



Newsletter

Editor : Mary Sau-Man Ip

Associate Editors : Yoshinosuke Fukuchi, J. Patrick Barron, Kwun M. Fong, Yasutomi Yamanaka

Message from the President



Given that the APSR has set its strategic goal on recruitment of membership and enhancement of their participation in the society, it was an excellent opportunity to have the 16th Congress of the APSR in Shanghai, China, in November 2011. This was a huge success with more than 2,800 delegates from all over the world - a big vote of thanks to Dr Bai Chunxue and his team. We expect this to herald much more active participation in the APSR from the respiratory community in the mainland of China. We are also diligently pursuing communications with other regions in the geographic realms of the Asia-Pacific region to encourage greater collaboration with the APSR. Meanwhile, we have re-visited the membership fee structure with the objective of making the APSR more attractive for large en bloc memberships and more affordable to individuals from developing areas; something which a few other sizeable international societies in the USA and Europe have already done. We also plan to launch in the coming months, new categories of

membership, including 'Fellow of the APSR'. So do watch out for the news in the monthly APSR Bulletin! Another exciting development on the horizon comes from the Editorial office. *Respirology* has reached a new high Impact Factor of 2.416, a 30% increase from last year. This reflects not only the achievement of the current editorial team, but also the hard work and staunch support rendered by APSR members directly or indirectly, since the day when *Respirology* was launched in 1996.

On the international scene, I would like to convey our warm congratulations to Dr Yoshinosuke Fukuchi (APSR President 2004-06) and Dr Norbert Berend (APSR President 2006-08), on their receiving Honorary Membership of the European Respiratory Society in June 2012, signifying their many contributions to the respiratory profession at large. The APSR continues to progressively engage in international collaborative activities and recently, many local respiratory societies throughout the Asia-Pacific region were engaged in the worldwide effort to promote lung health through the World Spirometry Day (WSD) on 27 June 2012. The WSD is the brainchild of the Forum of International Respiratory Societies, which we hope will pose a strong unified voice to raise global awareness and advocacy for lung health. This consortium of respiratory societies is also working on a Global Roadmap of Respiratory Diseases. Collection of information from the many countries/regions in the Asia-Pacific region is underway, regarding respiratory disease patterns and health priorities as well as the activities of individual respiratory societies. In the past two years, the APSR participated in the ERS Global Lung Function Initiative Network to produce inter-ethnic lung function reference formulae which can be applied globally. The project has been successfully completed and the document has just received the endorsement of major respiratory societies worldwide, including that of the APSR.

In the coming APSR Congress in Hong Kong, we will be hosting a gathering for current and former Young Investigators of the various international interactions with the ATS, the ERS, the JRS and the TSANZ, allowing an opportunity for cultivation of friendships and professional exchanges beyond conference attendance.

The diverse cultural background in the vast geographic domain of the APSR is our challenge, but also our pride. The past eighteen months as President of the APSR has been a huge challenge for me personally. The world is rapidly changing, and we all have to keep up our pace. In the coming months, I hope to see the fruition of several evolutionary developments in this society which is still young – the APSR will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary at the 18th APSR Congress in Yokohama in November 2013. Meanwhile, I look forward to meeting you all at the coming APSR Congress in Hong Kong, on 14-16 December 2012.

Mary Sau-Man Ip

Message from the Secretary General / President-Elect

As you are all aware, 27 June 2012 was declared World Spirometry Day 2012. There were spirometry-related activities, using the Olympic Games as a backdrop, in almost 500 centres around the globe. Many countries in the Asia-Pacific region also held those activities. We should know the total figures and summaries of the event soon and I will keep everybody informed.

Another global activity in which the APSR has become involved, is the 'Global Report on Respiratory Disease' (World Atlas/Roadmap on Respiratory Disease) through the Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS). This project is in the final stage of preparation and the Steering and Writing Committees met during the ATS International Conference in San Francisco in May. Hopefully, a promotion flyer of this project will be launched during the ERS Annual Congress in Vienna this year and the final version will be released before the end of the year. There is a possibility it will be released at the 17th Congress of the APSR in Hong Kong in December. On behalf of the Steering and Writing Committees, I would like to thank all the many Society members who have contributed valuable information to the APSR at very short notice. This exercise tells us that there is still plenty of information related to respiratory diseases, activities of member societies, training programmes for respiratory physicians, etc., in the Asia-Pacific region, which needs to be gathered in order to move forward together.

