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Message from the Chairman



Hatem Salem

Welcome to our new newsletter. This is an initiative of your council that aims to improve communication between members of the society. The society's membership is wide and from different countries, making it essential that we have different means of communication. The newsletter will help inform our members of the various capabilities in the field of thrombosis and hemostasis in our countries as well as what is making news in the field.

To start I would like to thank the council for this initiative and express my appreciation to the efforts of Dr. Yukio Ozaki our Secretary General and Dr. Pantep Angchaisuksiri our Public Relations and Communications officers and the editor of the newsletter. Having a regular newsletter is a significant achievement that will not be possible without the contribution of the membership. With this in mind, I encourage you all to write to our editor with ideas and anything that you wish to discuss with your colleagues. The success of the newsletter is strongly dependent on your input and the interest that you show.

The field of thrombosis and hemostasis is experiencing exciting changes and developments. On the research side, we are progressively building our knowledge and understanding of the process of hemostasis and the how a thrombus develops under pathological conditions. We are building our knowledge on how shear stresses on platelets are transformed into signaling events and the important role of the white cells in mediating tissue damage following vascular occlusion. The lessons learnt from these studies will undoubtedly translate into novel diagnostic and therapeutic interventions. The new oral anticoagulants have now been tested in different clinical settings and are already in clinical use in defined indications. The results of large scale studies in patients with atrial fibrillation confirm that the superiority of these novel agents when compared to Warfarin in preventing systemic thromboembolic events in the setting of atrial fibrillation. There is

however a lot of work that will need to be done to ensure the safety and proper use of these drugs. The tolerability of these drugs specifically in Asian population will need to be validated, and post-marketing surveillance is going to be critically important to enable us to identify issues of concern as they relate to our people.

Getting to know the capabilities of the various members of the APSTH has proven to be a challenge that we hope the newsletter will help us overcome. We hope to feature experts in different fields, which will help us appreciate the depth of talent we have. One attractive possibility is to ask APSTH experts to write for the newsletter on what they are working on and the opportunities that our members have in joining them for a short or long period of training. This will ensure that our talented young scientists are given opportunities that hitherto they would not have been able to secure or identify. We will also use the newsletter as an opportunity to portray the activities of the various local societies. We will publish on what conferences are upcoming and short reports on the proceedings of conferences that were held. In this way, our membership will be better informed with the various educational opportunities available within reach and without the need to travel long distances.

In October this year the APSTH celebrated its sixth Congress in Bali. Your Indonesian colleagues did a wonderful job in organizing the conference. The venue was superb and the facilities of the highest standard. The scientific pro-

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Saenguree Jootar
Artit Ungkanont*

Vietnam

Nguyen Anh Tri

gram was very well balanced and featured local and international guests. The meeting was extremely informative and gave us an opportunity to update our knowledge and at the same time make new friends. I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank Professor Karmel Tanbunan and his team from their hard work, dedication and commitment to the society and what it stands for. The next meeting of the APSTH will be in Melbourne, and I look forward to welcoming all of you to our city. Our scientific program director, Professor Chris Ward is working hard with many members of the society to have a program that will excite and inform.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the ISTH for their interest and input in the activities of the APSTH. The ISTH is a very well established organization with a large membership base from many countries including most if not all the Asia-Pacific countries. The ISTH has a commitment of educating and improving the care of patients who suffer from a hemostatic or thrombotic problem. In this regard, the ISTH has an active educational program particularly aimed at countries of need. We are therefore very grateful for the financial assistance that the ISTH provides the APSTH on an annual basis to help improve educational needs. We have used these funds to support an educational day as part of our

biennial Congress (held on the even numbered year) with great success. We now hope to expand the program and plan a biennial educational program on the odd-numbered year. In this way we will have a regular yearly educational activities that will ensure the ongoing updating of our members particularly in countries that have the highest needs. This is a wonderful opportunity and we are very grateful for the work of Professor Yukio Ozaki in securing the support of the ISTH. I am sure that most of you would be aware that Professor Ozaki was recently elected to the Council of the ISTH. This is a very important and responsible role, and for us to have our Executive Director as a Councillor of the ISTH is a great achievement. On your behalf I extend to Professor Ozaki our gratitude and compliments.

I hope this newsletter will give you insight as to what is happening in the field of thrombosis and hemostasis in the Asia-Pacific region and internationally. We have many ideas on what needs to go in the newsletter, but we need to hear from our membership. Please write to us with your thoughts and help us make this newsletter a successful communication vehicle.

