



# AMS News

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*A Biannual Newsletter of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore*

## 38<sup>th</sup> Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine 19-22 August 2004



From left to right: Dr CH Leong, President, Hong Kong Academy of Medicine; Prof Dato' Mrs ST Kew, President of the Congress and Master of Academy of Medicine of Malaysia; Guest-of-Honour, Mr S R Nathan; Prof Low Cheng Hock, Master, Academy of Medicine, Singapore; Dr Andrew Chew Guan Khuan, Chairman, Public Service Commission of Singapore who was conferred Honorary Fellowship at the Ceremony.



Special guests included Mrs Nathan; Mr & Mrs Khaw Boon Wan, Minister for Health; Dr and Mrs Mohamad Maliki Osman, Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Community Development, Youth and Sports.

From 19 to 22 August 2004, the Academy of Medicine, Singapore brought together 620 delegates for the 38<sup>th</sup> Singapore-Malaysia Congress held at Meritus Mandarin Singapore.

The Opening Ceremony was held on Thursday, 19 August 2004. The Guest-of-Honour was Mr S R Nathan, *FAMS (Hon)*, President of the Republic of Singapore and Patron, Academy of Medicine, Singapore. Dr Andrew Chew Guan Khuan, Chairman, Public Service Commission of Singapore was conferred our Honorary Fellowship; while 17 distinguished Overseas Presidents and 82 local specialists were admitted as Fellows. Sir Donald Irvine, Former President of the General Medical Council (GMC) and Chairman of Trustees, Picker Institute Europe, was the 17<sup>th</sup> Gordon Arthur Ransome Orator.

The scientific programme was divided according to the various specialties. Well-known overseas and local experts were invited as speakers. In line with the theme of the Congress – “Continuing Professional Development and Professionalism: The Next Lap” – topics of the main symposia were slanted towards this theme. The 3 main symposia on Professionalism, Continuing Professional Development and Recertification generated a lot of interest among delegates.

Thanks are due to Dr Ho Lai Yun and his Organising Committee for a very successful meeting!



Dr Kwa Chong Teck led the Inductees to take the Pledge.



Mr S R Nathan with Dr John McDonald, President of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and the 2004 Runme Shaw Memorial Lecturer.



Sir Donald Irvine, the 17<sup>th</sup> Gordon Arthur Ransome Orator, gave an oration entitled “Patient Centred Professionalism” at the Opening Ceremony.

### Young Investigator's Award Winner

Congratulations to Dr Dawn Lim of the Department of Paediatrics, National University Hospital who won the Young Investigator's Award for her paper entitled “Fish Allergy – The Singapore Story”.

The other highlights of the Congress included:

- The 2004 Runme Shaw Memorial Lecture by Dr John WD McDonald, President of Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
- 14<sup>th</sup> Seah Cheng Siang Memorial Lecture by Prof Carol M Black, President of Royal College of Physicians (London)
- Inaugural College of Physicians Lecture by Prof Chee Yam Cheng, Assistant Chief Executive Officer (Clinical), National Healthcare Group
- 15<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Surgeons Lecture by Prof Tan Ser Kiat, Group Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Health Services Pte Ltd
- 4<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Paediatricians Lecture by Prof Yap Hui Kim, Head, Department of Nephrology, Immunology and Urology, National University Hospital

# Message from Master

My dear fellow Academicians,

May I first take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for the kind support you have given me and the Council, especially at the 38<sup>th</sup> Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine. We are particularly grateful to Dr Ho Lai Yun and his committee and the secretariat for their hard work.

I would also like to record an appreciation to Professor K Satku, the Immediate Past Master, and his Council for their contributions during their term. They have made many improvements both in the system and the functions of the Academy. I will try my best to follow in Professor Satku's footsteps – his dedication, total commitment and enthusiasm in the service of the Academy and the medical profession.

I am pleased to present a brief update on the Academy's activities:-

## **38<sup>th</sup> Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine**

- We were honoured when Mr S R Nathan, President of the Republic of Singapore and our Patron, and Mrs Nathan graced our Congress as Guests of Honour.
- A report of the Congress is on the front page of this newsletter.

## **Relations with Kindred Colleges**

- Our ties and close links with our kindred bodies have indeed been strengthened by the presence of many College Presidents at the Academy's functions.
- We were happy to receive the President, Council members and members of Royal College of Surgeons of England (RCSE) to Singapore. The Chapter of Surgeons of the Academy and the RCSE had a successful Joint Meeting from 27 to 28 May 2004. Sir Peter Morris, President of RCSE, was conferred Fellowship of the Academy at our Induction Comitia held on 28 May 2004.
- At the Opening Ceremony cum Induction Comitia of the 38<sup>th</sup> Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine, 17 Overseas Presidents and 4 representatives of Colleges were invited as guests. The 17 Overseas Presidents were conferred Fellowship of the Academy.