Arth Nana

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

It has been one year since I took over the Editorship of *Respirology* and I've enjoyed watching the journal continue to flourish.

Our publisher, Wiley-Blackwell, has reported another successful year for the journal. In 2011, *Respirology* received an overall subscription renewal rate of 115% and full text downloads increased by 62%. The publication fee introduced in late 2010 has resulted in additional revenue for the APSR. I am also pleased to announce that the 2011 impact factors have been released and *Respirology*'s impact factor jumped to 2.416, which represents a 30% increase on last year's impact factor. *Respirology* is now ranked 24th out of 48 journals in the Respiratory System category.

The large increase in full-text downloads reported by the publisher can be partly attributed to the high-quality review papers that *Respirology* published last year. I am confident that this year's Invited Review Series on 'Air Pollution and Lung Health' (edited by Ian Yang and Stephen Holgate), 'Obesity and Respiratory Diseases' (edited by Amanda Piper) and 'Translational Advances in Respiratory Diseases' (edited by David Lam and John Heffner) will attract an equal amount of interest. I would also like to draw your attention to

the 'Year in Review' papers, published in the April 2012 issue. This highlighted recent advances in the areas of acute lung injury, asthma, bronchoscopic intervention, COPD, interstitial lung disease, lung cancer, physiology, pleural diseases, respiratory infections, sleep, and tuberculosis, with a focus on original articles published in *Respirology* in 2011.

Respirology remains committed to playing an educational role for the Asia-Pacific region and as part of that commitment; the journal is publishing a paper in the July issue focusing on how to write research papers and grants. The paper is based on a postgraduate session held at the 16th Congress in Shanghai.

Respirology papers continue to attract significant international media attention. The original papers on 'Association between soft drink consumption and asthma and COPD among adults in Australia' and 'Association of childhood passive smoking to COPD and respiratory symptoms in adult ever-smokers' were the most popular, being quoted in media outlets across Asia, Europe and the USA.

Our Editorial Board was renewed in April 2012. I would like to express my thanks to our former and continuing Editorial Board members and welcome our new members: Fumihiro Asano (Japan); Maria Encarnita B. Limpin (Philippines); Kittipong Maneechotesuwan (Thailand); M. Arifin Nawas (Indonesia); Richard Wood-Baker (Australia); and Ross Vlahos (Australia). The journal's webpage provides a full list of the current Editorial Board members. We sadly say goodbye to Robin Taylor, who has recently retired as Associate Editor from *Respirology*. Dr Taylor has been with the journal since April 2009 and I would like to sincerely thank him for the many invaluable contributions he has made to the journal over this time.

To ensure an optimal working relationship between the journal support staff and the Editor-in-Chief, the Editorial Office has recently moved to a new location at the Centre for Sleep Science at The University of Western Australia, where I am also located. The mailing and email addresses for all journal-related correspondence have been changed accordingly.

Last November I had the opportunity to participate in a publishing workshop held by the publisher of *Respirology*, Wiley-Blackwell, at its Melbourne offices. The workshop was aimed at academic journal editors and society representatives, and covered areas including innovations in technology such as search engine optimization, best practice research assessment and peer review, sales models and performance indices, and recent international market trends. I found the presentations and associated discussions to be timely and very useful, particularly given the rapidly growing global readership of *Respirology*.

As always, I encourage APSR members to submit their research papers to *Respirology* and look forward to receiving any feedback or comments related to the journal.

