



College of Physicians, Singapore **ANNUAL REPORT 2017**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the Council, I would like to welcome the 58 new members who joined the College in 2017. Membership recruitment will remain as a challenge in the coming years as we seek to make the College relevant to the professional needs of physicians.

The 9th Medicine Review Course recorded an approximate attendance of 440 participants, which is the highest number to date since its inception in 2009. The revamped curriculum this year was met with resounding success and I would like to record my heartfelt thanks to Dr Lim Siew Eng and her organising committee for the hard work in putting together the programme.



In conjunction with the Academy's Diamond Jubilee celebration and the 51st Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine, the College was honoured to have Professor Francis Chan (Dean, Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong) and Professor Michael Chee (Director, Centre for Cognitive Neuroscience, Duke-NUS Medical School) deliver the 27th Seah Cheng Siang Memorial Lecture and 14th College of Physicians Lecture respectively.

As we move into 2018, I would like to record my appreciation to the Council and Fellows for their tremendous support in our activities. I hope to have more physicians joining us in our endeavour to maintain the highest professional and ethical standards in internal medicine and its sub-specialties.

ABOUT US

The College of Physicians, Singapore is a Company Limited by Guarantee registered in Singapore. It was incorporated on 17 August 2004 (Registration No. 200410334R) and registered under the Charities Act on 13 October 2004, with its address and principal place of business at 81 Kim Keat Road, NKF Centre #11-00, Singapore 328836.

The College's vision is to be the recognised leader in training, education, advocacy and enhancement of professional satisfaction for internal medicine and its sub-specialties and to promote and maintain the highest professional and ethical standards in internal medicine and its sub-specialties.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the College are as follows:

- (i) To advance the art and science of internal medicine and its specialties
- (ii) To promote study and research into medical and scientific problems
- (iii) To sustain and foster postgraduate education; to conduct higher professional examinations and to award diplomas

2017-2018 COUNCIL

Elected Council Members

DR CHAN CHOONG MENG

President

Director (from 16 May 2009)

DR CHAN PENG CHEW MARK

Honorary Treasurer

Director (from 23 May 2015)

DR NG HENG JOO

Council Member

Director (from 2 June 2016)

DR LYE CHIEN BOON DAVID

Vice-President

Director (from 7 May 2011)

DR BOK CHEK WAI

Council Member

Director (from 2 June 2016)

DR YIM HENG BOON

Council Member

Director (from 26 May 2012)

DR KEE YI SHERN TERENCE

Honorary Secretary

Director (from 31 May 2013)

DR LAU TANG CHING

Council Member

Director (from 27 May 2017)

Appointed Council Members

DR YEO KHUNG KEONG

**Chairman, Chapter of
Cardiologists**

Director (from 27 May 2017)

DR ANG TIING LEONG

**Chairman, Chapter of
Gastroenterologists**

Director (from 27 May 2017)

DR HWANG YING KHEE WILLIAM

**Chairman, Chapter of
Haematologists**

Director (from 23 May 2015)

DR NAGAENDRAN KANDIAH

**Chairman, Chapter of
Neurologists**

Director (from 27 May 2017)

DR LAU WAI LEONG TITUS

**Chairman, Chapter of Renal
Physicians**

Director (from 27 May 2017)

DR CHNG HIOK HEE

**Chairman, Section of Clinical
Immunologists and Allergists**

Non-Director

DR CHIO TZE-WEI MARTIN

**Chairman, Chapter of
Dermatologists**

Director (from 23 May 2015)

DR PANKAJ HANDA KUMAR

**Chairman, Chapter of General
Physicians**

Director (from 27 May 2017)

DR ANG SZE PENG BRENDA

**Chairman, Chapter of Infectious
Disease Physicians**

Director (from 23 May 2015)

DR CHAN GUEK CHENG NOREEN

**Chairman, Chapter of Palliative
Medicine Physicians**

Director (from 2 June 2016)

DR PHUA GHEE CHEE

**Chairman, Chapter of Respiratory
Physicians**

Director (from 27 May 2017)

DR MANJU CHANDRAN

**Chairman, Chapter of
Endocrinologists**

Director (from 23 May 2015)

