

6TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 6th Annual General Meeting of the College of Surgeons, Singapore was held on Friday, 21 May 2010 at 6:20pm at Lecture Theatre (Level 3) at Gleneagles Hospital, 6A Napier Road, Singapore 258500.



THE COLLEGE COUNCIL

The following Council Members were elected to the 2010-2011 Council after the 6th Annual General Meeting:

President:	A/Prof Low Yin Peng
President-Elect:	Dr Sayampanathan, Sarvaselan R.E.
Vice-President:	Dr Ravishankar K Diddapur
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Vijayan Appasamy
Honorary Treasurer:	Dr Chiu Ming Terk
Council Member:	Dr Liau Kui Hin
Chairman, Chapter of Cardiothoracic Surgeons:	Dr Lim Chong Hee
Chairman, Chapter of General Surgeons:	Dr Swaminathan Ikshuvanam
Chairman, Chapter of Hand Surgeons:	Dr Tay Shian Chao, Vincent
Chairman, Chapter of Neurosurgeons:	A/Prof Ng Hua Bak, Ivan
Chairman, Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists:	Dr Huang Shoo Chyuan
Chairman, Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons:	A/Prof Tan Seang Beng
Chairman, Chapter of Paediatric Surgeons:	Dr Chui Chan Hon
Chairman, Chapter of Plastic Surgeons:	Adj. A/Prof Lim Jiun, Ivor
Chairman, Chapter of Urologists:	Prof Kesavan Esuvaranathan

BOARD OF SPECIALTY CHAPTERS

The Board of the various Specialty Chapters has been elected into office for a two-year term from 2009-2011 after the 3rd Annual General Meeting of the respective Chapters in 2009. The Specialty Chapter Boards as follows continued their term of office from 2010-2011 after the 4th Annual General Meeting of the respective Chapters held in 2010:

Chapter of Cardiothoracic Surgeons

Chairman:	Dr Lim Chong Hee
Vice-Chairman:	Dr Wong Woon Wai, James
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Lim See Lim
Board Members:	A/Prof Chua Yeow Leng Dr Ooi Oon Cheong Dr Sim Kwang Wei, Eugene

Chapter of General Surgeons

Chairman:	Dr Swaminathan Ikshuvanam
Vice-Chairman:	A/Prof Cheah Wei Keat
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Chia Kok Hoong
Board Members:	Dr Chan Hsiang Sui Prof Chow Kah Hoe, Pierce A/Prof So Bok Yan, Jimmy Dr Vijayan Appasamy (Co-opted) Dr Foo Chek Siang (Co-opted) Dr Tan Kok Yang (Co-opted)

Chapter of Hand Surgeons

Chairman:	Dr Tay Shian Chao, Vincent
Vice-Chairman:	Dr Chong Khin Sze, Alphonsus
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Chin Yuan Hui, Andrew
Board Members:	A/Prof Lim Beng Hai Dr Tan Puay Ling Dr Tan Ter Chyan Dr Yam Kean Tuck, Andrew (Co-opted)

Chapter of Neurosurgeons

Chairman:	A/Prof Ng Hua Bak, Ivan
Vice-Chairman:	A/Prof Ang Beng Ti, Christopher
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Seow Wan Tew
Board Members:	A/Prof Ong Peck Leong Dr Tan Kheng Kooi A/Prof Yeo Tseng Tsai

Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons

Chairman:	A/Prof Tan Seang Beng
Vice-Chairman:	Dr Chang Wei Chun, Eddie
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Sathappan SS
Board Members:	Prof Low Cheng Ooi Dr Fareed Kagda Dr Lim Boon Leong, Kevin Dr Lee Yew Chung, Peter (Co-opted) A/Prof Inderjeet Singh Rikhranj (Co-opted)

Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists

Chairman:	Dr Huang Shoo Chyuan
Vice-Chairman:	Dr Yeo Seng Beng
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Mok Kan Hwei, Paul
Board Members:	Dr Chan Kwai Onn Dr Lee Cheow Yew, Julian Dr Saurajen Siew Ming, Adrian

Chapter of Paediatric Surgeons

Chairman:	Dr Chui Chan Hon
Vice-Chairman:	Dr Loh Ser Kheng, Dale Lincoln
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Low Yee
Board Members:	A/Prof Anette Jacobsen Dr Ong Lin Yin Dr Ong Choo Phaik, Caroline

Chapter of Plastic Surgeons

Chairman:	Adj. A/Prof Lim Jiun, Ivor
Vice-Chairman:	Dr Wu Tze-Liang, Woffles
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Tan Ying Chien
Board Members:	Dr Tham Hsien Jen, Colin Dr Ang Sze Wee, Erik Dr Yeow Kok Leng, Vincent

Chapter of Urologists

Chairman:	Prof Kesavan Esuvaranathan
Vice-Chairman:	A/Prof Chia Sing Joo
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Heng Chin Tiong
Board Members:	Dr David Terrence Consigliere Dr Liew Choon How, Lewis Dr Ng Foo Cheong Dr Tan Yeh Hong (Co-opted)

MEMBERSHIP

The total membership as of 31 December 2010 under the College now stands at 500 Fellows comprising 476 Local Fellows and 24 Overseas Fellows.

