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President's Report



Wayne Cutfield
APPES President

2006 sees a changing of the guard within the APPES executive following elections held at the biennial general meeting during the Scientific Meeting in Pattaya, Thailand. The newly elected members to the executive are Prof Suttipong Wacharindhu as secretary, Dr Craig Munns as treasurer, Prof Xiaoping Luo as president-elect and myself as president. Prof Chris Cowell remains within the executive stepping down from president to take up the role of immediate past president. Each of the newly elected executive members is committed to the growth and development of APPES and will bring their own unique organisational and management skills to the executive. In welcoming the new executive members it is timely to acknowledge and reflect on the efforts of the outgoing executive members who have served for lengthy periods on the executive and to whom we owe much. Prof Geoff Ambler has been treasurer since APPES began. He has always adroitly managed the APPES financial accounts with careful attention to detail and prudent financial direction. Geoff is passionate and skilled in computer technology and was instrumental in launching and now running the APPES website. Further development of the APPES website is planned and website maintenance needed. Geoff has been appointed as APPES web manager by the new executive to continue his excellent work in website development. Prof Kah Yin Loke has been secretary for 4 years and has demonstrated superb organisation and efficiency in all that he does. To misquote Winston Churchill, "Never before have so many owed so much to one man", and that

one man is Prof Chris Cowell. Chris conceived the idea of a regional Paediatric Endocrine Society with Meena Desai and Chanika Tuchinda almost a decade ago. Chris invited representation from across the region and then got on and organised a constitution, sought funding, established a secretariat and began to raise the profile of APPES. Over the past 10 years he has spent countless days and weeks setting up and developing a society that is now recognised by all other major paediatric Endocrine Societies in the world. His leadership skills and capacity to draw together paediatric endocrinologists from across the region has been impressive. In 2002 following fleeting political unrest in India he and Geoff Ambler offered to host the Second APPES Biennial Scientific Meeting in Cairns, Australia at very short notice and ran a superb meeting.

This year's Biennial Scientific meeting held in Pattaya, Thailand was a huge success and ran seamlessly. The meeting location at the Beach Cliff Resort was idyllic and the science impressive. The quiet humility of the local organising Committee led by Prof Kitti Angsusinghe (chair) and Prof Suttipong Wacharindhu (secretary) masked the meticulous planning and organisation that the LOC displayed. The Thai LOC have much to be proud of and I think that the greatest compliment for the LOC and scientific programming committee was the exceptionally high attendance at every session, despite the lures of the Sun, surf and shopping. We have been fortunate that all four scientific meetings to date have been wonderfully organised and hosted with high calibre scientific and practical clinical content.

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COUNCIL NEWS

A new council was formed at the 2006 APPES Conference in Pattaya. We would like to introduce the members of council to you...



President
Wayne Cutfield
Auckland, New Zealand



Council Member
Louis Low
Hong Kong, China



Immediate Past President
Chris Cowell
Sydney, Australia



Council Member
Chunxiu Gong
Beijing, China



President Elect
Xiaoping Luo
Wuhan, China



Council Member
Aman Pulungan
Jakarta, Indonesia



Honorary Secretary
Suttipong Wacharasindhu
Bangkok, Thailand



Council Member
Sioksoan Chan Cua
Manila, Philippines



Honorary Treasurer
Craig Munns
Sydney, Australia



Council Member
Sei Won Yang
Seoul Korea



Immediate Past Chairman of LOC
Kitti Angsusinghe
Bangkok, Thailand



Council Member
Keiichi Ozono
Osaka, Japan



Current Representative of LOC
Byung Churl Lee
Seoul, Korea



Council Member
PS Menon
India



Webmaster
Geoffrey Ambler
Sydney, Australia



Council Member
Kah Yin Loke
Singapore

President's Report (cont from page 1)

This year a formal detailed application process was undertaken in which council selected the strongest bid following formal application and presentation of bids. All three bids received from member countries were of an exceptionally high standard and reflected very careful and detailed planning.