Peter Eastwood

Message from the 17th Congress President

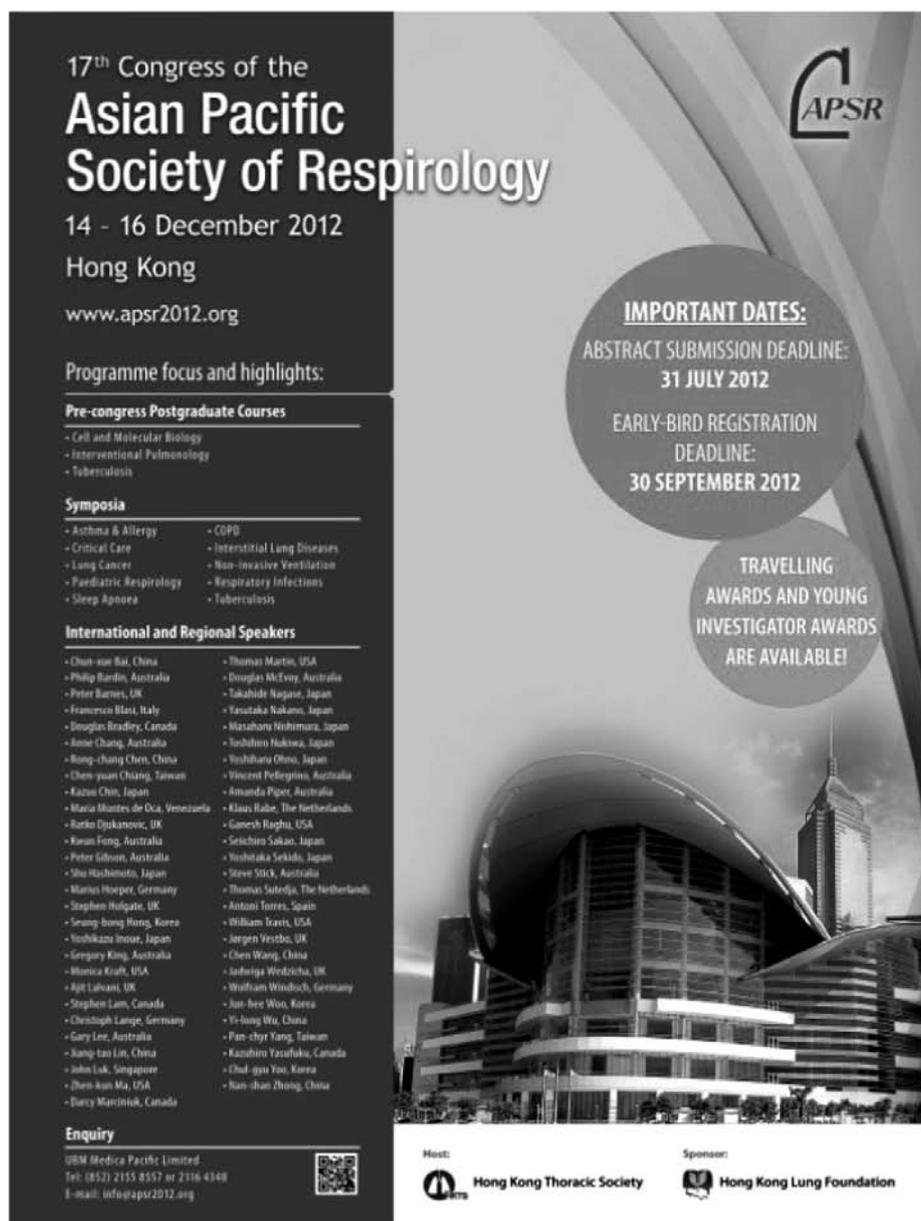
It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 17th Congress of the APSR, which will be held on 14-16 December 2012 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Center. Following the success of organizing the 9th Congress of the APSR in 2004, the Local Congress Committee, consisting of active members of the Hong Kong Thoracic Society and the Hong Kong Lung Foundation, is very honoured to host the APSR for the second time in Hong Kong.

The three-day congress will feature a comprehensive scientific programme, including three pre-conference post-graduate courses on cell and molecular biology, interventional pulmonology and tuberculosis. There will be six plenary lecture sessions, seventeen major symposia, and nine satellite symposia to be delivered by distinguished speakers in the various fields of

respiratory medicine. In addition, oral and poster presentation sessions will be available to provide a good opportunity for researchers as a platform for academic exchange. The Local Congress Committee is organizing a variety of social events and tours for the participants to experience the diverse local culture and traditions of the host city.

The congress has invited many renowned international, regional and local speakers to participate and provide insightful updates and recent advances on a variety of hot topics of common interest in respiratory medicine. I am sure you will find the scientific programme stimulating and enjoyable. Through this congress, I hope clinicians, researchers and health professionals can establish good friendship, networking and fruitful collaboration. I look forward to meeting you in the beautiful city of Hong Kong in December 2012.

