



Newsletter

Editor : Mary Sau-Man Ip

Associate Editors : Yoshinosuke Fukuchi, J. Patrick Barron, Kwun M. Fong, Yasutomi Yamanaka

Message from the President



It is with hope and determination that we welcome the New Year of 2012, bidding farewell to 2011, which has seen a number of serious natural disasters affecting several places in the Asia-Pacific region, including Japan, New Zealand and most recently Thailand. The courage and resilience of the people in the face of such adversities is a reminder for all members of the APSR to strive and play our role as healthcare professionals, for the alleviation of human suffering, in whatever small way we can.

The APSR key leadership met for a one-day retreat just before the annual APSR Congress, to brainstorm strategic directions for the APSR in the coming years. As we review the work of the APSR in the past years, and look ahead at the challenges we face, I would like to highlight a few areas. Strategically, the APSR has set its goal on the recruitment of members and enhancement of their participation in the Society.

Concerning membership, we are delighted to welcome the Indonesian Society of Respiriology as our latest en bloc member society. We are also looking forward to more societies in the AP region joining us in the near future. New measures of attracting individual members should be ready to be launched in the coming year. Also, the APSR is still hoping for much more active participation of individuals willing to give their time and effort to the work of the APSR. Without new blood to give a wide representation from the region, a healthy structure and succession of active leadership at various levels, the APSR will not thrive in its role as a core representative of the AP region in the international respiratory community. We need to have more systematic and active Assembly participation in the various activities of the Society.

We have continued to consolidate international relationships with sister societies. An MOU has been signed with the ERS regarding the exchange of young investigators at our annual conferences, an arrangement which has been ongoing with the ATS for a few years. Measures to allow further communication among these young faculty members, to foster long-term friendships and scientific collaboration, have been discussed with the ATS and will hopefully be implemented in the coming year. The APSR is also one of the core members of the FIRS (Forum of International Respiratory Societies) and Dr. Norbert Berend, representing the APSR, was Chairperson of FIRS in 2010–2011. The World Spirometry Day, using spirometry as a symbolic indicator of respiratory health, will harmonize with the Summer Olympic Games in 2012. We call upon all local respiratory societies throughout the AP region to join in this exercise, marked for 27 June 2012. The WHO has finally recognised the scourge of respiratory diseases and recently declared it as one of the four major global health problems. The AP region is no doubt one of the areas with a huge share of the burden of respiratory disease, and the APSR cannot afford to take a laid-back position.

Respirology, the APSR's official journal, has been steadily increasing in its international status. We thank Dr. Gary Lee who has brought new vibrance into the journal during his term of office 2009–2011, and we welcome the new Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Peter Eastwood, who assumed office in June 2011. From 2012, the World Association of Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology will use Respirology as an official journal.

The Education Committee, under the leadership of Dr. Lam Bing, has engaged in a series of ESAPs in cities in China, in collaboration with the Chinese Journal of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases, through 2010 and 2011. We thank him for his contributions in the past three years, and we welcomed Dr. David CL Lam as the new Chairperson of the Education Committee in October 2011. We are introducing a new operational system for ESAPs, which will be launched in the coming year, as announced on the APSR website and our monthly Bulletin.

The annual APSR Congress is a major event of the APSR, and the 16th Congress in Shanghai in November 2011 was spectacularly successful with about 3,000 delegates. It attracted over 1,200 abstracts, which is a record high for the APSR Congresses. We have newly established merit-based abstract awards for both oral and poster presentations, as well as a special category for young investigators, in addition to the existing travel awards. We hope that these awards serve as an encouragement for delegates, from the AP region in particular, to use the APSR Congress as a platform to present their research. We also hope to convey the deeper meaning, especially to the younger generation, of respect for good medical research and the spirit of communication and learning from each other. A big round of applause for the great success of this congress goes to the support of the

local hosting organizations, the Chinese Society of Respiratory Diseases and the Shanghai Medical Society, with the local congress committee led by Dr. Chunxue Bai, complemented by tireless efforts from Dr. Yuanlin Song. As we rejoice over the successful conclusion of one event, we have also started preparations for the coming congresses to be held in Hong Kong on 14–16 December 2012 and in Yokohama on 11–14 November 2013. Furthermore, the 2014 Congress bid has just been awarded to Bali, Indonesia.

