Message from the President

It is a great honor to introduce myself as the President of the APSR for the next two years. I am Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Seoul National University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea. I have worked at various posts in Korea including Director of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Division, Seoul National University Hospital, and President of the Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases (KATRD). I have been associated with the APSR since the Bali Congress in 1990. During the last two decades I have been lucky to also have joined the APSR as a member of Editorial Board of Respirology, Councilor, Executive Committee member and Strategic Planning Committee member.

Over the last 20 years, the APSR has indeed grown from a fledgling organization to one of the largest respiratory societies in the world with 13,000 members. Behind this growth there has been the enormous drive and devotion of past Presidents and officers. I wish to pay special tribute to Dr. Yoshinosuke Fukuchi and Dr. Norbert Berend. Dr. Fukuchi registered the APSR as an NPO (Non-Profit Organization) in Japan, attracted substantial funds for unrestricted educational activities, and developed reciprocal young investigator travel awards with our international sister societies. The 11th Congress in Kyoto was the consummation of his achievements for the APSR with the official initiation of ESAP (Educational Seminar of the APSR) and Young Investigator Travel Fellowship. Dr Berend has been a formidable leader developing the APSR by launching the academic assemblies, promoting the three-tier membership fee structure and en-bloc membership, creating the Central Congress Committee, developing the APSR Medal for services to respiratory medicine in the Asia Pacific region, and making Research Awards for the Harasawa and Woolcock Memorial Lectures. On behalf of all our APSR members I thank them sincerely for their efforts and achievements.

There is quite a change of flag bearers in the APSR. Dr. Mary Ip from Hong Kong is the new Secretary General. I thank the outgoing Secretary General Dr. Pan-Chyr Yang for his excellent stewardship of the Society. Dr. Norbert Berend will continue to serve as Immediate Past President and Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee. Dr. Gary Lee will succeed Dr. Philip Thompson as the Editor-in-Chief. Let us give a “Big Hail to Chief Thompson” for his contribution to make Respirology such a respected journal. Dr. Richard Beasley has resigned from the Chairman of Educational Committee and Dr. Bing Lam is his successor. I congratulate Dr. Beasley for his great accomplishment in ESAP during the last 2 years.

The 13th Congress held in Bangkok from 19th to 22nd of November 2008 was an outstanding success. The Congress proved that the APSR is the de facto respiratory society representing the Asia Pacific region with more than 1,700 delegates from 40 countries extending to India, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and even from South Africa. Also it was the first Congress prepared by cooperative effort of the Central Congress Committee, steered by Dr. Kwun Fong and the Local Organizing Committee. We thank Dr. Arth Nana, his team of the Local Organizing Committee, Dr. Kwun Fong and, of course, Dr. Berend who worked very hard to make the 13th congress a success.

The 14th Congress will be held jointly with the ACCP in Seoul, Korea from 14th to 18th of November 2009. As President of the 14th Congress, I am pleased to announce that preparations are well underway and the shaping of the program is on time under the direction of Dr. Kwun Fong, Chairman of the Central Congress Committee, Dr. Sung Hak Park, Chairman of Organizing
Committee, Dr. Chul Min Ahn, Secretary General, and Dr. Young Whan Kim, Director of the Scientific Program Committee of the Local Organizing Committee.

There are several aspects I would like to emphasize for the future of the APSR:

First, Respirology, our official journal, is a story of success and its impact factor in 2007 was 1.847. This represents an increase of 22% compared to the previous year and almost double the 2004 figure of 0.927. The APSR has recognized the tremendous efforts of Dr. Philip Thompson, Editor-in-Chief, by awarding the first APSR Medal at the Bangkok Congress. To continue this momentum of success, I would like to encourage all APSR members to submit their research papers to Respirology. For those whose first language is not English, the editorial board provides a service to improve the English in manuscripts; a facility which is not available from most other international journals.