Local and Overseas Fellows are grouped under the Chapters as follows:

Chapter of Cardiothoracic Surgeons	28
Chapter of General Surgeons	168
Chapter of Hand Surgeons	17
Chapter of Neurosurgeons	20
Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists	63
Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons	90
Chapter of Paediatric Surgeons	13
Chapter of Plastic Surgeons	40
Chapter of Urologists	54
Others (applied as Specialty of Anatomy & not recognised as one of the 36 Specialties)	7

EVENTS OF CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION *(presented in chronological order)*

2nd Singapore Vertigo Masterclass

The Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists organised its 2nd Vertigo Masterclass on Saturday, 30 January 2010 at the Goodwood Park Hotel, which saw an attendance of 54 participants. The Chapter was privileged to have Prof Michael Strupp, Professor of Neurology & Clinical Neurophysiology from the University of Munich, as its guest speaker for the 2nd Masterclass. Other than Prof Strupp as the main speaker, invited panel of speakers also included the following experts from Singapore:

1. A/Prof Goh Kong Yong, Head of Neuro-ophthalmology, NHG Eye Institute & Senior Consultant, Department of Ophthalmology, Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH)
2. Dr Umapathi S/O N Thirugnanam, Senior Consultant, Department of Neurology, National Neuroscience Institute (NNI)
3. Dr Yeo Seng Beng, Senior Consultant, Department of ENT, TTSH

The invited panel offered different perspectives on the theme of Vertigo based on their practice. The programme was comprehensive and interactive with the inclusion of a clinical course on the examination of the Vestibular and Ocular Motor System as well as a video quiz on eye movement and Nystagmus. The 2nd Masterclass was chaired by Dr Huang Shou Chyuan and the Organising Chairperson was Dr Yeo Seng Beng.

Paediatric Surgery Update Session 1

In a move to provide updates on the latest development of the specialty, the Chapter of Paediatric Surgeons has planned a series of update sessions for the benefit of its Chapter members and trainees.

The first update on *Paediatric Urology* was held on Friday, 22 January 2010 at the KK Women's & Children's Hospital (KKH). Dr Yap Te-Lu, Senior Consultant in the Department of Paediatric Surgery of KKH, delivered a lecture on *Vesicoureteral Reflux and Urinary Tract Infection: Current Controversies and Evolving Practices*. The Organising Chairperson was Dr Caroline Ong.

Chapter of Urologists' Symposium at the Singapore Urology Fair 2010

The Chapter of Urologists participated in the Singapore Urology Fair 2010 that was held on Friday and Saturday, 5-6 March 2010 at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel by organizing a plenary session on *4Ts in MIS: Tools, Technique, and Technology & Training* on 5 March 2010. The session chair was Dr Li Man Kay.

Periprosthetic Fracture Workshop of the Singapore Orthopaedic Association

The Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons jointly organised the Periprosthetic Fracture Workshop with the Singapore Orthopaedic Association on Saturday, 27 March 2010 at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel.

22nd Annual Scientific Meeting of the Singapore Cardiac Society

The Chapter of Cardiothoracic Surgeons co-organised the 22nd Annual Scientific Meeting of the Singapore Cardiac Society, jointly with the Chapter of Cardiologists of the College of Physicians, Singapore which was held on Saturday and Sunday, from 27-28 March 2011 at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel. The theme of the meeting was *Cardiology Today: Innovation, Application & Evolution*. The Guest-of-Honour was Dr Chong Yeh Woei, the President of the Singapore Medical Association. The meeting was attended by a total of 240 participants.

Chapter of Urologists Dinner Symposia

The Chapter of Urologists organised a dinner symposium for the specialists and general practitioners on Friday, 9 April and Saturday 10 April 2010 at the Four Seasons Hotel Singapore. Respective themes for the symposia were "ED as a Marker of Vascular Disease" and "Sex and the Heart". The guest speaker for the symposia was Prof Michael G. Kirby from the Faculty of Health & Human Sciences, Centre for Research in Primary & Community Care, University of Hertfordshire. Dr Li Man Kay, member of the Chapter of Urologists, was also invited to speak on 10 April 2010 with the topic on *Value of Identifying and Treating EHS 3 Suboptimal Erection Patients*. Prof Kesavan Esuvaranathan, the Chapter of Urologists' Chairman, chaired the symposia.

