



# Newsletter

Editor : Arth Nana

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

## Message from the President



First of all, I would like to thank Dr Mary Sau-Man Ip, advisor of the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress of the APSR in Hong Kong, and Dr David Hui, the Congress President, and all colleagues from the Hong Kong Thoracic Society, for the great success of the congress in December 2012.

I am honoured to announce that the APSR journal, *Respirology*, has reached a new high Impact Factor of 2.781, which is a 15% increase from 2.416 in 2011. This achievement is not only the result of the hard work of the current team led by Dr Peter Eastwood, editor in chief of *Respirology*, but also the great support rendered by APSR members directly or indirectly. *Respirology's* Impact Factor has been showing stable growth every year.

Another good news to announce is the launch of *Respirology Case reports*, an open-access online journal dedicated to the publication of original clinical case reports in respiratory medicine. All case reports submitted to the journal are peer-reviewed and accepted articles deposited immediately in PubMed Central and therefore freely available to read, download and share. APSR members (including all en bloc members) benefit from a reduced publication fee of US\$500, compared with US\$800 for non-members. Our goal for this new journal is to publish high-quality case reports, thus enhancing education and knowledge in the field of clinical respiratory medicine. We are honoured to have Dr Norbert Berend as the inaugural Editor in Chief of *Respirology Case Reports*. Dr Berend, past president of APSR, is Professor Emeritus at the University of Sydney and Head of Respiratory Research at the George Institute for Global Health in Sydney, Australia.

The Fellow of the APSR (FAPSR) is a distinction available exclusively to current APSR members who have more than five years of experience in healthcare or research in respiratory medicine or related disciplines. There has been an increase in the number of FAPSRs since its inauguration in December 2012, getting great support from APSR members. However, we have not yet reached our goal and need more members to apply for FAPSR. The link to the application form can be found on the top page of the APSR website.

I am pleased to find out that regional societies are pretty keen to hold ESAP (Educational Seminars of the APSR) this year. The Ho Chi Minh Society of Respirology, with APSR's endorsement, held a workshop on "Research Protocol Development in Respirology" on 28-29 of June at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Ho Chi Minh City. A second ESAP will be on 8-9 November under the title of Pleural Diseases hosted by the Shanghai Respiratory Society in Shanghai. A third ESAP is under planning in conjunction with the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress of the APSR in Yokohama. Needless to say, those activities are one of the core missions of the APSR as educational platforms for the Asia-Pacific region. Dr David Lam, chairperson of the Education Committee, has been implementing this together with local societies, with his excellent leadership.

The Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS), which is comprised of all regional respiratory societies in the world, has recently changed its name to the World Lung Organization (WLO), to strengthen the exposure of the organization worldwide. The WLO is now planning to publish World Report on Respiratory Diseases as an advocacy tool. World Spirometry Day 2014 is also one of the subjects discussed in the WLO and I will inform you when it materializes.

Finally, through the great effort of local congress committee members, mainly from the Japanese Respiratory Society, the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology to be held in Yokohama, Japan on 11-14 November is now being well prepared. Dr Nukiwa and his colleagues from the JRS have put together a scientific programme to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the APSR. It will be an unforgettable experience for all members of the APSR. Various symposia, workshops and ESAP have been planned. It will also include session on 'patient organizations in the Asia-Pacific region'. I am looking forward to seeing you all in Yokohama this November.

Arth Nana

### Message from the Secretary General

I am pleased to announce the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology in Yokohama on 11-14 November 2013 following the distinguished success of the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress of the APSR in Hong Kong led by Dr David Hui and the Hong Kong Thoracic Society.

Under the leadership of Dr Toshihiro Nukiwa, the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress of the APSR consists of 16 symposia organized by the scientific assemblies, and symposia organized by the local programme committee focusing on an update on lung cancer, pulmonary infection and COPD. Three invited lecturers; Dr Ronald G. Crystal, Dr Augustine M.K. Choi and Dr Ignacio I. Wistuba, and more than 100 distinguished speakers from different regions in the world will be speaking at symposia and chairing the oral and poster-discussion sessions. I am very confident you will all want to attend the congress in Yokohama.

The Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS) held their meeting during the ATS International Conference 2013 in Philadelphia (21 May). Four FIRS activities were discussed; the Global Lung Function Initiative Working Document, Distribution and Dissemination Strategies about Respiratory Diseases, NCD (non-communicable diseases) Events, and World Spirometry Day 2014. The FIRS Structural Reorganization was also on the table to discuss the further development of the FIRS. In my role as the APSR's secretary general, together with the APSR's president, it was indeed important to share the update of each international respiratory society and relevant organizations in the world. I believe opportunities such as these, to

exchange updates and cement links between international societies, is very important for each society's continued growth.

In addition, we had very fruitful business meetings with our sister societies in Philadelphia.

Michiaki Mishima

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

**Respirology** – I recently received the publisher's 2012 Annual Report for *Respirology* and am delighted to report that full-text article downloads have continued to increase (by 20% to 262,000 per annum), as has the readership from China (a 48% increase) and the income generated by the journal (a 94% increase).

Among the most downloaded articles are several of the reviews published as part of the 2010 Tuberculosis Review Series. I would like to draw particular attention to this year's Tuberculosis series, edited by Chi Chiu Leung, Christoph Lange and Ying Zhang, which provides an update on the latest developments in TB research and a pro/con debate paper on TB screening in immigrants from high-prevalence countries. Also of great interest is the review series on Stem Cells and the Lung edited by Yuben Moodley and Philip Thompson. I encourage all members to visit 'Accepted Articles' published on the journal's website [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1440-1843/accepted](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1440-1843/accepted), which are available within a few weeks after their acceptance.

In our ongoing pursuit for higher-quality publications and international status, *Respirology* has recently recruited a group of expert biostatisticians to the Editorial Board to assist with reviewing the statistical quality of selected manuscripts. I would like to welcome Bircan Erbas (Australia), Sarra Jamieson (Australia), Nicholas de Klerk (Australia) and Hanjing Zhuo (USA) to the Editorial Board. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to the new Senior Editor Fanny Ko (Hong Kong) and Editorial Board member Steven Iscoe (Canada).

In February, Anke van Eekelen from the Editorial Office attended two publishing workshops in Melbourne, Australia. The first workshop entitled 'Making Research Relevant: Practice, Policy and People' was organized by *Respirology*'s publisher Wiley-Blackwell and explored how the latest research appearing

in scholarly journals reaches those working in policy, practice and the broader community. The second workshop was held under the auspices of the 2nd Asia-Pacific Meeting of the Committee of Publishing Ethics (COPE), of which *Respirology* is a member. This workshop dealt with issues related to corrections and retractions in the scientific and medical journals. The workshops provided valuable information, resources and networks to the journal and its staff.

***Respirology Case Reports*** – On 9 May 2013 the team from *Respirology* and Wiley-Blackwell launched *Respirology Case Reports*, the APSR's new open-access online-only journal dedicated to the publication of original clinical case reports in respiratory medicine. The development of this journal has been driven by the need for an alternative publication pathway for case reports, given *Respirology*'s low acceptance rates of this type of submission. Our goal is for this new journal to further the educational contributions to respiratory medicine of *Respirology* and the APSR by publishing high-quality case reports, thus helping increase knowledge in the field of clinical respiratory medicine. We hope that *Respirology Case Reports* will become an important resource for clinicians, in the Asia-Pacific region and globally, to share their experience with others and provide unique guidance for patient care.

The inaugural Editor in Chief of *Respirology Case Reports* is Dr Norbert Berend. Dr Berend is Professor Emeritus at the University of Sydney and Head of Respiratory Research at the George Institute for Global Health. He is a regular contributor to national and international respiratory societies, having been president of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ), president of the APSR, member of the European Respiratory Society (ERS) Council, member of the American Thoracic Society (ATS) Board, and Chairman of the Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS).

All case reports submitted to the journal are peer-reviewed and accepted articles are deposited immediately in PubMed Central and therefore freely available to read, download and share. APSR members (including all en bloc members) benefit from a reduced publication fee of US\$500, versus US\$800 for non-members. Author guidelines can be found on the journal's website [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/\(ISSN\)2051-3380](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)2051-3380) and case reports can be submitted to <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/respirocasereports>.

[com/respirocasereports](http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/respirocasereports). For additional information about the journal, please contact the Editorial Office at [respcasereports-aphb@uwa.edu.au](mailto:respcasereports-aphb@uwa.edu.au).