The past year as President of the APSR has been a challenging time. I am very thankful to colleagues in the APSR leadership for their input, the Secretariat led by Mr. Yamanaka for their unflinching support, and with the support of all APSR members, we hope to rise to the challenges and become a bigger and better society working towards the improvement of respiratory health.



Dr. Mary Sau-Man Ip introduces the programme at the opening ceremony



Post-congress press conference

Mary Sau-Man Ip

Message from the Secretary General

After the very successful 16th Congress of the APSR in Shanghai during November 2011 under the leadership of Dr. Chunxue Bai, I would like all members to look forward to the 17th Congress in Hong Kong on 14–16 December 2012 under the guidance of Dr. David Hui, and also the 18th Congress in Yokohama, Japan on 11–14 November 2013 under the leadership of Dr. Toshihiro Nukiwa. Only recently, the APSR Executive Committee has accepted the bidding from the Indonesian Society of Respiriology to host the 19th Congress

in Bali, Indonesia in the year 2014. I would like to encourage all members to make plans for these congresses well in advance.

As we all know, 2010 was declared as The Year of the Lung by the Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS), and has now closed with reasonable success. One highlight of that year was the ‘World Spirometry Day’ on 14 October 2010, which increased awareness of the burden and impact of respiratory diseases to the world, including our Asia-Pacific region. In 2012, World Spirometry Day will be held on 27 June with the theme ‘Sport and Lung’, since that timing coincides with London Olympic Games. The President of the APSR, Dr. Mary Ip, received the symbolic ‘Golden spirometer’ from the ACCP at their recent annual conference in Honolulu and in turn, passed it forward to the President of the ATS in Shanghai. I would like all members to follow and be part of the events in their respective countries and regions.

The FIRS project ‘Global Report on Respiratory Disease’ (World Atlas/Roadmap on Respiratory Diseases) is still being prepared. At the recent UN summit meeting, ‘The Global Initiative for Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases’, pulmonary disease was declared as one of the four major global health problems alongside cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer. The Asia-Pacific region certainly has a big share of these burdens and problems.

For the coming New Year, I would like to convey my best wishes for a happy and prosperous 2012 to all members of the APSR and their families.

Arth Nana

Message from the New Editor-in-Chief

In 2011, Respiriology continued its upward trajectory as demonstrated by increased numbers of article downloads, citations and impact factor, all indicative of an increasing interest in the journal. Total citations increased by 16% from 2010, and the journal’s impact factor has risen to 1.865. The journal is now ranked 28th out of 46 journals in the Respiratory System category and in the top 35% of all journals listed in the ISI Thompson Impact Factor list. Full text downloads have increased by 32% over the past twelve months. The time from acceptance to online publication of original articles has been reduced from five months in 2010 to two months in 2011. This was achieved by publishing accepted articles before being typeset. These ‘Accepted Articles’ are provided with a DOI and can therefore be listed in PubMed and cited.

Respiriology’s international profile continues to grow with manuscripts submitted from 46 countries/regions in 2011, and published papers from 24 countries/regions, especially Australia, Japan, USA, Canada and China. Respiriology received significant exposure in the New York Times this year with an article highlighting the 2011 paper by Ken Takahashi and his colleagues on ‘Asbestos use and asbestos-related diseases in Asia: Past, present and future’ (Vol. 16 Iss. 5, pages 767–775). Other 2011 Respiriology papers have also received publicity via the publisher’s press releases.

