



Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons College of Surgeons, Singapore Annual Report 2008

2ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2nd Annual General Meeting of the Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons was held on Tuesday, 13 May 2008 at 6.50pm at Meeting Room (Level 4A), Tan Tock Seng Medical Centre, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Clinical Staff Office, 11 Jalan Tan Tock Seng, Singapore 308433.

CHAPTER SPECIALTY BOARD

The following Chapter Specialty Board Members continued to serve their office from 2008-2009:

Chairman:	Dr Low Cheng Ooi
Vice-Chairman:	Dr Yu Chun Sing
Honorary Secretary:	Dr Sathappan SS
Members:	Dr Chang Wei Chun
	Dr Tan Jee Lim
	Dr Wong Hee Kit (Co-opted)

At the time of writing the Annual Report, the 2008-2009 Chapter Board had met one time to conduct the business and affairs of the Chapter for year 2008.

MEMBERSHIP

The total membership as of 31 December 2008 under the Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons now stands at 82 Fellows comprising of 81 Local Fellows and 1 Overseas Fellow.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons Symposium – Specialist Training & Accreditation

In conjunction with the 31st Annual Scientific Meeting of the Singapore Orthopaedic Association (SOA) jointly organised by SOA and the Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons from 12-16 November 2008 at Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, the Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons has organised a symposium on *Specialist Training & Accreditation* on 14 November 2008 which has attracted several orthopaedic surgeons and trainees to attend this session. Invited speaker panel were Dr Lau Hong Choon, Director of Manpower Standards & Development from the Ministry of Health (MOH) who spoke on *The Ministry's Perspective of the Role of the Singapore Medical Council and Singapore Accreditation*

Board, Prof Lee Eng Hin, Co-Chairmen of Joint Committee on Specialist Training & Director of the Division of Graduate Medical Studies who spoke on *The Role of the Joint Committee on Specialist Training and Division Graduate Medical Studies*, Prof Shamal Das De, Chairman of Specialist Training Committee of Orthopaedic Surgery who spoke on *The Role of the Specialist Training Committee* and Dr Tan Kok Chai, Scribe of Academy of Medicine, Singapore (AMS) who spoke on *The Role of the Academy of Medicine Singapore*. This symposium was co-chaired by Dr Low Cheng Ooi and A/Prof Low Yin Peng.

STAFF REGISTRAR SCHEME (SRS)

With reference to the Ministry of Health's (MOH's) paper in early 2007 introducing the initiative of conducting a structured diploma programme with on-the-job training as previously proposed by AMS 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 Chapter has rolled out its SRS Programme in April 2008. The SRS Programme will ultimately award a *Diploma in Orthopaedic Surgery* conferred jointly by AMS and the College of Surgeons, Singapore. There are currently two (2) candidates – one (1) from the Alexandra Hospital and one (1) from the National University Hospital who have accepted the offer to take on this training programme that takes the form of apprenticeship training.

PARTICIPATION IN MOH'S INITIATIVES

Study of National Medical Specialty Centres (NMSCs)

All Specialty Chapters under the College of Surgeons, Singapore were being invited by MOH through AMS in January 2008 to participate in the study of National Medical Specialty Centres (NMSCs), mainly to provide feedback on the feasibility of establishing a NMSC for the individual specialty, as well as, the Chapter's view on the mission and roles of a NMSC. The Committee on Strategy for National Medical Specialisation Centres of MOH was chaired by Prof Goh Chee Leok and the Chapter has submitted its reply to MOH on 28 February 2008.

Table of Surgical Procedures (TOSP) Review

In the Table of Surgical Procedures (TOSP) review exercise called by MOH in 2007, the Chapter has submitted a joint proposal with the Chapter of Hand Surgeons to revise tables for some current codes, as well as, proposing the creation of new codes due to related specialties. The Chapter has also reviewed the TOSP returns from MOH in October 2008 and has no further feedback to the returns from MOH. The Chapter will continue to assist MOH in finalising the TOSPs.

Guidelines on Exposure-Prone Procedures

By the invitation from MOH to AMS in October 2008 seeking the assistance of AMS to draw up guidelines on which procedures within each Specialty would be considered as Exposure-Prone Procedures (EPPs), Orthopaedic Surgery was one of the Chapters under the College of Surgeons, Singapore being invited to provide inputs to the guidelines. The Chapter has convened a Chapter Board Meeting on 19 November 2008 and has invited the attendance of SOA in this meeting to jointly discuss and feedback to this topic. The Chapter has reviewed the procedures of orthopaedic surgery and has submitted its reply in December 2008 to MOH through AMS.

ACTIVITIES IN THE PIPELINE

Participating in the Total Joint Arthroplasty Workshop of the Chapter of Hand Surgeons

The Chapter has been invited to participate in this workshop that the Chapter of Hand Surgeons is planning to organise as a pre-Congress workshop of the 43rd Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine in August 2009. This workshop will be jointly organised by the Chapter of Hand Surgeons and the Singapore Society for Hand Surgery. Details will be announced when available.

Participating and Co-organising the 32nd Annual Scientific Meeting of SOA

The Chapter will continue to give its support to SOA in its 32nd Annual Scientific Meeting in 2009 and will participate by organising a symposium in the meeting. Information will be disseminated when available.

Proposed Formation of the College of Orthopaedic Surgeons

The Chapter has discussed with various parties such as SOA and is currently deliberating on the possibility of converting the Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons into a College. Further information will be announced when finalized.

APPRECIATION

The Chapter wishes to record its appreciation to all our Fellows for their support rendered in the past year and we look forward to your ongoing support for future projects.

December 2008

Dr Sathappan SS

Honorary Secretary

On behalf of 2008-2009 Board, Chapter of Orthopaedic Surgeons