



## President's Message



Feb 15, 2018

Dear all APSN Members and Supporters,

I have taken up as the President of the Asian Pacific Society of Nephrology for about one and half years and would like to share with you the progress of the Society.

### **APCN 2018, Beijing, China, March 27-31, 2018**

The Asian Pacific Congress of Nephrology 2018 will be held in Beijing from March 27-31, 2018. CSN will organise together with APSN. We foresee this meeting to be the APCN with potentially the largest number of participants. Congratulations and thanks to the hard work of Prof Xueqing Yu as the Chair of the local organising committee, Prof CC Szeto and Prof Rob Walker as the APSN Co-Chairs together with Prof Fanfan Hou and Prof Xiangmei Chen as CSN Co-Chairs for the Scientific Programme Committee. The vibrant scientific programme is structured with 4 plenary lectures [Prof Joseph Bonventre (USA), Prof Alfred Cheung (USA), Prof Eoin McKinney (UK) and Prof Kazutoshi Mori (Japan)], 30 simultaneous symposia with 90 lectures and 6 pre-course sessions with 18 lectures. We have over 75 speakers around Asian Pacific region and globally to deliver the excellent academic programme. We will also have the first Hai-Yan Wang Lecture presented during this Congress by Prof Minghui Zhao. We have received over 850 abstracts. Prof Yu

promised me to showcase the cultural essence of Beijing and China during this Congress and all of you are invited to join this luminous event.

### **APSN Executive and Council Meetings**

In 2017, we have held two Executive and Council Meetings in Mexico City and in New Orleans.

Good discussions on the current operations and directions of the Society was made.



[APSN Executive and Council Meeting, Mexico City, 22 April, 2017]



[APSN Executive and Council Meeting, New Orleans, 3 Nov 2017]

## **Education Enhancement:**

In addition to the APCN Beijing upcoming, we had 4 APSN CME co-organised with 4 Societies in 2017. APSN and host Societies supported participants from Lower Income Countries (LIC) and the Lower Middle Income Countries (LMIC) through grants for joining these CME activities. At the same time, we recognised the training needs of young fellows from High Income Countries (HIC) and encouraged academic exchange among young fellows across the whole Asian Pacific region. Thus the APSN CME programmes also supported small number of young fellows of HIC joining these activities. This has received very good feedback from all participants and the hosting Societies.

On May 25th 2017, CME Programme co-hosted between APSN and Japanese Society of Nephrology (JSN) in Sendai. We have 62 participants from 17 Asian Pacific countries.



[APSN Exco Members and speakers of the APSN JSN CME Meeting in Sendai 25 May 2017.]

An APSN CME meeting was organised in Darwin together with Australian New Zealand Society of Nephrology (ANZSN) from Sept 2-3, 2017. It was held in conjunction with the ANZSN Nephrology and Transplantation Update Course that preceded the ASM of ANZSN. Altogether 15 LMIC and 2 HIC country participants were sponsored to attend the course. There was also a number of other non-sponsored attendees from Australia and New Zealand.



[Some of the speakers and APSN supported fellows in the APSN ANZSN CME meeting in Darwin, Sept 2-3, 2017.]

On September 15, CSN co-organised the CME with APSN in Wuhan, China.



[Some of the speakers in the APSN CSN CME Meeting Wuhan, Sept 15, 2017]

On Sept 30, 2017 an APSN CME meeting co-organised with Hong Kong Society of Nephrology and Hong Kong College of Physicians. The Meeting was attended by 103 participants. 23 trainees from 12 countries (Cambodia, Guangxi of China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, and Australia) were supported by APSN and HKSAN.



[The speakers together with all APSN HKSJ supported fellows in the APSN HKSJ HKCP CME on Sept 30, 2017 ]



[The 'likes' of all the participants at the APSN HKSJ HKCP CME meeting Sept 30, 2017]

In 2018, there will be 5 APSN CME courses to be organised:

1. CME in APCN Beijing, China with CSN (March 28, 2018)
2. CME in Seoul, Korea with KSN (May 18, 2018)
3. CME in Niigata, Japan with JSN (Jun 7, 2018)
4. CME in Sydney, Australia with ANZSN (Sept 8-9, 2018)
5. CME in Hong Kong with HKSJ (Sept 29, 2018)

APSN continues to support trainees and fellows to attend these APSN CME courses. Obviously all our APSN members are encouraged to participate and share. I thank all the CME speakers for your contribution towards these successful events.

## **Nephrology**

Our official Journal ***Nephrology*** is one of the most important assets of the Society which helps to promote the education and knowledge of nephrology and for a communication channel across the Asian Pacific region and the world. Peter Kerr (Australia), our Editor-in-Chief, together with the whole Editorial Board have produced a high quality journal attracting clinical and basic research papers in renal medicine. I thank Peter and the whole Board. ***Nephrology*** continues to have a very high submission rate – about 800 for the year 2017. A decision has been made by the Executive Committee and Council to move to publish on-line only. On-line only publishing will commence in the course of 2018-9. On-line access for all members of all APSN Societies is now available, either through the APSN website (Members Only area) or via local society websites.

## **Asian Pacific Clinical Practice Recommendations**

Prof CC Szeto (Hong Kong) has helped the Society to form a group to study the current gaps in the clinical practice guidelines for the Asian Pacific region, notably in the good clinical practice despite resource limitations in the LIC and LMIC in the region. The first Asian Pacific Clinical Practice Recommendation, now in progress, will be on “Evaluation and management of diabetic nephropathy” under a group comprising 14 members with good mix between LMIC and HIC countries. The group will be led by Dr Adrian Liew of Singapore.