In closing I would like to reiterate my gratitude to the council of the society for giving us the opportunity to have this newsletter. With best wishes for 2011.



From the Editor

Welcome to our brand new newsletter! We are pleased to add another method of communication for members of the Asian-Pacific Society on Thrombosis and Hemostasis (APSTH).

We are a growing organization with many activities being worked on by our members. Realizing that it is important to share our information, knowledge and experiences with all our members, we will focus on keeping you up-to-date with "what's happening" in the APSTH.

You can help us in this endeavor by sending me articles for publication to rapac@mahidol.ac.th. Also, we welcome photos to go along with articles submitted.

Best wishes for the new year.

Pantep Angchaisuksiri, Editor
Officer of Public Relations and Communications, APSTH

Greeting from the Secretary General of the Asian-Pacific Society of Thrombosis and Hemostasis

Yukio Ozaki



A Happy New Year to all the members of the APSTH. It is my great pleasure to announce that our society is to issue a regular newsletter to improve communication between the members. The newsletters will give the readers more information on what is going on in the membership countries of APSTH, and furthermore on the capabilities of the various members of APSTH so that they can consult with experts for

difficult clinical cases and form joint research work with the scientists of specific fields.

We have had six successful congresses of APSTH so far, first in Taiwan, then in Korea, Thailand, China, Singapore, and most lately in Indonesia. I believe that the APSTH has now moved into a new era in which we can initiate more activities in addition to the biennial APSTH Congress (every two years). The joint symposia of APSTH with the Japanese Society of Thrombosis and Hemostasis (JSTH), and most notably with the International Society of Thrombosis and Hemostasis (ISTH) have already begun. Furthermore, with the annual financial assistance of ISTH, we will be able to have small-scale educational programs once or twice a year in membership countries where basic education is mostly needed. I hope to see the first case realized in Cambodia this year. The APSTH was organized to foster and advance science related to the important issues of thrombosis,

hemostasis and vascular biology in Asia and Pacific regions 10 years ago. For this end, we would like to extend our activities, including funds and platforms for helping scientific activities of young workers in Asian and Pacific regions and for supporting proper achievement of international clinical trials performed by institutions or corporations.

I would also like to call your attention to the 23rd Congress of ISTH to be held in Kyoto, Japan from July 23 - 28, 2011. It will be a wonderful chance to communicate and exchange ideas with the scientists from all over the world, and, Kyoto, which had been the capital of Japan for over eleven centuries, is really something you cannot miss in every aspect of sightseeing merits. The local organizing committee has prepared JSTH-Asian-Pacific Scholarship in addition to the conventional Developing World Scientist Awards and Young Investigator Award. I hope that you will encourage your colleagues to apply for these awards, and to come to the Kyoto ISTH Congress.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your ardent and continuing support for APSTH, and hope we can make contributions to the health and welfare of people in the Asia-Pacific region through the activities of APSTH.

History of the Asian-Pacific Congress on Thrombosis and Hemostasis (APCTH)

Akikazu Takada. *Prof. emeritus Hamamatsu University School of Medicine*

Professor Y.Ozaki kindly asked me to write the short history of APCTH in the APSTH Newsletter. The history of APCTH may be very interesting not only from scientific points of views but also for human relationships of Asian scientists in the field of thrombosis hemostasis. The society was founded by many devoting people of China, Taiwan, Korea, Japan and other Asian nations. However, such anecdote is easily forgotten and with time passes by such history will never be remembered. So it will be meaningful to write about how Asian scientists in the field of thrombosis and hemostasis got together and tried to work to improve the levels of science of this field in Asia.

1. World Phlebology Congress

In 1986, Professor S. Sakaguchi of the Department of Surgery of Hamamatsu University organized the 7th World Phlebology Congress In Kyoto Japan. I decided to organize a satellite symposium at Iwata Grand Hotel near Hamamatsu to discuss the newly developed recombinant tissue plasminogen activator and its clinical application. Dr. F. Castellino, the Dean of the Faculty of Science of the University of Notre Dame, joined me to organize the symposium. We invited Dr. D. Collen from Belgium, Drs. V.V. Kakkar and P.J. Gaff-

ney from UK, Drs. M. Samama and Soria sisters from France, W. Niewenhuizen from Leiden the Netherlands, S. Thorsen from Denmark, E. Wenzel from Germany, P. Wallen from Sweden, Drs. D.J. Loskutoff, J.H. Griffin, C.Liu, J.L. Ambrus, and F.J. Castellino.