Participation of the Chapter of General Surgeons in the Singapore Trauma Conference 2010

By invitation of the Trauma Centre of Tan Tock Seng Hospital, the Chapter of General Surgeons participated in the Singapore Trauma Conference 2010 held on Saturday and Sunday, 10 to 11 April 2010, at Tan Tock Seng Hospital by sponsoring the Best Free Paper and Best Poster prizes which were established to encourage greater participation from the younger surgeons.

Launch of Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) for Rhinosinusitis and Allergic Rhinitis

The CPG for Rhinosinusitis and Allergic Rhinitis was officially launched on Saturday, 24 April 2010 at The Regent Singapore, organised by the Ministry of Health (MOH) Management of Rhinosinusitis and Allergic Rhinitis CPG Workgroup under the auspices of MOH and hosted by the Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists. The CPG launch was attended by 238 participants comprising of surgical specialists and general practitioners and was jointly supported by the Academy of Medicine, Singapore (AMS), College of Family Physicians, Singapore (CFPS), Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists, College of Surgeons, Singapore and the Society of Otolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery Singapore. The CPG launch was emceed by A/Prof Siow Jin Keat.

Lecture on Diagnosis and Management of Spondyloarthropathies

Together with the Chapter of Rheumatologists, College of Physicians Singapore and the Singapore Orthopaedic Association, the Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons had co-organised a lecture on *Diagnosis and Management of Spondyloarthropathies* delivered by Dr Philip Mease, Clinical Professor at the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle and Director of the Rheumatology Clinical Research Division of Swedish Medical Center on Friday, 30 April 2010 at the Marriott Hotel Singapore.

Inaugural Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists Dinner Lecture

The Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists organized its inaugural dinner lecture on Friday, 7 May 2010 at the Raffles Hotel Singapore, in conjunction with the Chapter's 4th Annual General Meeting. The Chapter was honored to recognize Dr Kunaratnam Nallatamby, a Senior ORL Fellow and a Chapter member, as its inaugural Chapter Lecturer who delivered a lecture on *Singapore ORL: Reflections of a Retired ENT Surgeon*. This event was attended by ENT surgeons and trainees totalling 50 participants. It was chaired by Dr Huang Shoo Chyuan. The citation honouring the guest speaker was delivered by A/Prof Siow Jin Keat.

Paediatric Surgery Update Session 2

The 2nd Paediatric Surgery update was held on Friday, 14 May 2010 at KKH on the theme of "Paediatric Oncology". Dr Aung Le Le, a Staff Physician Consultant in the Division of Paediatric Hematology-Oncology, Department of Pediatric Medicine of KKH spoke on *Slice of Life: Cancer and the Pediatric Surgeon*. A demonstration of *Port-A-Cath Care: Bedside Routines* by Staff Nurses Pham Thi Ngoc Anh and Doreen Tay was also conducted in conjunction with the lecture. The Organising Chairperson was Dr Joyce Chua.

Exit Examination Preparatory Course 2010 for Advanced Surgical Trainees (ASTs) in General Surgery

The Chapter of General Surgeons organized its 3rd exit examination preparatory course from 29 June to 3 July 2010 for the Advanced Surgical Trainees (ASTs) in General Surgery towards their preparations for exit examinations. The preparatory course was hosted by Alexandra Hospital, National University Hospital, Singapore General Hospital and Tan Tock Seng Hospital. The course comprised of interactive lectures, clinical discussions and mock VIVA of similar format as the real exit examinations, and covered core modules such as Breast, Endocrine, Upper Gastrointestinal, Vascular, Trauma, Colorectal, Hepato-pancreato-biliary, General Surgery, Head & Neck, Minimally-Invasive Surgery and Emergency Surgery & Critical Care. This year, the course was further refined with broad topics assigned to each host institution in preparation of the clinical cases for the clinical segment so as to offer wider exposure to the ASTs during the clinical discussion. The course was also made more compact by integrating some modules into the lecture series – Thoracic Surgery and Transplant Surgery.

An informal networking dinner – "Surgeons cum Trainees Night" was also organized on 2 July 2010 at TTSH's rooftop terrace. This was a unique venue at the new Annex Building of TTSH that offered the dinner event in alfresco style. Members of the teaching faculty as well as members of the Chapter of General Surgeons and the ASTs were invited to attend. The Chapter was privileged to have A/Prof Low Yin Peng, President of the College of Surgeons Singapore grace the occasion at the dinner.