Seoul, South Korea will be the host city for the Fifth Biennial Scientific Meeting initially planned for October 29 - November 1, 2008. Prof Sei Won Yang, as President of the Local Organising Committee will lead a dedicated team to create another successful event. Details of the meeting will soon begin to appear on the APPES website and a dedicated website for the meeting established.

Over the next two years as APPES president I would like to embrace the commitment already made to education particularly of trainees in the region and believe our most important mission should be to further develop high quality education and training for trainees and consultants in paediatric endocrinology. Education and training opportunities already exist within the society with

annual fellows meeting which are now so popular that applications far exceed available positions. To facilitate educational opportunities for the regions' fellows a limited number of sponsorships are available for fellows to APPES fellows meetings. A biennial scientific meeting is held and meeting lectures from the Pattaya meeting are available as pdf files on the APPES website. The website contains a free link to the journal Growth Genetic and Hormones which contains many state of the art reviews.

What more in the way of education and training materials or opportunities could the society offer? The executive soon hope to finalise a contract that will allow free electronic access through the members section to the journal Hormone Research, a high profile journal within our field. We will also have the opportunity to advertise within the journal and contribute names of members to the editorial board. Once the contract with Karger is signed the Hormone Research opportunity will be advertised on the website. An electronic link to Endobytes will be placed on the website which is a monthly 2 page review of three articles of im-

portance in clinical paediatric endocrinology covering 24 journals published in the preceding month. Each article summary has a commentary to place the observations in perspective for readers. Increasingly lecture and scientific material will be made available on the website and I would recommend to all of you to visit the website regularly to find what is available to you particularly if you have talks or topics to prepare and need additional resource material. Other initiatives that could be explored include: providing opinions on challenging clinical problems, facilitating exchanges of fellows or consultant short sabbaticals across the region to broaden clinical experience. An APPES email server in which members could share or seek opinion on interesting or challenging patients has been raised by several members who would like the opportunity to consult more widely.

For a young society APPES has achieved much for members and will offer even greater opportunities in the future that will exploit the regional strength of our society. The future looks promising to APPES and I hope that you will all continue to actively support the society.

It was lovely to meet you in Pattaya!

On behalf of **CLAN (CAH Living As Neighbours)**, I would like to thank the APPES Organising Committee for allowing us to have a stall at the conference in Pattaya. This unique event was a fantastic opportunity for CLAN to connect with so many paediatric endocrinologists from the Asia Pacific region, and learn much more about the situation for CAH families in different countries.

Thank-you to the many people who visited CLAN's stall, and those who responded to our survey on CAH. We plan to report back to you on the findings of this survey in the next APPES newsletter, and intend to use the information you have shared to help focus CLAN's future activities.

In the meantime, please feel free to contact CLAN at any time. If there was the opportunity for us to support the CAH patients you are involved with, we would be only too happy to explore this with you.

Dr Kate Armstrong
CLAN (CAH Living As Neighbours)
www.cahclan.org
kate@cahclan.org



APPES SCIENTIFIC MEETING 2006

The 4th Biennial Scientific Meeting Asia Pacific Paediatric Endocrine Society 2006, which was held between 1-4 Nov 2006 at Pattaya, Thailand, is very successful and memorable meeting. It was a great honour for Thai Paediatric Endocrine Society (TPES) to host this meeting.

There were about 397 paediatric endocrinologists and other medical personnel from more than 10 countries in Asia Pacific region and also from Europe and USA attending this meeting. All participants not only enjoy the scientific programme but also the Thai cultural social programme provided.

Additionally, it was a great time for all to meet old friends and make new friend in our society. As host, we hope that everyone was impressed with our warm and kind hospitality. We look forward to seeing you again for next APPES meeting in Korea.