Secondly, the relationships with sister societies, including the ATS and ERS have become closer through the dual membership fee reduction. This will be a big booster factor in increasing membership. The 14th Congress in Seoul will be officially the last Joint Congress with the ACCP, but the ACCP has agreed to support the 15th Congress in Manila. I hope this cooperation between sister societies will be a continuous relationship.

Thirdly, the ESAP was launched in 2006 for the purpose of distributing cutting edge medical knowledge produced by the Society. The ESAP was initiated by unrestricted educational grants obtained by Dr. Fukuchi. Since the Kyoto Congress, it has become a tradition that each Congress is preceded by an ESAP. Dr. Richard Beasley was in charge of the program as Chairman of Educational Committee and currently he is promoting new programs on Pulmonary Physiology (Road Show), English Writing and Presentation, and Sleep Medicine. As the unrestricted educational grant is no longer available, finding a new source to continue and expand this valuable educational program is an urgent task of the APSR. To encourage pulmonary research, a travel fellowship program is offered to 40 young investigators to each Congress and ATS travel support is awarded yearly for 2 candidates. Also, the APSR short-term research training fellowship award was started and the first candidate was Dr. SM Abdulla Al Mamun from Bangladesh. These fellowship programs are an essential part of APSR educational activity and need continuous support from the Local Congress Organizing Committee.

Fourthly, the JRS, TSANZ, TSPCCM, PCCP and KATRD have signed their respective Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with the APSR under the new en-bloc membership fee structure. This means the total membership reaches 12,300. But this gross number does not mean that the APSR receives enough membership fees to make the society financially self sufficient, as individual members paying full membership fee number less than 500. To make the APSR financially solid, aggressive recruitment of new members through local respiratory societies is definitely needed.

The challenges mentioned above, including the financial issues, are all ahead but I look forward to work with officers and the Executive to resolve those issues. This goal will not be accomplished by the officers and the Executive only. I ask your generous help and cooperation from all members for the better future of the APSR, which means better educational opportunities and higher standards of clinical care for the Asia Pacific region.

Young Soo Shim
President/APSR

Message from the Congress President
of the 13th Congress of the APSR

On the inauguration day, 19 November 2008, Professor Norbert Berend (APSR President) and Professor Arth Nana (Congress President) joined hands to open the 13th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology (APSR2008) under the theme “Optimal Use of Advanced Technology”, which was held in Bangkok, Thailand from 19 to 22 November 2008. The host was The Thoracic Society of Thailand with support from four major pharmaceutical companies; Pfizer (Thailand) Limited, GlaxoSmithkline Committee, Dr. Norbert Berend and Dr. Arth Nana
(Thailand) Limited, Boehringer Ingelheim (Thailand) Limited, AstraZeneca (Thailand) Limited, and 20 other leading companies who joined the trade exhibitions to introduce their products and new innovations.

The congress was a success with more than 1,700 delegates from 40 countries and from all continents, participating in symposia and lectures. Moreover, the presentation from 80 renowned speakers and more than 300 abstracts on various respiratory topics, such as asthma, lung cancer, paediatric lung disease, and COPD, were extremely informative and enlightening. These will certainly help to develop new ideas in research and innovation to reduce the burden of respiratory disease and improve the quality of life of people in the Asia-Pacific region.