## **Incorporation of Colleges**

- I am delighted to inform you that the Accounting & Corporate Regulatory Authority has approved the formation of the following Colleges: Anaesthesiologists, Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Paediatrics and Child Health, Physicians, Radiologists and Surgeons. The President and Council members of these Colleges have also been elected.

## **39<sup>th</sup> Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine incorporating the celebration of 100 years of medical education**

- In 2005, we will be celebrating 100 years of medical education in our country. The Academies of Medicine, Malaysia and Singapore will be co-organising the 39<sup>th</sup> Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine, and incorporating the 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration into its programme. We hope you will be able to join us for this celebration.

Once again, I would like to thank the many Fellows who have readily given their time, expertise and support in promoting the work of the Academy. I look forward to all Academicians' contributions and service.

At your service,  
Low Cheng Hock

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## Induction Dinner cum Congress Banquet



*On behalf of the visiting Overseas Presidents, Prof Carol Black, President of the Royal College of Physicians (London) proposed a toast to the Academies of Medicine Singapore and Malaysia.*



*Prof Low Cheng Hock presented a replica of the Master's Medallion to Prof K Satku, our Immediate Past Master.*



*Golf trophies were presented to the winners during the dinner. Dr Steven Chow won the Academy of Medicine, Singapore Trophy, donated by Dr Chew Chin Hin, for individual championship and the Malaysian team won the Tan Sri Dato' Abu Bakar Academy of Medicine Trophy, donated by Tan Sri, for team championship.*



# Formation of Colleges

The following 6 Colleges were incorporated under the Companies Act (Cap. 50) on 17 August 2004:

College	President	Other Council Members*																																		
Anaesthesiologists	Edward Pang	George Lim ( <i>Vice President</i> ), Lai Fook Onn ( <i>Honorary Secretary</i> ), Chen Fun Gee, Kwek Tong Kiat, Lee Tat Leang, Lim Boon Leng																																		
Obstetricians and Gynaecologists	Ho Tew Hong	Chang Tou Choong, Fong Chuan Wee, Lai Fon Min, Jeffrey Low, Suresh Nair, Ann Tan Sian Ann																																		
Paediatrics and Child Health	Quak Seng Hock	Daniel Goh Yam Thiam ( <i>Honorary Secretary</i> ), Samuel Rajadurai ( <i>Honorary Treasurer</i> ), Ho Lai Yun, Daisy Chan, Anne Goh, Lee Bee Wah																																		
Physicians	Lim Shih Hui	Ng Keng Yeen ( <i>Vice-President</i> ), Julian Thumboo ( <i>Honorary Secretary</i> ), Chan Kin Ming ( <i>Honorary Treasurer</i> ), Khoo Kei Siong ( <i>Council Member</i> ), Terrance Chua ( <i>Council Member</i> ), Sum Chee Fang ( <i>Council Member</i> )																																		
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Radiologists	Tan Kim Ping	John Hoe ( <i>Vice-President</i> ), Gregory Kaw ( <i>Honorary Secretary</i> ), Thomas Chee ( <i>Honorary Treasurer</i> ), Tan Bien Soo ( <i>Council Member</i> ), Vijay Kumar Sethi ( <i>Council Member</i> ), Wang Shih-Chang ( <i>Council Member</i> )																																		
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Surgeons	Colin Song	London Lucien Ooi ( <i>Vice-President, Education</i> ), Christopher Cheng ( <i>Vice-President, Administration</i> ), Wong Wai Keong ( <i>Honorary Secretary</i> ), Li Man Kay ( <i>Honorary Treasurer</i> ), John Isaac ( <i>Committee Member</i> ), Ngoi Sing Shang ( <i>Committee Member</i> )  Nomination of Chapter Chairmen is still ongoing																																		

*Don't forget ..... 39<sup>th</sup> SMCM, 30 June to 3 July 2005*

The 39<sup>th</sup> Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine will be held in Singapore from 30 June to 3 July 2005. At the same time, we will also be celebrating 100 Years of Medical Education. The announcement will soon be with you.

## Historical Snippet

Reported in the Straits Times, Monday, 9 September 1974

### *Duty of doctors to ease patients' pain*

Doctors were reminded today to always strive to relieve the sufferings of incurable cancer patients.

Closing the 9th Malaysia-Singapore Congress of Medicine, Dr Chew Chin Hin said: "Despite our extensive knowledge about cancer today, there are still many patients who are unfortunate enough to have the late and incurable stages of this disease. As doctors, we must always strive to relieve their sufferings. This is our work."

## Obituary

It is with deep sadness that we note the passing of the following Fellows:

- Dr Ling Sing Yew, a dental surgeon, passed away on 14 July 2004.
- Dr Vincent Kwok Kian Choo, a gastroenterologist, passed away on 20 August 2004.
- Dr Khoo Fun Yong, a radiologist and one of the founding members of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore, passed away on 13 September 2004.

\* List of office-bearers as at 24 September 2004

### Joint Meeting of the Chapter of Surgeons and the Royal College of Surgeons of England on 27 and 28 May 2004 and Induction Ceremony on 28 May 2004

The Joint Meeting was held at the Regent Singapore. The President of the College, Sir Peter Morris, led a team of surgeons to Singapore on this occasion.