In 2011, *Respirology* published eight issues totaling 1,260 pages, plus two supplements (Abstracts from the 2011 TSANZ & ANZSRS Annual Scientific Meetings, Perth, in April 2011; Abstracts from the 2011 APSR Congress in Shanghai).

The journal published 14 editorials by invited experts, highlighting selected papers from the same issue, and three new review series totaling 32 papers by key opinion leaders on highly relevant topics. The 2011 series included: Respiratory Health Issues in the Asia-Pacific Region; Pleural Diseases; and Cutting Edge Technologies in Respiratory Medicine. In addition to the above series, *Respirology* published several other high-quality reviews, both invited and unsolicited, as well as the popular 'Year in Review' series which focuses on advances in different areas of respiratory medicine whilst highlighting the contributions from articles published in *Respirology*. Online access to Reviews and Editorials continues to be free. *Respirology* also continued the release of Virtual Issues at regular intervals, with the following collections added this year: Pro/Con Debates, Think Tank Reviews and Pleural Diseases.

A key to the quality and international standing of *Respirology* is attracting top quality international Associate Editors and Editorial Board members within and beyond the Asia-Pacific region. In 2011, we welcomed four new Associate Editors: Neil Eves (University of British Columbia), Marcos Restrepo (University of Texas Health Science Center), Paul Thomas (University of New South Wales) and Claire Wainwright (University of Queensland); and two new Editorial Board members: Graham Hall (University of Western Australia) and Yuanlin Song (Fudan University). We also sadly said goodbye to Associate Editor Grant Waterer (University of Western Australia) and Deputy Editor Helen Reddel (University of Sydney). The current team of 19 Associate Editors and 31 Editorial Board members come from eleven countries/regions in five continents. These individuals provide the journal with a broad range of expertise, and all are outstanding researchers with strong publication records.

The second Fukuchi Award for the Best Original Paper in *Respirology* was presented at the 16th APSR Congress in November in Shanghai. The 2011 award was won by Dr. Li Ping Chung (Australia) for her paper on 'Five-year outcome in COPD patients after their first episode of acute exacerbation treated with non-invasive ventilation' published in *Respirology* 2010; 15: 1084–1091. An esteemed panel of international experts, led by Dr. Michael Niederman (USA) and including Dr. Antonio Anzueto (USA), Dr. Lutz Beckert (New Zealand), Dr. John Mastrorade (USA), Dr. Michiaki Mishima (Japan), and Dr. Christina Spengler (Switzerland), helped to adjudicate the award.

The Editorial Office remains committed to facilitate the publication of the APSR Respiratory Updates, a monthly electronic publication highlighting noteworthy publications for free distribution to all APSR members. This year's schedule was coordinated by Dr. David CL Lam.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the hard work

of the team behind *Respirology*, including all the Editors, the Editorial Office and Wiley-Blackwell staff.

Peter Eastwood

Message from the 16th Congress President

An APSR annual Congress was held in Shanghai, China for the first time. The theme we set for the 16th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respiratory (APSR2011) was to overcome challenges and identify opportunities for raising respiratory health standards in the Asia-Pacific region. We addressed this topic through 24 parallel sessions, more than 100 symposia, and about 100 oral presentations, as well as postgraduate courses for young clinicians and researchers.

The response from the field was tremendous. Close to 3,000 delegates attended the four-day event, with nearly 1,200 overseas delegates from Asia, Europe, North America, Latin America, and Africa. The number of abstract submissions surpassed 1,300 – an unprecedented number.