DR LIEN TSUNG CHIEN

**CHRISTOPHER
Chairman, Chapter of
Geriatricians**

Director (from 23 May 2015)

DR YEO WEE-LEE

**Chairman, Chapter of Medical
Oncologists**

Director (from 27 May 2017)

DR TOW PEH ER, ADELA MAY

**Chairman, Chapter of
Rehabilitation Physicians**

Director (from 27 May 2017)

DR THONG YU HOR BERNARD

**Chairman, Chapter of
Rheumatologists**

Director (from 23 May 2015)

COUNCIL PHOTO

Group photo taken at the 51st Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine on 22 July 2017

Front (L-R):

Dr Myo Lwin Nyein (President, Myanmar Internal Medicine Society), **Dr Derek Bell** (President, Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh), **Dr Frank Murray** (President, College of Physicians of Ireland), **Dr Chan K L Francis** (27th Seah Cheng Siang Memorial Lecturer), **Dr Chew Chin Hin** (CPS Honorary Fellow), **Dr Chan Choong Meng** (President), **Dr Lau Chak Sing** (President, Hong Kong Academy of Medicine), **Dr Ong Yong Yau** (CPS Honorary Fellow), **Dr Oh M S Vernon** (CPS Honorary Fellow), **Dr Chee W L Michael** (14th College of Physicians Lecturer), **Dr Li K T Philip** (President, Hong Kong College of Physicians), **Dr Kenneth Hartigan-Go** (President, Philippine College of Physicians)

Back (L-R):

Dr Ang S P Brenda (Chair, Chapter of Infectious Disease Physicians), **Dr Lien T C Christopher** (Chair, Chapter of Geriatricians), **Dr Khor J L Christopher** (Citation, 27th Seah Cheng Siang Memorial Lecture), **Dr Ang Tiing Leong** (Chair, Chapter of Gastroenterologists), **Dr Yeo Khung Keong** (Chair, Chapter of Cardiologists), **Dr Hwang Y K William** (Chair, Chapter Haematologists), **Dr Lim of W T Darren** (Vice-Chair, Chapter of Medical Oncologists), **Dr Lye C B David** (Vice-President), **Dr Lau W L Titus** (Chair, Chapter of Renal Physicians), **Dr Thong Y H Bernard** (Chair, Chapter of Rheumatologists), **Dr Manju Chandran** (Chair, Chapter of Endocrinologists), **Dr Chan G C Noreen** (Chair, Chapter of Palliative Medicine Physicians), **Dr Tow P E Adela** (Chair, Chapter of Rehabilitation Physicians), **Dr Pankaj H Kumar** (Chair, Chapter of General Physicians), **Dr Bok Chek Wai** (Council Member), **Dr Chng Hiok Hee** (Chair, Section of Clinical Immunologists and Allergists)

Absent:

Dr Kee Y S Terence (Honorary Secretary), **Dr Chan P C Mark** (Honorary Treasurer), **Dr Lau Tang Ching** (Council Member), **Dr Ng Heng Joo** (Council Member), **Dr Yim Heng Boon** (Council Member), **Dr Chio T W Martin** (Chair, Chapter of Dermatologists), **Dr Yeo Wee-Lee** (Chair, Chapter of Medical Oncologists), **Dr Nagaendran Kandiah** (Chair, Chapter of Neurologists), **Dr Phua Ghee Chee** (Chair, Chapter of Respiratory Physicians)

COMPANY SECRETARY & AUDITOR

Company Secretary: Dentons Rodyk & Davidson LLP
 Auditor: Fiducia LLP
 Bank: DBS Bank Ltd & CIMB Bank Ltd

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 13th Annual General Meeting of the College was held on Saturday, 27 May 2017 at 2.00pm in Multi-Purpose Hall, Communicable Disease Centre 1.

