

# FAOPS NEWS LETTER

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his members. Both Professor Singh and I were impressed by the dedication and devotion of Physiological Society of Thailand and the Local Organizing Committee, and were satisfied with the tentative program and the venue. Reports of the site visit from me and Professor Pholpramool can be viewed in this issue.

FAOPS continues its mission to promote Physiology Education in the region. We are very pleased to learn that the keenness of Inter-Medical School Physiology Quiz continues to flourish after

## President's note

Dear fellow physiologists:

As we are about to replace our calendar with a new one for 2015, I would like to highlight in this issue of Newsletter the main FAOPS activities that took place during 2014.

The most important activity, of course, is the preparation for the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS Congress to be held on November 22-25, 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand. On June 23-24, Secretary General Professor Harbindar Singh and I were in Bangkok for a two-day site visit on the progress of preparation on the Congress. We were warmly welcomed by Professor Chumpol Pholpramool, chairman of the Local Organizing Committee, and

more than a decade, and that this year's event in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, which attracted teams from nearly 100 medical schools in the region, was another success.

We are also delighted to know that this event has expanded to other medical institutions and the first National Inter-medical School Physiology Quiz was held in Dharan, Nepal on June 20-21, 2014.

The success of both events strongly indicates that FAOPS needs to work more closely with member societies and local medical schools to facilitate initiatives that strengthen the discipline of physiology.

As always, we thank Professor Saeed Semnianian, Editor of the Newsletter, and his staff for their efforts and contribution in releasing the Newsletter on schedule. I also thank individuals and member societies for their contributions to this issue of FAOPS Newsletter.

Finally, I wish all of you a very peaceful Christmas holiday and a prosperous 2015.

**Julie Y.H. Chan**

**The 15<sup>th</sup> President, FAOPS**




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## 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS Congress

November 22-25, 2015 Centara Grand Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

"Translational Physiology: Imagination, Inspiration and Innovation"

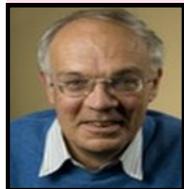


You are invited to join us at the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS 2015 Congress in **Bangkok, Thailand** during **November 22-25, 2015**.

The scientific program includes lectures, symposia, physiology education workshop, and free communications.

# 8th FAOPS Congress

## Key speakers:



**Bert Sakmann** (Noble Laureate in 1991): Reconstructing brain circuits *in silico*



**Erwin Neher** (Noble Laureate in 1991): Short-term synaptic plasticity: inspired by biophysics



**Aaron Ciechanover** (Noble Laureate in 2004): topic to be announced



**Thomas J. Jentsch**: Role of chloride transport in physiology and pathology



**Pieter de Tombe**: Cardiac myofilament dysfunction in heart failure



**Karyn Esser**: Circadian rhythms, molecular clock and skeletal muscle; why muscles need to keep time



**Akos Koller**: Flow dependent vasoconstriction: a novel mechanism contributing to the autoregulation of cerebral blood flow



**Tetsuo Arakawa**: Gastric inflammation and carcinogenesis



**Nateetip Krishnamra** : Fibroblast growth factor 23 and vitamin D as feedback regulators in the bone-kidney-intestinal axis for calcium and phosphorus homeostasis



**Nipon Chattipakorn**: Anti-diabetic drugs, obesity, and insulin resistance: the good, the bad, and the ugly in the heart



**Piyarat Govitrapong**: Roles of melatonin on brain aging and neurodegeneration

- The WNK and IRBIT pathways in ion transport (*Shinichi Uchida, Seonghee Park, Sung-Sen Yang, Min Goo Lee*)
- Zinc and Zinc transporters in health and disease (*Taiho Kambe, Jae Young Koh, Arie Moran*)
- Role of intracellular channels in organellar physiology (*Shmuel Muallem, Soonhong Park, Thomas J. Jentsch*)
- Cutting-edge research in bone and calcium metabolism in Thailand (*Nateetip Krishnamra, Boonsong Ongphiphadhanakul, Prasit Pavasant, Narattaphol Charoenphandhu*)

## Symposium topics & tentative speakers:

- New insights into integral regulators of the epithelial ion transport in health and disease (*Yoshinori Marunaka, Robert Tarran, Chatchai Muanprasat, Anuwat Dinudom*)
- The role of amino acid transport and signaling in pathophysiological conditions (*Phil Poronnik, Naohiko Anzai, Do-Kyung Kim*)