The College joined us at our Induction Ceremony on the evening of 28 May 2004, where Sir Peter was conferred Fellowship of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore and our Master, Prof K Satku, was conferred Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. A total of 103 local specialists were admitted as Fellows. Dr Felix Sundram and Dr Tay Boon Keng received the Council Medal to recognise their long and distinguished service on the Council of the Academy.



### Inaugural College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Lecture and Dinner, 14 August 2004

Held at the Sheraton Towers, Prof K Satku, Director of Medical Services was the Guest of Honour. A/Prof Yeo Sew Heong, Chairman from the Division of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, KK Women's and Children's Hospital delivered the inaugural lecture entitled "*Recent Development in Obstetrics Care/Maternal Fetal Medicine in Singapore*".



### Academy of Medicine, Singapore Awards 2004

**Gordon Arthur Ransome Orator**  
Sir Donald Irvine

**Runme Shaw Memorial Lecturer**  
Dr John WD McDonald

**Seah Cheng Siang Memorial Lecturer**  
Professor Carol Black

**Inaugural College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Lecturer**  
Associate Professor George SH Yeo

**Inaugural College of Physicians Lecturer**  
Professor Chee Yam Cheng

**Chapter of Paediatricians Lecturer**  
Professor Yap Hui Kim

**Chapter of Surgeons Lecturer**  
Professor Tan Ser Kiat

**Young Investigator's Award Winner**  
Dr Dawn Lim

### Other Awards

Apart from the above lectures and awards, the following are available but not given out in 2004:

#### Galloway Memorial Lecture

Instituted in 1959 in memory of the late Sir David Galloway, the Lectureship is open annually to all Academicians and practitioners of Medicine and its allied fields.

#### Distinguished Academician

The Council of the Academy, on the recommendation of its Colleges/Chapters, may appoint one distinguished overseas visitor per year as a Distinguished Academician for the year.

#### Yahya Cohen Memorial Lecture

In recognition of outstanding contributions to the development of surgery in Singapore by Dr Yahya Cohen, the 1<sup>st</sup> Chairman of the Chapter of Surgeons and a past Master of the Academy, the 1994 Chapter of Surgeons established the Yahya Cohen Memorial Lecture in his honour.

### Inaugural College of Physicians Lecture, 21 August 2004

Held at the Meritus Mandarin in conjunction with the 38<sup>th</sup> Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine, Prof Chee Yam Cheng, Assistant Chief Executive Officer (Clinical), National Healthcare Group and Senior Consultant, Department of Medicine, Tan Tock Seng Hospital delivered the inaugural lecture entitled "*The Role of Internal Medicine as a Specialty in the Era of Sub-specialisation*".



### Renewal of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Division of Graduate Medical Studies, National University of Singapore, the Academy of Medicine, Singapore, and the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow and the Royal College of Physicians of London for MRCP (UK) Examination/Master of Medicine (Int Med) Examination, 21 August 2004

The MOU was first initiated in 1997 to set up the Joint Master of Medicine (Int Med and Paed Med)/MRCP (UK). Since then, however, Paediatric Medicine has a separate MOU with the Paediatric College.

The MRCP (UK) Examination is the shared Diploma of the Federation of Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom. The MRCP (UK) Part 1 Examination, the MRCP (UK) Part 2 Written Examination and the MRCP (UK) Part 2 Clinical Examination (PACES) are held in Singapore. The Part 1 Examinations are held biannually.

Successful candidates are eligible to apply for election to the Membership of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom.

### Academy of Medicine Singapore Council 2004-2005

**Master,** Low Cheng Hock  
**Assistant Master,** Ho Lai Yun  
**Scribe,** Christopher HK Goh  
**Bursar,** George YW Soh  
**Assistant Bursar,** Tan Bien Soo  
**Censor-in-Chief,** Tan Kok Chai  
**Censors**  
Chen Fun Gee, Gilbert SC Chiang,  
Fock Kwong Ming, Lim Shun Ping,  
Yeo Jin Fei, George SH Yeo  
**Immediate Past Master,** K Satku  
**Editor, Annals,** Vernon MS Oh  
**President, College of Anaesthesiologists**  
Edward Pang Chee Ping  
**President, College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists**  
Ho Tew Hong  
**President, College of Paediatrics and Child Health**  
Quak Seng Hock

**President, College of Physicians**  
Lim Shih Hui  
**President, College of Radiologists**  
Tan Kim Ping  
**President, College of Surgeons**  
Colin Song  
**Chairperson, Chapter of Dental Surgeons**  
Varawan Sae-Lim  
**Chairperson, Chapter of Pathologists**  
Tan Ai Ling  
**Chairman, Chapter of Psychiatrists**  
John Wong Chee Meng  
**Chairman, Chapter of Public Health & Occupational Physicians**  
Jeffery Lawrence Cutter