

CHAPTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH & OCCUPATIONAL PHYSICIANS

Executive Committee 2012-2013



Seated (left to right):
Dr Jeremy Lim (Honorary Secretary), Dr Eugene Shum (Chairman),
Dr Benjamin Ng (Vice Chairman), Dr Jeffery Cutter (Honorary Treasurer)

Standing (left to right):
Dr Matthias Toh (Co-Opted Member), Dr Kenneth Choy,
(Committee Member), Dr Mona Toh (Committee Member),
Dr Vernon Lee (Co-Opted Member 2013-2014), Dr Jason Yap
(Committee Member)

Annual General Meeting

The 31st Annual General Meeting of the Chapter of Public Health & Occupational Physicians was held on 18 May 2012.

The following office bearers for the year Committee term 2012-2013 were elected:

Chairman:	Dr Eugene Shum
Vice-Chairman:	Dr Benjamin Ng
Secretary:	Dr Jeremy Lim
Treasurer:	Dr Jeffery Cutter
Committee Members:	Dr Kenneth Choy
	Dr Toh Cheong Mui
	Dr Jason Yap
Co-opted Members:	Dr Matthias Toh

Dr Vernon Lee was co-opted as a member during the Inaugural General Meeting of the College of Public Health and Occupational Physicians on 1 February 2013.

Membership

The membership of the Chapter stood at 104 as of 31 December 2012, comprising 99 Local Fellows, four (4) Overseas Fellows and one (1) Ordinary Member.

Dr Lim John Wah was admitted as Fellow of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore (PHOP) in 2012. The Chapter would like to take this opportunity to welcome Dr Lim John Wah.

The following ceased to be members of the Academy due to subscription arrears of more than two years (Article 28, Memorandum and Articles of Association, Academy of Medicine, Singapore):

- Dr Gregory Chan Chung Tsing
- Dr George Giam Choo Keong
- Dr Mao Gim Taik, Millicent
- Dr Myint Myint Thein
- Dr Seet Lip Chai
- Dr Tan Tah Chew
- Dr Wong Li Lian, Lilian
- Dr Yeoh Hock Lye

Activities

1st Singapore International Public Health Conference & 7th Singapore Public Health & Occupational Medicine Conference



Group photo with Guest-of-Honor Dr Amy Khor and the performers.

The 1st Singapore International Public Health Conference was held in conjunction with the 7th Singapore Public Health and Occupational Medicine Conference on 1-2 October 2012 at Grand Copthorne Waterfront, Singapore. The two-day event was an overwhelming success with more than 500 delegates from 27 different countries.

The year's conference was jointly organised by the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health and the Chapter of Public Health and Occupational Physicians. For years, both have worked closely and synergistically, with the School pushing new frontiers through vigorous research and the Chapter using this evidence to effectively tackle population health issues. As we continue to find strength in collaboration, this augural event where the Chapter and the School came together for a joint scientific meeting has helped to foster ties worldwide amongst healthcare professionals.

Continuing Medical Education

The following lectures were co-organised with the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore in 2012:

APRIL

Date: 12 April 2012
Topic: **Statistical Solutions: Debiased Inference About Hepatitis C Virus-Infected Communities When Analyzing Diagnosed Patients Referred To Liver Clinics**
Speaker: **Dr Bo Fu**
Lecturer in Biostatistics
School of Community Based Medicine, University of Manchester, United Kingdom

Date: 13 April 2012
Topic: **Mammographic Density as A Predictor of Breast Cancer Risk and Outcome: An Introduction and A Summary of Recent Findings**
Speaker: **Dr Jingmei Li, PhD**
Human Genetics Genome Institute of Singapore, Singapore

Date: 16 April 2012
Topic: **Building a Microsimulation for the Analysis of Health Care Reform: Lessons From the RAND 'COMPARE' Model**
Speaker: **Assoc Prof Federico Girosi**
Population Health at the School of Medicine
University of Western Sydney, Sydney, NSW, Australia