I encourage all APSR members to submit their case reports to *Respirology Case Reports* and take full advantage of the member discount.

**NEW OPEN ACCESS  
CASE REPORT JOURNAL**

**Now Accepting Submissions**

- > *Respirology Case Reports* is the free, online-only, peer-reviewed, open access journal from the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology (APSR)
- > Edited by Professor Norbert Berend AM MB BS MD FRACP MAICD, Professor Emeritus at the University of Sydney
- > Dedicated to all areas of global respiratory medicine
- > Draws on the experience of others to help you learn to diagnose and treat uncommon diseases or deal with unusual presentation of disease
- > No subscription required to access full-text case reports
- > All case reports will be available in PubMed Central upon publication in an online issue
- > Low-cost publication charge for authors, with discounts available for APSR members

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[mc.manuscriptcentral.com/respirocasereports](http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/respirocasereports)

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[wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/respirocasereports](http://wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/respirocasereports)

Peter Eastwood

### Message from the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress President

It is our great honour to inform you that the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology, to be held on 11-14 November 2013 at the Pacifico Yokohama, Japan, is being well-prepared by the Local Congress Committee, consisting of key members of the Japanese Respiratory Society (JRS), in charge of formulating attractive programmes for you. A "NEWS FLASH" circular was delivered at the JRS Annual Meeting in April and at the ATS International Congress 2013 in Philadelphia. The circular is also attached to the website of the APSR Congress. I would like to introduce some of the major programme items.

Speakers of the invited lectures are Dr Ronald G Crystal (bioinformatics on COPD), Dr Augustine MK Choi (inflammatory lung

# APSR2013

18th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirioly

11-14 November 2013

The Conference Center, Pacifico Yokohama, Japan



[www.apsr2013.jp](http://www.apsr2013.jp)

diseases), and Dr Ignacio I Wistuba (lung cancer). We will have 16 Assembly Symposia as follows: Clinical Respiratory Medicine (New horizons in clinical respiratory medicine), Clinical Allergy & Immunology (Current topics on asthma and COPD pathogenesis), Cell and Molecular Biology (Hot topics in cell and molecular biology), Environmental & Occupational Health and Epidemiology (Lung diseases and indoor and outdoor environment - organic and inorganic pollutants), Respiratory Infections (non-tuberculosis) (Issues of pneumonia), Tuberculosis (From bench to clinics: focus on new TB clinical trials), COPD (Phenotyping of COPD beyond spirometry), Lung Cancer (Targeted therapy for lung cancer), Asthma (Recent advances in asthma management), Respiratory Neurobiology and Sleep (The recent advances in sleep apnea in pathophysiology and treatment), Critical Care Medicine (ARDS: new definition and a new approach for the future), Bronchoscopy and Interventional Techniques (Diagnosing peripheral pulmonary nodules), Pediatric Lung Disease (Innate immunity in children's lung health and disease), Respiratory Structure and Function (Pulmonary function tests update), Pulmonary Circulation (Recent progress in the management of pulmonary hypertension), and Interstitial Lung Diseases (When and how should we treat IPF? Past and present).

In addition we will have six Congress symposia, Lung cancer (Recent progress in basic science and treatment of NSCLC (featuring young investigators)), Pro and Con Session on Dutch hypothesis, COPD (featuring young investigators), Rare Lung Diseases (Recent advances in rare lung diseases),

Interstitial Lung Diseases (Essential strategy for the better clinical trial of IPF), Infection (Epidemic of fatal viral infections in 2013: Influenza H7N9 and MERS CoV). I would like you to note that the programme also includes some sessions making their debut at the APSR congress, "Rare lung disease" with a related workshop, and "Early onset COPD in Asia". We will also have the first meeting of patient organizations (professional societies and patient organizations) to share common aims for better respiratory care. The 2013 revision of the "Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention" will be introduced by GINA at this APSR Congress 2013 Yokohama. We also plan to have educational sessions on 11 November: three PG sessions (COPD, lung cancer, and infectious diseases) and an ESAP (management of IIPs).

For more details, please visit the APSR 2013 website and click the link to NEWS FLASH. We sincerely hope that the APSR 2013 Congress in Yokohama will be highly productive and exciting in both scientific and clinical achievement. We expect you to submit plenty of abstracts and look forward to seeing you in Yokohama. We hope that you enjoy the beautiful autumn season of Japan.