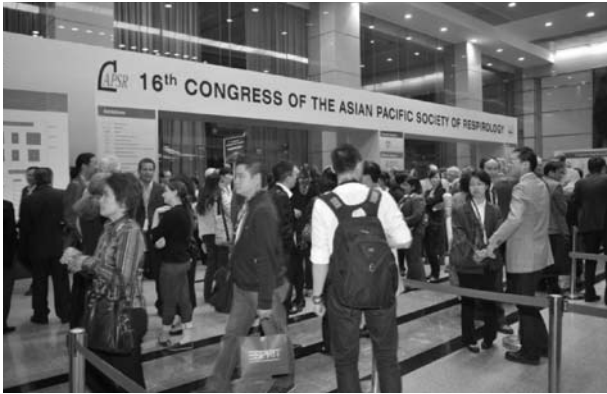
The delegates were engaged in a diverse range of topics: from asthma and sleep apnoea, to pulmonary circulation and idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. They saw the launch of the 2011 recommendations on the management of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease from the Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (GOLD).

Just as important, the congress offered a platform for knowledge exchange and research collaboration, enabling clinicians and researchers to network with international luminaries. Participating eminent speakers included Dr. Peter Calverly, GOLD Executive Committee Member and former President of the British Thoracic Society; Dr. David Gutterman, Past President of the American College of Chest Physicians; Dr. Klaus Rabe, President of the European Respiratory Society; and Dr. Nicholas Hill, President of the American Thoracic Society, among many other notable key opinion leaders.

At the event, the APSR 2011 Medal was awarded to Dr. Norbert Berend of the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research, Australia. The Fukuchi Best Paper Award was presented to Dr. Li Ping Chung of the Royal Perth Hospital, Australia. Meanwhile, Dr. Antonio Anzueto, University of Texas Health Sciences, US, and Dr. Zhenguo Zhai, Beijing



Some leaders of international societies and their guests.



New arrivals meet old friends at the registration desk

Institute of Respiratory Medicine, China, won the Best Oral Presentation Awards.

The APSR 2011 Congress represented a milestone for respiratory medicine in Shanghai. I would like to thank Dr. Nanshang Zhong, Dr. Cheng Wang, Dr. Mary Ip, the Chinese Society for Respiratory Disease and the Shanghai Medical Association, members of the Local Congress Committee and all congress speakers for their support in making this event a success. I am also grateful for the enthusiastic participation of abstract authors and all delegates.

Bai Chunxue

Awardees at the 16th Congress of the APSR, Shanghai

APSR Medal Award

Norbert Berend

APSR Woolcock Research Award

Dong Soon Kim

APSR Harasawa Research Award

Pan-Chyr Yang

Fukuchi Best Paper Award

Li Ping Chung

APSR Travel Award

Jollivet Xuan Tzin Ng Ferry Dwi Kurniawan

Surinder Jindal Suqiao Yang

Peng Chen Ma. Abigail Rivera

Xiaorong Wang Xiao-jun Guan

Charoon Boonlarptaveechoke

Arzu Balkan Haiyan Ge

Apolonio Javier, Jr. Wei Zhou

Guo-Wu Zhou Shengxiang Ren

APSR Young Investigator Award

Chandra Putra Andika

Nur Shukriyah Binti Mohamad Hazir

Norihito Kaku Yan Yin

Yu Mikami Qian Han

Best Oral Award

Yuanhua Yang Antonio Anzueto

Best Poster Award

Xintao Wang Kazuya Fukuoka

Hironi Makita Shengxiang Ren

Yao Chen Wang



Dr. Mary Sau-Man Ip presents the APSR Medal to Dr. Norbert Berend

Message from the 17th Congress President

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 17th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology, which will be held on 14–16 December 2012 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. Following the success of organizing the 9th Congress of the APSR in 2004, the Local Congress Committee, consisting of key members of the Hong Kong Thoracic Society, American College of Chest Physicians (HK & Macau Chapter), and the Hong Kong Lung Foundation, is very honoured to host the APSR for the second time in Hong Kong.

The three-day congress will feature a comprehensive scientific programme, including post-graduate courses, plenary lectures and major symposia to be delivered by distinguished speakers in the various fields of respiratory medicine. In addition, oral and poster presentations will provide a good opportunity for researchers as a platform for academic exchange. The Local Congress Committee will organize a variety of social events and tours for the participants to experience the diverse local cultural aspects and traditions of the host city.