# 8th FAOPS Congress

- Muscle protein functions (*Karyn Esser, Pieter de Tombe, Jonggonnee Wattanapermpool*)
- New approaches to the screening of cardiovascular function (*Stephen E. Greenwald, Alberto Avolio, Nikos Stergiopoulos, Paniyotis Kyriacou*)
- Translation research in central cardiovascular regulation (*Jean-Luc Elghozi, Geoffrey A. Head, Yoshitaka Hirooka, Samuel H.H. Chan*)
- Microvascular function and rheological changes in endotoxemia (*Suthiluk Patumraj, Visith Sitprija, Narongsak Chaiyabutr*)
- Fluid Shear Stress and Vascular Homeostasis (*Jeng-Jiann Chiu, Yi Zhu, Jing Zhou*)
- New paradigm for management of viral hepatitis (*Duangporn Werawatganon, Pisit Tangkijvanij, Piyawat Komolmitr*)
- Neurogastroenterology and motility (*Guangyin Xu, Wenxie Xu, Chuanyong Liu*)
- Nuclear receptors in salt and water transport: From physiology to disease (*Youfei Guan, Tianxin Yang, Feng Zheng, James Y Yang, Sands JM or Klein JD*)
- Renal physiology (*Mark Knepper, Dennis Brown*)
- New mechanisms and new roles in the locus coeruleus (*Min Ming-Yuan, Saeed Semnanian, Fusao Kato*)
- Emotional and cognitive modulation of pain: From basic to clinical (*Jun Chen, Yu-Qiu Zhang, Yun Wang*)
- Synapses and circuits: From formation to disorder (*Hailan Hu, Tadaharu Tsumoto, Ying-Shing Chan*)
- Organ homeostasis and thyroid hormone action (*Paul M. Yen, Medan M. Godbole, Noriyuki Koibuchi*)
- Leptin: a friend and a foe (*Han Weiping, Deanne Helena Hryciw, Harbindar Jeet Singh*)
- Neuropeptides in Reproduction (*Sue Moenter, Ishwar Parhar, Takashi Yoshimura*)
- Advances in reproductive physiology for wild life con-

- servation (*Kazuyoshi Taya, Haibin Wang, Janine L. Brown*)
- Thermoregulation in the tropics – implication for health and endurance performance (*Narihiko Kondo, Panadda Hatthachote, Jason Lee*)
- Traditional medicine – beyond civilization (*Pravit Akarasereenont, Premrutai Thitilertdecha, Manmas Vannaphom*)

## Physiology teaching workshop:

Physiology Education: A metamorphosis for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Problems from both teachers and students and possible innovations of teaching in the 21<sup>st</sup> century will be explored and discussed.

## Call for abstracts

Participants are invited to submit abstracts for poster or oral presentations. Some abstracts may be selected for oral presentations in the appropriate symposium session. Submitted abstracts will be considered in the following themes:

Alternative and Complementary Medicine	Muscle physiology
Cardiovascular physiology & microcirculation	Neuroscience
Cell and molecular physiology	Physiology education
Exercise physiology	Renal physiology
Endocrinology and metabolism	Reproduction
Gastrointestinal physiology	Respiratory physiology
Growth and development	Others
Membrane and epithelial transport	

# 8th FAOPS Congress

Abstracts of lectures, symposia and free communications presented at the congress will be published in a supplement issue of the *Journal of Physiological Sciences*, which is indexed in several databases.

## Young Scientist Travel Awards

In order to provide an opportunity for young physiologists in Asian and Oceanic regions to take part at the Congress, the organizer will grant a number of travel awards to those who register and submit abstracts for presentation. Each awardee will receive USD500.

## Venue of the congress:

the *Centara Grand at Central World*, which is a 5 stars hotel with excellent convention facilities and located in the center of the shopping area that is easily accessible by sky train or other public transports.



## Social events:

Beside the scientific atmosphere we will prepare for friendly and impressive social program during the reception and congress dinner. The congress is planned to be closed on the day we celebrate "Loi Krathong festival" (Thai floating lantern festival) in the evening. Participants will have an opportunity to join our chanting and colorful night.



## Sponsorship opportunity is available:

contact Prof. Suchinda Malaivijitnond or Dr. Mariem Yusuksawad, Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University, Henri Dunant Road, Pathumwan, Bangkok 10330, Thailand, Tel/Fax: 66-2-256 4267, Email: [faops2015@yahoo.com](mailto:faops2015@yahoo.com) or [faops2015@hotmail.com](mailto:faops2015@hotmail.com)

For more details please visit us at

<http://www.faops2015.com>.

Don't forget to book your calendar for the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS 2015 congress on November 22-25, 2015.

See you in Bangkok!

# FAOPS interview: Prof. Samuel H.H. Chan, Taiwan

**First of all, I would like to have a brief introduction, especially your education (and personal) profile. Then please give detailed answers to the following questions:**



Professor Samuel H.H.

