Message from the President

The APSR had another very fruitful year in 2010 as evidenced by the successful annual Congress in Manila, rising calibre of our journal Respirology, well received educational seminars (ESAPs) and Roadshows with a range of themes. There were also travel awards, young investigator awards and training fellowships for members from various countries in the region, and international collaboration including the hosting of numerous events throughout the Asia-Pacific region for the Year of the Lung.

As a society, the APSR has come a long way through the vision and hard work of previous leaders and it is now recognized as the Society representing the respiratory discipline in the Asia-Pacific region, but we face continuing challenges. I would consider building up a vibrant and active membership as our biggest and most imminent task. Our current membership is heavily skewed towards en bloc membership, and it is time for us to establish our presence in the many places, beyond and seeking individual membership among the wide population of respiratory specialists and related professionals.

Needless to say, at the same time, the APSR must also be able to offer its members a variety of opportunities for continuing professional education and development, and provide a platform for them to interact with the global professional community.

But how can the APSR achieve this? Like any other organization, the APSR owes its momentum to some individuals coming together and devoting their time and effort into shaping the strategic plans of the Society and implementing them. Hence, I would urge you to be not only a member, but an ACTIVE member - attend the annual Congress, support your journal Respirology, host APSR educational events, send in your local news to the APSR Bulletin, engage in Assembly activities, ... and last but not least, invite your fellows and colleagues to join the Society. The APSR can only thrive with your enthusiastic support.

May I wish you and your family a healthy and happy 2011, and we look forward to your active participation in the APSR!

Mary Sau-Man Ip

The Opening Ceremony, the 15th Congress of the APSR, Manila
Message from the new Secretary General

It is a great honour and privilege to take up the position of Secretary General of the APSR under the leadership of Dr. Mary Sau-Man Ip. The APSR is now recognized internationally alongside its sister societies such as the ATS, ERS, ACCP and ALAT, and has become a part of Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS).

The year 2010 was declared as The Year of the Lung by FIRS, and has now come to a close. The APSR will continue to collaborate with FIRS to tackle all aspects of lung disease from which hundreds of millions of people around the world are suffering.

The APSR needs to strengthen communication with respiratory societies in the region and encourage their active participation and engagement with the Society. There are many challenges ahead. I look forward to working with the President and all the Executives in the coming years.

To all members of the APSR, I would like to convey my best wishes for a happy and prosperous 2011.

Arth Nana

Message from the 15th Congress President

Hosting the congress for the first time, in the two and half decades of the APSR’s existence, the Philippine College of Chest physicians is very much honoured. From the time we won the bid, we set the preparation activities in motion.

Supporting members of “Year of the Lung” symposium

All the coordination and communication could not have been possible without the supreme achievement of our humble secretariat of four, headed by the Philippine College of Chest Physician’s executive administrator, Ms. Joan Cala-Silva. I would also like to acknowledge the fantastic support of our government Department of Tourism; they were very generous.

With the tremendous responsibility vested
upon me by the Philippine College of Chest Physician’s as the 15th Congress President, I now declare that the 15th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology was a great success.

Teresita de Guia

Dr. Nan-Shan Zhang (left) was awarded the APSR Medal Award by Dr. YoungSoo Shim

The awardees at the 15th Congress of the APSR, Manila

**APSR Medal Award**
Nan-Shan Zhong

**APSR Woolcock Research Award**
Richard Beasley

**APSR Harasawa Research Award**
Mary Sau-Man Ip

**Fukuchi Best Paper Award:**
Hiroshi Kimura

**APSR Travel Grant Awardees:**
Brinnell Caszo
Neelima Das
Christopher Cortes
M Hossein Rahimirad
Yuki Shinagawa
Takushi Namba
Kazutaka Mori
Nitiin Kapur
Albert Li
Nilda Maria Munoz
Feni Fitriani
Ma. Philina Pablo
Girish Sindhwani
Nobuhiro Asai