The congress will invite many distinguished international speakers to participate and provide insightful update and recent advances on a variety of hot topics of common interest in respiratory medicine. I am sure you will find the scientific



Congress President Dr. Chunxue Bai (right) introduces Dr. David Hui (left) as Congress President for 2012 in Hong Kong

programme stimulating and enjoyable. Through this meeting, I hope clinicians, researchers and health professionals can establish good friendship, networking and fruitful collaboration. I look forward to meeting you in the beautiful city of Hong Kong in December 2012.

David Hui

Councillor Reports

Japan

1. JRS Annual Meeting in 2011

The Japanese Respiratory Society (JRS) held the 51st Annual Meeting of the JRS on 22–23 April in Tokyo. The main theme was “The First Step Toward the Future in Respiriology”.

Due to the Great East Japan Earthquake in March, the JRS reduced the scale of the meeting and all international involvements, Invited Lectures, the International Symposium, English Mini-symposium, Poster Sessions, Commercial Exhibition and Book Fair were cancelled. Replacing these programme items were symposia about disaster medicine and various respiratory problems in natural disasters. There were about 6,600 attendees.

2. Local Meetings organized by JRS regional branches

There are eight regional branches of the JRS. These held local meetings two to six times each during the year.

3. JRS clinical physiology seminar

The JRS held in the annual clinical physiology seminar on 24–26 August in Chiba for approximately 500 attendees. Two courses were organized; one for respiratory therapists mainly learning basic and clinical physiology, and the other for training respiratory specialists and respiratory physiologists learning the clinical application of respiratory physiology. The seminar has been staged since 1961.

4. JRS educational seminar

The JRS holds educational seminars twice a year. They consist of ten sessions and the programme is arranged by ten scientific assemblies. The main theme in 2011 was “From Bench to Bedside”.

5. Public activities

To increase the public awareness, since 1999, the JRS has held the “Lung Day” event on 1 August. Also, the JRS designated 9 May as “kokyu no hi” (easy breathing day) in 2008.

On these days, we also had events at the eight regional branches of the JRS and performed spirometries of examination.

Bangladesh

The Bangladesh Lung Foundation (BLF) has undertaken many activities, of which the important ones are:

1. “New lease of life for asthma patients”- an advocacy campaign for promoting smooth transition to CFC-free inhalers, has been scaled up

In light of the Montreal Protocol, Bangladesh is committed to the introduction of CFC-free inhalers within 2012. Although CFC-free inhalers are being manufactured within Bangladesh, some bottlenecks have been identified by practitioners

as well as patients. Accordingly, the BLF signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Environment (DOE) of the Bangladesh government to conduct a well planned advocacy campaign with the objective of creating awareness about CFC-free inhalers among the prescribers and users. The campaign has been endorsed as an ideal one by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The campaign was inaugurated by the Honourable President of People’s Republic of Bangladesh in October 2009. With the sponsorship from Beximco Pharmaceuticals Ltd, the leading manufacturer of CFC free inhalers in the country, a total of 37 meetings have been held throughout the country. Each meeting was attended by 200 doctors. It has been highly appreciated by the participants.

2. The United Forum against Tobacco (UFAT)

The UFAT has organized six advocacy seminars in the capital and other divisional cities of Bangladesh. We also participated in the observance of “World Heart Day” along with the National Heart Foundation. It may be mentioned that in May 2010, the BLF joined an alliance of professional societies named as the United Forum Against Tobacco (UFAT) with the objective of enhancing tobacco control efforts within the country. The president of the BLF has been elected as the Joint Secretary General of the forum. The Honourable President of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh will be the Chief Patron of the Forum.

3. Workshops on Evidence based Medicine (EBM)

In view of the importance of EBM in the medical arena, we have organized five workshops in collaboration with the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons for medical professionals at all levels.