Toshihiro Nukiwa

## Message from the 19<sup>th</sup> Congress President

It is a great pleasure for me to welcome you to the 19<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Asia Pacific Society of Respirioly, which will be held on 13-16 November 2014 at the Bali Nusa Dua Convention Center in Bali, Indonesia. It is

indeed an honour for the Local Congress Committee (LCC) members of the Indonesian Society of Respiriology (ISR) to host the APSR for the second time, after the success of organizing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congress of APSR in Denpasar Bali in 1990. The four-day congress will feature a comprehensive scientific programme, including postgraduate courses, plenary lectures, and major symposia organized by 16 APSR scientific assemblies, which will be delivered by distinguished speakers in various fields of respiratory medicine.

In addition, oral and poster sessions will be available to provide a good opportunity for researchers for academic exchange of ideas and experiences. Young researchers and clinicians of the Asia-Pacific region will gather to improve their knowledge and skill through talks with many invited experienced researchers from the American Thoracic Society (ATS), the European Respiratory Society (ERS) and other societies.

In addition, the LCC will organize a variety of social events for delegates to enjoy their stay in Bali by exploring the culture and scenery of the famous Bali island.

Bali, famed as the Island of Gods, with its varied landscape of hills and mountains, rugged coastlines and sandy beaches, lush rice terraces and barren volcanic hillsides providing a picturesque backdrop to its colourful, deeply spiritual and unique culture, stakes a serious claim to be paradise on earth.

Through the congress, I hope that clinicians, researchers and health professionals can establish good friendship, networking and fruitful collaboration. I am looking forward to meeting you in the beautiful island of Bali, Indonesia in November 2014.

Faisal Yunus

## Councillor Reports

### Japan

The Japanese Respiratory Society (JRS), 2013

JRS Annual Meeting, 2013:

The Japanese Respiratory Society (JRS) held its 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting on 19-21 April 2013 in Tokyo under the presidency of Dr Michiaki Mishima. There were over 7,000 attendees, the largest meeting ever.

JRS Annual Meeting, 2014:

Dr Nobuoki Kohno, as president of the JRS, welcomes you to the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of

the JRS, to be held in Osaka, 25-27 April 2014. The JRS has been holding International Sessions during their annual meeting since 2001, which include special lectures by invited speakers and 4-5 symposia covering a wide range of topics. We are expecting many participants from overseas and the submission of papers in English would be highly appreciated for the English oral/poster session. Abstract submission will be open in August. Further information will be available on our congress website soon.

Website: <http://www.jrs.or.jp/jrs54/en>

Awareness campaign of pulmonary diseases to the public:

To increase awareness of pulmonary diseases to the public, the JRS has held "Lung Day" events throughout Japan on 1 August since 1999, which are led by all JRS regional branches. Also, the JRS has designated 9 May as "Respiration Day" since 2008. The JRS, Japan Anti-Tuberculosis Association and Japan Medical Association jointly hosted the event in May 2013, which consisted of educational talks on COPD, demonstration of spirometry and a mini-concert.

## Report from the APSR award winners to attend the ATS International Conferences

I would like to begin by sincerely thanking the APSR for providing me with this award and supporting my travel, along with the ATS, to attend the ATS International Conference in Philadelphia this year. I truly commend both the APSR and ATS on this fantastic initiative in assisting early career researchers so that they can participate in this forum, which is essential to our professional development as researchers, and indeed to the progression of our research in general. As someone with a biomedical engineering background, I believe it is the interaction between scientists, clinicians and engineers that will help develop more novel and effective ideas for the advancement of our research and treatment of respiratory and sleep disorders. The ATS conference offers an avenue by which this can occur, by providing a large, international-based environment where we can congregate and share our knowledge and ideas and develop collaborative projects.

This was the first ATS conference I had attended and I was amazed by the sheer size of the programme and number of attendees. While my research focus is in the area of upper airway physiology and sleep apnoea,

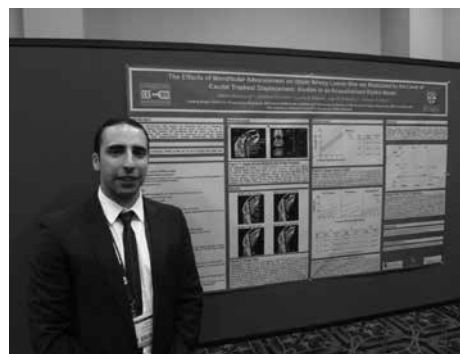
the meeting exposed me to presentations from a wide array of topics in respiratory medicine. Attending sessions outside my area of expertise was both educational and thought-provoking. I learnt very quickly that planning ahead of each day was a must to make the most of the sessions on offer, although a few were bound to go amiss with the multitude of concurrent presentations.