Date: 20 April 2012
Topic: **Evaluating Efforts To Build A Prevention System**
Speaker: **Dr Alan Shiell**
Chief Executive Officer
Centre of Excellence in Intervention and Prevention Science, Australia

Date: 30 April 2012
Topic: **Patient-Centered Benefit-Risk Assessment Using Preference Elicitation Techniques**
Speaker: **Prof Maarten J IJzerman**
Professor & Chair
Department of Health Technology & Services Research
University of Twente, The Netherlands

MAY

Date: 3 May 2012
Topic: **Controlling Insect Populations with a Homing Endonuclease-Based Gene Drive System**
Speaker: **Dr David Shing Mun Huen**
Department of Genetics
University of Cambridge, United Kingdom
Chairperson: Prof Teo Yik Ying

Date: 24 May 2012
Topic: **Disease Pattern and Economic Burden of Admission : Data From Over 7000 Patients Admitted in a Large Central Hospital in Malawi**
Speaker: **Dr Miguel A Sanjoaquin Polo**
Lecturer in Epidemiology
Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine Malawi
Chairperson: Prof Teo Yik Ying

JUNE

Date: 21 June 2012
Topic: **Improving Patient Care, Improving Population Health – Examples of Health Services Research and Health Promotion Projects in Germany**
Speaker: **Dr Falk Müller - Riemenschneider, MSc**
Head Project Division Cardiovascular Research, Teaching Coordinator
Institute of Social Medicine, Epidemiology and Health Economics - Charité University Medical Centre Berlin, Germany
Chairperson: A/Prof Rob Martinus Van Dam

Date: 26 June 2012
Topic: **SMART Designs For Developing Evidenced-Based, Personalized Intervention**
Speaker: **Dr Bibhas Chakraborty, PhD**
Assistant Professor
Department of Statistics, Columbia University, New York, USA
Chairperson: Dr Alex Cook

JULY

Date: 4 July 2012
Topic: **Genetic Testing in the Workplace : Molecular Epidemiology Applications and Ethical / Legal / Social Implications**
Speaker: **Prof Paul W. Brandt-Rauf DrPH, MD, ScD**
Dean of the School of Public Health
University of Illinois at Chicago, USA
Chairperson: Prof Chia Kee Seng

Date: 5 July 2012
Topic: **Intersection of Social Determinants of Health & Community-Based Participatory Research for Cancer and Obesity Prevention**
Speaker: **Assoc Prof Sunmin Lee**
Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
University of Maryland School of Public Health, USA
Chairperson: Assoc Prof Koh Woon Puay

Date: 12 July 2012
Topic: **Diet to Prevent Hypertension and Vascular Aging**
Speaker: **Prof Frank M Sacks MD**
Department of Nutrition, Harvard School of Public Health,
And Department of Medicine, Harvard Medical School and
Brigham & Women's Hospital, USA
Chairperson: Assoc Prof Rob Martinus Van Dam

Date: 23 July 2012
Topic: **Applications of Telehealth Technology in Rehabilitation**
Speaker: **Prof Helen Hoenig, MD MPH**
Professor of Medicine / Geriatrics
Duke University Medical Center
Chief, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Service
Chief, Spinal Cord Injury Service
Durham VA Medical Center, USA
Chairperson: Assoc Prof Gerald Koh

AUGUST

Date: 2 August 2012
 Topic: **Decision Making About Human Papillomavirus Vaccination : The Role of Epidemiological And Economic Modelling**
 Speaker: **Dr Mark Jit, BSc PhD MPH**
 Lecturer, Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom
 Chairperson: Assoc Prof Teo Yik Ying

Date: 7 August 2012
 Topic: **From Putin to Pandemics : A Story of Frail Health Systems and Infectious Diseases**
 Speaker: **Prof Richard Coker**
 Visiting Professor at the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, Professor of Public Health At the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom
 Chairperson: Prof Chia Kee Seng

SEPTEMBER

Date: 26 September 2012
 Topic: **Mode of Administration and Survey Sensitivity: Some Insights**
 Speaker: **Dr Julie Brown**
 Director, Survey Research Group, RAND Corporation
 Chairperson: Dr Lim Wei-Yen

