



ACADEMY OF MEDICINE, SINGAPORE

PATRON: PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

2012 - 2013

ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dr Lim Shih Hui
Master

Dr Wong Kok Seng
Assistant Master-Academic Affairs

Dr Anthony Heng
Assistant Master-Administrative Affairs

Dr Chan Yew Weng
Scribe

Dr Tan Bien Soo
Bursar

Dr Teo Eng Kiong
Assistant Bursar

Dr T Thirumorthy
Censor-in-Chief

Dr Jeyaraj Prema Raj
Censor

Dr Khoo Kei Siong
Censor

Dr Lee Kok Onn
Censor

Dr Ong Hock Soo
Censor

Dr Tay Jam Chin
Censor

Dr Wong Chiang Yin
Censor

APPOINTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dr Chong Jin Long
President, College of Anaesthesiologists

Dr Chan Siew Luen
President, College of Dental Surgeons

Dr Bernard Chern Su Min
President, College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists

Dr Aung Tin
President, College of Ophthalmologists

Dr Steven Ng Chin Yuen
President, College of Paediatrics & Child Health

Dr Alan Ng Wei Keong
President, College of Physicians

Dr Anthony Goh Soon Whatt
President, College of Radiologists

Dr Sarvaselan Sayamanathan
President, College of Surgeons

Dr Venkataraman Anantharaman
Chair, Chapter of Emergency Physicians

Dr Cuthbert Teo Eng Swee
Chair, Chapter of Pathologists

Dr Ng Beng Yeong
Chair, Chapter of Psychiatrists

Dr Eugene Shum Jin-Wen
Chair, Chapter of Public Health & Occupational Physicians

EX-OFFICIO

Dr Tan Kok Chai
Immediate Past Master

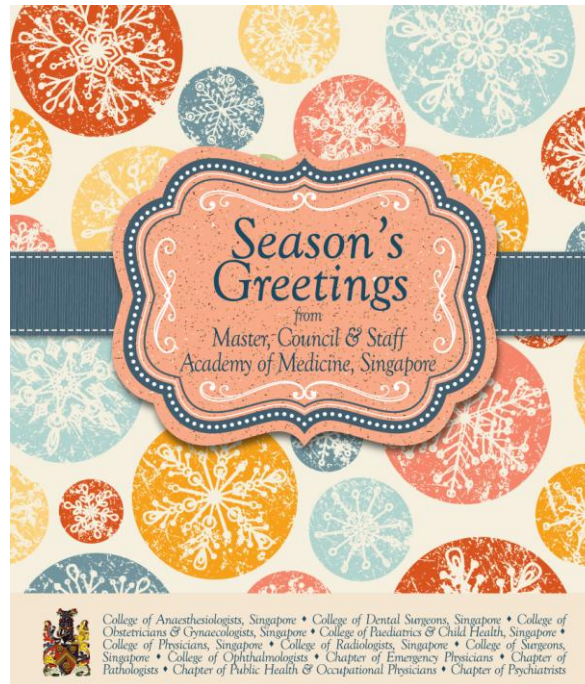
Dr Tan Eng King
Editor, Annals

Message from the Master

16 December 2012

Dear Fellow Academicians

As we approach the close of a busy and demanding year, I would like to wish you all an enjoyable holiday season and a splendid New Year.



Even in the closing months of the year, the Academy and its Colleges were kept abuzz with activities for which I am pleased to bring you the updates.

1. Mrs Tan Ching Yee, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health, Singapore Visits the Academy

The Academy Council had the pleasure of hosting a dinner in honour of Mrs Tan Ching Yee, Permanent Secretary for Health at the Academy of Medicine, Singapore on 19 November 2012.



Held in the relaxed setting of the Academy's Boardroom, we engaged Mrs Tan on the overview and history of the Academy as well as highlights of the Council's Strategic Plan 2012-2014. A lively and candid discussion invariably followed and much of it pivoted around the role and relevance of the Academy and its many challenges. We elaborated on the Council's plans to place more focus and resources on its Fellows and to stay relevant to them. A key initiative is to develop a robust continuing professional development (CPD) model and infrastructure to support Fellows' life-long learning and help them maintain their professional and specialists competencies throughout their 30-year career as specialists. We also highlighted that a well-developed and effective CPD model and programmes would require considerable resources and suitable training facility.



Our discussion also touched on concerns relating to specialists training vis-à-vis Residency programmes, exit examinations, partnership with professional bodies, Private Education Act, permanent home for the Academy and statutory board as alternative.

On all counts, the meeting was positive and constructive. Mrs Tan expressed her appreciation of the Academy's direction and the Council's concern on the relevance and sustainability of the Academy. She would bring these issues back to MOH to discuss with her colleagues and review a roadmap for long-term partnership between the Academy and MOH.

On behalf of the Council, I am grateful to Mrs Tan for taking time to dine with us. The Academy's goal remains in upholding the professionalism and clinical competencies of doctors in Singapore. The Council will continue to engage MOH and look forward to many good years of MOH's support in maintaining the standards of the specialists.