## **WCN-APCN Melbourne April 9 -12, 2019.**

Prof Peter Kerr is the Congress Local Organising Chair. This is an ISN-ANZSN-APSN Meeting. The planning of the scientific programme and social programme is ongoing smoothly. 2019 will also be the 40th anniversary for APCN (Inaugural Meeting of APCN was in Tokyo 1979). APSN will plan activities celebrating such a memorable event.

## **Future APCNs**

Planning is still ongoing for APCN after 2019 as an annual event. It will be a WCN-APCN event in the year that WCN comes to AP region. The others will be co-hosted by a local Nephrology Society partnering with APSN. This will help to enhance education in the region, in the light that AP region is the fastest growing region for

care of CKD and ESRD patients. Also it will allow APCN to go to more countries, developing and developed alike. Prof Nangaku and myself will make plans and invite interested Societies to consider hosting this very important event of the Society.

### **Partnership with ISN**

APSN continues to have good partnership with ISN on the collaborative projects including the fellowships, sister centre initiatives, CME, educational ambassadors and the on-going support for the region including the 0 by 25 project. These APSN-ISN activities are very welcome by the nephrologists in the AP region and have trained up quite a large number of renal doctors. These are also major areas that APSN has put in a lot of financial and human resources for capacity building in the Asian Pacific region.

### **For the year 2017:**

#### **APSN - ISN Research Projects:**

“Screening of CINAC among adolescents” – Dr. Channa Jayasumana (Sri Lanka)

“CKD & TB in Nepal” – Dr. Ananda Chapagain (Nepal)

#### **APSN – ISN Fellow :**

Dr Nergui Mandkhai (Mongolia) to train in glomerular diseases at the Peking University First Hospital, China

Dr. Seow Yeing Yee (Malaysia) to train in transplantation at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Australia

#### **APSN – ISN Sister Renal Centres:**

Level A - Cho Ray Hospital (Vietnam) – Westmead Hospital (Australia)

Level B – Viet Duc Hospital (Vietnam) – Juntendo Hospital (Japan)

Level B – Bach Mai Hospital (Vietnam) – National Center for Global Health & Medicine (Japan)

Level C - Southern Philippines Medical Center (Philippines) – Singapore General Hospital (Singapore)

## Lancet Kidney Campaign

The APSN was among eight key Society partners to formally join, contribute updates and propagate this ISN campaign resulting in increased exposure globally on raising awareness in kidney disease. Lancet Kidney Campaign was launched for 22 months till Jan 2018. During this period, over 33 updates have been published, highlighting topical issues and policy priorities. These efforts resulted in over 21,500 campaign website visits from 149 countries, and over 9,300 reads of the campaign updates.

## Asian Forum for CKD Initiatives (AFCKDI)

APSN continues to support the AFCKDI. The next meeting of AFCKDI will be held during APCN in Beijing in conjunction with APSN. I thank Dr Yusuke Tsukamoto and his team for their efforts in such initiatives in the region.

## Presidential Activity

In May 25-27, 2017, I attended the Japanese Society of Nephrology (JSN) meeting in Sendai, Japan. JSN conferred an Honorary International Member to me, as President of APSN.



[Prof Naoki Kashihara, President of JSN presented the Certificate of Honorary International Member to Prof Philip Li and Prof David Harris on May 26, 2017 during the 60th JSN Annual Meeting in Sendai ]

In Sept 12-16, 2017, I attended the Chinese Society of Nephrology (CSN) Annual meeting in Wuhan. I gave an Opening Speech as President of APSN. The Meeting had over 10,000 delegates.



[Prof Philip Li in the Opening Ceremony of CSN Meeting in Wuhan on 14th September, 2017]

I also attended, on behalf of APSN, the 2017 International Forum of Kidney Organizations in New Orleans on 1<sup>st</sup> Nov, 2017 as co-facilitated by the American Society of Nephrology (ASN), European Renal Association-European Dialysis and Transplant Association (ERA-EDTA), and International Society of Nephrology (ISN) with over 30 global nephrology participating organizations discussing possible collaborations and future initiatives for promoting kidney health globally.



[Prof Philip Li attended the 2017 International Forum of Kidney Organizations in New Orleans on 1st Nov, 2017]

## Financial

APSN currently runs a very healthy financial status. The APSN Executive and Council constantly look into revenue generation as well as wisely spending of the resources in supporting the region to provide a better care to our renal patients.

## Change of Office Bearers

I am pleased to announce that Prof Masaomi Nangaku has been elected as President- Elect of APSN in the recent election, and will become President of APSN in April 2019. He will step down from the Chair of CME Committee from Mar 2018. Prof Xueqing Yu from China will take up as Chair of CME Committee. A/Prof Katherine Barraclough from Australia will take up the Deputy Chair of CME Committee. Prof Peter Kerr, our Editor-in-Chief of *Nephrology*, will step down from Editorship from Mar 2018 to focus as Local Organizing Committee Chair for WCN 2019 in Melbourne. Prof Sydney Tang from Hong Kong will take up as the Editor in Chief of *Nephrology*.

I sincerely thank Masaomi and Peter for the excellent achievements that they have done for the CME and *Nephrology* Journal respectively. Masaomi and Peter continue to be key members of our team to do more for APSN. I welcome Xueqing, Katherine and Sydney in their new roles for contributing to our Society.

On behalf of all the Executive, Council and Committees, I would like to once again thank all of you as members who have supported our initiatives and we do further rely on you to contribute to the APSN development now and in future.

We treasure your views on how we should further advance nephrology in the AP region. If you have any suggestions related to APSN, please feel free to contact me, any of the Executive and Council or through the Secretariat [apsn@icc.com.hk](mailto:apsn@icc.com.hk)

I would like to see all of you in APCN Beijing March 27-31, 2018.

Best Wishes,



Philip K.T. LI

President,

Asian Pacific Society of Nephrology