David Hui



**17th Congress of the
Asian Pacific
Society of Respirioly**

14 - 16 December 2012
Hong Kong
www.apsr2012.org

Programme focus and highlights:

Pre-congress Postgraduate Courses

- Cell and Molecular Biology
- Interventional Pulmonology
- Tuberculosis

Symposia

- Asthma & Allergy
- Critical Care
- Lung Cancer
- Paediatric Respirioly
- Sleep Apnoea
- COPD
- Interstitial Lung Diseases
- Non-invasive Ventilation
- Respiratory Infections
- Tuberculosis

International and Regional Speakers

- Chun-wei Bai, China
- Philip Barlow, Australia
- Peter Barnes, UK
- Francesco Blasi, Italy
- Douglas Bradley, Canada
- Anne Chang, Australia
- Hong-chang Chen, China
- Chen-yuan Chiang, Taiwan
- Kazuo Chin, Japan
- Maria Montes de Oca, Venezuela
- Ratko Djukanovic, UK
- Kwan Fong, Australia
- Peter Gibson, Australia
- Shu Hashimoto, Japan
- Marius Hooper, Germany
- Stephen Holgate, UK
- Seung-bong Hong, Korea
- Yoshikazu Inoue, Japan
- Gregory King, Australia
- Monica Kraft, USA
- Ajit Lalvani, UK
- Stephen Lam, Canada
- Christoph Lange, Germany
- Gary Lee, Australia
- Kang-tao Lin, China
- John Luk, Singapore
- Zhen-kun Ma, USA
- Darcy Martiniuk, Canada
- Thomas Martin, USA
- Douglas McEvoy, Australia
- Takahide Nagano, Japan
- Yasutaka Nakano, Japan
- Masaharu Nishimura, Japan
- Yoshitomo Nishio, Japan
- Vincent Pellegrino, Australia
- Amanda Piper, Australia
- Klaus Rabe, The Netherlands
- Ganesh Raghu, USA
- Seiichiro Sakao, Japan
- Yoshitaka Sekido, Japan
- Steve Stick, Australia
- Thomas Steffen, The Netherlands
- Antonio Torres, Spain
- William Trevis, USA
- Jergen Vestbo, UK
- Chen Wang, China
- Jadwiga Wedzicha, UK
- Wolfgram Windisch, Germany
- Jun-hee Woo, Korea
- Yi-liang Wu, China
- Pan-chyr Yang, Taiwan
- Kazuhiko Yasufuku, Canada
- Chul-gyu Yoo, Korea
- Han-shan Zhong, China

IMPORTANT DATES:

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
31 JULY 2012

EARLY-BIRD REGISTRATION
DEADLINE:
30 SEPTEMBER 2012

TRAVELLING
AWARDS AND YOUNG
INVESTIGATOR AWARDS
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Host:
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Sponsor:
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Message from the 18th Congress President

It is my great honour and pleasure as Congress President to welcome you to the 18th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology (APSR 2013), to be held on 11-14 November 2013, at the Yokohama International Conference Center, Yokohama, Japan. Following the success of the two previous congresses in Japan, Tokyo in 1988, and Kyoto in 2006, the Local Congress Committee (LCC) members of the Japanese Respiratory Society (JRS) are very honoured to host the APSR for the third time. The LCC members are also pleased to note that this APSR 2013 Congress is the 25th anniversary and a landmark in the history of the APSR.

Under the main theme for the APSR 2013; "Creating Harmony in the Asian Pacific Respiratory Medicine", the four-day congress will feature a comprehensive scientific programme, including postgraduate courses, plenary lectures, major symposia organized by 16 APSR Scientific Assemblies, which will be delivered by distinguished speakers in the field of respirology. In addition, oral and poster presentations will provide a perfect opportunity

for researchers and clinicians as a platform for academic and daily clinical exchange. Young researchers and clinicians in the Asia-Pacific region will be able to improve their knowledge and skills through the talks with many invited researchers from the American Thoracic Society (ATS), the European Respiratory Society (ERS) and other societies. The LCC will organize a variety of social events for delegates to enjoy.

