

35TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF THAILAND FROM 25-28 JULY 2010 AT THE AMBASSADOR CITY JOMTIEN HOTEL, PATTAYA, THAILAND

Trip Funded by:	College of Surgeons Travelling Fellowship Fund
Attended by:	A/Prof Low Yin Peng
Reported by:	A/Prof Low Yin Peng

Trip Report

The 35th Annual Scientific Meeting of the RCST was jointly held with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons from 25 Jul 2010 to 28 July 2010.

The respective Presidents are Lieutenant-General Nopadol Wora-Urai and Mr Ian Civil.

A Pre-Congress Programme was on Sunday, 25 Jul 2010, the sessions concentrated on Trauma and Critical Care.

I arrived at the beach resort town of Pattaya on 24 Jul 2010, after a one and a half hour car ride from Bangkok International Airport.

I attended the President's Dinner on the evening of Sunday, 25 Jul 2010, hosted by Lt-Gen Nopadol and his organising committee. Guests included Presidents and members of Surgical Colleges of Australasia, ASEAN countries, North America and United Kingdom.

The Congress proper started on the morning of Monday, 26 July 2010, with Convocation and the Udom Poshakrisna Memorial Lecture. This was immediately followed by the Opening Ceremony presided by her Royal Highness, Princess Maha Chakri Sirindorn, the third child of his Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, Ninth Monarch of the Royal House of Chakri, and Her Majesty, Queen Sirikit of Thailand. I was in the stage party during these two events. Several foreign surgeons were conferred Honorary Fellows of the RCST: Australasians, surgeons from the USA, and an Indian.

There was a meeting of Presidents of international surgical colleges. This was chaired by Lt-General Nopadol Wora-Urai. Many issues were discussed. Among them was the topic of surgical education standards among member countries, mutual recognition and accreditation of surgeons within ASEAN.

The next evening I attended the Congress Banquet. It was a relaxed affair in which the hosts and guests enjoyed each other's friendship.

The scientific programme was extensive. Topics include Trauma, Critical Care, Hepatobiliary Diseases, Vascular conditions, Bariatric Surgery, Oesophagectomies, Paediatric Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Urology, Neurosurgery, Colorectal Surgery and Cardiothoracic Surgery.

Usefulness of Event to Self & College of Surgeons

Personally, I have benefited from this visit. The friendship and networking and the knowledge I have acquired in the scientific sessions.

The Event has also benefited the College with its representation in many international settings like this one in Pattaya. Now more of the international surgeons are aware of the presence and significance of Singaporean surgeons in the world stage. The networking of surgical colleges helps to facilitate communication, cooperation and collaboration in future endeavours.