OCTOBER

Date: 16 October 2012
 Topic: **Flexible Modelling of Cumulative Effects of Time-Varying Covariates In Survival Analysis With Applications in Pharmaco-Epidemiology and Cardiovascular Epidemiology**
 Speaker: **Prof Michal Abrahamowicz, PhD**
 James McGill Professor
 Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics
 McGill University, Montreal, Canada
 Chairperson: Asst Prof Agus Salim

Date: 24 October 2012
 Topic: **Health Systems Surge Capacity: Research Priorities Moving Forwards**
 Speaker: **Ms Samantha Watson**
 Overseas Research Fellow
 Faculty of Public Health and Policy
 London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom
 Chairperson: Prof Richard Coker

NOVEMBER

Date: 9 November 2012
 Topic: **Exercise As Anti-Inflammatory Intervention. Do Intensity and Type Matter?**
 Speaker: **Prof Marco Pahor, MD**
 Professor and Chair, Department of Aging and Geriatric Research
 Director, Institute on Aging University of Florida, USA
 Chairperson: Assoc Prof Gerald Koh

DECEMBER

Date: 11 December 2012
 Topic: **Dengue, Diarrhoea, Diagnostics: Specific Solutions For Sensitive Problems**
 Speaker: **Dr Clarence Tam**
 Senior Lecturer, Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom
 Chairperson: Prof Richard Coker

Date: 13 December 2012
 Topic: **Cost Effectiveness of HIB Vaccine : Getting to the Truth of the Matter (Also in Asia)**
 Speaker: **Dr Ulla Kou Griffiths**
 Lecturer in Health Economics
 Department of Global Health and Development,
 Faculty of Public Health and Policy
 London School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom
 Chairperson: Prof Richard Coker

National Preventive Medicine Grand Rounds

The Chapter funded the refreshment for the National Preventive Medicine Grand Rounds which was conducted by the National Preventive Medicine Residency Program.

The following Grand Rounds were held in 2012:

JANUARY

Date: 12 January 2012
 Topic: **Children Obesity**
 Speakers: **Dr Jeff Hwang, Dr Olivia Teo, Dr Todd On, Dr Lam MC**
 Chairperson: Dr Foo Ling Li / Dr Koh Yang Huang

FEBRUARY

Date: 9 February 2012
 Topic: **Non-Communicable Disease (Stroke)**
 Speakers: **Dr Raymond Lim, Dr Tan Xin Quan, Dr Dennis Chia, Dr Matthias Toh**
 Chairperson: A/P NV Ramani

Date: 23 February 2012
 Topic: **Interpersonal and Communication Skills**
 Speaker: **A/Prof Wong Mee Lian**

MARCH

Date: 8 March 2012
 Topic: **Occupational Skin Disease**
 Speakers: **Dr Winston Chin, Dr Joshua Wong, Dr Jake Goh, Dr Lim See Ming**
 Chairperson: Dr Ho Sweet Far / Dr Fong Yuke Tien

APRIL

Date: 5 April 2012
 Topic: **Professionalism and Ethics**
 Speaker: **A/Prof Wong Mee Liang**

Date: 12 April 2012
 Topic: **Communicable Disease (Vector-borne)**
 Speakers: **Dr Jeff Hwang, Dr Hanley Ho, Dr Todd On, Dr Ng Lee Ching (NEA)**
 Chairperson: Dr Jeffery Cutter / Prof Goh Kee Tai

MAY

Date: 10 May 2012
 Topic: **Colorectal Cancer**
 Speakers: **Dr Adelina Young, Dr Jake Goh, Dr Tan Xin Quan**
 Chairperson: Prof Lee Hin Peng & A/Prof Tang Choon Leong

JUNE

Date: 28 June 2012
 Topic: **Patient empowerment and education**
 Speaker: **Dr Audrey Tan**

JULY

Date: 5 July 2012
 Topic: **Overview of the Singapore Healthcare System**
 Speaker: **Dr Eugene Shum / Dr Arthur Chern**