Arth Nana
Congress President/APS 2008

Message from the New Secretary General

It is with mixed feelings of pleasure, trepidation and excitement, that I take up this position as Secretary General of the APSR. I recall my early association with the APSR over 20 years ago, and my personal feeling of enthusiasm and pride that “we” had a Society to represent our professional interest in the geographic region, finally! Over the years, I have seen the visionary leadership and hard work of the Presidents and office bearers, with which the Society gradually grew from a very humble start to what it is now – a Society which is actively engaged in promoting knowledge in respiratory health and disease throughout the Asia-Pacific region, and a Society which can stand tall and communicate with sister societies internationally. The Asia-Pacific region is comprised of many geographic places, with various cultural backgrounds and diverse needs in terms of professional development in respirology. What is the meaning of having a regional Society then? I see the APSR as a visible common platform for relevant people from different localities to come together and pool ideas, expertise and effort for the common goal of promoting respiratory health. To achieve this goal, the Society’s influence must be able to diffuse and reach individual places in a wide geographic distribution, often with distinctly different socioeconomic backgrounds. The worth and meaning of the Society will ultimately be measured on its contribution to the individual country/place in the advancement of professional knowledge in respirology, which in turn is an essential fertilizer for better healthcare and health in any community. The role for those of us as office bearers in the APSR is to serve as a nidus to uphold the vision, consolidate the work and carry the momentum internally for regional collaboration, and externally for an international profile. We have the responsibility to ensure that the machinery is functioning smoothly and to be the champions for worthwhile initiatives. To continue with the mission, it is crucial that we seek constant communication with local respiratory communities in the region, and their active engagement. The APSR needs the staunch support and input of all its members, and local professional societies in particular, and I look forward to working with you.

Mary S-M Ip
Secretary General/APS

Message from the Editor-in-Chief
– November, 2008

The journal continues to be edited by Prof. Philip Thompson as principal Editor-in-Chief, assisted by the Editor-in-Chief Elect, Prof. Gary Lee, and the Assistant Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Philip Bardin. Both Prof. Lee and Prof. Bardin have been exposed to the running of the journal for 18 months now and have significantly contributed to its success. In February 2009, Prof. Lee will become Editor-in-Chief and Prof. Bardin will become Editor-in-Chief Elect.

Impact factor: 1.847
Manuscript submissions: 67 manuscripts per month from 46 different countries. Japan, Turkey, Taiwan, China and Australia were the five major countries of origin.
Acceptance rate: approximately 30% for 2008
Manuscript turn-around: average turn-around time - currently 37 days
Growth in downloaded original articles: 30%
Number of issues: 7 issues in 2008 and 8 issues in 2009
Supplements:
- “Avian Influenza: from basic biology to pandemic planning”. Proceedings of the November 2007 ESAP, Gold Coast, Australia
Acknowledgements
I would like to formally acknowledge the hard work of the team behind Respirology:
Editor-in-Chief Elect: G Y C Lee; Assistant Editor-in-Chief: P Bardin
Associate Editors: D Armstrong, J Brown, A Diacon, P Eastwood, P Eng, D Hui, M Kolb, O J Kwon, C C Leung, Y Moodley, T Nagase, J Porcel, H Reddel, J Swigris and I Yang together with their support staff
Honorary Epidemiologist Statistician: M Abramson
Respirology Editorial Office: L Bultynck, V Hawthorn, J Kelly, N Misso, C Norman and M Stevens
The Editorial Board members: A Azuma, P Barron, E Bateman, R Beasley, F Chung, K Euguchi, K Fong, J Gauldie, M R Hassan, J Heffner, J Hogg, T-R Hsiue, W D Kim, L Landau, C-K Liam, R W Light, R L-C Loh, P Macklem, Y Wing, T Mok, P G Moral, J F Murray, Y Nakanishi, M Nishimura, T Nukiwa, P Reynolds, R Ruffin, S Spiro, J Stradling, S H Yoo, C-J Yu and F Yunus
Invited Review Series Editors: G Waterer and K Tsang
Staff at Blackwell Publishing Asia including A Ross, J Martí, H Pavlatos, M Rundell, M Lý, L Williams, N Raydan, A Boey and M Robertson
Phil Thompson
Editor-in-Chief

Councillor's Report

The Bangladesh Lung Foundation (BLF)
The BLF organized the 1st International Conference on Lung Health 'Pulmoncon 2008', which was attended by about 600 pulmonologists including a large number from overseas. Four CME programmes on Lung Health have been organized at different medical institutions in the past year. The 'No Tobacco Day' was observed in collaboration with the WHO country office by holding an advocacy meeting at a leading private university. A World Asthma Day was organized. The next annual conference on Lung Health Pulmoncom 2009 will be held 1-2 April under the joint auspices of BLF and the Bangladesh Society of Allergy and Immunology (BANSAI) with whom a strategic alliance has been forged to address issues related to pulmonology, allergy and immunology. The BLF has been involved with the Global Alliance against Chronic Respiratory Disease (GARD), will be represented at the DOTS Expansion Working Group of Stop TB Partnership in Paris, and has been nominated by the UNEP/UNDP to carry out the advocacy campaign to introduce CFC-free inhalers by 2010. Work is underway to publish a manual on Lung Health.