Since so many internationally renown scientists got together, Castellino proposed to have a symposium on blood coagulation and fibrinolysis at Shanghai Institute of Biochemistry with which University Notre Dame has had long collaborations in many fields.

He asked Prof. C. W. Chi of Shanghai Institute of Biochemistry and Prof. Z.Y. Wang of Shanghai Second Medical School to correspond with me on this issues. I asked Profs. N. Aoki, Jichi Medical School and Prof. T. Koide of Himeji Institute Technology to join us to attend Shanghai symposium. Unfortunately, Castellino had to cancel the participation at the meeting due to urgent business of the university, so I had to lead the group to Shanghai.



Participants of the Shanghai symposium

2. First Chinese-Japanese Symposium on Blood Coagulation, Fibrinolysis and Platelets

Since the Shanghai symposium was so impressive, I asked Drs. Chi and Wang to organize Chinese-Japanese symposium on Blood Coagulation, Fibrinolysis and Platelets in Hanchow. Dr. C. Liu, an Associate Professor at the Department of Physiology of Columbia University, made great efforts to ask scientists of Taiwan to join the symposium. At that time, no group from Taiwan was allowed to join the meeting in mainland China. China was just after Tiananmen Square incident and the Chinese government wanted to show that the Chinese system was democratic to some extent, so the government agreed to accept 10 scientists from Taiwan to get visas and enter China. This was said to be a historical event.



A picture of Mrs. Y. Takada, Dr. C. Liu and Chi at the tour

At the meeting, participants discussed how to continue this symposium in the future, and we agreed on the following points. The symposium will be held every two years in China, Taiwan, and Japan. The organizers should invite well established experts in thrombosis and hemostasis from western countries including Dr. E. Davie from the University of Washington, and the proceedings should be published as a monograph by western publishers such as Academic Press or Springer Verlag or Elsevier Science.

3. Korean scientists joined Chinese-Japanese Symposium.

The second Chinese-Japanese symposium was held at National Taiwan University Hospital in 1992 with Dr. M.C. Shen as the President. Drs. J. Stenflo, Hedner, and N. Aoki gave special lectures and the proceedings was published by Springer-Verlag.



Speakers at the second Chinese-Japanese symposium

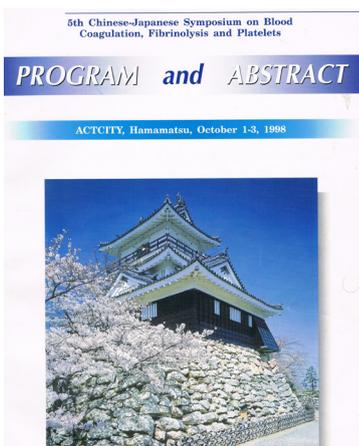
The 3rd symposium was held in Kobe in 1994 with Prof. E. Kakishita of Hyogo College of Medicine as the President in 1994.

The 4th symposium was held at Xian with Dr. Z. Ma of Xian Medical University as the President in 1996. After the symposium we were invited to Dunhuang and visited West end of the Great Wall of China.



Dunhuang and West end of the Great Wall of China

At the meeting we decided to expand the participation to other countries and to ask Korean friends to join the symposium at the 5th symposium which was held at Hamamatsu and I organized the symposium. I asked Prof. S. Park of Seoul National University to organize Korean participants. The meeting was a really international and great success.



Program and abstract book of the 5th Chinese-Japanese symposium

I hosted the 15th International Congress on Fibrinolysis at Hamamatsu in the year 2000. I thought that the time has come when the symposium would be expanded to Asia Pacific and recruit scientists from many Asian countries. If so, the symposium should be changed to Asia-Pacific Congress on Thrombosis and Hemostasis. I asked Dr. M.C. Shen to be the first President of APCTH, which was held in Taipei in 2000. I asked Dr. Y. Ozaki to give a special lecture at the Congress. This is the opportunity for Dr. Ozaki's active participation at the congress, which I feel very lucky because he spent so much effort for the society to grow.

4. APCTH

Probably readers know the development of APCTH since then. In Taipei, I met Dr. Park and asked him if the 2nd Congress could be held in Seoul in 2002. He accepted my invitation. I also met Dr. P. Isarangukura who said she would host the World Hemophilia Congress in Bangkok in 2004. She wanted APCTH

to be held at the same time so that many scientists in the field of thrombosis and hemostasis could attend the World Hemophilia Congress too. So, I asked her to organize the 3rd APCTH in Bangkok. She accepted my invitation, but later she asked if Dr. S. Jootar could be the president since she would like to devote herself to the World Hemophilia Congress.

