

CHAPTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH & OCCUPATIONAL PHYSICIANS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 30th Annual General Meeting of the Chapter of Public Health & Occupational Physicians was held on 13 May 2011.

The following office bearers for the year Committee term 2011-2012 were elected:

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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2011-2012



Standing (from left to right): Dr Richard Tan (Committee Member), Dr Jeremy Lim (Secretary), Dr Jason Yap (Committee Member), Dr Mona Toh (Committee Member)

Seated (from left to right): Dr Jeffery Cutter (Treasurer), Dr Eugene Shum (Chairman), Dr Benjamin Ng (Vice Chairman), Dr Kenneth Choy (Co-opted Member)

MEMBERSHIP

The Membership of the Chapter stood at 109 as of 31 December 2011.

The Chapter's Membership consists of 104 Local Fellows, four Overseas Fellows and one Ordinary Member.

ACTIVITIES

6th Singapore Public Health & Occupational Medicine Conference

The conference was held with much success on 24–26 August 2011 at Furama Riverfront, Singapore. The theme for this year's conference was "Innovations in Public Health and Occupational Medicine - The Next Frontier".

Various topics such as use of new media in public health, innovative health financing models, mental health promotion and workplace wellness were discussed at the four plenary lectures and 13 symposia. Overall, the interesting lectures and wide array of topics in the scientific programmes were well-received by participants.

The conference was attended by about 230 delegates. The invited faculty included speakers from the United States, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Thailand, India and Singapore.

Two pre-conference workshops were held on 24 August 2011 - Fatigue Risk Management System and Economic Evaluations in Clinical Practice Guidelines. Both workshops had a good turnout of 25 participants each.

Continuing Medical Education Lectures

The following lectures were co-organised with the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine in 2011:

JANUARY

Date : 6 January 2011
Topic : **Electronic Health Record Adoption and Quality Improvement in US Hospitals**
Speaker : **Dr Spencer S Jones, PhD**
Assoc Information Scientist
RAND Corporation, USA
Chairperson : Dr Lim Wei-Yen

Date : 25 January 2011
Topic : **Making Public Health “Sexy”**
Speaker : **Prof Kenneth E Warner, PhD**
Prof, Health Management & Policy
Avedis Donabedian Distinguished University Professor
of Public Health, USA
Chairperson : Prof Chia Kee Seng

FEBRUARY

Date : 16 February 2011
Topic : **Genome-Wide Exploration of Genetic Susceptibility to Hypertension and Associated Disease**
Speaker : **Dr Norihiro Kato MD, PhD**
Department of Gene Diagnostics and Therapeutics
Research Institute
National Center for Global Health and Medicine
Japan
Chairperson : Assoc Prof Teo Yik Ying

Date : 16 February 2011
Topic : **Large-Scale Association Analysis for Type 2 Diabetes in East Asian Populations**
Speaker : **Dr Yoon Shin Cho, PhD**
Principal Research Scientist
Center for Genome Science
Korea National Institute of Health
Osong, Korea

Date : 23 February 2011
Topic : **Developments in Industrial Hygiene – the South Korean Perspective**
Speaker : **Assoc Prof Doo Yong Park, DrPH, CIH**
Occupational Safety and Health/Dept of Mechanical Engineering
Hansung University, South Korea
Chairperson : Assoc Prof Lee See Muah

MARCH

Date : 1 March 2011
Topic : **Statisticians and Pharmacokineticists: What They Can Still Learn from Each Other**
Speaker : **Prof Stephen Senn**
School of Mathematics and Statistics
University of Glasgow, United Kingdom
Chairperson : Assoc Prof Tai Bee Choo

Date : 18 March 2011
Topic : **Has Medical Innovation Reduced Cancer Mortality**
Speaker : **Dr Frank R Lichtenberg, PhD**
Courtney C Brown Professor of Business
Columbia University, USA
Chairperson : Dr Suchin Virabhak

APRIL

Date : 6 April 2011
Topic : **The End of Tobacco**
Speaker : **Prof A J Berrick**
Dept of Mathematics, NUS
Chairperson : Assoc Prof Jeannette Lee

MAY

Date : 6 May 2011
Topic : **Lifestyle Interventions and Independence for Elders – The LIFE Study**
Speaker : **Prof Marco Pahor, MD**
Professor and Chair
Department of Aging and Geriatric Research
College of Medicine
Director, Institute on Aging
University of Florida, USA

Date : 11 May 2011
Topic : **Impacts of The Gut Microbiota on Diabetes**
Speaker : **Dr Chieh Jason Chou**
Research Scientist
Energy and Metabolic Health Group
Nutrition and Health Department
Nestlé Research Center Lausanne, Switzerland
Chairperson : Assoc Prof Rob Martinus Van Dam

JULY

Date : 7 July 2011
Topic : **Clinical Trials for Vaccines Against Respiratory and Enteric Diseases**
Speaker : **Dr Paul Kilgore**
Senior Scientist in the Translational Research Division (TRD)
The International Vaccine Institute (IVI)
Seoul, Korea
Chairperson : Assoc Prof Rob Martinus Van Dam