Asif Mujtaba Mahmud

Chinese Medical Association (CMA)
Academic activities have included the 6th National Session on Asthma and 2nd Congress of China Asthma Alliance in Suzhou, jointly organized by Chinese Society of Respiratory Diseases (CSRD) Asthma Workgroup and China Asthma Alliance. There were 800 participants and speakers came from USA, UK, Denmark and Japan. The 5th National Session on New Advances in Respiratory Infections was held in Kunming, and organized by Yunnan Medical Association. About 500 attended and topics of interest involved multiple aspects of pulmonary infections. The 9th National Congress of CSRD was the largest annual event of the Society and held in Xi’an. There were 2,200 participants and 686 papers received. The 10th Beijing/Hong Kong Medical Exchange in Hong Kong was co-sponsored with HKMA, HKTS and ACCP (HK/MC). There were 600 participants from Hong Kong and the Chinese mainland. Membership of the CSRD is approximately 11,000 and joint membership with APSR is being considered. Dr. Chunxue Bai from Shanghai Zhongshan Hospital presented a bid to host the 15th Congress of the APSR in 2011.

Baoging Sun

Hong Kong Thoracic Society (HKTS)
In 2008, the HKTS held its Annual Scientific Meeting, an ESAP on TB, and the 10th Beijing-HK Medical Exchange co-organised by HKTS and ACCP (HK/MC). There were over 600 registrants including over 150 from mainland China and Macau. Regular Clinical Meetings have been presented by local doctors, and 4 scientific symposia with international speakers. Support Research has included BOD in Hong Kong, details of which appear in a Respirology Supplement. Certificate Courses include COPD Management, Respiratory Medicine, and Asthma. There have been two radio series with representatives from the societies, for about 5 sessions on various topics on respiratory health. Four issues of the joint
HKLF-ACCP-HKTS have been produced. A letter was written to the South China Morning Post in response to public concern and misconceptions regarding Tamiflu and steroid usage in asthma. The HKTS supported the Hong Kong Asthma Flag Day and conducted a survey of Asthma Guidelines Use in General Practitioners which generated 400 responses.

Mary S-M Ip

Indonesia (ISR)
The ISR National Congress was held in Bandung, West Java with speakers from Japan, Singapore and Australia, and approximately 800 delegates. Dr. Faisal Yunus was appointed as ISR chairman for a second term (2008-2011). TB ranks the second major cause of mortality in Indonesia. In 2006, the International Standard for Tuberculosis Care (ISTC) was endorsed and broadcast to members and GPs in Indonesia. Symposia, workshops and seminars on ISTC across the country were held. Recently, the ISR has collaborated with WHO to develop PAL (Practical Approach to Lung disease) in Indonesia. Guidelines of several lung diseases such as TB, community acquired pneumonia, hospital acquired pneumonia, COPD, asthma, lung cancer and mediastinal tumour were published.