One year after the tragic East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster, Japanese people have been steadily recovering from the damage. We sincerely express our deep appreciation for the medical support from the countries of Asia-Pacific region. I hope the congress in Yokohama will be productive and exciting in terms of the scientific and clinical achievement, and using this occasion, the congress participants will have a chance for further understanding of the Japanese historic disaster first hand by visiting the cities along the northern Pacific coast.

I look forward to seeing you in Yokohama in the most beautiful autumn season.

Toshihiro Nukiwa

25th
ANNIVERSARY of APSR
for RESPIROLOGY

**The 18th Congress of
the Asian Pacific Society of
Respirology**

Date: **November 11-14, 2013**
Congress Venue: **Pacifico Yokohama**
Yokohama International Conference Center

Hosted by: **The Japanese Respiratory Society**

Honorary Congress President: **Prof. Yoshinosuke FUKUCHI**
Congress President: **Prof. Toshihiro NUKIWA**
Secretary General: **Prof. Shu HASHIMOTO**

Creating Harmony in the Asian Pacific Respiratory Medicine
Improving the standard of respiratory clinical care
Supporting young researchers and clinicians in the Asian Pacific Region
Contributing to the global health and science of pulmonology

Inquiry Counter of APSR 2013
4F Hongo UC Building, 3-35-3 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0033 JAPAN
c/o Convention Academia Inc.
TEL. +81 (0)3 5805 5261 FAX. +81 (0)3 3815 2028
E-MAIL. info@apsr2013.jp

APSR 2013
November 11-14, 2013 in YOKOHAMA

Councillor Reports

Bangladesh

The Bangladesh Lung Foundation (BLF) has undertaken many activities in the last year, of which the important ones are:

1. “New lease of life for asthma patients”- an advocacy campaign for promoting smooth transition to CFC-free inhalers, formally completed

In light of the Montreal Protocol, Bangladesh is committed to the introduction of CFC-free inhalers within 2012. The BLF embarked on a well planned advocacy campaign with the objective of creating awareness about CFC-free inhalers among the prescribers and users of inhalers on the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Environment of the Bangladesh government. It was inaugurated by the Honorable President of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh in October 2009 and formally closed in March 2012 by the Minister of Health in the presence of the members of Medical and Technical Options Committee of the Montreal Protocol. The campaign has been endorsed as an ideal one by the United Nations Environment Programme. It consisted of a total of 21 meetings, each attended by an average of 200 doctors, held throughout the country. Beximco Pharmaceuticals Ltd, the leading manufacturer of CFC-free inhalers in the country, sponsored the campaign and achieved total CFC-free compliance status in March.

2. The United Forum against Tobacco (UFAT)

UFAT organized a National Conference on Tobacco Control in Dhaka in April. It was well attended by eminent personalities from a wide range of professions. A panel discussion was held to formulate a plan of action for greater success in tobacco control. In the plan for action, the conference strongly proposed raising taxes on tobacco products to discourage smoking. Our efforts have borne fruit and we are happy to say that the Finance Minister has proposed increased taxes on tobacco products in the annual budget.

3. Workshops on Evidence Based Medicine

We have organized seven workshops in collaboration with the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons for medical professionals at all levels in different parts of the country.

4. International Workshop on Mechanical Ventilation and Bronchoscopy

This workshop was organized in collaboration with the Bangladesh Society of Critical Care Medicine and the Bangladesh Medical Association of North America in Dhaka. It was attended by critical care physicians and pulmonologists from all over the country. We intend to organize such workshops regularly in other cities of Bangladesh to promote quality care in critical care medicine and pulmonology.

5. World Spirometry Day

The BLF chalked out elaborate programmes for observing the World Spirometry Day on 27 June, plus a day-long hands-on workshop on spirometry for doctors on 26 June, and to popularize spirometry, mass spirometry camps at various venues.



Spirometry Camp 2nd Day in Bangladesh

6. Third International Conference on Lung Health

The BLF intends to organize the 3rd International Conference on Lung Health on 21-22 February 2013.