Chan received his BSc (cum laude) in Biology from Chinese University of Hong Kong (1968), PhD in Physiology from Indiana University (1971) and postdoctoral training in Neurology at Mount Sinai School of Medicine (1971-72). He has held academic positions at University of Hong Kong (1973-1977), Indiana University (1977-1982), National University of Singapore (1982-1985), and National Yang-Ming University (1986-1998) in Taipei, Taiwan. In 1997, Professor Chan was appointed the National Chair Professor of Neuroscience, the highest honor bestowed by the Ministry of Education, Taiwan, and was recruited in 1998 to establish and direct a new Center for Neuroscience at the National Sun Yat-sen University in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, where he additionally served as Vice-President for Academic Affairs from 2002 to 2004. He was invited to his current position in 2009 as the Inaugural Director and Distinguished Chair Professor of a new state-of-the-art Center for Translational Research in Biomedical Sciences at Chang Gung Memorial Hospital-Kaohsiung Medical Center. Professor Chan is recognized internationally for his distinguished contributions to central cardiovascular regulatory functions, particularly in translational research on brain death and neurogenic hypertension. In addition to numerous prestigious awards and honors for his research accomplishments, he was President of the Pharmacological Society in Taiwan (2004-08) and Neuroscience Society in Taiwan (2008-10), and Editor-in-Chief of Journal of Biomedical Science (1998-04). He is currently President of the Asia Pacific Federation of Pharmacologists, and Series Editor of the monograph series Translational Research in Biomedicine published by Karger AB in Switzerland.

**What factors in your general life influence you most? How have your family influenced you in your scientific work?**

There are two inter-related factors. First, is the endeavor of interests to me? Second, should, rather than could, the endeavor be accomplished. Let me give you an example. In the early 1990's, the biomedical research community in Taiwan was debating the pros-and-cons of establishing the very first international biomedical journal with an editorial board based in Taiwan. The government funding agency and a majority of the opinion leaders were strongly opposing this idea. Several of us worked relentlessly against this odd, under the leadership of Professor C.C. Chang, the person who identified  $\alpha$ -bungarotoxin; the first issue of Journal of Biomedical Science appears in January, 1994, published by Karger in Switzerland. I became the Editor-in-Chief of that journal in 1998, and our first impact factor was listed in the 1999 Journal Citation Report. As of to-date, Journal of Biomedical Science still holds the highest impact factor among all journals published in Taiwan.

By allowing me to make my own decision from as young as 10, my parents have afforded me the opportunity to have the confidence to look into the future, and be prepared to face the consequences. I have benefited profusely from these attributes throughout my career.

**What factors influenced you the most in deciding to be a physiologist?**

Growing up, I found myself only interested in subjects that do not require a lot of memorization, but require constant reasoning. Of all the subjects in medicine, physiology satisfies both requirements. So it is a natural choice when I started my PhD training. As I advanced in my professional career, I found that being a physiologist has an add-on benefit. I can always provide findings from my pharmacological, biochemical and molecular biological work with a functional phenotype.

**When did you start your career in scientific research and in what area?**

I set up my first laboratory in 1973 when I joined the University of Hong Kong as a lecturer (assistant professor) in physiology. Using

acupuncture as the sole anesthesia to perform surgery in China has just made a big splash in the medical world around that time, and everybody is interested in identifying the mechanism. As one who is trained in neurophysiology, I decided to investigate the mechanism of acupuncture analgesia by employing standard experimental approaches that were used by any neurophysiologist to study pain mechanisms in the 1970's. Two articles published in Experimental Neurology in 1975 and 1976 in which I concluded that acupuncture produces analgesia by inducing presynaptic inhibition on nociceptive primary afferents in the spinal cord were cited in the first review article in Annals of Medicine on acupuncture.

**Could you describe your laboratory; i.e. the atmosphere, the staff, and the students according to their degrees?**

Over the past 40 years, I have had the privilege of running laboratories of from less than 5 persons to more than 50 persons. Regardless of the size, the principles are always the same. First, everybody takes pride in being a member of the laboratory. Second, there is only one set of operating guidelines for all members, be they faculty members, physicians, postdoctoral fellows, postgraduate students or technical staff. Third, recognizing that each member is an individual with diversified family and professional backgrounds, success is defined as surpassing oneself.

**When did you first begin thinking about being a scientist?**

I would say around 9 when I presented to my teacher a table lamp made of cardboard (class assignment) that actually comes with a light bulb and a switch. I also learned to face challenge that day because in disbelief, my teacher demands me to dismantle the entire wiring and re-do it again in front of the class.

**How many hours do you work per day? Can you describe how you spend your working hours? How do you manage your time over research, education, meetings, lecture, travel and professional consulting?**

I work an average of 8-10 hours Monday to

# FAOPS interview: Prof Samuel H.H. Chan

Saturday. In my current position, a majority of those hours is devoted to administration and professional consulting.

My lectures are now mostly of three types. One is general subjects such as “Neuroscience and you” to undergraduate students, particularly non-life science majors. The second one is a series of 7 lectures to physicians who are interested in research. The topics include (1) identification of a research theme; (2) experimental design; (3) data analysis and interpretation; (4) preparation of graphs and tables; (5) how to play the publication game; (6) preparation of a grant application; and (7) research ethics. The third one is to hospital administrators on subjects related to research management. A popular topic during the past few years is on how to implement translational medicine in a medical center.

