

# APAAACI Perspectives

*Newsletter of the Asia-Pacific Association of Allergy, Asthma & Clinical Immunology*



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## Editorial: Welcome!

Professor Connie Katelaris

Dear Colleagues.

We hope you enjoy reading the 2nd edition of the APAAACI newsletter - now officially christened *APAAACI Perspectives*. We also welcome a new addition to our editorial staff. Dr Frederick Lee is joining us as an Associate Editor. He brings great enthusiasm and not inconsiderable computer skills to this role. Dr Lee is in his final year of training in Immunology/Allergy and Immunopathology in Sydney.

You editors welcome any contributions you wish to make to this newsletter - anecdotes, conference reports, photographs of colleagues and biographical details are all of interest as we consolidate our Association and begin to work together more closely for the benefit of the specialty in this region.

We encourage you to plan to attend the APAAACI Congress in Singapore in November 2010. As you will see in the Congress report ([page 2](#)), we have invited renowned international speakers and we also have prominent members of our own Association to present the latest developments and knowledge in our field. Do consider submitting an abstract - the discussion with colleagues around poster presentations can be very stimulating and is invaluable training for junior members.

This past year your executive has been meeting very regularly by teleconference. A number of exciting initiatives are underway and we hope these will lead to further development of APAAACI. Some of these include:

- ◆ establishment of an e-learning journal devoted to teaching and reviews with self-assessment tasks with each module
- ◆ formation of a number of committees to more efficiently administer the work of APAAACI and to allow wider participation by the membership in a number of areas including publications, congress scientific programming and fund-raising
- ◆ establishing an e-mailing list of all members so that we may communicate in a more timely and efficient manner. This will commence at the Congress in November

We are seeking volunteers to participate in any of these activities - the only qualifications needed are enthusiasm, a willingness to work hard and an ability to communicate! We will contact the various National Societies to issue invitations for nominations but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if you would like to become involved.

Your Editors

*Connie Katelaris*

*Frank Thien*

*Frederick Lee*



# APCAACI 2010

6-9 November 2010

The 8th Asia Pacific Congress of Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology  
 Held in Conjunction with APAPARI Congress 2010

## DEAR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES:

The organising committee takes great pleasure in announcing the progress of the 8th Asia-Pacific Congress of Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology (APCAACI), which will be held in conjunction with the Asia-Pacific Association of Pediatric Allergy, Respiratory and Immunology Congress (APAPARI) from November 6 to 9, 2010 at the Suntec Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Centre, Singapore.

**The Theme:**  
**'From Bench to Bedside - Evidence-based Medicine'**



Our confirmed **Plenary Speakers** are:

- ✦ **Estelle Simons** (Canada)
- ✦ **Michael Blaiss** (USA)
- ✦ **Patrick Holt** (Australia)
- ✦ **Stephen Holgate** (UK)
- ✦ **Hugh Sampson** (USA)
- ✦ **Pascal Demoly** (France)
- ✦ **Stephen Durham** (UK)

Total confirmed speakers to date: 66

The **Congress Scientific Programme** comprises:

- ✦ 8 Plenary Lectures
- ✦ 22 Symposia
- ✦ 5 Lunch Symposia (pharmaceutical-sponsored)
- ✦ 5 Workshops
- ✦ 3 Debates
- ✦ 1 Postgraduate Clinical Immunology Course

The program will cover a wide range of topics in Allergy and Clinical Immunology including a special focus on paediatric issues such as:

- ✦ Allergies in Early Life
- ✦ Controversies in Allergen Avoidance
- ✦ Approach to Severe Childhood Allergic diseases
- ✦ Phenotypes of Allergic Disease

✦ Primary Immunodeficiency

**Allergy and Clinical Immunology Course for Allied Health:** For the first time in the history of the Congress, we have put together a comprehensive course for nurses and pharmacists. Do bring this to their attention. Nurses and pharmacists may sign up for this course alone without needing to attend the entire Congress.

**Important dates to remember:**

- ✦ Early bird registration closes on Friday April 30, 2010.
- ✦ The call for abstract deadline is Monday 31 May 2010.

For **Travel Award** applications:

<http://www.apcaaci2010.org/006Abstract.htm#award>

Visit the **website:**

<http://www.apcaaci2010.org/> for more Congress and programme information.

Organised by:



# Featured Society

*Introducing...*

## the Japanese Society of Allergology

[http://www.jsaweb.jp/modules/en/index.php?content\\_id=1](http://www.jsaweb.jp/modules/en/index.php?content_id=1)

The roots of the Japanese Society of Allergology (JSA) date back to 1949 when a consensus among researchers in allergies & anaphylaxis was reached to form an allergology society. It was not until 1952, however, that a formal process established the Society. The first general meeting, with several hundred attendees, was held that year in Tokyo.