FELLOWS MEETING

8th FELLOWS' MEETING Report

Rayong Resort, Thailand: 29th October to 1st November 2006

The 8th APPES fellows meeting was this year held in association with the Thai Paediatric Endocrine society. The meeting was attended by 45 trainees from Pakistan, India, Thailand, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Vietnam, Cambodia, Bahrain, Malaysia, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, mainland China and Hong Kong. We were honoured to have Professor Jan-Maarten Wit, a plenary speaker from the main APPES meeting, join the teaching faculty. He was an enthusiastic participant in the whole meeting, and ran a fabulous session on genetics of growth disorders and growth monitoring. Other faculty members were Dr Craig Munns, Prof Wayne Cutfield, Prof Louis Low, Assoc Prof Chris Cowell, Dr Paul Hoffman, Dr Supawadee Likitmasku, Dr Maria Craig, and Dr Kah Yin Loke (whose session on pituitary disorders was extremely well received by the fellows). We were also delighted to have Prof Kittit Angsusingha, Dr Suttipong Wacharasindhu and Dr Pairunyar Nakavachara join the teaching faculty and provide expert comments during the case-based teaching sessions. Many of the fellows presented cases of their own and we all benefited from the fascinating pot-pourri of endocrinology from across the region. The clinical quiz, with many excellent photos provided by Prof Wit, was highly contested and jointly won by Dr Ildi Koves and Dr Julieta Solis. We were fortunate to have the wonderful Rayong Resort as a venue for the meeting - this was an excellent environment for fellows and faculty to learn and interact, while experiencing Thai food and culture. On the 3rd afternoon, the fellows took some time out to take a boat ride and swim in the warm Thai sea. The meeting was sponsored by Serono Asia and brilliantly organised by Pixie Yee and her colleagues.



FOCUS ON.....THAILAND

Each Newsletter, we plan to bring you news from one of the Member Countries. As many of us enjoyed our time in Thailand during the Scientific Meeting, we thought you might like to learn a little more about the history and what is in store for Thailand.

The Thai Paediatric Endocrine Society (TPES): the Past to the Present

The Past

It was 12 years ago that the Thai Paediatric Endocrine Society (TPES) was founded by a few existing paediatric endocrinologists at the time. As one of the field's pioneers who has greatly inspired the following generations of Thailand's paediatric endocrinologists, Professor Dr. Chanika Tuchinda was chosen to chair the Society. One of the objectives of the TPES's establishment is to strengthen the academic cooperation among the Paediatric endocrinologists by means of inter-hospital conference. With more ideas exchanged and collaborations shared, the TPES had, for the first time, realized its capacity to host its first joint international conference entitled the International Symposium on Diabetes and Endocrine Disorders in the Young and 4th Asian Symposium of Childhood and Juvenile Diabetes in Chiang Mai in January 1997. It was here at this joint international conference that paediatric endocrinologists from the Asian Pacific countries, for the first time, met and shared their diverse views, which later paved the way for the APPES international conference.

Prior to the establishment of the TPES, the two most influential paediatric endocrinologists whose work has immensely benefited the Thai society are Prof. Dr. Direk Pongphiphat and later Prof. Dr. Chawalit Preeyasombat whose expertise gained from the USA inspired Prof. Dr. Chanika Tuchinda to acquire her American Board in Paediatrics and in Paediatric Endocrinology.

For the past 12 years, Thailand has nurtured 32 paediatricians whose further study in Paediatric Endocrinology at both Thai and international institutions has considerably addressed the shortages of medial human resources in this particular area.

It has been a great opportunity for these paediatric endocrinologists to acquire their expertise from internationally recognized institutions abroad such as America, United Kingdom, Europe and Australia. This has so significantly fostered the strength of the Thai Paediatric Endocrine Society to the extent that many medical schools in Thailand can now provide the fellowship programme in Paediatric Endocrinology. Those who wish to participate in this programme will be required to complete their resident training in general paediatrics before they can be trained for another two years in Paediatric Endocrinology.

