciplinary approach will provide a rich and meaningful educational experience to the attendees.

Over the past several years, ACCP and APSR have discussed opportunities to collaborate. Both organizations are committed to educating physicians and healthcare professionals so that they may provide the best care to their patients. It is logical for our organizations to work together to bring the best education to physicians around the world. The 2005 Joint Congress in Guangzhou will be the first step in what we hope will be a long and beneficial partnership between our societies. Individually, our organizations are strong; together we are even stronger. ACCP welcomes the opportunity to meet physicians and other health-care providers from the Asia-Pacific region, and especially from mainland China at the first APSR/ACCP Joint Congress 2005 in Guangzhou. We will see you there!

Paul Kvale, MD, FCCP
President, American College of Chest Physicians
Co-Chair, Program Committee, APSR/ACCP Joint Congress

Councillor's Report

The following reports were given at the Council Meeting during the 9th Congress of the APSR in Hong Kong on 9th December, 2004.

Australia:

Dr. Richard Ruffin spoke on behalf of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ). It is the broad intention of the Society to become a national member of the APSR. The TSANZ is still considering the best way to approach the problem of incorporating the large number of associate TSANZ members into en bloc membership of the APSR.

There is also a strong desire to hold a joint congress with the APSR. Timing is one issue, since the APSR Congress tends to be in December and the TSANZ would prefer a mid-year date.

Hong Kong:

Dr. Mary S-M Ip reported the very close relationship between the Hong Kong Thoracic Society (HKTS) and the Hong Kong and Macau Chapter of the American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP HKM).

There are around 900 members of the HKTS. Clinical meetings are held at 6-weekly intervals and multi-centred research projects are encouraged. Recently completed projects include lung function in the community with reference values and death from smoking, and on COPD.

In the past year, both the HKTS and ACCP HKM have focused most of their energy on organising the current Congress.

Indonesia:

Dr. Faisal Yunus introduced the Indonesian Association of Pulmonologists, formed in 1973, which has around 600 members and publishes a quarterly journal. The society has three sections:

1. A Collegium, responsible for accreditation and quality control of Pulmonary and Respiratory Medicine educational centres. It also conducts national board examinations.
2. An Advocacy Section, conducting advocacy to members and educational materials in related areas.
3. A Scientific Section, responsible for scientific meetings, national congress, and manages working groups in Pulmonary and Respiratory Medicine.

The Society is hoping to host the APSR Congress in Bali in the near future.

Japan:

Dr. Takayuki Kuriyama, the President of the

Japanese Respiratory Society (JRS), reported the close relationship between the APSR and the JRS. The APSR journal, *Respirology*, is the preferred English language journal for the JRS and all 10,000 JRS members have joined the APSR en bloc.

This spring, Dr. Horie successfully organised the 44th annual JRS Congress. The next will be held in April 2005 in Chiba city. 1,000 abstracts were already submitted and more than 4,000 participants are expected. The programme is almost completed and will include both a domestic Japanese component and an international component in English.

Malaysia:

Dr. Chong Kin Liam reported that the Malaysian Thoracic Society (MTS), a small society with only 115 members, hosted the 8th APSR Congress last year. In addition to organising activities for continuing medical education, the MTS has recently held World Asthma Day, World No Tobacco Day, and a World COPD Day. A Lung Foundation has been founded and is awaiting registration as a legal entity. Two Asthma Council Malaysia (ACM) meetings have been held as well as an Annual Scientific Meeting.

New Zealand:

Dr. Allen Liang reported a recent law in New Zealand that extends a 1990 ban on smoking in offices, shops and public buildings to pubs, clubs, restaurants, casinos and school grounds, as well limiting the display of tobacco products in shops. However, the government is too slow at allowing new drugs into healthcare. The APSR is not sufficiently well-known in New Zealand, and one way to rectify this would be for the APSR to help the local respirologists in lobbying and putting pressure on the New Zealand government.