The Course Convener was Adj. Asst. Prof Vijayan Appasamy, who was also the hospital convener for TTSH. The other hospital conveners were Dr Tan Kok Yang, A/Prof Jimmy So and A/Prof Pierce Chow representing Alexandra Hospital (AH), National University Hospital (NUH), Singapore General Hospital (SGH) respectively.

Cardiothoracic Surgery Update Session 10

The Chapter of Cardiothoracic Surgeons has planned a series of update sessions to provide details on the latest development of the specialty for the benefit of trainees, nurses, as well as, Members of the Chapter of Cardiothoracic Surgeons.

In the 10th Update Session on "Trachea Surgery and ECMO Update on H1N1 Patients" held on Saturday, 3 July 2010 at the National Heart Centre (NHC), the invited panel of speakers delivered the following updates:

Session 1 – Trachea Surgery

- Dr James Wong on *Surgical Intervention for Tracheal Stenosis*
- A/Prof Lee Pyng on *Endoscopic Intervention for Tracheal Diseases*
- Dr Ku Chih Min on *Anaesthesia in Tracheal Surgery*

Session 2 – ECMO Update on H1N1 Patients

- Dr Leong Hoe Nam on *what is H1N1?*
- Dr Lim Yeong Phang on *V-V ECMO*
- Dr Su Jang Wen on *National Heart Centre's Experience*
- Dr Kenneth Chan on *ICU Care of Critically-ill Patients with 2009 Influenza A (H1N1)*

These sessions were attended by Members of the Chapter of Cardiothoracic Surgeons, trainees and nurses from both NHC and NUH. The Organising Chairperson was Dr Su Jang Wen.

Fifth Chapter of Cardiothoracic Surgeons Dinner Lecture

Dato' Dr Mohd Azhari Yakub, Head of the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery with Institut Jantung Negara, was invited to deliver a lecture on *Trends in Valve Surgery at Institut Jantung Negara* at the Fifth Dinner Lecture organised by the Chapter of Cardiothoracic Surgeons on Friday, 30 July 2010 at the Peach Garden @33 (The Executives' Club). Attendees were members from the Chapter of Cardiothoracic Surgeons, trainees, nurses and perfusionists from both NHC and NUH. The Organising Chairman was Dr Lim Chong Hee who also chaired and cited the 5th Chapter Lectureship.

Third Chapter of Neurosurgeons Dinner Lecture

In conjunction with the conjoint examination, the 3rd Chapter of Neurosurgeons Dinner Lecture was organised on Monday, 20 September 2010 at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel which saw an attendance of total 40 participants comprising of Chapter members and invited guests. The Chapter was honoured to have Prof Wai-Sang Poon, Chair Professor and Chief of the Division of Neurosurgery from the Prince of Wales Hospital, the Chinese University of Hong Kong deliver the 3rd Chapter Lecturehip with the topic of *Has Translational Research in Neuroscience Changed Clinical Practice in Neurosurgery?*. Mr Nihal Gurusinghe, Consultant Neurosurgeon with the Department of Neurosurgery of the Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Royal Preston Hospital, delivered a guest lecture on the topic *“Training Neurosurgeons in UK.”* The Organising Chairman was A/Prof Ivan Ng and the citator was A/Prof Christopher Ang.

Paediatric Surgery Update Session 3

The 3rd update was conducted on Friday, 24 September 2010 at KKH on the theme of *“Paediatric Minimally Invasive Surgery”*. Invited speakers were Dr Lim Suan Ling from KKH who spoke on *Anaesthetic Considerations in Video Assisted Thoracoscopic Surgery (VATS)* and Dr Agasthian Thirugnanam from the National Cancer Centre who delivered a talk on *VATS in Children - Applications and Limitations*. The Organising Chairperson was Dr Ong Lin Yin.

Cardiothoracic Surgery Breakfast Talk & Workshop

The Chapter of Cardiothoracic Surgeons organised a specialty breakfast talk and workshop on the theme of *“Off Pump Coronary Artery Bypass (OPCAB) Surgery”* on Monday, 27 September 2010 at SGH. The Chapter was pleased to invite Dr Suchart Chaiyaroj, Cardiac Surgeon with the Cardiothoracic Unit of the Ramathibodi Hospital, as the Proctor for the live surgery workshop, together with the local teaching faculty which consisted of Dr Lim Chong Hee, Dr Lim Yeong Phang and Dr Tan Teing Ee, all who are Senior Consultants with NHC as well as being members of the Chapter of Cardiothoracic Surgeons. Dr Suchart also delivered a talk on *Does Off Pump CABG Remain Relevant?* at the breakfast talk. In addition, Dr Somchai Viengteerawat from the Department of Anaesthesiology of Ramathibodi Hospital was also invited to speak on *Anesthesia Experience in OPCAB at Ramathibodi Hospital*. The breakfast talk and live surgery workshop, which also offered learning of the surgery procedure via CCTV, saw an attendance of about 20 participants comprising of cardiac surgeons and anaesthetists. The Organising Chairman was Dr Lim Chong Hee.