I make 6-8 trips every year, mainly for meetings of journal editorial boards or professional society councils, academic meetings such as IUPS, IUPHAR Congress or Experimental Biology. In addition, I consult with hospitals or universities on setting up and running large-scale research programs.

I do maintain a small research program, with 5-6 persons on my team. One of the current pet projects is to apply magnetic resonance imaging as a physiological tool in understanding the pathophysiological roles of dysfunctional baroreflex in various diseases conditions.

To be able to handle all aspects of my professional activities, I practice very stringent time-management. I also delegate extensively so that I can concentrate on the most important issues, while my younger staff had the opportunity to learn and take responsibilities under my wings.

## **What are the remarkable characteristics of distinguished scientists?**

I can think of several. They include:

- Curiosity – inquisitive
- Observant
- Objective – Never ignore “adverse” evidence
- Perseverance
- Integrity
- Attention to minute details
- Willing to follow new leads – serendipity is in the eye of the beholder
- Skillful exploitation of available techniques
- Search for functional meaning of morphological and biochemical observations

## **What are the qualities that discriminate a prominent and successful scientists from less successful ones?**

To be compassionate on what he/she deems important, and always pay homage to the contributions of his/her colleagues and staffs.

## **What advice would you give young scientists for their future careers?**

Don't take your profession as a job – it is the worst job in the world. Do take your profession as a career – it is the best career in the world.

Research is like climbing the great walls of China. It is an uphill battle; it requires great efforts and sacrifices; and it is exhausting. But when you reach the top and look down, it is invigorating and fulfilling.

## **What do you consider to be your most important studies and contribution to physiology?**

I would rather not answer this question because it is self-appreciatory.

## **How can we establish better links between basic and clinical sciences?**

The most essential thing to establish better links between basic and clinical sciences is to recognize that the essence of medical research is for the betterment of humankind. If we subscribe to this philosophical connotation, then we should realize that there is no real demarcation between clinical (bedside) and preclinical (bench) research. This is because the only difference is that human subjects instead of animals, tissues or cells are employed. All are governed by the same ethical principles and guidelines.

To me, translational medicine transcends the boundaries between bench and bedside research. It is the synthesis of ideas, technologies and research outcomes that are associated with a particular theme in contemporary medicine. It is based on this belief that I design the Center for Translational Research in Biomedical Sciences, which was inaugurated in 2009. Our philosophy is clinical and laboratory scientists working together. By providing state-of-the-art facilities, liberal funding, technical support and scientific advice, our Center creates a congenial environment where clinical and laboratory scientists can interact freely in terms of addressing meaningful research problems and generating solutions that will ultimately benefit our patients.

## **What do you think about awards and for you, which have been the most truly emotive?**

Although I have been bestowed many, to receive an award is never a driving force for me. If there is one award that is most truly emotive, it would have to be the election as the Distinguished Teacher in 1989 when I was on the faculty of National Yang-Ming University. This award was not decided by a committee, but was given to a faculty member who receives the largest number of votes from around 800 undergraduate and post-graduate students in the University in a week-long poll.

## **Which are the three most important scientific questions that you would like to answer?**

What is life?

What is death?

What differentiates human from non-human?

# 12<sup>th</sup> Inter-Medical School Physiology Quiz (12<sup>th</sup> IMSPQ)

The 12<sup>th</sup> IMSPQ for two days 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> August 2014 welcomed the mega gathering of 88 medical school teams from 23 countries at the University Malaya Campus in Kuala Lumpur. This Physiology Quiz congregation comprised teams from twenty Malaysian universities and 68 international institutions. This year, new teams from University of Pretoria, South Africa and University of Khartoum, Sudan bring the African continent into the IMSPQ family!

The competition format included on the 1<sup>st</sup> Day, a written test for all participants, the mean score of each team was then computed and the best 40 teams proceeded to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Day Oral Quiz challenge before a live audience. A highlight of the annual IMSPQ is the Cultural Concert Nite on the evening of the 1<sup>st</sup> Day when presentations from several international teams are immensely enjoyed.

The IMSPQ has evolved into a major platform for Physiology education. Basic conceptual knowledge in Physiology are embedded into the Quiz questions. Besides providing a unique event for students to form friendship within their global medical community, the IMSPQ also strengthened academic ties among Physiology educators. For the 100 plus lecturers who accompanied the Quiz teams, a new initiative at the 12<sup>th</sup> IMSPQ of a *“Physiology Refresher for Cardiovascular Physiology”* was organized with Prof Richard Klabunde.

The Winner of this year's 12<sup>th</sup> IMSPQ was from Yangon, Myanmar - University of Medicine (2). The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes were won by Mahidol University, Bangkok and Second Military Medical University, Shanghai respectively. A Photo Album of IMSPQ 2014 can be viewed at the open Facebook page 'IMSPQ 2014'. Enjoy and be Inspired!