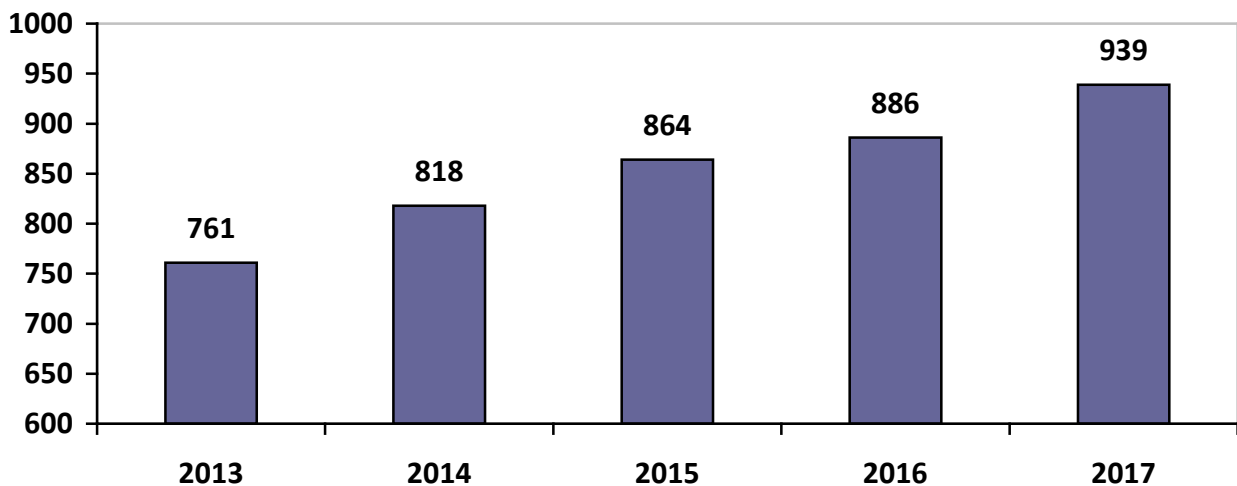
It was attended by 28 Fellows fulfilling the quorum of not less than 20 voting members at the commencement of a general meeting in accordance to Article 68 of the College Constitution.

COUNCIL MEETING

The Council held six meetings in 2017 to conduct the business and affairs of the College. It met on the following dates: 10 January, 3 April, 27 May, 17 July, 12 September and 14 November.

MEMBERSHIP

As at 31 December 2017, the College had a total of 939 members comprising 879 Fellows (Local), 56 Fellows (Overseas) and 4 Associate Members. The College welcomed a total of 58 new members in 2017.



The total membership of 939 comprises:

Cardiologists	137	Medical Oncologists	71
Dermatologists	102	Neurologists	64
Endocrinologists	70	Palliative Medicine Physicians	36
Gastroenterologists	82	Rehabilitation Physicians	26
General Physicians	145	Renal Physicians	58
Geriatricians	56	Respiratory Physicians	80
Haematologists	25	Rheumatologists	49
Infectious Disease Physicians	26		

9TH MEDICINE REVIEW COURSE

The 9th Medicine Review Course held on 8 – 9 July 2017 at Academia Auditorium recorded an approximate attendance of 440 participants. Together with 40 faculty members comprising programme directors and speakers, the course featured a revamped curriculum to include problem-based approaches to medical issues faced in ambulatory clinics and inpatient wards; specialty updates addressing questions posed in medical in-training examinations; and symposiums focusing on medical ethics and dilemmas in the daily practice of internal medicine.

27TH SEAH CHENG SIANG MEMORIAL LECTURE

The 27th Seah Cheng Siang Memorial Lecture, held in conjunction with the 51st Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine on 22 July 2017, was delivered by Professor Francis Chan, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Professor Chan spoke on "Prescribing NSAIDs to Patients at Risk: Have We Answered All the Questions?" where he shared about the global health implications of gastrointestinal disease associated with the use nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) and the safety of Cyclooxygenase (COX)-2 selective NSAIDs as gastric sparing anti-inflammatory analgesics.



Dr Christopher Khor delivering a citation on Prof Francis Chan.



Prof Francis Chan delivering the 27th Seah Cheng Siang Memorial Lecture.



College President, A/Prof Chan Choong Meng (left), presenting a token of appreciation to Prof Francis Chan (right).

14TH COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS LECTURE

The 14th College of Physicians Lecture, held in conjunction with the 51st Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine on 22 July 2017, was delivered by Professor Michael Chee, Director of the Centre for Cognitive Neuroscience, Duke-NUS Medical School. Professor Chee spoke on "Sleep and Well Being: Why It Matters" where he shared the short and long term effects of sleep loss on memory and brain, the risks short sleep imposed on metabolic and vascular diseases as well as common misconceptions about good sleep habits.