ENT Subspecialty Update

The 1st ENT Subspecialty Update was organised on Friday, 12 November 2010 at Traders Hotel which was attended by about 30 participants. The main lecture was delivered by A/Prof Low Wong Kein, Senior ENT Consultant and Director of Centre for Hearing & Ear Implants, Department of Otolaryngology of SGH, on the topic of *Cochlear Implants: The SGH Experience* which was received with great interest by the participants. A/Prof Wang De Yun, Research Associate Professor (Tenure) and Director of Research with the Department of Otolaryngology of National University of Singapore was also invited to share with the audience on *Latest Survey Update for Acute Rhinosinusitis (ARS)*. The Organising Chairmen were Dr Huang Shou Chyuan and Dr Yeo Seng Beng.

Paediatric Surgery Update Session 4

The 4th subspecialty update was held on Friday, 3 December 2010 at NUH on the theme of *“Paediatric Transplant Surgery”*. The update consisted of talks by Dr Mali Vidyadhar on *Paediatric Liver Transplantation at NUH* and by Dr Perry Lau on *Paediatric Renal Transplantation in Singapore*. Twenty-five doctors participated. The Organising Chairman was Dr Dale Loh.

EXAMINATIONS

The College organised the following examinations that were led by respective Specialty Chapters:

2010 Exit Examination for Hand Surgery

The Chapter of Hand Surgeons organised the Hand Surgery Exit Examination that was conducted on Saturday, 28 August 2010 at SGH for the clinical segment in collaboration with the Joint Committee on Specialist Training (JCST). The international examiners' panel consisted of:

- Exam Conveners
 - Dr Vincent Tay (Member, Chapter of Hand Surgeons)
 - Dr Andrew Yam (Member, Chapter of Hand Surgeons)
- Chief Examiner – A/Prof Lim Beng Hai (Member, Chapter of Hand Surgeons)
- External Examiner – Dr Jorma Olavi Ryhänen (Finland)
- Examiners
 - Dr Alphonsus Chong (Member, Chapter of Hand Surgeons)
 - Dr Peng Yeong Pin (Member, Chapter of Hand Surgeons)
 - Dr Andrew Chin (Member, Chapter of Hand Surgeons)
 - A/Prof Aymeric Lim (Member, Chapter of Hand Surgeons)
 - A/Prof Agnes Tan (Member, Chapter of Hand Surgeons)
- Observer – Dr Winston Chew (Member, Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons)

The clinical examination was facilitated by Dr Tan Ing Tuan and Dr Jacqueline Tan who assisted in the exam organisation. Two candidates (all from Singapore) had scored a pass in this diet of the exit examination.

2010 Conjoint Fellowship Examination in Surgical Neurology

The Chapter of Neurosurgeons organised the Conjoint Fellowship Examination in Surgical Neurology that was conducted from 20-21 September 2010 at the National Neuroscience Institute with the collaboration with JCST. The conjoint examination was held in Singapore for the first time. All four candidates (two from Singapore and two from Hong Kong) scored a pass in this exam. The international panel of examiners consisted of:

- Exam Convener - A/Prof Ivan Ng (Member, Chapter of Neurosurgeons)
- External Examiners
 - Mr Nihal Gurusinghe (The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh)
 - Prof Wai-Sang Poon (College of Surgeons of Hong Kong)
 - Dr Kwan-Ngai Hung (College of Surgeons of Hong Kong)
- Examiner - A/Prof Chumpon Chan (Member, Chapter of Neurosurgeons)
- Observers
 - A/Prof Christopher Ang (Member, Chapter of Neurosurgeons)
 - A/Prof Yeo Tseng Tsai (Member, Chapter of Neurosurgeons)

The clinical examination was facilitated with the assistance of associate consultants and registrars from TTSH led by Dr Lee Cheng Kiang.

COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, SINGAPORE

2010 Orthopaedic In-Training Examination (OITE)

The annual OITE was conducted on Saturday, 13 November 2010 at Suntec Singapore. 66 orthopaedic trainees took the examination. The OITE is a computer-based examination that comprises 257 multiple choice questions to be completed within 7 hours. Appointed proctors for the 2010 OITE were Dr Leon Foo and Dr David Su from SGH. The OITE Programme Director was A/Prof Tan Seang Beng, Chairman of the Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) SIGNED BY THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

The College has signed a MOU with the Médecins Sans Frontières Hong Kong (MSF HK) on Friday, 5 March 2010. This will provide for greater joint participation between the College and MSK HK to provide humanitarian aid to society especially in times of crisis and disasters.