Date: 26 July 2012
 Topic: **Overview of Communicable Disease in Singapore**
 Speaker: **Prof Goh Kee Tai**

AUGUST

Date: 2 August 2012
 Topic: **Fitness to Work**
 Speakers: **Dr Joseph Lim, Dr Joshua Wong, Dr Winston Chin, Dr Raymond Lim**
 Chairperson: **A/Prof Lee See Muah, Asst Prof Judy Sng**

Date: 30 August 2012
 Topic: **Occupational Medicine**
 Speakers: **Dr Ho Sweet Far, Dr Fong Yuke Tien, Dr Lim John Wah**

SEPTEMBER

Date: 6 September 2012
 Topic: **Health Promotion in Singapore**
 Speaker: **Dr Koh Yang Huang**

Date: 13 September 2012
 Topic: **Tuberculosis**
 Speakers: **Dr Andrew Tay, Dr Tan Wei Ming, Dr Chua Ying Xian & Dr Olivia Teo**
 Chairperson: **Prof Sunny Wang & Dr Jeffery Cutter**

Date: 27 September 2012
 Topic: **Overview of Non-Communicable Disease in Singapore / National Disease Registries**
 Speakers: **Prof Dr Derrick Heng / Dr Chow Khuan Yew**

NOVEMBER

Date: 15 November 2012
 Topic: **Workplace Assessment**
 Speakers: **Dr Joshua Wong, Dr Joseph Lim & Dr Andrew Tay**
 Chairperson: **Dr Ho Sweet Far & Dr Benjamin Ng**

Chapter Get-Together Sessions

The Chapter organised two get-together sessions for its members in year 2012. They were held on 2 February at Raffles Town Club and 7 September at Fortis Colorectal Hospital.

Chapter Fellows were joined by the Preventive Medicine Residents and the Public Health & Occupational Medicine Trainees. Fellows had a great time interacting with the Residents and Trainees at this social event. Through this event, many exchanges and interactions occurred, raising a number of good ideas to benefit Singapore's public health community. (Picture 1)

Formation of College of Public Health and Occupational Physicians

In April, the Chapter sent an introductory letter to all Fellows requesting for 70 signatures in support of the formation of the College. Seventy-three (73) signatures were collated, and proposed papers were then submitted to the AMS council for approval. Resolution was passed and approved at the Chapter's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the Academy's



Picture 1: Chapter's bi-annual get-together to foster networking amongst public health and occupational medicine specialists.

AGM on the formation of the College. Relevant papers were then submitted to the relevant authorities for approval.

In October, the Chapter received the approval from the authorities and the College was subsequently formed. The College was formalised by the Inaugural General Meeting that took place on 1 February 2013. This annual report would be the last report for the Chapter. The next annual report will be presented under the College of Public Health & Occupational Physicians.

Visit to the UK Faculty of Public Health

Dr Eugene Shum, Chapter Chairman, visited the UK Faculty of Public Health in London on 12 October. The very fruitful meeting covered approaches to continuing professional development and collaborations in the training of public health residents and fellows. It also covered the partnership between physician and non-physician public health professionals. We are working towards closer corporation and exchanges with the UK Faculty of Public Health.

Chapter of Public Health & Occupational Physicians Travel Assistance Fund

The Chapter had set up a travel assistance fund in 2011 to sponsor its Fellows to attend overseas meetings and conferences. Through the participation in these activities, the Chapter aims to: (a) develop ties and collaboration with public health chapters/colleges in other countries; and (b) promote the Chapter's annual Public Health and Occupational Medicine conference. Funding may include registration fee for the meeting, return economy class airfare and accommodation. To date, there has not been any application for the travel assistance fund.

Chapter of Public Health & Occupational Physicians Newsletter

The Chapter published the two issues of newsletter in the year – in July and December. The newsletter provides Fellows with an update of the activities that happens bi-annually. It is also a means to reach out to the Chapter's visitors and communicate information that is useful to Fellows.