**APSR Travel Awardees to attend the ATS International Conference in Denver:**
Brian Gregory George Oliver
Young Ae Kang

Message from the Honorary Congress President of the APSR 2011 Shanghai

On behalf of the Local Congress Committee, it is my honour to cordially invite you all to the 16th Congress of the APSR. In its 16th year, the APSR Congress has been welcomed for the third time to China and we consider it a great honour to host this event, for the first time in Shanghai. The Congress venue will be the Shanghai International Convention Center. The APSR, the Chinese Society of Respiratory Diseases and the Shanghai Medical Association, have joined forces as co-organizers of the Congress to bring together physicians, academics, healthcare professionals and decision makers in the field of respiratory medicine from around the world to discuss emerging issues and exchange ideas on current research and clinical topics in respirology.

The Congress has been designed to provide an innovative and comprehensive overview of the latest research developments in respirology, primarily in conditions commonly found in the Asia-Pacific region. The meeting will invite many distinguished international speakers who are expected to participate and provide insight and expert opinion on a wide range of topics in pulmonary and respiratory medicine. I hope that you will enjoy the Congress and that your interaction with your colleagues from different countries will stimulate a creative exchange of ideas and will be personally rewarding. I also trust that
you will enjoy your visit to the beautiful and exciting city of Shanghai in November 2011.

Nan-Shan Zhong

Welcome message from the Congress President of the APSR 2011 Shanghai

It is my great pleasure and honour as the Congress President, to welcome you to the 16th Congress of the APSR. The APSR is renowned as a dynamic organization showcasing the breadth and depth of respiratory medicine across the Asia-Pacific region. Following the success of the two previous meetings held in China, this year’s Congress, hosted by Chinese Society of Respiratory Diseases (CSRD) and Shanghai Medical Association, will be held at the Shanghai International Convention Center, in the vibrant and international metropolis of Shanghai. Since its inception and first meeting held in Tokyo in 1988, the Congress has gone from strength to strength and we are expecting this year’s meeting to be no exception and continue this momentum to be an outstanding success. Scheduled for the 3–6 November 2011, this four-day Congress will feature a comprehensive scientific programme including post-graduate courses, lectures and symposia conducted by keynote speakers, who are experts in the field of respirology. In addition, oral and poster presentations will provide exposure for researchers as a platform for academic exchange on exciting new topics currently under investigation. The Local Congress Committee has organized a range of social events and tours to encourage participants to experience the diverse local culture and traditions of the host city.

I hope this Congress will be an exciting and productive gathering of respirologists from the Asia-Pacific region and provide an opportunity to share their knowledge, experience and views on current respiratory disease topics, and provide a platform for networking and collaboration between academics and physicians across the region.

I would like to thank the APSR 2011 Local Congress Committee for their dedication and support in making this Congress a success and I would also like to thank all participants for their continued interest and involvement in these meetings and look forward to meeting you in November in Shanghai.

We invite you to visit the website (http://www.apsr2011.org) regularly for the latest updates and news about the organization of the Congress.

See you in Shanghai in November!

Bai Chunxue

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Respirology had a successful and productive year in 2010. Institutional subscriptions, PubMed link-outs and circulation continued to grow. This is matched with a clear rise in the quality of the submitted manuscripts. A wide range of new initiatives have been put in place to secure Respirology as a front-line respiratory journal with worldwide appeal.

Respirology has achieved its target of reducing the acceptance rate for original manuscripts to about 25%. The manuscript pre-screening system pioneered in late 2009 has significantly improved the manuscript turnaround time to an average of 16 days, putting Respirology in a very competitive position among leading respiratory journals.

To remain competitive against other international journals, Respirology has continued to develop review series with relevance and originality, written by key opinion leaders in the field. The Pro/Con Debate and Think Tank review series featuring throughout 2010 are examples of new initiatives that have generated significant interests, including headline press coverage in national newspapers. To maintain this momentum, several exciting series have been scheduled for 2011, including a series on cutting edge technologies in respiratory medicine and another on pleural disease.