AUGUST

Date : 1 August 2011
Topic : **Can Economic Modelling be used to inform Immunisation Policy? Some Insights from The Experience of the United Kingdom and Other Countries**
Speaker : **Dr Mark Jit**
Health Economist/Mathematical Modeller
Health Protection Centre for Infections, London
United Kingdom
Chairperson : Dr Mark Chen

Date : 8 August 2011
Topic : **The Effect of Incretin Related Agents on Insulin Secretion; In View of Ethnic Differences of Type 2 Diabetes**
Speaker : **Prof Mitsuo Fukushima**
Division of Clinical Nutrition and Internal Medicine
Department of Nutritional Science
Okayama Prefectural University, Japan
Chairperson : Dr Daniel Ng

Date : 11 August 2011
Topic : **The Development and Implementation of a National Health Security Strategy**
Speaker : **Dr Jeffrey Wasserman**
Leader, RAND COMPARE; Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs
Pardee RAND Graduate School
Senior Policy, Researcher Santa Monica Office, USA
Chairperson : Assoc Prof Lim Yee Wei

SEPTEMBER

Date : 27 September 2011
Topic : **The Indian Ocean Dipole and Malaria Risk in The Highlands of Western Kenya**
Speaker : **Dr Masahiro Hashizume**
Department of International Health
Institute of Tropical Medicine
Nagasaki University, Japan
Chairperson : Dr Alex Cook

Date : 29 September 2011
Topic : **Quality Improvement in Health Care: Lessons from Selected RAND Studies**
Speaker : **Prof Lisa S Meredith**
Senior Behavioral Scientist;
Manager, Behavioral and Social Sciences Group
Professor, Pardee RAND Graduate School
Santa Monica Office, USA
Chairperson : Assoc Prof Wong Mee Lian

The following lectures were co-organised with the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore in 2011:

OCTOBER

Date : 20 October 2011
Topic : **The Pragmatics of Qualitative Research: Practical Solutions to Real Problems**

Speaker : **Dr Gery W Ryan**
Senior Behavioral Scientist
RAND Corporation, USA

Chairperson : Assoc Prof Jeannette Lee

Date : 28 October 2011
Topic : **Current Methods for Estimating the Size of Populations Most at Risk to HIV**

Speaker : **Dr Hanh La, PhD**
In Epidemiology from
The Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health

Chairperson : Assoc Prof Wong Mee Lian

NOVEMBER

Date : 9 November 2011
Topic : **Non-Inferiority Design: Implications of Active Controls in Clinical Development Programs**

Speaker : **Prof Andrew Leon, PHD**
DeWitt Wallace Senior Scholar
Professor of Biostatistics in Psychiatry
Professor of Public Health
Weill Cornell Medical College
Cornell University

Chairperson : Dr Alex Cook

Date : 24 November 2011
Topic : **How to Develop a Cochrane Protocol**
Speaker : **Assoc Prof Malinee Laopaiboon**

Dept of Biostatistics & Demography
Faculty of Public Health, Khon Kaen University
Thailand

Chairperson : Prof David Koh

DECEMBER

Date : 2 December 2011
Topic : **The Potential, Impact and Feasibility of Population-based Research in Dementia: The Rotterdam Study**

Speaker : **Dr Irfan Ikarm, MD, PhD**
Asst Professor
Dept of Epidemiology of the Erasmus Medical Center
Head of the Neuro-Epidemiology unite of the Rotterdam Study, The Netherlands

Chairperson : Assoc Prof Lim Yee Wei

National Preventive Medicine Grand Round

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

The following Grand Rounds were held in 2011:

JANUARY

Date : 13 January 2011
Topic : **Cardiovascular Epidemiology – Coronary Heart Disease**

Chairperson : **Assoc Prof Jeannette Lee**

Date : 20 January 2011
Topic : **Communicable Diseases**
Speakers : **Prof Goh Kee Tai**

FEBRUARY

Date : 10 February 2011
Topic : **Health of the Seniors**
Chairperson : **Asst Prof Gerald Koh**

Date : 17 February 2011
Topic : **Epidemiology and study design – The research basics**
Speakers : **Assoc Prof Koh Woon Puay**

Date : 24 February 2011
Topic : **Considerations of Integrated Health Care**
Speakers : **Prof Chad Boulton, Dr Eugene Shum**

MARCH

Date : 10 March 2011
Topic : **Noise-induced deafness & Hearing Conservation Programme**

Chairperson : **Dr Gan Siok Lin, Mr Tan Kia Tang**

Date : 17 March 2011
Topic : **Health Promotion**
Speakers : **Dr Koh Yang Huang**

Date : 24 March 2011
Topic : **Occupational Health**
Speakers : **Dr Gan Siok Lin**

Date : 31 March 2011
Topic : **Non-Communicable Diseases & National Disease Registries**
Speakers : **Dr Derrick Heng, Dr Chow Khuan Yew**

APRIL

Date : 7 April 2011
Topic : **Occupational Safety and Health Management System, Risk Assessment and Conducting a workplace inspection**