4. Workshops on Scientific writing

We intend to organize workshops on scientific writing for medical professionals.

5. Third International Conference on Lung Health

The BLF intends to organize the 3rd International Conference on Lung Health on 21–22 February 2013.

Taiwan

1. TSPCCM Annual Congress for 2011

The Taiwan Society of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine (TSPCCM) Annual Congress was held in Taipei on 10–11 December 2011. Lecture and symposium topic included: COPD and airway disease, Critical Care Medicine, Sleep Medicine, Pulmonary infection and Tuberculosis, Lung Cancer, Chronic home ventilation. There were 200 abstracts for poster presentation and 40 for oral presentation given at the meeting. Invited speakers included: Dr. Cesare Gregoretti (Italy), Dr. Peter J Barnes (UK), Dr. Allan I. Pack (USA), Dr. Nicola Alessandro Scichilone (Italy), Dr. Jorgen Vestbo (UK), Dr. Sang-Do Lee (Korea) and many local speakers.

2. Associated Symposium of Annual Meeting.

The cross trail lung cancer symposium was held in Taipei on 9 December 2011. Twenty topics were discussed and there were more than 200 attendees.

3. CME course: 8 CME course in 2011

- a. **Critical Care:** Five courses about critical care medicine were held on 3 March, 18 June, 26 June, 4 September, and 22 October. These

courses were held for the certification of the Board of Critical Care Medicine for 120~200 attendees in each course.

- b. **Chest x-ray reading:** A training course of x-ray interpretation was held on 17 July for 53 attendees
 - c. **Ventilator:** Two courses on ventilator training were held on 24 July and 7 August for 91 and 133 attendees in each course respectively.
4. **Symposia: Eight symposia were held in 2011**
- a. **Tuberculosis Symposium:** This symposium was held on 11 June for 112 attendees.
 - b. **Lung Cancer Symposia:** Three symposia discussing lung cancer were held in north, mid- and south Taiwan on 25 June, 23 July and 20 August for 60~100 attendees in each symposium.
 - c. **Airway Symposia:** Three symposia (debates) on airway medication were held on 23 April, 30 July and 6 August for 56~128 attendees.
 - d. **Sleep Medicine Symposium:** This was held on 3 September for 100 attendees.

5. **Pulmonary Function Test Campaign:** Promoting spirometry testing is to be one of the items of the annual adult physical check in Taiwan. In this way, we hope to improve the diagnosis of COPD.

6. **Pulmonary Tuberculosis Improvement Project:** In cooperation with CDC Taiwan, we have assigned 20 experts in the TSPCCM. They will visit major medical institutes in Taiwan to monitor compliance with TB treatment guidelines.

Indonesia

1. On 8 July 2011 the Indonesian Society of Respiriology (ISR), with 204 members, became an en bloc member society of the APSR.
2. On 12-17 July 2011, the ISR held their annual congress in Padang, West Sumatra.
At that congress Dr. Arifin Nawas was elected as the new Chairman of the ISR, replacing the former chairman Dr. Faisal Yunus.
3. The new ISR Committee is as follows:
Chairman: Dr. Arifin Nawas
Secretary: Dr. Bakhtiar Husain
Treasurer: Dr. Temmasongge
Advisors: Dr. Moh. Amin
Dr. Faisal Yunus
Dr. Suradi
Dr. Taufik
Dr. Ida Bagus Ngurah Rai
Dr. Tamsil Syafiuddin

4. Future annual Congresses of the ISR will be held as follows:
~ 2012 in Surabaya, East Java
~ 2013 in Bandar Lampung, Lampung
~ 2014 in Banjarmasin, South Kalimantan
5. The branches of the ISR will hold their annual scientific activities for the local general practitioners

Malaysia

1. Annual Scientific Meeting for 2011

The Malaysian Thoracic Society (MTS) 2011 Annual Congress was held in Kuala Lumpur on 22-24 July 2011. Invited speakers included Dr. Philip Thompson, Dr. Neil Barnes, Dr. Amanda Piper, and Dr. Narin Voravud.