The Society today boasts a membership of some 8,500, comprising both medical researchers & clinicians involved in the study of allergy & clinical immunology. To this end, the Society conducts biannual academic meetings for its members & also publishes a Japanese language journal - the *Japanese Journal of Allergology* - 10 times a year, as well as a quarterly English language publication - *Allergology International* - in its efforts to foster correspondence with individuals & institutions with similar interests both domestically & internationally; an important activity for the Society.

Another key activity of the Society is the certification of practising Clinical Allergists, facilitating training & education for doctors, & the provision of facilities dedicated to the diagnosis & management of allergic disorders. Related clinical sub-specialties falling within the Society's brief include the spectrum of atopic & immune-mediated disorders, such as: bronchial asthma, hypersensitivity pneumonitis, collagen diseases, allergic rhinitis, pollenosis, hives, atopic dermatitis, immunodeficiency, food allergy, drug hypersensitivity, & any other like-disorders that patients are afflicted with.

Dr. Kazuo Akiyama, M.D., of the National Hospital Organization (NHO) & the Sagamihara National Hospital is the current serving president of the Society & continues the stated mission of the Society: to promote advances in the field of allergology & related academic activities.

*(Content adapted from the Japanese Society of Allergology homepage)*

### UPCOMING MEETINGS OF THE JSA:

**MAY 8 - 10, 2010**

Kyoto, Japan

**NOVEMBER 25 - 27, 2010**

Tokyo, Japan

## PEOPLE IN FOCUS:

### Professor Takeshi Fukuda, MD PhD Tochigi, Japan

Takeshi Fukuda is Professor of Medicine & Head of the Department of Pulmonary Medicine & Clinical Immunology at Dokkyo Medical University in Tochigi, Japan.

He is a 1973 graduate of the Chiba University School of Medicine & also spent 2 years as a Research Fellow in Allergy & Immunology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, USA.

He has been actively involved over the past 37 years in both domestic & international medical societies serving as board member of the Japanese Respiratory Society, the Japanese Society of Allergology, the Japan Allergy Foundation, the Tochigi Prefecture Medical Association, & internationally, the Asia-Pacific Association of Allergy, Asthma, & Clinical Immunology (APAAACI), & the World Allergy Organization (WAO) in addition to his work with the Japanese Society of Internal Medicine & Japan Society for Respiratory Endoscopy. He has held



several workshops on the role of eosinophils in allergy, airway remodeling, & clinical respiratory physiology.

He is also the president of the 60th General Meeting of the Japanese Society of Allergology which will be held in Tokyo this November, 2010. His research interests focus on the pathogenesis of asthma, airway remodeling & the cell biology of eosinophils.

## TRAINEES' CORNER:

### Dr. Denise Hsu Sydney, Australia

I'm in the fourth year of training in Clinical Immunology & Immunopathology in Sydney, Australia. I chose to specialise in Immunology because it is a fascinating discipline where arriving at a diagnosis is like detective work, involving multiple investigations. Treatment is also a challenge, involving a fine balance between competing risks & benefits.

My core training was in the Sydney South West Area Health Service. There I was mentored by specialists with varying interests, ranging from Allergy to Autoimmunity to HIV & Immunopathology/Laboratory Medicine. I have encountered rare diseases with names few would have heard of, such as the Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada Syndrome, but have also learnt to manage diseases that affect significant numbers of the world's population, such as HIV. There have been many challenges to tackle every working day, but also great rewards & satisfaction.

Personally, my interest lies in global health & I want to do more for those who live in less resourced countries. This year, I will be embarking upon a PhD study in Bangkok researching T-cell immunity to *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in patients concurrently infected with HIV.

Immunology is a specialty that integrates basic science, diagnostic techniques & patient care. Immunologists are well-equipped to make important contributions to the understanding of disease pathophysiology, as well the uncovering of new treatments for many of the conditions that afflict humankind.



## EDITORIAL STAFF

### Editors

*Connie Katelaris*

*Frank Thien*

### Associate Editor/ Contributions

*Frederick Lee*

#### Future Issues:

### Trainee contributions welcome!

I would like to echo Prof. Katelaris' welcome to the new-look APAAACI newsletter for 2010.

As you have noticed, a part of *Perspectives* is being devoted to profiling those training in our specialty. This issue is graced by one of my fellow registrars here in Sydney, Denise Hsu. As a current trainee in Immunology and Allergy, I would like to encourage my fellow trainees and their respective supervisors to share their experiences and current work through this newsletter.

Submissions may be forwarded to myself at:

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