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In line with other leading journals, Respirology has adopted the ‘frontloading’ approach of increasing the number of articles published in the early issues of each year to allow maximum time for article citations. In addition, Respirology is now offering free online access to all reviews and editorials published within the last two years. While we have to wait until 2012 to enjoy the full benefits of the above measures on the journal’s impact factor, I am delighted to report that Respirology’s 2009 Impact Factor has risen further to 1.853.

To further raise its international profile, Respirology continued to expand its Associate Editor team, which now comprises 15 world-recognized experts from 11 countries worldwide. We are proud to boast an Associate Editor team of such high quality and international repute and who are all dedicated to assist us in continuing to raise the standard of the journal.

Respirology is also proud to present a new Fukuchi Award for the Best Original Paper in Respirology to the authors of the best manuscript published in the journal every year, as adjudicated by an esteemed panel of international experts. The first of this award
was presented at the 15th Congress of the APSR in November 2010 in Manila.

Dr. Hiroshi Kimura (left) was awarded the Fukuchi Award by Dr. Yoshinosuke Fukuchi

Respirology remains committed to playing an active educational role and cover respiratory topics of great regional significance. 2010 saw the publication of a very high quality review series on tuberculosis, as well as a series providing useful and practical information on how pulmonologists can set up interventional pulmonary services, pleural disease units, respiratory clinical trials and pulmonary rehabilitation within their departments. A new series of reviews focusing on the specific health issues of the Asia-Pacific region will be released in 2011, providing a unique and in-depth perspective on important regional respiratory issues. The Editorial Office is also continuing to collate the APSR Research Updates, which are distributed free to all APSR members.

To maintain the growth of the journal, Respirology needs to develop new sources of revenues. We have recently introduced a publication fee for accepted manuscripts and a series of other initiatives to open new income sources of the journal are being explored.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the team behind Respirology including all the Editors, Editorial Board as well as the Editorial Office and Wiley-Blackwell staff.

Y C Gary Lee

Councillor’s Report

Japan

1. JRS Annual Meeting in 2010
The JRS held its 50th Annual Meeting 23-25 April in Kyoto with about 5,500 attendees. The main theme was ‘A half-century of respirology—past accomplishments and aspirations for the future’. The international programme has steadily developed. There were 3 International Symposia and 10 English Mini-Symposia. Three outstanding scientists of the English Mini-Symposia were awarded the International Session Award. We invited Young Investigators from the APSR, ATS and ERS and they were highly evaluated. In particular year, as an activity of the Year of the Lung, we had ‘The Year of the Lung, APSR/JRS Joint Memorial Symposium’.

2. Local Meetings organized by JRS Regional Branches
There are eight regional branches of the JRS. These branches held local meetings 2−6 times during the year.

3. JRS Training Seminar
The JRS held a Training Seminar 25-27 August in Nara for three days with about 400 attendees. There were two courses; one for respiratory therapists and the other for doctors and respiratory physiologists. The seminar has been held since 1961.

4. JRS Educational Seminar
The JRS held an Educational Seminar twice during the year. It consisted of ten sessions and the programme was run by ten scientific assemblies. The main theme in 2010 was ‘Progress and updates in respiratory diseases’.

5. Public Activities
For public awareness, since 1999, the JRS has held a Lung Day event on 1 August. Also, the JRS designated 9 May as “Respiratory Day” in 2008. On these days we also had events at the eight regional JRS branches and performed spiromet nationally.

6. 50th Anniversary
Originally named the Japan Society of Chest Diseases, we have grown and evolved over the past fifty years to become the JRS. Accordingly, we celebrated our 50th anniversary and published a special issue of the JRS Journal. The commemorative ceremony on the 50th anniversary was held during the 50th Annual Meeting of the JRS in Kyoto.