Faisal Yunus

Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases (KATRD)
Membership exceeded 1,000 this year and the 107th conference attracted over 850 attendees. In addition to regular spring and autumn scientific meetings, a Lung Cancer Symposium was held and an Airway Symposium in conjunction with Korean Society of Allergy was organized. A COPD School and an Asthma School for young physicians were opened. The KATRD has several research assemblies covering COPD, asthma, respiratory failure, interstitial lung diseases, TB, smoking cessation, sleep disorders, bronchoscopy and pulmonary vascular diseases. For public awareness of COPD, the KATRD participated in Seoul Health Expo, organized the 6th Lung Day, conducted a survey on idiopathic interstitial pneumonia in 2,186 patients, and in conjunction with Korean Society of Infectious Diseases, made guidelines for the management of pneumonia in Korea. The LOC of the 14th Congress of the APSR have begun to seek sponsorship and have set up promotional booths at the JRS, CRS, ERS and ACCP annual conferences. Recently an MOU bringing 400 en bloc members into the APSR was signed.

Young Whan Kim

Japanese Respiratory Society (JRS)
The JRS held the annual Congress at the Kobe Convention Center in June 2008, presided over by Dr. Sone of The University of Tokushima Graduate School. The meeting was very successful and attracted over 5,000 delegates. Following that meeting, the presidency changed from Dr. Kudoh to Dr. Toshihiro Nukiwa of the Department of Respiratory Oncology & Molecular Medicine, Institute Development, Aging & Cancer, Tohoku University. He will hold that position until 2010.

Mitsuru Munakata

Malaysian Thoracic Society (MTS)
A Sleep Medicine Polysomnography Course/Workshop was organised. Speakers included local experts and also experts from Germany. There were 115 participants; adult and paediatric respiratory physicians, and respiratory medical laboratory technicians. In conjunction with the World Asthma Day, 1,500 people took part in a jogathon, jointly organised with the Asthma Council of Malaysia and the Lung Foundation of Malaysia (LFM). The 10th Annual Congress was jointly organised with the LFM. Our 2nd National Interventional Pulmonology Workshop covered medical thoracoscopy, fuluorescence bronchoscopy, interventional procedures performed using the rigid bronchoscope, and endobronchial ultrasound...
examination. Overseas instructors included Dr. Ng and Dr. Anantham from Singapore.

Chong-Kin Liam

**Philippine College of Chest Physicians (PCCP)**

Seven interhospital symposia have been held around the country over the past year, plus the 27th PCCP Annual Chest Convention and the 19th Midyear Convention. The 2009 annual convention theme is ‘Traditions, Novelties and Prospects in Pulmonary Medicine’. The PCCP also collaborated with other organisations in advocating the Pulmonary Diseases Awareness Campaign, which included World TB Day, World Asthma Day, World No Tobacco Day, Asthma Week, and World COPD Day. The APSR en bloc membership for a further two years was renewed. Dr. E Moral, Chair of the PCCP Scientific Committee, has been appointed to the Editorial Board of Respirology. Preparations continue for hosting the 16th Congress of the APSR in Manila in November 2010.

Mario Joselito M. Juco

**Singapore Thoracic Society (STS)**

A Research Fund has been established to promote research in clinical and basic science. Educational Activities have included ‘Interventional Bronchoscopy’ (Prof. Colt), ‘Implementing Smoking Cessation Treatment into clinical practice’ (Prof. Fagerstrom), ‘Towards achieving control in adult asthma, evaluation & management of difficult to control asthma’ (Prof. Buhl) and ‘Position of Fluoroquinolones in Community-Acquired Pneumonia’ (Prof. Grossman). The STS has participated in:

- National Asthma Programme. High risk asthma patients enrolled and managed by respiratory physicians in public hospitals
- TB Elimination Programme. Introduced 1997 by Ministry of Health. TB incidence then fell from 57/100,000 in 1998 to 34.8/100,000 in 2006.
- National Training Programme. Introduced 2005. Consists of 40 three hour sessions per year, including lectures, tutorials, journal reviews, case presentations and research.

‘Sleep Medicine Update, A Clinical Guide To Common Sleep Disorders for the General Practitioner’ - book launched and a two-day conference organised.