MSF was founded in 1971 by a small group of doctors and journalists who believed that all people should have access to emergency relief. MSF was one of the first non-governmental organizations to provide urgently needed medical assistance and to publicly bear witness to the plight of the people it helps. MSF is made up mainly of doctors and health sector workers. It is also open to all other professions which might help in achieving its aims. Today MSF is an international medical humanitarian movement with partner sections in 19 countries. MSF observes neutrality and impartiality in the name of universal medical ethics and the right to offer humanitarian assistance.

The College will contribute by assisting to raise the profile of MSF HK amongst surgeons in Singapore and would also lend a helping hand in recruiting voluntary specialists to participate in the mission trips of MSF HK.

COLLEGE OF SURGEONS DINNER 2010

The 3rd College Dinner was held on Friday, 29 October 2010 at The St. Regis Singapore. The dinner was attended by 100 participants comprising of College members and invited guests. Apart from hosting the College's Named Lectureships – the 5th College of Surgeons Lecture and the 15th Yahya Cohen Memorial Lecture, the College was happy to have Dr Fan Ning, President of the Médecins Sans Frontières Hong Kong (MSF HK), graced the occasion and delivered a guest lecture on *Surgical Work in Emergency Setting: Haiti, Gaza and Sri Lanka*. MSF HK is the community partner of the College of Surgeons for 2010. The College dinner supported by surgeons from the different surgical disciplines had an evening of camaraderie, networking and re-fostering of ties with our overseas guests. The College of Surgeons Gold Medal 2010 for the best performing Advanced Surgical Trainees was also given out at the dinner. The Master-of-Ceremony was A/Prof Siow Jin Keat.

5TH COLLEGE OF SURGEONS LECTURESHIP

The College is honoured to have Prof Low Cheng Hock, a renowned surgeon with a passion for teaching in the general surgery community, as its prestigious 5th College of Surgeons Lecturer. He delivered a thought-provoking lecture on *"Surgery beyond Scalpels"* on Friday, 29 October 2010 at the College of Surgeons Dinner 2010 held at The St. Regis Singapore. Prof Low, honoured as the 5th College of Surgeons Lecturer, received a College gold medal and certificate. This lectureship was chaired by Dr Swaminathan Ikshuvanam, Chairman of Chapter of General Surgeons. Prof. Low's lecture was published in the December 2010 issue of Annals of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore (AMS) in accordance to the Regulations of this Lectureship.

15TH YAHYA COHEN MEMORIAL LECTURESHIP

The College is pleased to award the 15th Yahya Cohen Memorial Lecture Award to Dr Yuen Heng Wai (Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists) for his paper entitled *The Relationship between the Air-bone Gap and the Size of Superior Semicircular Canal Dehiscence*. The presentation of the winning paper and the award ceremony took place at the College of Surgeons Dinner 2010 held on Friday, 29 October 2010 at The St. Regis Singapore and was chaired by Dr Huang Shoou Chyuan, Chairman of the Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists. Dr Yuen Heng Wai as the 15th Yahya Cohen Memorial Lecturer received a College gold medal and certificate. The co-authors of the winning paper for the 15th Yahya Cohen Memorial Lectureship also received a certificate of recognition each. Full paper will be published in the Annals of the AMS in accordance to the Regulations of this Lectureship.

COLLEGE OF SURGEONS GOLD MEDAL AWARD 2010

In recognition to the best performing Advanced Surgical Trainees (ASTs) in the surgical specialties, as well as encouraging the ASTs to excel in their exit examinations, the College of Surgeons has established the College of Surgeons Gold Medal as an annual award. The College of Surgeons Gold Medal for 2010 was awarded to the following ASTs at the College of Surgeons Dinner 2010 on Friday, 29 October 2010:

Specialty	Award Recipient
Cardiothoracic Surgery	Dr Mathew Jose Chakaramakkil from NHC
General Surgery	Dr Glenn Tan Wei Leong from TTSH
Hand Surgery	Dr Andre Cheah Eu Jin from NUH
Neurosurgery	No award given as there was no nomination received
Otorhinolaryngology	Dr Ng Yuk Hui from SGH
Orthopaedic Surgery	Dr Roland Chong Weng Wah from Changi General Hospital
Paediatric Surgery	No award given as there was no exit exam held in 2010
Plastic Surgery	Dr Leo Kar Woon from SGH
Urology	Dr Lee Lui Shiong from SGH

Award recipients were nominated by their respective Chairman of the Specialist Training Committee of the relevant specialty.