It has been a delightful encouragement to see how the IMSPQ Malaysia has also catalysed National Physiology Quizzes in Pakistan, Sri Lanka and this June, in Nepal.

Dr Cheng Hwee Ming,  
Chair, IMSPQ Malaysia  
chenghm@ummc.edu.my



University of Medicine (2) Yangon, Myanmar, Winner of the 12<sup>th</sup> IMSPQ, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia August 2014. Prof Cheng Hwee Ming (left) and HOD, Prof Ruby Husain (right). Beside Prof Ruby is Dr Subramaniam, the brother of Prof A. Raman who is remembered and honored by the Prof A. Raman Challenge Trophy of the IMSPQ.

# 1<sup>st</sup> National Inter-Medical School Physiology Quiz in Nepal



The 1<sup>st</sup> National Inter-Medical School Physiology Quiz, Nepal for undergraduate medical students was held at B. P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences (BPKIHS), Dharan, Nepal from June 20 to 21, 2014. It was organized very successfully by the Department

of Basic and Clinical Physiology with the help of Students' Welfare Society (SWS) and Parikrama Students' Family (PSF), BPKIHS, with the full support of BPKIHS higher authority. Prof. Dr. Hwee Ming Cheng, Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, Malaysia was invited as the Quiz Master to conduct the quiz. The source of inspiration for organizing this event was Prof. Dr. Hwee Ming Cheng. His continuous encouragement, motivation, suggestions, planning and the expertise of conducting the quiz made out this event a grand success.

I met Prof Cheng in Taipei during 7<sup>th</sup> FAOPS meeting. He invited us for participation in 10<sup>th</sup> IMPQS in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Since then, I regularly received inspiration from Prof Cheng for organizing 1<sup>st</sup> National Physiology Quiz in Nepal. Finally, I worked hard along with our team for organizing this event and we could do it.

Nine teams from different Medical colleges across Nepal participated in the quiz. Each team consisted of three students. All participants were very enthusiastic and actively participated in the quiz. The quiz consisted of both written and oral quiz rounds. It was a 2-days program. On June 20, 2014 written quiz was organized and on June 21, 2014 Oral quiz was organized. Written quiz round consisted of true and false types of questions with negative marking and oral quiz round (final round) consisted of multiple choice question (MCQ), open-ended question, audio-visual, and rapid-fire rounds.

All questions were based on physiological concepts and applied aspects. Winners of both final and written rounds received prizes.

All the participating teams and guests appreciated the effort of the organizing team and the expertise of Prof Cheng for making out the event a grand success. Suggestions of the Rector and the Dean, Academics played very important role for the success of the event. Few sponsors and BPKIHS funded for this event.



Dr Rita Khadka,  
Associate Professor  
Department of Basic and Clinical Physiology,  
B. P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, Dharan, Nepal  
Vice-President, South Asian Association of Physiologist (SAAP)  
Secretary-General, Physiological Society of Nepal

# Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS congress meeting during the site visit

Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University,  
and Centara Grand Hotel at Central World  
Bangkok, Thailand, June 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Attendees	
Julie Y.H. Chan	The President of FAOPS
Harbindar Jeet Singh	The Secretary of FAOPS
Chumpol Pholpramool	Chairman of the LOC of the 8 <sup>th</sup> FAOPS Congress
Duangporn Werawatganon	The President of the Physiological Society of Thailand
Prasong Siriviriyakul	Chairman of the Fund-raising Subcommittee of the LOC
Buarong Lewchalermwongse	Chairperson of Public relation & Social event Subcommittee of the LOC
Mariem Yusuksawad	Secretary of the LOC
Suchinda Malaivijitnond	Secretary of the LOC
Invited attendee	
Prof. Samuel H.H. Chan	The President of the Asia Pacific Federation of Pharmacologists (APFP)

## Item 1: Welcome remark by the chairman of the LOC

Prof. Chumpol Pholpramool opened the meeting and gave a welcoming remark to the President of FAOPS (Prof. Julie YH Chan), the Secretary of FAOPS (Prof. Harbindar Jeet Singh) and the President of the APFP (Prof. Samuel H. H. Chan), who was invited to the meeting so as to share his long time experiences in organizing international conferences. Then Prof. Pholpramool introduced members of the LOC to the meeting.

## Item 2: President's remark on the purpose of the site visit

Prof. Julie Y.H. Chan thanked to all meeting attendees and explained the purpose of the site visit to the meeting.

## Item 3: Report on the preparation of the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS Congress

On behalf of the LOC, Prof. Chumpol Pholpramool reported the preparation of the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS Congress using the power point presentation. Hard copies of the report were also distributed to all attendees. He presented detail information of the Organizing Committee (International Program Committee, Local Organizing Committee and each Subcommittee), program (Scientific and Social Programs), venue, key dates, registration fee, accommodation, public relation (Announcement and Website) and budgeting.

## Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS congress Meeting during the site visit

### Item 4: Feedbacks from the FAOPS council members

After listening to the report on the preparation of the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS Congress presented by Prof. Chumpol Pholpramool, Prof. Julie Y.H. Chan, Prof. Harbindar Jeet Singh and Prof. Samuel H. H. Chan had suggestions as follows;

- 1. Program;** The program is probably too tight, especially the time allocated for luncheon lecture, poster and trade exhibition. It was suggested that the period of time should be extended from 1:00 hour to 1:30 hours, and the afternoon session should be extended to close at 5:30 p.m. This is especially needed if the poster competition will be held.
- 2. Special Lecture 1;** The “Special Lecture 1” should be changed to “Plenary Lecture 1 [John Young Memorial Lecture]”, also the other Plenary Lecture and Special Lecture should be changed accordingly.
- 3. Oral Presentation;** Since one room is still available during 9:30-10:30 a.m. on November 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, the LOC should organize “Oral Presentation” and fill in that room. It should be run in parallel with Special Lecture and Teaching in Physiology Lecture. This would help recruiting more participants who prefer to have oral presentations. The time of Oral Presentation may be 8+2 min (6 abstracts/session) or 12+3 min (4 abstracts/session).
- 4. FAOPS Flag;** The LOC will prepare the “Flag of FAOPS” to be passed on from the present to the next host of the FAOPS Congress during the “Closing Ceremony” of the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS Congress. It is agreed that the LOC will design the flag and send it to FAOPS council members for approval before having it made. FAOPS will pay for the cost of the flag.
- 5. Opening Ceremony by the H.R.H. Princess Soamsavali;** The opening of FAOPS 2015 congress will be presided over by Her Royal Highness Princess Soamsavali Kitiyakara. Therefore, the security system during the opening ceremony will be highly strict, the LOC should announce periodically on the website that the participants should come to meeting place at least one hour earlier than the schedule.
- 6. Poster presentation;** Prof. Harbindar Jeet Singh asked if the posters have to be replaced every day. Prof. Pholpramool responded that it depends on the number of poster presenters’ registration. Prof. Chan and Prof. Singh suggested that the LOC should give the “Best Poster Presentation Award” for young scientists (graduate students and post-doctorates). The award might be a small token and certificate (signed by President of FAOPS and Chair of LOC).
- 7. Symposia;** There are 22 symposia proposed by members of FAOPS and individuals. Although no symposium session organized by members in India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Myanmar, Indonesia, Vietnam, Philippines, and Singapore has been proposed, there are speakers from some of these countries and the majority of the speakers are from Asian and Oceanic regions. The distribution of speakers from the region was satisfactory. However, it is suggested that the LOC should advertise and persuade the members from these countries to participate in the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS congress. In addition, the number of speakers in each session has to be limited to no more than four. In the session that the number of proposed speakers is less than three, LOC should invite the author of oral presentation in the relevant topic to join in. The LOC should also be aware of the possibility for cancellations of some symposia.
- 8. Political situation in Thailand;** Prof. Samuel Chan expressed his concerns on the political situation in Thailand, which might bar potential participants in the region and especially in the US and EU countries from coming to the congress. He as well as Prof. Julie Chan and Prof. Harbindar Jeet Singh suggested that the LOC should announce periodically on the website about the improvement of political situation in Thailand. This should make the participants be confident in coming to Thailand and participating in the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS congress.
- 9. Financial support for Teaching Physiology Symposium;** Prof. Julie Chan suggested the LOC to write a proposal asking for the financial support (approximately USD1,000 – 2,000) for the Teaching Physiology Symposium from the IUPS Education Commission. She will endorse the request from IUPS.

## Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS congress Meeting during the site visit

10. **Abstract publication;** Profs. Julie Chan and Harbindar Jeet Singh satisfied with the plan that abstracts for the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS congress will be published in the Journal of Physiological Sciences (the official journal of the Physiological Society of Japan and published by Springer). They suggested that LOC should publicize this information on the website of the congress. This will attract more people to join the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS congress, especially the young scientists.

11. **FAOPS2015 website;** The LOC is in the process of setting up 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS congress website with the address as "FAOPS2015.com". The preliminary web pages were demonstrated to the meeting attendees. Prof. Pholpramool was asked to write a letter to Prof. Julie Chan asking for approval of the link of the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS congress to FAOPS and IUPS websites.

12. **Key dates;** Opening dates and deadlines for online registration, submission of abstracts, applications for young investigator awards, and acceptance of abstracts were reported to the meeting. Prof. Singh suggested the LOC to shift the deadline for submission of abstracts 4-8 weeks earlier to ensure that publication of the abstracts is in time for the congress. This is based on the reviewing and publishing processes of the abstracts.