Speakers : **Dr Gan Siok Lin, Dr Sylvia Teo Mr Go Heng Huat**
Chairperson : **Dr Gan Siok Lin, Dr Fong Yuke Tien**

Date : 14 April 2011
Topic : **Breast Cancer**
Speakers : **Dr Alexander Gorny, Dr Ho Li Ling, Dr Sun Cheng Hung, Asst Prof Mikael Hartman**

Chairperson : Assoc Prof Adeline Seow

Date : 21 April 2011
Topic : **Health Services Administration, (B) Health Services Research, (C) Journey across the care continuum**

Speakers : **Dr Jason Cheah, Ms Tan Woan Shin**
Chairperson : **Dr Eugene Shum**

MAY

Date : 12 May 2011
Topic : **Vaccine-preventable diseases**
Speakers : **Dr Tan Xin Quan, Dr Dennis Chia, Dr Benedict Lam, Dr Gary Ang**
Chairperson : Prof Goh Kee Tai

Date : 26 May 2011
Topic : **Workplace Evaluation and Design**
Speakers : **Dr Rajib Ghosh, Dr Sarita Dara, Dr Abraham Mathews**
Chairperson : Dr Richard Tan

JUNE

Date : 9 June 2011
Topic : **Work-related Infectious Diseases**
Speakers : **Dr Alexander Gorny, Dr Louis Tan, Dr Alvin Koh**
Chairperson : Dr Lucy Leong

Date : 23 June 2011
Topic : **Radiation Hazards and Risk Management**
Speakers : **Dr Rajib Ghosh**
Chairperson : Dr Richard Tan

JULY

Date : 14 July 2011
Topic : **National Smoking Control Programme**
Speakers : **Dr Todd On, Dr Olivia Teo, Dr Joshua Wong, Dr Leh Teck Siang**
Chairperson : Dr Koh Yang Huang, Ms Joanne Chandler

Date : 21 July 2011
Topic : **The Hepatitis B story in Singapore**
Speakers : **Prof Goh Kee Tai**

SEPTEMBER

Date : 8 September 2011
Topic : **Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)**
Speakers : **Dr Patsy Chow, Dr Adelina Young, Dr Jake Goh, Dr Tan Xin Quan**
Chairperson : Prof Lim Tow Keang

Date : 15 September 2011
Topic : **Integrating workplace safety and health & workplace health promotion**
Speakers : **Dr Sylvia Teo**

OCTOBER

Date : 6 October 2011
Topic : **System-based Practice – Quality in Healthcare Organisation**
Speakers : **Dr Goh Jit Khong Jake, Dr Olivia Teo**
Chairperson : Dr Benjamin Ng, Dr Sun Cheng Hung

Date : 13 October 2011
Topic : **Work-related Musculoskeletal Disorder & Management of a Worker Who is Permanently Disabled as A Result of Work**
Speakers : **Dr Hanley Ho, Dr Raymond Lim, Dr Todd On**
Chairperson : Dr Kenneth Choy

Date : 27 October 2011
Topic : **Research Ethics**
Speakers : **Dr Mona Toh**

NOVEMBER

Date : 3 November 2011
Topic : **System-based Practice – Patient Safety – Do no harm**
Speakers : **Dr Tan Xin Quan, Dr On Todd**
Chairperson : Dr Benjamin Ng, Dr Sun Cheng Hung

Date : 10 November 2011
Topic : **Communicable Disease – Food and Water – Borne Infections**
Speakers : **Dr Adelina Young, Dr Jake Goh, Dr Winston Chin, Ms Atikah Abdul Rahman**
Chairperson : Prof Goh Kee Tai

Date : 24 November 2011
Topic : **Interpersonal and Communication Skills**
Speakers : **A/Prof Wong Mee Lian**

Dinner with Residents

The Chapter hosted a dinner for the Chapter Fellows and the Preventive Medicine Residents on 13 May 2011 at the Alumni Medical Centre.

Chapter Get-together Session

The Chapter organised a get-together session for its Members on 11 October 2011 at Khoo Teck Puat 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, the Chapter aimed to pull the different communities closer.

CHAPTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH & OCCUPATIONAL PHYSICIANS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Chapter conferred its inaugural Achievement Award on Professor Lee Hin Peng at the opening ceremony of the 6th Singapore Public Health & Occupational Medicine on 25 August 2011. During the Fellows' lunch at the conference, Professor Lee Hin Peng delivered an inspiring speech to the Chapter Members and the Preventive Medicine Residents. The award is given to an individual who had made sustained and significant contributions to the field of Public Health and/or Occupational Medicine on both the local and international scene.

CHAPTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH & OCCUPATIONAL PHYSICIANS TRAVEL ASSISTANCE FUND

The Chapter had set up a travel assistance fund 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. The full set of guidelines had been out up on the Chapter's webpage.

CHAPTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH & OCCUPATIONAL PHYSICIANS NEWSLETTER

The Chapter published the first issue of newsletter in December 2011. 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. The Chapter hopes to publish the newsletter twice yearly.