2. 25th Anniversary Celebration of MTS

The MTS celebrated its 25th anniversary on 23 July 2011 and a charity dinner was held to raise funds for the Lung Foundation of Malaysia.

3. **The 4th Malaysian Interventional Pulmonology course** was held under the auspices of the Malaysian Thoracic Society at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah on 5-7 October 2011.

4. Revision of Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Management of Tuberculosis in Malaysia

The MTS provides financial support and is actively involved in the revision of the Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Management of Tuberculosis (by the Ministry of Health of Malaysia, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia) which was last updated in 2002.

5. Anti-tobacco advocacy

The MTS (represented by the President, Dr. Roslina Abdul Manap) works closely with the Tobacco Control Unit, Ministry of Health of Malaysia to rally NGOs' support on the proposed Tobacco Product Control Bill to be tabled in Parliament.

6. Some of the CME activities organized by MTS:

- a. An Asthma and COPD Forum for physicians, medical officers, pharmacists, FMS and GPs (co-organized with the Malaysian Pharmaceutical Society) was held in Kuala Lumpur on 26 February 2011
- b. A Family Medicine Specialist Regional Respiratory Course for COPD was held at Kota Kinabalu on 19-20 February 2011 with the theme of "Earlier Diagnosis, Treatment and Active Life".
- c. A Respiratory Medicine Conference for adult physicians and paediatricians was held at Kota Kinabalu on 4-6 March 2011
- d. A Workshop on Paediatric Lung Function Tests was held in Kuala Lumpur on 9-10 April 2011
- e. The 1st Annual Ventilation Workshop for healthcare professionals dealing with non-invasive ventilation was held on 4 June 2011 in Subang Jaya.

Report from the award winners for APSR Short-Term Research/Training Fellowship

Awardee: Nguyen Van Tho, Faculty of Medicine, University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Host institution: Shiga University of Medical Science (SUMS), Shiga, Japan

Host supervisor: Dr. Yasutaka Nakano, Division of Respiratory Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, SUMS

My APSR Short-Term Research/Training Fellowship started on 1 July 2011 and ended on 30 September 2011. During three months of the fellowship at the Division of Respiratory Medicine, SUMS, I completed most of my fellowship's objectives as follows:

- Firstly, I attended the morning meeting on weekdays at the Internal Respiratory Ward of the SUMS Hospital. With help from senior Japanese doctors of that Ward, I learned

many clinical cases with different respiratory diseases, some of which I had not encountered in Vietnam.

- Secondly, I attended the weekly journal club which lasted for two hours each session and was chaired by my host supervisor, Dr. Yasutaka Nakano. At each session young doctors, including me, presented and commented on an original article which had recently been published in an international medical journal. We also had chance to present our research data to get useful suggestions from other experienced doctors.
- Thirdly, I used dedicated software at SUMS to analyze chest CT images of 70 Vietnamese patients with COPD which were sent from the University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Ho Chi Minh City. I also performed statistical analysis from the data of these subjects and wrote an abstract for the conference of Japanese Society of Thoracic Functional Imaging which will be held in Shiga next February.
- Finally, apart from doing scientific research, I also learned how hard and carefully the Japanese doctors do their daily work, observed modern facilities in the hospital and experienced the kindness of Japanese people.

I found this fellowship very fruitful for my future career. I will continue to cooperate with the Division of Respiratory Medicine of SUMS to complete our research on Vietnamese patients with COPD.

Before I finish this report, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Michiaki Mishima, Chairperson of the APSR Research Committee; Ms. Suga Konno, APSR secretariat; Dr. Yasutaka Nakano, my host supervisor; Dr. Le Thi Tuyet Lan, my home supervisor; Dr. Emiko Ogawa, Health Administration Centre of SUMS; Ms. Yukie Uratani, the former secretary of the Division of Respiratory Medicine; and staff at the Division of Respiratory Medicine of SUMS for helping me to complete this wonderful fellowship.