5. Epilogue

APCTH was made possible due to continuous efforts of devoting friends in this field. When I look back those days, I cannot help feeling nostalgic and am filled with great joy. No time in the history was more important than now for mutual understandings and collaborations among Asian friends. I feel happy that I took part of these important endeavors. When I close my eyes, faces of many Asian friends with whom I had such happy time appeared. I shall never forget these friends in my life.



The 6th Congress of APSTH

The 6th Congress of APSTH was held on October 13-15, 2010 at the Grand Hyatt Nusa Dua Hotel, Bali, Indonesia. It was hosted by the Indonesian Society of Thrombosis-Hemostasis (INASTH) in coordination with the Asia Pacific Society of Thrombosis Hemostasis (APSTH), with the theme "Thrombosis in Asia-Pacific: Are there any specific characteristics compared to Western population".

The meeting was attended by 561 participants from 30 countries, including 105 speakers (35 foreign speakers and 70 Indonesian speakers). The participants are hematologists, clinical pathologists, scientists, (general) internal medicine specialists, cardiologists, neurologists, obstetricians, as well as trainees from those areas of medical disciplines.

The education sessions consisted of a pre-APSTH symposium and a pre-APSTH education program which were held on October 13, 2010. The speakers of pre-APSTH education program were P.H. Reitsma, Dougald Monroe, Harry R. Buller, and Jacqueline Conard. They were supported by the ISTH education program. The opening ceremony of the 6th Congress of APSTH was held after the pre-APSTH education program and special lecture, followed by a welcome reception.

The education programs were continued through October 14-15, 2010. The topic of platelet pathophysiology for the education program was given by Michael Berndt who was also supported by the ISTH education program.

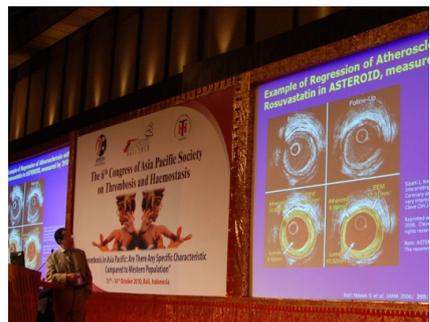
There were a total of:

- 18 symposia, including topics of "Hemostasis in Asia-Pacific Region" (such as snake venoms, malaria, etc)
- 6 education programs including "pro & contra" topics of:
 - Heparin therapy in DIC
 - Antithrombotic agents and IVIG in APS
 - Oral anticoagulants in geriatrics
 - Antiphospholipid antibodies
 - Bleeding time and platelet aggregation test
 - Anticoagulants in HIT
- 4 plenary lectures
- APSTH presentation of VTE in Asia-Pacific Region
- Special symposium for national participants (requested by Indonesian participants, in Bahasa Indonesia)
- 39 free papers presentation
- 68 posters

The cultural night was held on October 14, 2010 following dinner symposium with the topic on "Factor Xa inhibition in venous and arterial thromboembolism".

The committee also arranged an official Bali tour on October 16, 2010 attended by 56 participants.

Karmel L. Tambunan
President of the 6th Congress of APSTH



Korean Society on Thrombosis and Hemostasis (KSTH)

History

The Korea Society of Thrombosis and Hemostasis (KSTH) was established on February 21, 1991 to promote excellence in research in the fields of thrombosis and hemostasis. It was initially under the pioneering leadership of the late Prof. Munho Lee.

The purpose of launching the KSTH was to provide a society for Korean members in translational, clinical, and basic medical research areas to exchange information about the latest advances and ideas, to initiate and develop active research collaborations, and to contribute to rapidly evolving cutting-edge research in thrombosis and hemostasis. We have also organized annual scientific symposiums and sub-committee conferences every year.

In 2002, KSTH successfully organized the 2nd Asian-Pacific Congress on Thrombosis and Hemostasis (APCTH) in Seoul, Korea. After two decades of contributions by members from various fields, KSTH are delighted to celebrate our 20th Anniversary on February 25, 2011.

Current status

During the annual meeting of KSTH in September 2009, Prof. Seonyang Park was elected as the new President and Prof. Kwang-Hoe Chung as the new Chairman of the Board of Directors.