Indonesia

The Indonesian Society of Respiriology (ISR) will conduct their 15th Annual National Congress at the Shangri La Hotel in Surabaya on 4-7 July 2012. The theme of the congress is Bridging Pulmonary Science and Heritage. Its email address is konasdpixiisurabaya@yahoo.co.id

In addition to the National Congress, the ISR branches have also conducted their own 'Respiratory Scientific Meetings'. Among them are the Third Riau Respiratory Scientific Meeting at the Hotel Pangeran, Pekanbaru on 21-22 April 2012; the Bandung Respiratory Scientific Meeting at the Hotel Aston, Bandung on 12-14 May; and the Third Makassar Respiratory Scientific Meeting in Makassar on 25-27 May 2012. Future branch meetings include the First Palembang Respiratory Scientific Meeting at the Hotel Swarna Dwipa, Palembang on 12-14 July 2012; and the Second Lampung Respiratory Scientific Meeting at the Hotel Hilton, Lampung on 3-4 November 2012.

The Department of Pulmonology and Respiratory Medicine of the Faculty of Medicine University of Indonesia, has also conducted the 10th Scientific Respiratory Medicine Meeting at the Hotel Borobudur Jakarta on 9-11 February 2012. On 27 May 2012 The ISR worked together with the Indonesia Asthma Council to celebrate World Asthma Day by conducting a fun-bike outing for more than 200 participants and also a mass asthma gymnastic event for more than 1,500 asthmatic patients from Jakarta and its surroundings. The event was officially opened by the Indonesia Minister of Fisheries and Marine. The ISR Jakarta Branch on 31 May 2012 conducted an activity to commemorate World No Tobacco Day by distributing leaflets on the dangers of smoking to the public in the main street of Jakarta. The ISR will also conduct an activity to support World Spirometry Day.



Dr Faisal Yunus (right) at the World Asthma Day celebration

Report from the award winners to attend the ATS International Conference

The American Thoracic Society (ATS) International Conference is one of the leading respiratory conferences in the world and always offers a terrific balance of respiratory science and medicine. As an airway physiologist, the 2012 programme was perhaps the most rewarding and educational that I have been fortunate to contribute towards. Notably, there were numerous symposia and discussion sessions dedicated to airway remodelling and the evolution of airway hyperresponsiveness (exaggerated airway narrowing to contractile stimuli), characteristic features of asthma and other respiratory diseases. Set in the vibrant city of San Francisco and with good weather for the duration of the conference, ATS 2012 will be a fond memory.

I was especially honoured that my own presentation was assigned to the 'Peter Macklem Memorial ATS session'. Dr Macklem (Canada) was one of the giants of respiratory medicine and science and as a young scientist, his work in the field of airway and lung mechanics has influenced me greatly. Many of his published articles I recall by heart and are recommended reading for junior scientists and students. The poster discussion session entitled 'The lung on the border between order and chaos' was populated by world leaders in the field of airway mechanics and the discussion which followed the presentations was both informative and provocative. After integrating the various presentations into scientific themes, the session members enthusiastically debated how the current data impacts our understanding of airway physiology and pathophysiology with a particular focus on asthma. My own presentation reported the first data on airway narrowing measured in bronchial segments acquired from asthmatic subjects undergoing lung surgery. I was encouraged by the level of interest in my study and I returned from the conference highly motivated to further expand my work in this area.

I wish to formally thank the APSR for this wonderful initiative, which supports travel to the ATS conference (registration, airfare and hotel accommodation). The costs of attending international conferences such as the ATS are considerable, particularly for a researcher based in Perth, Australia. The knowledge acquired, time spent networking with peers in the field, and the opportunity to gather input and critique from world leaders, is invaluable to mid-career researchers.



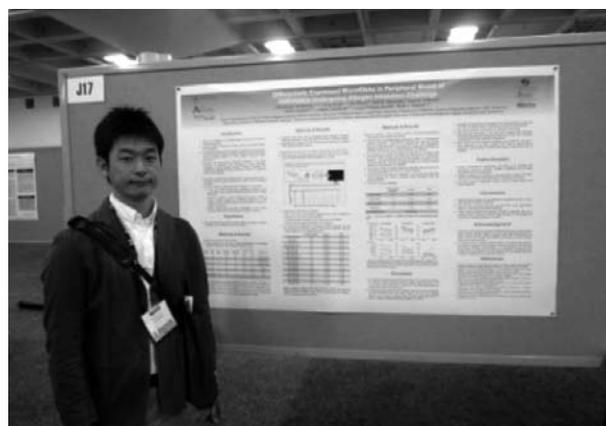
Peter Noble
The University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia

It was very interesting and educational for me to attend various symposia and educational seminars. The symposium on severe asthma was impressive from the point of view that airway diseases are heterogeneous and may be categorized using an analytical approach, such as cluster analysis. Further progress on the treatment of asthma is believed to include the focus on their various pathophysiological aspects beyond the current management centred on inhaled corticosteroids. The panelists discussed that a data mining approach, such as cluster analysis, to categorize severe asthma patients revealed the characteristics of each cluster of patients, and various pathophysiological methods, such as biomarkers, imaging and treatment options, were clarifying the novel aspects of each group. Environmental exposure and allergic response are important factors in airway diseases including asthma, so I also realized that gene environmental interaction in asthma pathogenesis is a key point to understand the mechanisms.

The conference was a great opportunity for meeting new people from a wide variety of backgrounds including researchers and clinicians, which allowed for networking as part of the conference community. In addition, I met my ex-coworkers from Japan to discuss their projects. I was very pleased to talk with them about their recent work there and give them some advice, as well as to chat about news and topics in Japan. Attending a big meeting such as the ATS conference gives us good opportunities to make and reunite with various networks.

I plan to develop my career as a physician scientist on respiratory medicine especially focusing on the allergic response and environmental exposures. Attending the ATS International Conference, with the support of the Travel Award, profoundly deepened discussion on our project and also expanded my experience to new research fields to support my career goal as a clinician scientist and a member of the APSR.

I am very grateful to the organizers of the ATS, and the APSR for funding me with a travel grant so that I could attend and participate in this exciting conference.



Masatsugu Yamamoto
University of British Columbia

Report from the award winners for APSR Short-Term Research/Training Fellowship

Awardee: Gang WANG, PhD, MD, Pneumology Group, Department of Integrated Traditional Chinese and Western Medicine, West China Hospital, Sichuan University, Chengdu, China.

Host institution: Department of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine, Hunter Medical Research Institute, John Hunter Hospital, University of Newcastle, Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia.

Host Supervisor: Dr Peter G. Gibson.

With the sponsorship help of the APSR Short-Term Research/Training Fellowship and the University of Newcastle, Australia, I had a chance to be a Visiting-Associate Professor working at the Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI) from October 2011 to May 2012. After this training, I believe I achieved the fellowship's goals.

First, I gave a presentation entitled 'Research Progress in the Pneumology Group, West China Hospital, Sichuan University, China' in the fortnightly seminars at HMRI, which enabled professors and researchers in Australia to be familiar with my research group in China.

Second, I had undertaken two research projects on evidence-based medicine in asthma. One research was on perinatal outcomes in asthmatic women, which is being prepared for submission. The other one was in revised after being reviewed by a respiratory medicine journal.

Third, I studied the sputum induction and sputum processing in HMRI. After being trained, I grasped the process of sputum induction and sputum processing in detail, which is important for me for establishing the technical platform of sputum induction and sputum processing in West China Hospital, and to do my research and clinical work in future

Fourth, I completed an original work about mast cell-based phenotypes of asthma by using induced sputum samples. This study was to explore the relationship between mast cell-based phenotypes and airway inflammation phenotypes in patients with asthma, and detected differential gene expression among different mast cell-based phenotypes by microarray methods. This paper is being prepared now.

Fifth, I attended the 2012 Annual Scientific Meeting of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand in Canberra, Australia from 31 March to 4 April. There, I took part in the Severe Asthma Network Meeting hosted by Dr Gibson, which was the prelude of the Asia-Pacific Severe Asthma Network Research. In early May, the Asia-Pacific Severe Asthma Network Research Meeting took place in the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research, Sydney, Australia. As one of the investigators from China, I participated in the discussion of the protocol of the Asia-Pacific Severe Asthma Network Research, and the case report form. I believe it will promote the collaboration of severe asthma research in China with Australia and other countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

It is the APSR that gave me an opportunity to study in Australia, which could improve my asthma research work in China in the future. Finally, I would like to show my sincere gratitude to Ms. Suga Konno, APSR secretariat; Dr Peter G Gibson, my host supervisor; Dr Xia Qing, my home supervisor, West China Hospital, Sichuan University, China; Ms. Vanessa Murphy, Heather Powell, Katie Baines, Michelle Gleeson, Bridgette Ridewood, Kellie Fakes, Naomi Fibbens, Penelope Baines, Juan-juan Fu and Mr. Michael Guo. In addition, I would like to show my thanks to Ms. Deborah Hall, Vanessa McDonald and Jodie Simpson. With their kind help, I had a good time in Australia.