Prof Chng Hiok Hee delivering a citation on Prof Michael Chee.



Prof Michael Chee delivering the 14th College of Physicians Lecture.



College President, A/Prof Chan Choong Meng (left), presenting a token of appreciation to Prof Michael Chee (right).

CONFERMENT CEREMONY

The College conferred the title of Fellowship to the following distinguished overseas physicians during the 51st Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine on 22 July 2017:

- **Professor Lau Chak Sing**, President, Hong Kong Academy of Medicine
- **Professor Patrick Li**, President, Hong Kong College of Physicians
- **Professor Kenneth Hartigan-Go**, President, Philippine College of Physicians
- **Professor Frank Murray**, President, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland



From left to right: College President, A/Prof Chan Choong Meng, presenting the Fellowships to Profs Lau Chak Sing, Patrick Li, Kenneth Hartigan-Go and Frank Murray.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

The various Chapters organised/supported the following activities in 2017:

Chapter of Cardiologists

- 13 May Understanding the Standards on Provision of Electrocardiography Stress Testing
- 26 Aug Understanding the Standards on Provision of Electrocardiography Stress Testing
- 16 Sep The Cardiometabolic Symposium 2017

Chapter of Dermatologists

- 5 Oct HMDP Visiting Expert Lecture: Melanoma: Challenges and Advances
Prof Reinhard Georg Dummer
- 14 Nov Chapter of Dermatologists Lecture & HMDP Visiting Expert Lecture: Skin Signs of Systemic Disease
Prof Dirk Michael Elston

Chapter of Endocrinologists

- 5 Aug Merck Thyroid GP Symposium
- 16 Sep The Cardiometabolic Symposium 2017
- 28 Oct Adult Vaccinations to Prevent Respiratory Infections

Chapter of Gastroenterologists

- 25 Feb Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD) Scientific Symposium 2017

Chapter of General Physicians

- 6-8 Oct **13th Asia Pacific Congress of Hypertension 2017 (APCH 2017)**

Chapter of Geriatricians

- 22 Jul ED-GERI Forum
- 24-31 Jul Asia Pacific Hospice Conference 2017
- 5 Aug A Teaching Forum on Nursing Homes in Singapore-Values, Trends and Opportunities
Prof John Morley
- 11 Oct Conversation with Prof Harvey Cohen
- 28 Oct Adult Vaccinations to Prevent Respiratory Infections

Chapter of Haematologists

21 Oct World Thrombosis Day Forum 2017

Chapter of Infectious Disease Physicians

9 Mar Black Swans, White Powder: Challenges in Diagnosis & Management of Clinicians

24 Jun 7th ASEAN Dengue Day Seminar

28 Oct Adult Vaccinations to Prevent Respiratory Infections

Chapter of Neurologists

16-18 Mar 5th Singapore International Neurocognitive Symposium

29 Mar Advances in Epilepsy

13 Oct National Headache Symposium

Chapter of Palliative Medicine Physicians

18 Mar Palliative Care in Advance Renal Disease

26-29 Jul 12th Asia Pacific Hospice Conference 2017 (APHC 2017) & Sponsorship of Prof Ladislav Volicer

18 Nov 3rd NUS GDPM Graduation Ceremony cum Chapter's Annual Update/Appreciation Night

Chapter of Rehabilitation Physicians

13 Jul Celebrating Rehabilitation Medicine and CME on Evidence Based Medicine in Rehab

7-8 Sep Sponsorship of Delegate Satchel Insertion for 5th Singapore Rehabilitation Conference