The Pro/Con session debate on the *Controversies In Sleep Apnoea Pathophysiology* on the Monday of the conference was particularly interesting to me. Here, experts at the forefront of sleep apnoea research presented their views, backed by selected evidence from literature, on some of the current controversies in our field. To name a couple, they included a debate on whether the Starling resistor is an appropriate model of the upper airway and whether arousals from sleep predispose the upper airway to subsequent collapse. While this session engaged us for two and half hours of the morning, a whole day could have easily been justified with the amount of discussion that each debate stimulated. I hope to see, or even be involved in, more of the like at future meetings.

I presented two posters in a poster discussion session on the last day of the conference (which actually worked out nicely as it gave me some time to get over the jet lag!). The work I presented was based on examining the passive mechanics of the upper airway and peri-pharyngeal tissues using both our previously developed computational finite element model of the upper airway and a physiological animal model. In these studies we were particularly interested in better understanding the interaction between mandibular advancement (a common therapy for obstructive sleep apnoea, though not successful in all patients) and caudal tracheal displacement (associated with the level of lung volume) on the upper airway; i.e., could the level of lung volume explain why mandibular advancement therapy is not successful in some patients? I was very happy with the amount of interest in our work and the feedback I received. Overall I found this session quite interesting, particularly the way it was structured. There was initially an hour period where posters were presented to interested individuals, in the usual manner, followed by an hour and half of discussion. However, unlike previous poster discussion sessions that I have attended at other meetings, the discussion was guided by the general topics and issues that were being presented in the session, rather than each

presenter summarising their work. I found this to be quite productive as it stimulated discussion and debate from the presenters, session chairs and audience.

I would like to thank the APSR again for providing me with the opportunity to attend the ATS conference. It was a fantastic experience, one which I have gained a lot from and hope to repeat in the future.



Jason Amatoury  
Ludwig Engel Centre for Respiratory  
Research, Westmead Millennium Institute

I attended the annual American Thoracic Society (ATS) meeting in the vibrant city of Philadelphia in May, and it was of enormous benefit to me. It was a highly stimulating meeting from the scientific point of view, with almost all fields of respiratory medicine represented and discussed; and the intellectual and technical levels of the conference were extremely high. I was fortunate to present my oral paper in the session of “New insights into pathogenesis of COPD” and having worked in the airway immunopathology for nearly nine years, I was honoured by the presence of some great historic personalities in the field. Indeed, the conference was a great opportunity to meet experts, especially at the Respiratory and Molecular Cell Biology dinner organized by the ATS, and also the president’s reception. It was great to meet fellow young investigators during the ATS conference, to compare notes, ideas and career aspirations.

Presenting at the ATS provided me with an invaluable opportunity to obtain expert feedback on my work at a very opportune time as I prepare for publication. My research on EMT was very topical but novel and contributed to the depth of the scientific material being presented at the meeting. In particular, I was able to contribute significantly to the body of knowledge regarding effects of smoking on airway tissue remodelling in development of chronic

obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and the effects of inhaled corticosteroids. It could also potentially explain why COPD patients are so vulnerable to lung cancer in large airways, as well as the mechanism behind small airway fibrosis and obliteration seen in COPD. It also enabled me to develop collaborative networks that will enhance the quality of our research, and hopefully contribute to others. My study on HDAC2 that I reported may change the perspective on the currently accepted wisdom: the expression of the enzyme in COPD is not low in itself but confounded by changes in lamina propria cellularity; the absolute degree of ICS insensitivity in COPD has been exaggerated, indeed clinically inhaled corticosteroids (ICS) are still widely used for treating COPD, which does not fit with some current “scientific” dogma, especially out of London.