Bangladesh
The Bangladesh Lung Foundation has undertaken many activities; some of the important ones being:

1. Dissemination of International Standards of Tuberculosis Care (ISTC) to medical practitioners in Bangladesh.
We were designated by the ATS to disseminate the ISTC in collaboration with the National TB control programme (NTP). In total, ten meetings were held at various medical colleges and district headquarters. Each meeting was attended by more than 100 doctors.
2. “New lease of life for asthma patients”- an advocacy campaign for promoting smooth transition to CFC-free inhalers.

In light of the Montreal Protocol, Bangladesh is committed to the introduction of CFC-free inhalers by 2012. Although CFC-free inhalers are being manufactured in Bangladesh, some resistance was identified in 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 of inhalers. 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 the People’s Republic of Bangladesh in October 2009. With sponsorship from Beximco Pharmaceuticals Ltd, the leading manufacturer of CFC free inhalers in the country, a total of 15 meetings have been held throughout the country. Each meeting was attended by 200 doctors. The campaign has been highly evaluated by the participants.

3. Participation in the United Forum Against Tobacco (UFAT)

The BLF has 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.

4. Lung Health Manual

The BLF intends to publish a comprehensive Lung Health manual as a ready reference for medical practitioners in the country. Each volume will dwell on an important topic of respirology. So far two volumes, on asthma and COPD, have been published.

5. Second International Conference on Lung Health: Pulmocon 2010

We organized the above conference on 13-14 October. It was attended by 800 participants and there were guest speakers from various countries including India, Japan, Singapore and USA. A dialogue was held to introduce the CFC free inhaler awareness campaign. It was considered a component of the Year of the Lung (YOTL) activities.

In order to promote a stronger relationship with the APSR, we awarded travel grants for four outstanding young researchers to facilitate their attendance at the next APSR Congress in Shanghai.

6. World Spirometry Day

The BLF observed World Spirometry Day on October 14 by organizing spirometry camps in the city where the lay public were offered free spirometry and medical advice if necessary. A workshop on recent advances in spirometry was organized for medical practitioners.


A documentary film on the problem of air pollution and our responsibilities has been produced under the auspices of the BLF.

8. Workshops on Evidence based Medicine (EBM)

In view of the importance of EBM in the medical arena, we are organizing workshops in collaboration with the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons on a regular basis for medical professionals at all levels.

Malaysia

Among the activities of the Malaysian Thoracic Society (MTS) to publicize the Year of the Lung 2010, the president and other prominent members of the MTS separately went on several popular radio programmes and a television programme in Malaysia to talk about lung diseases, which included asthma, COPD and lung cancer.

In 2009 the MTS, together with the Ministry of Health of Malaysia and the Academy of Medicine of Malaysia, embarked on the revision the Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) for the Management of COPD in Malaysia, which was first published in 1998. The new edition of the CPG was published this year and officially launched on 22 May 2010. The CPG can be accessed from the MTS website.

The MTS and the Lung Foundation of Malaysia co-organized the 2010 Malaysian Thoracic Society Annual Congress which was successfully held on 23-25 July 2010. The Congress was endorsed by the American College of Chest Physicians.

On World Spirometry Day, the MTS organized an exhibition on lung diseases at a popular shopping mall and conducted spirometry testing on members of the public who attended the exhibition.

The website of the Malaysian Thoracic Society has been revamped and the new website address is http://www.mts.org.my

Korea

The KATRD held its 109th conference on 10 April 2010 in Busan with 690 attendees.
The symposium topic of the conference was “Geriatric Respirology”, and Dr. Phillip J Thompson from Australia, as an invited speaker, gave lectures on “Asthma Phenotype”. The 5th Lung Cancer Symposium and the 30th Workshop (Respiratory Review of 2010) were held successfully along with the conference.