13. **Registration fee and Congress dinner;** Prof. Pholpramool reported that the fees for all categories of participants will be as committed and approved at the Council meeting in Birmingham in 2013. For the Congress dinner, which is planned to be taken place on a river cruise, there will be a ticket for sale at USD60 per person. The President and Secretary suggested that the registration fee for "Late & Onsite" should be raised so as to encourage early registration. Regarding the ticket for the Congress dinner, after extensive discussion, it was suggested that the registration fee should be categorized into two types; with or without the Congress dinner. The registration fee including the congress dinner should be USD50 more, i.e., USD450 for Early bird registration. For the registration fee without the Congress dinner, the rate is as proposed. If the participants wish to join the dinner, they could by the ticket of congress dinner separately and the price should be higher than USD50, such as USD80 (>20% higher). The suggest-

ed rates are as follows.

Category	Early bird (USD)	Regular (USD)	Late & Onsite (USD)
Participant	450	500	550
Student	250	300	350
Accompanying	250	300	350
Congress dinner	80		

14. **VISA;** Prof. Samuel Chan suggested that more detail information on the visa should be obtained by a link to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the VISA application (on the website).

15. **Sponsor;** Prof. Prasong Siriviriyakul, chairman of the Fund-raising Subcommittee, reported that the subcommittee had a plan to request for sponsorships mainly from local scientific instrument distributors and drug companies. However, in view of the current economic situation that is badly affected by our previous political instability, the organizer will also consider sponsorships from small private enterprises. It was agreed that unhealthy related products such as cigarette and liquor will not be displayed or for sale in the trade exhibition. The LOC was suggested to seek sponsorships from international companies or to ask the local distributors to contact their mother companies for more supports.

16. **Budget;** Prof. Pholpramool briefed the estimated expenses and revenues at the total budget of USD280,000 - with the break-even of 600 participants. It was suggested that the estimated income, which is primarily based on the registration fees, was too risky. Further, the amount of registration should be revised for 500 participants, not 600 participants, because 88 speakers will be waived for the registration fee.

17. **Muslim Prayer Room;** The President and Secretary of FAOPS recommended that the LOC should reserve a room for Muslim Prayers. Vegetarian meals and Halal foods should also be available for the Muslim and special participants.

18. **Business meeting of the FAOPS council:** Prof. Julie Chan requested for the refreshment such as coffee, tea or drinking water (with some snack) during the FAOPS

## Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS congress Meeting during the site visit

Council meetings on November 22<sup>nd</sup> (at 1.30-3.30 p.m.) and 24<sup>th</sup> (at 3.30-5.00 p.m.). This will be supported by FAOPS. This will be supported by FAOPS.

19. **Newsletter:** Prof. Pholpramool asked for the news of the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS Congress to be publicized on the upcoming FAOPS Newsletter.

**Item 5: Inspection of the venue at the Centara Grand Hotel;** Prof. Julie Y.H. Chan, Prof. Harbindar Jeet Singh and Prof. Samuel H.H. Chan inspected the venue of the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS Congress at the Centara Grand Hotel, which includes the Ball room for Plenary session, Breakout rooms for Symposia, and Foyer for the Exhibition. The inspection was performed on the day that there was a conference activity. This provides a situation that would happen during the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS Congress. The inspection was satisfactory.

**Item 6: Conclusion of the site visit;** Prof. Julie Chan thanked the LOC for accommodating her team for the site visit and expressed her appreciation with the preparation of the 8<sup>th</sup> FAOPS. They were all satisfied with the preparation and wished the 8<sup>th</sup> Congress a great success.



## The Korean Journal of Physiology & Pharmacology (KJPP)

We are pleased to announce to our readers and FAOPS members that **The Korean Journal of Physiology & Pharmacology (KJPP)**'s 2013 Impact Factor (released by Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Reports) has increased to **1.262!** This is an increase from our 2012 stats, where we received an impact factor of 1.000.

**The Korean Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology (KJPP)** is the official journal of both the **Korean Physiological Society** and the **Korean Society of Pharmacology**. The journal is published bi-monthly in English. Submission of any original paper in the physiological and pharmacological sciences and on the interactions of chemicals with biological systems is invited. Articles on original methodologies in physiological and pharmacological research will also be considered for publication. **KJPP** does not publish work on the actions of crude biological extracts of unknown chemical composition (e.g. unpurified and invalidated) or unknown concentration. All papers accepted for publication in **KJPP** will appear simultaneously in the print Journal and online.

**KJPP** is an open access journal and is freely available at:

<http://www.kjpp.net/>

## Congress report: The 66<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Korean Physiological Society

The 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of The Korean Physiological Society was held on October 22-24, at Gyeongsang National University, Jinju, under the title of “Blue Ocean of Physiology”.

**Number of participants:** 361 members

The meeting was composed of 236 poster presentations and 8 symposiums as followings:

**Symposium 1:** Cardiac Physiology in the Context of metabolism and stress

**Symposium 2:** Recent progress in the physiological study of natural products and compounds

**Symposium 3:** Exercise physiology update

**Symposium 4:** Chronic abnormal sensations: Pain & Itch

**Symposium 5:** Physiological aspects of stem cell research

**Symposium 6:** Chemosensation and ion channels

**Symposium 7:** Stress & Special Physiology

**Symposium 8:** inflammation

One of invited speakers was Prof. Donghee Kim in Chicago Medical School in USA. His presentation title was “Ionic mechanisms of chemoreception by the carotid body” .