Seonyang Park
President

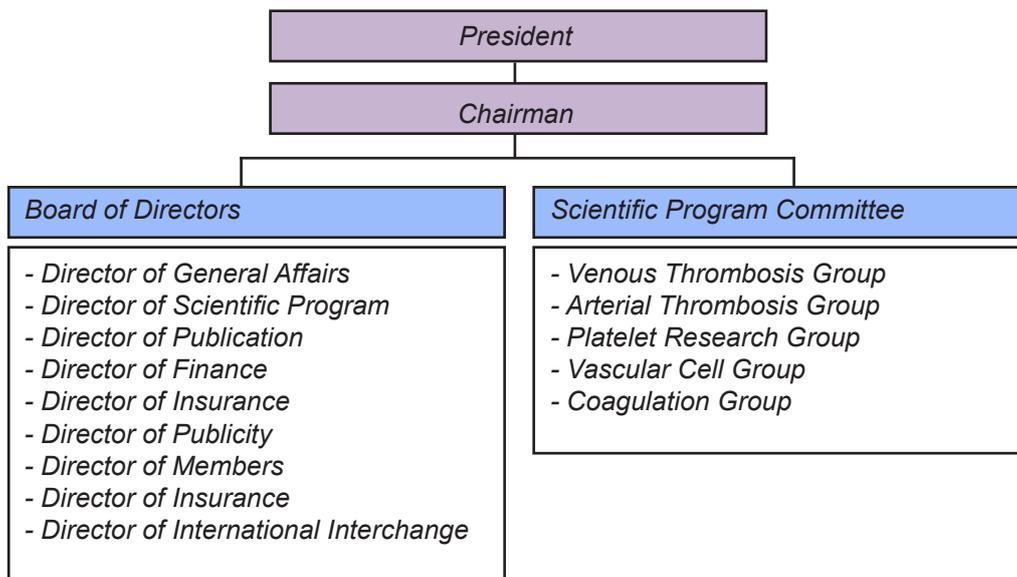


Kwang-Hoe Chung
Chairman

Since then, they have actively recruited many new members into the society and reinvigorated the society with fresh participation and support, embarking a new era of KSTH. The total number of current members are 349, consisting of 272 M.D. and 77 Ph.D.

Also, new members in their mid-40s were elected to the Board of Directors to be proactive and pursue the KSTH's objectives with new ideas and energies. Special efforts were made to build close and active relationships with international societies such as APSTH and ISTH, and basic medical research groups.

Organization of KSTH



With new directors, staff, and members on board in 2010, KSTH adapted core efforts in recruiting new members, revitalizing the 5 sub-committees, expanding finances, restoring the KSTH official journal, drawing continuous participation and consultation from senior members and industries, and planning a Korean-written textbook on Thrombosis and Hemostasis. KSTH is currently publishing an English-language journal (Korean Journal of Hematology). Four volumes of the journal have been published per year in collaboration with the Korean Society of Hematology, Korean Society of Blood & Marrow Transplantation and Korean Society of Pediatric Hemato-Oncology.



KSTH homepage: www.thrombo.or.kr



Korean Journal of Hematology

Future

In celebrating KSTH's 20th anniversary in February 2011, KSTH is preparing a special publication, "The 20 Years of Korean Society on Thrombosis and Hemostasis". Through commemorating the 20th anniversary, we hope to usher in an innovative leap forward towards the future of the society, increasing the number of members and reinstating our official journal of KSTH.

Through many innovative and creative ideas and sustainable expansion of members, KSTH will also provide public awareness on the importance of thrombotic as well as hemorrhagic disorders, in addition to the various activities in the sub-committees, publishing a Korean textbook of thrombosis and hemostasis, and bidding for ISTH conference in Korea in the near future.

Upcoming Meetings:

1 4th International Symposium on Women's Health Issues in Thrombosis and Haemostasis

4-6 February 2011 - Berlin, Germany.
www.palexconventions.co.il/whith2011

2 HAA-ISHAPD 2011 with the APBMT & ISCTA

A joint scientific meeting of the Haematology Society of Australia and New Zealand, Australia and New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion, Australasian Society of Thrombosis and Haemostasis with the XIIth Congress of the International Society of Hematology (Asia-Pacific Division), 16th Congress of Asian-Pacific Blood and Marrow Transplantation, International Society for Cellular Therapy: Australia

30 October – 2 November 2011 – Sydney, Australia
www.haa-ap2011.org

3 XXIII Congress of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis

23-28 July 2011 - Kyoto, Japan.
www.isth2011.com