The KATRD opened a COPD School on 20 March and an Asthma School on 4 September in Seoul for the education of young pulmonology physicians in Korea, and educational material for comprehensive COPD management was developed for physicians in clinics. The Respiratory Research Academy for young pulmonary scientists was held successfully on 12 June in Seoul.

The first research fund for cooperative investigations by KATRD members was given for the study of multidrug resistant tuberculosis.

To enhance public awareness concerning COPD, the KATRD held the 8th Lung Day event on 14 October. The event was held successfully in Chungaechun in Seoul along with the World Spirometry Day event.

The 110th annual conference of the KATRD was held in Seoul on 18-19 November in Seoul. Invited speakers Dr. Robert Joseph Thomas from Harvard Medical School gave lectures on sleep apnea and Dr. Akira Inoue from Tohoku University Hospital gave a lecture on “individualized treatment for advanced non-small cell lung cancer”. An Airway Symposium, in conjunction with the Korean Society of Allergies, was held on 18 November along with the KATRD annual conference.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

2011

A Chapter of the ATS 11th Annual Symposium, Hawaii Thoracic Society, 20-23 February, Maui, Hawaii
Website: www.thoracic.org/chapters/thoracic-society-chapters/hi/index.php

PCCP 30th Annual Chest Convention: 'Pulmonary Facets'
1-4 March, Mandaluyong City, Philippines
Email: pccp@skybroadband.com.ph

TSANZ Annual Scientific Meetings 2011
2-6 April, Perth, Australia
Website: www.fccconventions.com.au/TSANZ2011/

ESAP Basic Bronchoscopy Roadshow
20 March 2011 Chen Du, China

KATRD Annual Lung Cancer Conference
8 April, Taegu, Korea
KATRD Annual Spring Conference
9 April, Taegu, Korea

The 51st Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory Society
22-24 April, Tokyo, Japan
Website: www.jrs.or.jp/jrs51/index_e.html

ATS International Conference
13-18 May, Denver, USA
Website: www.thoracic.org

14th World Conference on Lung Cancer
3-7 July, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Annual ISR (Indonesian Society of Respirology) Congress
6-11 July, Bukittinggi, Indonesia

Chinese Society of Respiratory Diseases Annual Meeting
16-18 September, Guangzhou, China

ERS 21st Annual Congress
24-28 September, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Website: www.erscongress2011.org/

Malaysian Interventional Pulmonology Course
5-7 October, Sabah, Malaysia
Website: www.jknsabah.gov.my/hospital/hqe/respiratori/

CHEST 2011-Annual Scientific Meeting of the ACCP
22-27 October, Honolulu, USA
Website: www.chestnet.org/CHEST/

The 16th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology
3-6 November, Shanghai, China
Website: www.apsresp.org/congress/2011.php

KATRD Annual Conference
10-11 November, Seoul, Korea

2012

The 52nd Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory Society
20-22 April, Kobe, Japan

ATS International Conference
18-23 May, San Francisco, USA

ERS 22nd Annual Congress
1-5 September, Vienna, Austria

CHEST 2012-Annual Scientific Meeting of the ACCP
20-25 October, Atlanta, USA

The 17th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology
December, Hong Kong, China
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Immediate Past President: YoungSoo Shim
Secretary General: Arth Nana
Treasurer: Toshihiro Nukiwa
Editor-in-Chief: YC Gary Lee

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3rd Congress Singapore 1993 Wan-Cheng Tan
4th Congress Beijing 1996 Wei-Ci Luo
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6th Congress Florence 2000 Ann J. Woolcock
7th Congress Taiwan 2002 Kwen-Tay Luh
8th Congress Selangor 2003 Chong-Kin Liam
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11th Congress Kyoto 2006 Yoshinosuke Fukuchi
12th Congress Gold Coast 2007 Christine Jenkins
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16th Congress Shanghai 2011 Chunxue Bai

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