Dr Wang Gang, processing induced sputum



Dr Wang Gang (left) in discussion with the research team

Wang Gang
P.R. China

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

2012

15th Midyear Convention
2-4 August, Palawan, Philippines

ERS 22nd Annual Congress
1-5 September, Vienna, Austria
Website: www.erscongress2012.org/

CHEST 2012 Annual Scientific Meeting of the ACCP
20-25 October, Atlanta, USA

114th Annual Meeting of the Korean Academy of
Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases
8-9 November, Seoul, Korea
Email: katrd@lungkorea.org
Website: www.lungkorea.org/eng/

**17th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of
Respirology**
14-16 December, Hong Kong, China
Website: www.apsr2012.org

2013

2013 Annual Scientific Meeting of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand
22-27 March, Darwin, Australia
Email: tsanz@fcconventions.com.au
Website: www.thoracic.org.au

115th Annual Meeting of the Korean Academy of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases
6 April, Korea
Email: katrd@lungkorea.org
Website: www.lungkorea.org/eng/

53rd Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory Society
19-21 April, Tokyo, Japan
Email: 53jrs@jrs.or.jp
Website: www.jrs.or.jp/jrs53

ATS International Conference

17-22 May, Philadelphia, USA

CHEST 2013 Annual Scientific Meeting of the ACCP
26-31 October, Chicago, USA

18th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology
11-14 November, Yokohama, Japan

2014

2014 Annual Scientific Meeting of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand
4-9 April, Adelaide, Australia

19th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology
10-13 November, Bali, Indonesia

ERS Honours

The APSR applauds the recent decision by the European Respiratory Society to bestow honorary membership to two former APSR presidents, Dr Berend and Dr Fukuchi.

The ERS website explains that these honours are recognition for *"exemplary and outstanding contribution to respiratory medicine and lung health ... given only when justified and merited by their accomplishments ... to highlight the work and service given by extraordinary individuals."*

It is noteworthy that the list of honorary ERS members is very short, with only eight members, three of whom are from the Asia Pacific region.

All three have been recipients of the annual APSR Medal: Dr Yoshinosuke Fukuchi (2009), Dr Nan Shan Zhong (2010), and Dr Norbert Berend (2011), which illustrates the APSR's own esteemed regard for these members.

Notices from the Secretariat

1. Invitation to bid for the 2015 Congress!

We invite you to make a proposal to host the 18th Congress of the APSR in 2015. Bids will be considered at the next Executive Committee Meeting in December 2012. You will be asked to present your thoracic society's plans for the arrangements, financial planning and infrastructure of the event (Local Congress Committee, etc.). Please contact the Secretariat in Tokyo for more information. (kyu00671@nifty.com)
Deadline for application: 15th November, 2012

2. APSR Research Awards

The APSR is pleased to announce two Research Awards; the Harasawa Research Award and the Woolcock Research Award, to two current APSR members. The two awardees will deliver lectures at the APSR Congress in Hong Kong, December 2012. Nominations can be made of any current member of the APSR and nominees shall be any current member of the APSR whose work enshrines excellence in respiratory research. Nominations should be sent to the Secretariat and will be considered by the APSR Research Committee.
Deadline for nominations: 31 July 2013

3. The APSR Medal

The APSR Medal will be bestowed during the 17th Congress of the APSR in Hong Kong, December 2012. The award of this medal is made for the advancement of respirology in the Asia Pacific region in fields other than research but including major achievements in advocacy, teaching, or clinical practice. Any current member of the APSR fulfilling the criteria is eligible for this award. Nominations should be sent to the Secretariat and will be considered by a committee comprising of the Chairperson of the Strategic Planning Committee, Chairperson of the Education Committee, Secretary General, Past President and President of the APSR.
Deadline for nominations: 31 July 2012

The Asian Pacific Society of Respirology
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