Chapter of Renal Physicians

16 Sep The Cardiometabolic Symposium 2017

1 Dec 11th Chapter of Renal Physicians Dinner

Chapter of Respiratory Physicians

27 May Case Studies in Asthma

Chapter of Rheumatologists

24 Mar Understanding the Origins of Autoantibodies
Prof Betty Diamond

19 Aug 18th Feng Pao Hsii Lecture

Section of Clinical Immunologists and Allergists

18 Jan HMDP Visiting Expert Lecture: New and Future Approaches in Immunotherapy
Prof Stephen Durham

24 Mar Neutrophils: The Good and the Ugly

21 Apr Primary Care Research in Allergy

19 Aug Primary Immunodeficiency Satellite Symposium (Singapore Paediatric and Perinatal Annual Congress)

10 Nov Venom Immunotherapy Guidelines and Systematic Review



Chapter of Dermatologists Lecture and HMDP Visiting Expert Lecture



Audience at seminar on Adult Vaccinations to Prevent Respiratory Infections



3rd NUS GDPM Graduation Ceremony

INDEPENDENT MEDICAL EXPERTS

The College assisted the Academy of Medicine, Singapore in providing expert opinions for 12 coroner's cases from the Singapore Police Force for investigation.

PROFESSIONAL OPINIONS

The College furnished professional opinions and feedback in various areas upon request:

No.	Description	By
1.	ACE Call for Topics: Appropriate Care Guide (ACG) Development in FY2018	MOH
2.	Botox, Fillers, Hydrafacial and Threadlift	MOH
3.	Cannabinoids for medical purposes	MOH
4.	Clinical Cases requiring review by Hospital Ethics Committees	MOH
5.	Committee for the Guidelines on the Provision of Outpatient IV and Central Line Therapies	MOH
6.	Developing a calibrated approach to non-evidence based medicine	MOH
7.	Distinction between Cord Blood and Peripheral Blood	MOH
8.	Feedback on Genetic Testing Standards	MOH
9.	High Intensity Focused Ultrasound	NEA
10.	Input on Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI)	MOH
11.	Interpretation of Imupro Test Results	MOH
12.	Invasive Aesthetic Procedures by a Beautician	MOH
13.	Invasive aesthetic procedures performed by two foreign medical practitioners without registration & practicing certificates	MOH
14.	Invasive Procedures performed by a non-registered practitioner	AMS
15.	Invitation to review and endorse Agency for Care Effectiveness (ACE) Appropriate Care Guides (ACGs) for Diabetes	MOH
16.	Invitation to review and endorse Agency for Care Effectiveness (ACE) Appropriate Care Guides (ACGs) for Initiating basal insulin in type 2 diabetes mellitus	MOH
17.	Invitation to review and endorse Agency for Care Effectiveness (ACE) Appropriate Care Guides (ACGs) for Oral Anticoagulation for atrial fibrillation	MOH
18.	Joint Committee for Opioids Control in Healthcare Institutions	MOH
19.	Management Policy for Procedurists/Surgeons with Chronic Hepatitis B Status	AMS
20.	NGS-based NSCLC panel test & HV Genotyping tests	MOH
21.	Nominees for Point-of-Care Tests (POCT) Working Committee Members	MOH
22.	Online Policy Consultation on Proposed Amendments to PHMC (Publicity) Regulations	MOH
23.	PHMC Publicity Regulations on Non-invasive and painless laser treatment to reduce snoring	MOH
24.	Plasma skin regeneration as an aesthetic procedure	SMC
25.	Platelet Rich Plasma (PRP) Therapy	MOH
26.	Postgraduate Certificate in Allergy	SMC
27.	Private Hospitals and Medical Clinics (PHMC) (Publicity) Regulations on Laser Treatments for Pigmentation	MOH
28.	Procedures considered to be 'Specialised Interventional Procedures'	MOH

No.	Description	By
29.	Publicity Claims: Whole Body Cryotherapy	MOH
30.	Request for comments on named-patient applications for 13C urea substrate	HSA
31.	Review of the appropriateness of clinical care and management by a GP using IV Vitamins	MOH
32.	Stem Cell Therapy for Osteoarthritis	MOH

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Maintenance of Competency: Self-Learning Modules

Under the new proposed maintenance of competency framework, the Singapore Medical Council CME Coordinating Committee has tasked the Academy of Medicine, Singapore with the mandate to administer and operationalise the new Category 5 specialty-specific Self Learning Module (SLM) for all accredited specialists. SLM aims to keep practising clinicians up-to-date in their accredited specialty/ subspecialty.