CHAPTER CONNECTION – A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER BY THE CHAPTER OF GENERAL SURGEONS

Mooted by the Chapter Board in 2007, with the aim to "connect" all Chapter members together, the *Chapter Connection* was conceptualised and launched in January 2008. This quarterly publication provides information on events and/or personnel movements, as well as, sharing of case studies, journal reviews or recent surgical technologies amongst the general surgery community. The *Chapter Connection* is widely distributed to all Chapter members, Fellows and Trainees in the general surgery specialty at various public hospitals at no charge. With effect from 2011, the newsletter will be an electronic version ease of access, economy and in consideration of the environment.

COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, SINGAPORE

LEE FOUNDATION / TAN SRI DR RUNME SHAW FELLOWSHIP IN ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

This Fellowship enables young surgeons from developing countries abroad to receive advanced orthopaedic training in Singapore for a period of training varying between six and twelve months. Training is conducted at the Orthopaedic Department of the Ministry of Health or the National University of Singapore. The administrator for this Fellowship, Division of Graduate Medical Studies of the National University of Singapore, reported that there was no award in 2010 as there was no suitable candidate.

COLLEGE OF SURGEONS TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP

The College awarded the College of Surgeons Travelling Fellowship in Year 2010 to the following Council Members who attended meetings / events representing the College:

Meeting / Conference	Dates (2010)	Venue	Award Recipient
79 th Annual Scientific Congress of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons	3-7 May	Perth, Australia	Dr Ravishankar K Diddapur (on behalf of President)
35 th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand	25-28 July	Pattaya, Thailand	A/Prof Low Yin Peng
Conjoint Diploma Conferment Ceremony & 20 th Anniversary Closing Ceremony & Dinner in conjunction with the Conjoint Scientific Congress of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh & College of Surgeons of Hong Kong	25-26 September	Hong Kong	A/Prof Low Yin Peng
96 th Annual Clinical Congress of the American College Of Surgeons	3-7 October	Washington, USA	Dr Swaminathan Ikshuvanam
5 th International Congress of the Chinese Orthopaedic Association and the 1 st Tripartite Congress of the Academies of Medicine of Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore	11-14 November	Chengdu, China and Hong Kong respectively	A/Prof Low Yin Peng
66 th Annual Clinical Congress of the Philippine College of Surgeons	5-8 December	Manila, Philippines	A/Prof Low Yin Peng

Fellows who are interested to read the trip reports by attendees may do so by accessing the College of Surgeons website at www.css.edu.sg under "Other Medical Events".

ENDORSEMENT OF EVENTS

The College and its Chapters endorsed the following events in Year 2010:

Event	Date(s) (2010)	Venue	Organiser(s)
18 th Comprehensive Hand Review Course	5-6 March	NUH	Singapore Society for Hand Surgery
2010 Singapore Trauma Conference	10-11 April	TTSH	TTSH Trauma Centre
ENT Symposia by Prof Shin-ichi Haruna from Japan for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialists General Practitioners 	30 July 31 July	Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel	Jointly by Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists and Abbott
The Head & Neck Public Forum held in conjunction with the Head & Neck Cancer Awareness Week	4 September	Auditorium of the Woodlands Regional Library	Singapore Cancer Society
NNI International Symposium of Neurosurgery	4-8 October	TTSH Theatre	National Neuroscience Institute
Combined 4 th Asia-Pacific Otolaryngology & Neurotology Conference and the 1 st Singapore Otolaryngology & Skull Base Update	8-12 October	Singapore Expo	Department of Otolaryngology, Changi General Hospital

STAFF REGISTRAR SCHEME (SRS)

Following the Ministry of Health's (MOH's) paper in early 2007 of introducing the initiative of a structured diploma programme with on-the-job training (as previously proposed by the Academy of Medicine for foreign doctors whose specialist degrees are not recognised by the Singapore Accreditation Board and whose medical schools are not recognised by the Singapore Medical Council), the following Specialty Chapters under the College have implemented the Service Registrar Scheme:

- Chapter of Cardiothoracic Surgeons rolled out its SRS programme in April 2008. The first intake has one (1) trainee currently from NHC and the candidate has taken his second year assessment exam and annual appraisal on Saturday, 20 November 2010.
- Chapter of Hand Surgeons rolled out its SRS programme in July 2008. There was no candidate for the SRS Diploma in Hand Surgery as at 2010.
- Chapter of Neurosurgeons rolled out its SRS programme in January 2008. The first intake currently has one (1) trainee from NUH and the programme has gone into its third year. The candidate has taken his second year assessment exam and annual appraisal on Friday, 30 April 2010. The second intake currently has 1 trainee from the National Neuroscience Institute and the first year assessment exam is scheduled in May 2011.
- Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons rolled out its SRS programme in April 2008. The first intake currently has two (2) trainees from AH and NUH and the programme has gone into its third year. The candidates have taken the OITE at their second year assessment exam on Saturday, 13 November 2010 and their annual appraisals on Tuesday, 23 November 2010. The second intake currently has one (1) trainee from the KKH, and the trainee has taken the OITE as his first year assessment exam as well as his appraisal on 23 November 2010.