A significant body of data presented at the ATS also indicated lot of interest in respiratory infections, especially pneumococcal infection in COPD and the increased risk of pneumonia with ICS in patients with COPD. This was also of particular interest as I am currently working on up-regulation of platelet activating factor receptor (PAFR) in airways of COPD patients, which facilitates adherence and tissue invasion. My recent data indicates its up-regulation in people with ICS suggesting potential mechanism for increased pneumococcal infection in patients on ICS; again it was very valuable to get expert feedback as I prepare for the publication.

I am very grateful to the APSR for such a wonderful initiative supporting young investigators to attend the ATS conference (contributing to the cost of airfares, registration, accommodation, food & transfers) and organizing meetings with other experts in the field to exchange ideas.



Dr Sukhwinder Singh Shal (right with Dr Monica Kraft, ATS Immediate Past President)



Young Investigators gathering at the ATS President’s Reception  
Dr Sohal with Dr Shunsuke Akashi and Dr Kenichi Okuda from the JRS

Sukhwinder Singh Sohal  
University of Tasmania School of Medicine

## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

### 2013

PCCP 16<sup>th</sup> Midyear Convention  
27-28 July, Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines  
Email: [pccp@skybroadband.com.ph](mailto:pccp@skybroadband.com.ph)  
Website: [www.philchest.org](http://www.philchest.org)

ERS Annual Congress  
7-11 September, Barcelona, Spain  
Website: [www.erscongress2013.org/](http://www.erscongress2013.org/)

CHEST 2013 Annual Scientific Meeting of the ACCP  
26-31 October, Chicago, USA  
Website: [conference.thoracic.org/2013/](http://conference.thoracic.org/2013/)

### 18th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology

11-14 November, Yokohama, Japan  
Email: [info@apsr2013.jp](mailto:info@apsr2013.jp)  
Website: [www.apsr2013.jp/](http://www.apsr2013.jp/)

116<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases  
21-22 November, Seoul, Korea  
Email: [katrd@lungkorea.org](mailto:katrd@lungkorea.org)  
Website: [www.lungkorea.org/](http://www.lungkorea.org/)

### 2014

2014 Annual Scientific Meeting of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand  
4-9 April, Adelaide, Australia  
Email: [tsanzsrs@tcc.co.nz](mailto:tsanzsrs@tcc.co.nz)  
Website: [www.tsanzsrs2014.com](http://www.tsanzsrs2014.com)

54th Annual Meeting of the Japanese  
Respiratory Society  
25-27 April, Osaka, Japan  
Website: [www.jrs.or.jp/jrs54/en/index.html](http://www.jrs.or.jp/jrs54/en/index.html)

**19th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society  
of Respiriology**  
13-16 November, Bali, Indonesia

ATS International Conference  
16-21 May, San Diego, USA

**2015**

**20th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society  
of Respiriology**  
3-6 December, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

ERS Annual Congress  
6-10 September, Munich, Germany

### Notices from the Secretariat

#### 1. Invitation to bid for the 2016 Congress!

We invite you to make a proposal to host the 21st Congress of the APSR in 2016. Bids will be considered at the next Executive Committee Meeting. You will be asked to present your thoracic society's plans for the arrangements, financial planning and infrastructure of the event (Local Congress Committee, etc.). Please contact the Secretariat in Tokyo for more information. ([kyu00671@nifty.com](mailto:kyu00671@nifty.com))

#### 2. APSR Research Awards

The APSR is pleased to announce two Research Awards; the Harasawa Research Award and the Woolcock Research Award, to two current APSR members. The two awardees will deliver lectures at the APSR Congress in Yokohama, November 2013. Nominations can be made by any current member of the APSR and nominees can be any current member of the APSR, whose work enshrines excellence in respiratory research. Nominations should be sent to the Secretariat and will be considered by the APSR Research Committee.

Deadline for nominations: 31 July 2013

#### 3. The APSR Medal

The APSR Medal will be bestowed during the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress of the APSR in Yokohama, November 2013. The award of this medal is made for the advancement of respirology in the Asia-Pacific region in fields other than research but including major achievements in advocacy, teaching, or clinical practice. Any current member of the APSR fulfilling the criteria is eligible for this award. Nominations should be sent to the Secretariat and will be considered by a committee comprising of the Chairperson of the Strategic Planning Committee, Chairperson of the Education Committee, Secretary General, Past President and President of the APSR.

Deadline for nominations: 31 July 2013

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Executive Manager: Mr. Yasutomi Yamanaka