The fifteen Chapters and one Section under the College each contributed a SLM for the pilot run which is scheduled for Q1 of 2018 and made available to members of the Academy. The Academy, together with the College, will evaluate the feasibility, time, resources, workflow, issues and challenges relating to the implementation of a full-scale specialty-specific SLM in the near future.

Internal Medicine In-Training Examination (IM-ITE)

The College engaged 16 Fellows to invigilate the IM-ITE held on 26 August and 9 September 2017.

- Chan Choong Meng
- Er Chaozer
- Ikram Hussain
- Kor Ai Ching
- Lieu Ping Kong
- N V Ramani
- Nihar Pandit
- Pankaj Kumar Handa
- Punitha Arasaratnam
- Tan Kevin
- Tay Jam Chin
- Tee Augustine
- Teo Eng Kiong
- Tien Sim Leng
- Tng Eng Loon
- Wang Yee Tang Sonny

Staff Registrar Scheme (SRS)

The Staff Registrar Scheme (SRS) was implemented in 2007 together with the Academy of Medicine, Singapore. The programmes, approved by the Singapore Medical Council (SMC), are open to foreign doctors whose specialist degrees and medical qualifications are not recognized by the Specialists Accreditation Board and SMC. It serves as an avenue for the public/restructured healthcare institutions to retain temporary registered (service) doctors and is also open to local doctors who do not wish to practice as general practitioners or specialists and prefer to work in the public/restructured healthcare institutions.

A total of 21 doctors enrolled in SRS in 2017. Since 2007, 190 doctors have enrolled in the SRS.

Diploma	Year Started	Duration (Years)	Enrolment in 2017	Enrolment to Date
Cardiology	2007	2	4	25
Clinical Haematology (Adult)	2013	2	1	4
Endocrinology	2016	2	-	3
Geriatric Medicine in Hospital and ILTC	2007	2	7	64
Infectious Diseases	2007	2	-	6
Internal Medicine (with focus on Hospital	2007	2	2	41

Diploma	Year Started	Duration (Years)	Enrolment in 2017	Enrolment to Date
Medicine)				
Medical Oncology in Hospital	2007	3	3	10
Neurology	2007	2	1	6
Palliative Medicine	2007	2	1	12
Rehabilitation Medicine	2007	2	2	13
Respiratory Medicine	2015	2	0	5
Respiratory Medicine (Clinical and Public Health - TB)	2013	2	-	1

PAST CHAIRMEN, CHAPTER OF PHYSICIANS (1966-2004) PAST PRESIDENTS, COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS (SINCE 2005)

2013 - 2015	Dr Tay Jam Chin	1987 - 1988	Dr Oh Min Sen Vernon
2011 - 2013	Dr Ng Wei Keong Alan	1986 - 1987	Dr Chee Yam Cheng
2009 - 2011	Dr Wong Kok Seng	1985 - 1986	Dr Arthur Tan Teow Hin
2007 - 2009	Dr Ng Keng Yeen	1983 - 1985	Dr Tan Yew Oo
2001 - 2007	Dr Lim Shih Hui	1982 - 1983	Dr Chia Boon Lock
1998 - 2001	Dr Chong Siong Eng Roland	1979 - 1982	Dr Teoh Pek Chuan
1997 - 1998	Dr Howe Hwee Siew	1977 - 1979	Dr Feng Pao Hsii
1995 - 1997	Dr Ong Kian Chung Benjamin	1975 - 1977	Dr John A Tambyah
1994 - 1995	Dr Cheng Jun	1972 - 1975	Dr Wong Poi Kwong
1993 - 1994	Dr Tan Wan Cheng	1968 - 1972	Dr Khoo Oon Teik
1991 - 1993	Dr Lee Kok Oon	1966 - 1968	Dr Gordon Arthur Ransome
1988 - 1991	Dr Richard Guan		

HONORARY FELLOWS

2016	Dr Chee Yam Cheng
2016	Dr Ong Yong Yau
2015	Dr Oh Min Sen Vernon
2015	Dr Woo Keng Thye
2005	Dr Chew Chin Hin

APPRECIATION

The College wishes to record its appreciation to all our members for their support and efforts rendered in the past year and to the College's executives for their secretariat support.

31 December 2017

Dr Terence Kee
Honorary Secretary