Dr. Nguyen Van Tho (centre) with Dr. Nakano's team

Nguyen Van Tho
Vietnam

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

2012

PCCP 31st Annual Chest Convention
14–17 March, Manila, Philippines

2012 Annual Scientific Meeting of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand

31 March - 4 April, Canberra, Australia

Email: tsanz@fcconventions.com.au

Website: www.thoracic.org.au

52nd Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory Society

20–22 April, Kobe, Japan

Website: www.jrs.or.jp/jrs52/en/index.html

Lung Cancer Symposium

11 May, Gangwondo, Korea

113th Annual Meeting of the Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases

12 May, Gangwondo, Korea

ATS International Conference

18–23 May, San Francisco, USA

Annual Congress of the ISR

4–7 July, Surabaya, Indonesia

Malaysian Thoracic Society (MTS) 2012 Congress

6–8 July, Sarawak, Malaysia

Website: www.mts.org.my

15th Midyear Convention

2–4 August, Palawan, Philippines

ERS 22nd Annual Congress

1–5 September, Vienna, Austria

Website: www.erscongress2012.org/

CHEST 2012 Annual Scientific Meeting of the ACCP

20–25 October, Atlanta, USA

114th Annual Meeting of the Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases

8–9 November, Seoul, Korea

17th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology

14–16 December, Hong Kong, China

2013

2013 Annual Scientific Meeting of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand

22–27 March, Darwin, Australia

Email: tsanz@fcconventions.com.au

ATS International Conference

17–22 May, Philadelphia, USA

CHEST 2013 Annual Scientific Meeting of the ACCP

26–31 October, Chicago, USA

18th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology

11–14 November, Yokohama, Japan

2014

2014 Annual Scientific Meeting of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand

4–9 April, Adelaide, Australia

19th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology

Bali, Indonesia

Notice from the Secretariat

New ESAP Guidelines have been announced by the Education Committee.

Please see

www.apsresp.org/education/esap.php

Officers of the APSR

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Secretary General: Arth Nana
Treasurer: Toshihiro Nukiwa
Editor-in-Chief: Peter Eastwood

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	Tara Mackenzie	Malaysia:	Chong-Kin Liam
	Guy Marks	Philippines:	Teresita de Guia
	Paul Reynolds		Abundio Balgos
Bangladesh:	Asif Mujtaba Mahmud		Rodolfo Roman Bigornia
Singapore:	Kanagasuntheram Narendran	China:	Nan-Shan Zhong
Hong Kong:	Mary Sau-Man Ip	Taiwan:	Reury-Perng Perng
Indonesia:	Faisal Yunus		Ying-Huang Tsai
Japan:	Michiaki Mishima		Pan-Chyr Yang
	Mitsuru Munakata		
	Masaharu Nishimura		
	Toshihiro Nukiwa		

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Mary Sau-Man Ip Masaharu Nishimura Paul Reynolds Faisal Yunus

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Mary Sau-Man Ip (Chairperson)

Research Committee:

Michiaki Mishima (Chairperson),

Strategic Planning Committee:

Norbert Berend (Chairperson)

Finance Committee:

Toshihiro Nukiwa (Chairperson)

Education Committee:

David CL Lam (Chairperson)

Nomination Committee:

Yoshinosuke Fukuchi (Chairperson)

Central Congress Committee

Takahide Nagase (Chairperson)

Membership Committee

Paul Reynolds (Chairperson)

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	YoungSoo Shim
15th Congress	Manila	2010	Teresita de Guia
16th Congress	Shanghai	2011	Chunxue Bai
17th Congress	Hong Kong	2012	David Hui
18th Congress	Yokohama	2013	Toshihiro Nukiwa
19th Congress	Bali	2014	Faisal Yunus

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