Kanagasuntheram Narendran

**Taiwan Society of Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine (TSPCCM)**

The TSPCCM has around 1,000 members active in medical practice and research, and it is a major medical society in Taiwan. Approximately 900 members have opted to become joint members with the APSR through the en bloc arrangement. Around 10% of all articles submitted for publication in Respirology originate from Taiwan. Educational activities include imaging, critical care medicine and ventilation. The annual meeting in December The National Taiwan University College of Medicine focussed on severe respiratory viral infection, SARS, pre-pandemic flu vaccination, asthma, COPD, Anti-IgE treatment for severe asthma and allergy, sleep apnea, mycobacterial diseases, and lung cancer

Pan-Chyr Yang

**FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

**2009**

- **ESAP Singapore 2009**
  19–20 February 2009, Singapore
  Email:pynglee16@gmail.com
  Website: www.apsresp.org/education/esap.php

- **28th PCCP Annual Chest Convention**
  1–4 March 2009, Manila, Philippines
  Email: pccp@zpdee.net
  Website: www.philchest.org

- **Annual Scientific Meeting of HKTS**
  15 March 2009, Hong Kong
  Email: melissa.leung@asia.cmpmedica.com

- **ESAP Darwin 2009**
  4 April 2009, Darwin, Australia

- **TSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting**
  5–8 April 2009, Darwin, Australia
  Website: www.thoracic.org.au/meetings.html

- **ATS International Conference**
  15–20 May 2009, San Diego, USA
  Website: www.thoracic.org

- **Bangladesh Lung Foundation**
  May 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh
  Website: www.lungbd.org

- **49th Annual Meeting of the JRS**
  12–14 June 2009, Tokyo, Japan
  Email: 49jrs@jrs.or.jp
  Website: www.jrs.or.jp

- **11th Annual Congress of the MTS**
  24–26 July 2009, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
  Email: acadmed@po.jaring.my
  Website: www.my-mts.org
Notice from the Secretariat

Conferences in 2012
We invite you to make a proposal to host the APSR Congress in 2012. Bids will be considered at the next Executive Meeting. You will be asked to present your thoracic society’s plans for the arrangements and infrastructure of the event (Local Organizing Committee, etc.). Please contact the Secretariat in Tokyo for more information. Email: kyu00671@nifty.com

APSR Short-Term Research/Training Fellowship
Awarded to Dr. S M Abdullah al Mamun of National Institute of Diseases of the Chest & Hospital, Dhaka, Bangladesh. He started his training in January, 2009 at the Department of Medicine, National University Hospital in Singapore for 2 months.

APSR Travel Awards to attend ATS Conference in San Diego May 2009
Awarded to Dr. Graeme Zosky of Telethon Institute for Child Research, Western Australia and Dr. Satoru Ito of Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine, Nagoya Japan.
Officers of the APSR
President/Congress President : Young Soo Shim
Immediate Past President : Norbert Berend
Secretary General : Mary Sau Man Ip
Treasurer : Shoji Kudoh
Editor-in-Chief: Gary Lee

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Tara Mackenzie
Guy Marks
Paul Reynolds
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Mitsuru Munakata
Masaharu Nishimura
Toshihiro Nukiwa
Korea: Young Whan Kim
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Korea: Young Whan Kim

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Yoshinosuke Fukuchi, Wan-Chen Tan, Paul Seale, Young-Soo Shim, Patrick Barron, Takashi Horie

Research Committee: Education Committee:
Michiaki Mishima(Chairperson) Bing Lam (Chairperson)

Finance Committee:
Shoji Kudoh (Chairperson)

Past-Presidents: Michiyoshi Harasawa, Wan-Cheng Tan, Wei-Ci Luo, Ann J. Woolcock, Shiro Kira, Wah Kit Lam, Yoshinosuke Fukuchi, Norbert Berend

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
10th Congress Guangzhou 2005 Nan Shan Zhong
11th Congress Kyoto 2006 Yoshinosuke Fukuchi
12th Congress Gold Coast 2007 Christine Jenkins
13th Congress Bangkok 2008 Arth Nana
14th Congress Seoul 2009 Young Soo Shim
15th Congress Manila 2010 Teresita de Guia