2. Networking Session by College of Dental Surgeons, Singapore

I thought it is noteworthy to mention the forward-looking initiative spearheaded by the [College of Dental Surgeons, Singapore](#) (CDSS). College President, Dr Chan Siew Luen, and his Council held a Networking cum Dinner Session on CPD-MOC for Dental Specialists at the Academy on 1 November 2012. Invitations were extended to all dental specialists in Singapore, i.e. Fellows and non-Fellows, and I was given the privilege to address the session.



Dr SL Chan presented an overview and state of the different CPD-MOC models and also illustrated several frameworks on competency, assessment and revalidation. He underscored that unlike the medical specialists, the validity of the dental specialists' practising certificate is ten years. As such, MOC is imminent and the leadership of CDSS is duty bound to advocate for the College to develop a robust but practical CPD-MOC framework to help its Fellows maintain competency and standards. Addressing the non-Fellows, Dr SL Chan urged them to join as Fellows to give the College the numbers and legitimacy to influence and deliver the dental specialists' CPD-MOC agenda. In his closing on CPD-MOC, the CDSS President pointedly concluded, "If we don't do it, somebody else will."

3. Paper on Dual Accreditation for Nuclear Medicine and Diagnostic Radiology by College of Radiologists, Singapore

On 23 November 2012, the Academy submitted to the Specialists Accreditation Board the paper on Dual Accreditation of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine Specialties in Singapore by the [College of Radiologists, Singapore](#) (CRS). The paper was prepared by a joint committee from the Chapters of Nuclear Medicine Physicians and Diagnostic Radiologists. The joint committee met over two years to draft, review and revise the paper. It was eventually circulated to all Fellows of CRS before a finalised version was ratified by the CRS Council. The paper also received endorsement from the Council of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore.

4. College of Surgeons, Singapore Launched its Distinguished Surgeon Award

The [College of Surgeons, Singapore](#) (CSS) unveiled its Distinguished Surgeon Award recently. The award is to recognise individuals, who are recommended by its Chapters, to have contributed to the development of surgery in Singapore for the past three years with good character and academic records.

On the recommendation of the [Chapter of Cardiothoracic Surgeons](#), the CSS Council awarded the honour to five individuals, who received the decoration from Dr Sayampanathan, CSS President, at the College's & Chapter's Conferment Ceremony held at the Conrad Centennial Singapore on 24 November 2012.

Recipients	Institution of Affiliation
Prof Malcolm John Underwood	Professor & Chief, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Department of Surgery, Prince of Wales Hospital, Chinese University of Hong Kong
Dr Robert R Jeffrey	Consultant, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary NHS Trust, Aberdeen
Dr Pala Babu Rajesh	Consultant, Regional Department of Thoracic Surgery, Birmingham Heartlands Hospital, Birmingham



Recipients	Institution of Affiliation
Dr Richard D Page	Consultant, Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Liverpool
Dr Timothy R Graham	Consultant, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham

In his citation, Dr Lim Chong Hee, Chairman of the Chapter of Cardiothoracic Surgeons highlighted that the recipients were recognised for their significant contributions as examiners for cardiothoracic surgery since 2002. They played an instrumental role in ensuring an impartial and high standard of examination and in the training of local examiners, which brought international recognition to our exit examinations. They have also helped our cardiothoracic team conduct review course on cardiac and thoracic surgery since 2006.



I was invited as Guest of Honour in this special event. In my [address](#), I commended Dr Sayampanathan and Dr Lim Chong Hee for their leadership in bringing our surgical specialists to reach this great milestone in Singapore. I urged more Fellows to come forward to serve the Chapter, the College and the Academy as part of their duties and commitment to serve our medical profession.

5. Membership Update

The Academy together with its Colleges and Chapters has made commendable strides to strengthen our Fellowship.

As we bid the year to a close, I am delighted to report **125** new Fellows joined the Academy in 2012! This enrolment number is the highest after 2005.

Year	No. of New Fellows	Year	No. of New Fellows	Year	No. of New Fellows
2000	83	2006	77	2012	125
2001	67	2007	83		
2002	66	2008	105		
2003	200	2009	103		
2004	112	2010	77		
2005	162	2011	66		



This year, the Academy proudly commemorated its 55th year by launching a new membership enrolment scheme on 1 June 2012. The concerted effort in recruitment drives and initiatives to introduce the [new membership scheme](#) and the Academy's [Strategic Plan 2012-2014](#) brought to bear stronger interest in the Academy and the good enrolment numbers. The upcoming year of 2013 shows encouraging promise for the Academy, especially with the induction of new Fellows to augment our present.

The time has come to pause and reflect upon the achievements of the past year. I look forward to present a year in review in the upcoming Annual Report along with the Financial Statement for 2012.

For now, Merry Christmas and wishing you a happy and festive season, and a good year ahead!

Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shih Hui', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr Lim Shih Hui
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Academy of Medicine, Singapore

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