## Contribute your news!

Did your society host a conference or event?

Do you have a physiology meeting that would be of interest to other FAOPS members? The FAOPS e-newsletter is a perfect way to communicate your news with other members.

We are also interested in your suggestions for features or spotlights on research, on educational outreach, to be included in the FAOPS e-newsletter.

Submit an article – make sure to include photographs, if possible:

**Submit news now.**

**The FAOPS e-newsletter publishes twice a year at December and June.**



# Meeting Calendar 2015



**The 9th International Congress of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry**  
From Molecules to Macrophysiology  
ICCPB 2015 August 23-28, Kraków, Poland

[www.iccpb2015.confer.uj.edu.pl/](http://www.iccpb2015.confer.uj.edu.pl/)



**Translating Atherosclerosis Research into Novel Therapies for Humans**

17th INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ATHEROSCLEROSIS  
May 23-26, 2015 | Amsterdam RAI Congress Centre, The Netherlands

[www.isa-2015.com/](http://www.isa-2015.com/)

[www2.kenes.com/adpd/  
Pages/Home.aspx](http://www2.kenes.com/adpd/Pages/Home.aspx)

THE 12<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
ON ALZHEIMER'S & PARKINSON'S DISEASE  
**AD/PD 2015**  
Nice, France, March 18-22, 2015  
[www.kenes.com/adpd](http://www.kenes.com/adpd)  
NICE 2015 FRANCE  
NICE targets gene therapy

Mechanisms, Clinical Strategies,  
and Promising Treatments of  
Neurodegenerative Diseases

MARCH 18-22, 2015 | NICE, FRANCE

**cardiotechnix 2015**

3<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Cardiovascular Technologies

LISBON, Portugal - 16 - 17 November, 2015

[www.cardiotechnix.org/  
Home.aspx](http://www.cardiotechnix.org/Home.aspx)

[www.cardiologyonline.co  
m/](http://www.cardiologyonline.com/)

INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF CARDIOLOGY  
ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS 2015  
**20th WORLD CONGRESS ON  
HEART DISEASE**  
VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA, JULY 25-27, 2015



INTERNATIONAL  
ACADEMY OF  
CARDIOLOGY



**9<sup>th</sup> WORLD CONGRESS**  
International Brain Research Organization  
July 7 - 11, 2015 • Rio de Janeiro • Brazil

<http://ibro2015.org/>

# Meeting Calendar 2015

ASIAN PACIFIC SOCIETY  
OF CARDIOLOGY CONGRESS  
**ABU DHABI 2015**



United Arab Emirates 29 April to 2 May

20th Asian Pacific Society of Cardiology Congress 2015  
XX World Congress of Echocardiography and Allied Techniques 2015  
6th Emirates Cardiac Society Congress 2015

[www.apsc2015.com](http://www.apsc2015.com)

**ET 14**  
aps  
SAVANNAH

14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Endothelin:  
Pathophysiology and Therapeutics • September 2-5, 2015

[www.apsc2015.com/](http://www.apsc2015.com/)

[www.the-aps.org/mm/Conferences/APS-conferences/2015-Conferences/ET-14](http://www.the-aps.org/mm/Conferences/APS-conferences/2015-Conferences/ET-14)



*Save the Date: 6 - 11 June 2015*

**INS 12TH WORLD CONGRESS**  
Neuromodulation: Medicine Evolving Through Technology

MONTREAL, QUEBEC, CANADA  
Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel

ABSTRACT DEADLINE: 12 January 2015

[www.neuromodulation.com/ins-congress](http://www.neuromodulation.com/ins-congress)

  
**BNA 2015**  
FESTIVAL OF  
NEUROSCIENCE

**12-15 April 2015**  
Edinburgh

[www.bna2015.org/](http://www.bna2015.org/)

## New category on FAOPS e-newsletter



- ⇒ **Pre- and post-graduate student applications:** Students looking for physiological research and clinical positions abroad
- ⇒ **FAOPS newsletter intends to facilitate the exchange of pre and post-graduate students within the Asian and Oceanic region.** To facilitate the exchange, FAOPS newsletter has opened a new category by the title: **“Student application”**
- ⇒ Pre-and post-graduate students are entitled to email an application (free of charge) to FAOPS newsletter for participating in a scientific and/or clinical setting abroad.

⇒ Team leaders are invited to browse through these applications and contact the students by email to host a foreign student in their institute.



## FAOPS e-newsletter



P.O. Box 14115-116, Tehran, Iran

Telefax: +98 21 82884520

Email: [faopsletter@gmail.com](mailto:faopsletter@gmail.com)

[ssemnan@modares.ac.ir](mailto:ssemnan@modares.ac.ir)