Singapore:

Dr. Cynthia B-E Chee reported that the Singapore Thoracic Society (STS) has 74 members. They have been busy this year running meetings and workshops for general practitioners, and are currently working on a website to publish their electronic newsletter.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

2005

3rd ERS Lung Science Conference
18-20 March 2005, Taromina, Italy
Website: www.ersnet.org

TSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting
18-23 March 2005, Perth WA, Australia
Website: www.thoracic.org.au

10th International Conference on Home Mechanical Ventilation
8-9 April 2005, Lyon, France

E-mail: brigitte.hautier@free.fr
Website: www.jivd-france.com

45th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory Society
14-16 April 2005, Chiba, Japan
Website: www.jrs.or.jp/jrs45

American Thoracic Society (ATS) International Conference
20-25 May 2005, San Diego, USA
Website: www.thoracic.org

15th European Respiratory Society Congress
17-21 September 2005, Copenhagen, Denmark
Website: www.ersnet.org

CHEST 2005 - Annual International Scientific Assembly of the American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP)
29 October - 03 November, 2005 Montreal, Canada
E-mail: registration@chestnet.org
Website: www.chestnet.org

10th Congress of the APSR and the 1st Joint Congress of the APSR/ACCP
11-14 November 2005, Guangzhou, China
E-mail: apsr2005@asia.cmpmedica.com
Website: www.apsr2005.com

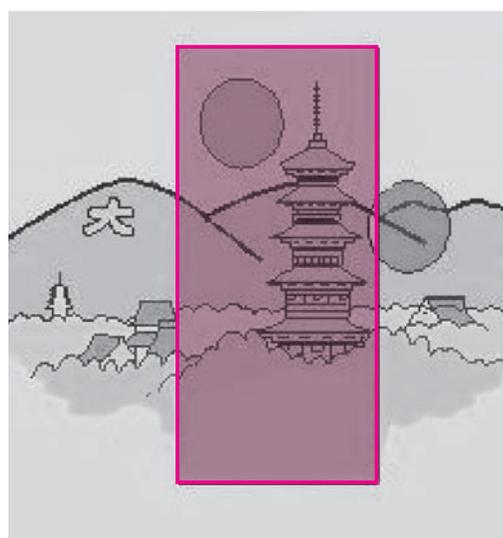
1st Asian-Pacific Congress on Bronchology and International Pneumology
26-27 November 2005, Chiba, Japan
E-mail: hai-geka@umin.ac.jp

2006

TSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting
24-29 March 2006, Canberra Australia
Website: www.thoracic.org.au

46th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory Society
1-3 June 2006, Tokyo, Japan
Website: www.jrs.or.jp

11th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology (APSR)
19-22 November, 2006, Kyoto, Japan





10th Congress of the APSR 1st Joint Congress of the APSR/ACCP

November 11-14, 2005 Guangzhou, China



Organizers :



The Asian Pacific Society of Respirology (APSR)



American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP)

Hosts :



Chinese Medical Association (CMA)
Chinese Society of Respiratory Diseases
Guangdong Medical Association
Guangzhou Association for Science and Technology
Guangzhou Medical College

Secretariat:



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Congress President-elect : Yoshinosuke Fukuchi
Past President/Past Congress President : Wah Kit Lam
Secretary General : Norbert Berend
Treasurer : Takashi Horie
Editor-in-Chief : Philip J Thompson

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China:	Wenbin Chen You Ning Liu Chen Wang	Malaysia:	Chong-Kin Liam B.M.Z. Zainudin
Hong Kong:	Mary S-M Ip Kenneth W-T Tsang Yun W.T. Mok	New Zealand:	Allen Liang
Indonesia:	Faisal Yunus	Philippines:	Percival A. Punzal Jennifer A. Wi
Japan:	Takayuki Kuriyama Masaharu Nishimura Toshihiro Nukiwa Hidetada Sasaki	Singapore:	Cynthia B-E Chee Oh M. Chay
		Taiwan:	Pan-Chyr Yang Hsu-Tah Kuo
		Thailand:	Apirak Palwatwichai Chaivej Nuchprayoon

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Finance Committee:

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Membership Committee:

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Education Committee:

Wan-Cheng Tan (Chairperson)

Past-Presidents: Michiyoshi Harasawa, Wan-Chen Tan, Wei-Ci Luo, Ann J. Woolcock, Shiro Kira, Wah Kit Lam

Presidents of the Congresses:

1st Congress	Tokyo	1988	Michiyoshi Harasawa
2nd Congress	Bali	1990	Hood Alsagaff
3rd Congress	Singapore	1993	Wan-Cheng Tan
4th Congress	Beijing	1996	Wei-Ci Luo
5th Congress	Sydney	1998	J. Paul Seale
6th Congress	Florence	2000	Ann J. Woolcock
7th Congress	Taiwan	2002	Kwen-Tay Luh
8th Congress	Selangor	2003	Chong-Kin Liam
9th Congress	Hong Kong	2004	Wah Kit Lam

The Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology

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