The Present

At present, the Thai Paediatric Endocrine Society (TPES), chaired by Prof. Dr. Kitti Angsusingha, has seen the importance of continuing education among the general paediatricians by constantly providing them short courses in Paediatric Endocrinology in both the capital and other provinces of the country. The continuing education programme in this area is not only meant for general paediatricians, but also for medial personnel in other fields such as nurses and scientists. This is due to the TPES's realization that multi-disciplinary approach is the most efficient way to take care of the patients. At present, there are 115 members in our Society.

In addition to this, the TPES has also realized the significance of international cooperation among Paediatric endocrinologists, which has heightened the professionalism in the TPES members to the extent that the APPES board, once again, trust the TPES to host the 4th Biennial Scientific Meeting Asian Pacific Paediatric Endocrine Society between 1st to 4th November 2006 in Pattaya. The TPES considers this opportunity to be a great honour to its history and promises to do its best to make this year event one of the most memorable.



Members of the TPS

Thai Flag Meaning:

The red stripes represent the blood spilt to maintain Thailand's independence. The white stands for purity and is the color of Buddhism which is the country's main religion. Blue is Thailand's national color and it represents the Thai monarchy. The blue is also used to honor Thailand's World War I allies, Great Britain, France, United States and Russia, who all had red, white and blue flags.

APPES COUNCIL

The following council were elected into their position at the APPES Biennial Meeting in Thailand. See page 2 for more details.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

President:	A/Prof Wayne Cutfield	New Zealand
Secretary:	Dr Suttipong Wacharasindhu	Thailand
Treasurer:	Dr Craig Munns	Australia
President Elect:	Prof Xiaoping Luo	PR China
Immediate Past President:	A/Prof Christopher Cowell	Australia

COUNCIL

Dr Aman Pulungan	Indonesia
Prof Louis Low	Hong Kong
Prof Keiichi Ozono	Japan
Dr Sioksoan Chan-Cua	Philippines
Prof Sei Won Yang	Korea
Prof Byung Churl Lee	Korea
Prof Kittti Angsusingha	Thailand
A/Prof Kah Yin Loke	Singapore
Dr Geoffrey Ambler	Australia
Dr Ps Menon	India
Dr Chunxiu Gong	PR China

An invitation is extended to all APPES members to submit news for the newsletter. Each year, the newsletter will be published in March, June, September and December, with an additional 'conference issue' each year of the APPES Scientific Meeting.

If you would like to submit articles or photos, please do so via email on appes@willorganise.com.au

Future Events

2007:

June 2 - 5

ENDO 2007: Toronto, Canada
www.endo-society.org/educationevent

June 22—26

American Diabetes Association 66th Scientific Sessions: Chicago, USA
www.diabetes.org/for-health-professionals-and-scientists/profed.jsp

June 27—30

46th ESPE Meeting: Helsinki, Finland
www.congrex.com/espe2007/
Email: espe2007@congrex.se

Sept 26-29

ISPAD: Berlin, Germany
www.ispad2007.com
Email: kordonouri@hka.de

Oct 15—18

APEG Annual Scientific Meeting
Broome, WA, Australia
Email: apegasm@willorganise.com.au

2008:

Sept 20—23

47th ESPE Meeting: Istanbul, Turkey
www.espe2008.org/
Email: espe2008@congrex.se

29 October - 1 November
5th Biennial APPES Scientific Meeting
Seoul, Korea
Email: appes@willorganise.com.au

Dates TBC

ISPAD: Durban, South Africa
Email: kubenpillay@worldonline.co.za

2009:

Sept 9 - 12

8th Joint ESPE/LWPES Meeting
New York, USA
www.lwpes-espe2009.org/

If you have a meeting you would like to add to this listing, please email the APPES Secretariat on appes@willorganise.com.au with the following details:

- Name of Conference, City/Country where being held, Website Address and Contact Email Address