Candidates successfully completing the SRS Programme will be awarded a Diploma jointly by the Academy of Medicine and the College of Surgeons.

PARTICIPATION IN MOH'S INITIATIVES

Review of Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) for Management of Rhinosinusitis and Allergic Rhinitis

The Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists was invited by MOH in January 2010 to review the draft CPG for Management of Rhinosinusitis and Allergic Rhinitis developed by the CPG workgroup led by A/Prof Siow Jin Keat. The Chapter has submitted its reply together with its endorsement for the CPG.

Review of Framework & Categorization of Screening Tests

The Screening Test Review Committee, formed by the Academy and chaired by Prof Lee Hin Peng, was tasked to formulate a report on the recommendations and categorization of screening tests provided in Singapore. The objective was to develop a screening test framework and to make recommendations on the categorization of commercially available screening tests within the framework. Feedback was invited from all Specialty Chapters in June 2010 to assist in developing the screening test framework, and the Chapters have submitted their recommendations to AMS.

Specific Licensing Conditions for Credentialing Medical Practitioners

The College was invited by MOH through the Academy in July 2010 to give feedback on the draft on Licensing Terms and Conditions for Credentialing Medical Practitioners. MOH was considering imposing specific licensing conditions on healthcare institutions for credentialing of medical practitioners, in particular, whether the proposed licensing conditions were adequate to ensure patient safety and any additional conditions to be included. College has submitted its feedback on the draft.

Feedback on Right Thyroidectomy as a Day Surgery Procedure

The College was invited by MOH in August 2010 to give feedback on whether it is appropriate to carry out hemithyroidectomy as a day surgery operation in view of post-operative complications such as delayed bleeding. MOH had noted that hemithyroidectomy is usually being carried out in hospitals as day surgery procedure where patient would be discharged within 24 hours if he/she does not develop post-operative complications within the period. The College has submitted its reply in September 2010, with contributions from the Chapter of General Surgeons and Chapter of Otorhinolaryngologists.

Review of CPG on Heat Injuries by SAF Medical Corp

The College was invited in August 2010 to provide its comments to the draft CPG on Heat Injuries jointly developed by the SAF Medical Corp and MOH. The College had declined comments as the CPG draft was out of scope and hence it was inappropriate for the College to endorse this CPG.

Invitation for Professional Advices from the College

Expert opinions were sought from the relevant Specialty Chapters under the College through the Academy on the following cases:

1. Review of Colonic Irrigation/Colon Hydrotherapy performed by a medical clinic at Novena as requested by the regulatory compliance division of MOH. The aim of the review was to assess the indications for colonic irrigation/colon hydrotherapy and whether colonic irrigation/colon hydrotherapy is one of the recommended treatments for constipation, irritable bowel syndrome, bloated abdomen, haemorrhoids and gas pains. The Chapter of General Surgeons submitted its reply in December 2010.
2. Review on the Efficacy of Alkaline Water in Human Body as requested by MOH. The purpose of the review was to determine the authenticity of advertisement claims about alkaline water, and whether it is appropriate for medical professionals to recommend such a product to patients. The Chapter of Plastic, Reconstructive & Aesthetic Surgeons submitted its reply in December 2010.

COLLEGE UPDATE

All College Fellows are advised to contact the College Secretariat if there is any change to their personal particulars especially practice or residential address so that the College could continue to maintain contact with all its members. Kindly email changes (if any) to css@ams.edu.sg.

EVENTS / ACTIVITIES IN 2011

The College plans for events / activities to in 2011 are as follows:

EVENTS

1. 16th Yahya Cohen Memorial Lectureship and 6th College of Surgeons Lectureship.
2. College of Surgeons Gold Medal Award 2011.
3. The College Dinner 2011.

ACTIVITIES

1. Nomination and election exercise for College Council and Specialty Chapter Boards.
2. Annual General Meetings of the College and its Specialty Chapters.

Fellows will also be informed of any events / activities planned by their respective Specialty Chapter in due course.

APPRECIATION

The College wishes to record its appreciation to all our Fellows and the Secretariat Staff of the College for their enthusiastic support in the past year and look forward to their ongoing support in the future activities and projects of the College.