



The 29th APAO Congress - A Joint Meeting of APAO/AAO  
The 15th Congress of the Chinese Ophthalmological Society  
第25届亚太眼科学会年会暨中华医学会第十五次全国眼科学术大会  
APAO Council Meeting

APAO Central Secretariat Unveiling Ceremony  
Gala Dinner & Speakers Reception

XIV CONGRESS OF ASIA-PACIFIC ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY  
24-28 JAN. 1993  
DHAKA - BANGLADESH  
INAUGURAL CEREMONY

XII Congress of Asia Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology

APAO 2016 Run for Nepal  
I (EYE) RUN FOR SIGHT

APAO  
DIAMOND JUBILEE 60 Years  
1960-2020

a Dinner & Speakers Reception

APAO 2017 BANGKOK  
THE 43rd ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

APAO 2017 BANGKOK  
THE 43rd ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

APAO  
THE 30th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

9th APAO CONGRESS  
13-18 MARCH 1983  
SHANGRI-LA HOTEL HONG KONG  
RECENT ADVANCES IN PRACTICAL OPHTHALMOLOGY

APAO CO Mark

The 30th Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology Congress held in conjunction with The 20th Congress of the Chinese Ophthalmological Society  
第30届亚太眼科学会年会暨中华医学会第20次全国眼科学术大会  
Opening Ceremony 开幕式

APAO  
THE 30th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

APAO  
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APAO 2019 BANGKOK  
THE 43rd ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

APAO  
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21st APAO Congress 2006  
19th APACRS Meeting

APAO  
THE 30th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

The 30th Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology Congress held in conjunction with The 20th Congress of the Chinese Ophthalmological Society  
第30届亚太眼科学会年会暨中华医学会第20次全国眼科学术大会  
APAO Leadership Development Program Alumni Reception

APAO  
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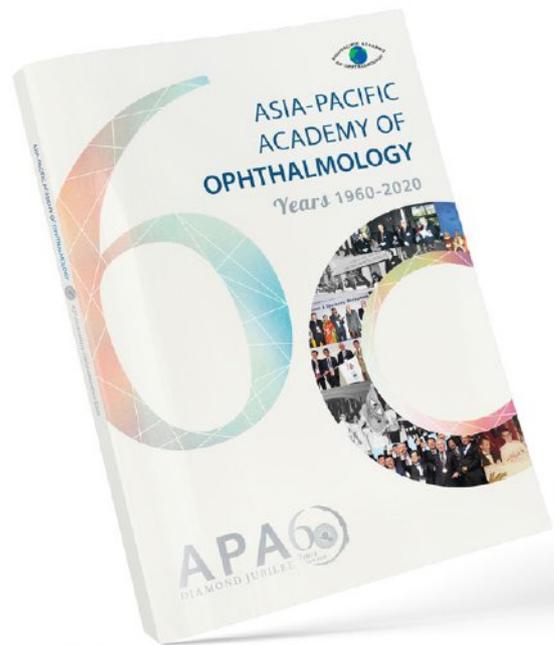
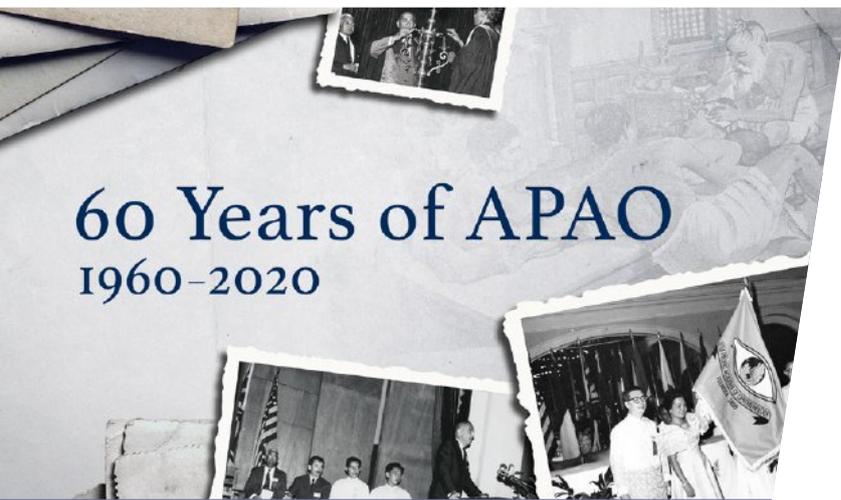
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# APAO60 CELEBRATIONS

The Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) is exhilarated to celebrate its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Chaired by Prof. Dennis Lam, an APAO60 Organizing Committee was formed in January 2019, working in full swing over a year with 12 Committees to prepare a series of commemorative events for this exciting moment.

Through these events we hope to engage our supportive members, partner organizations, friends, and practitioners in this universal celebration, to rejoice together and to witness our decisiveness in exploring another 60 years with our common effort.



## Commemorative Video

The Commemorative Video records the importance of APAO and great ophthalmologists who contributed to its success. It is everlasting and will be widely displayed on all APAO channels.

## Commemorative Book & Website

The Commemorative Book and Website record the precious memories and milestones of APAO in the past 60 years. The Book is the enduring piece of APAO and as part of the souvenirs shared with all delegates online, while the Website is accessible by all APAO channels.





Special Commemorative  
Exhibition & Symposium:

## “Then & Now”

It showcases the history and achievements of APAO and introduces the great individuals who made immense contributions to ophthalmology and the Academy. APAO subspecialty members will also present the achievements in their subspecialty areas over our first 60 years.

## APAO60 Best Abstract Awards

Coming to its 3<sup>rd</sup> year, the Annual Abstract Awards will be named under APAO60 to award ophthalmologists with outstanding contributions to the submitted program of the APAO Congress. They include Best Scientific Paper Awards, Best Posters, Best E-posters and Best Videos.



## APAO60 ANNIVERSARY TRAVEL GRANT

### APAO 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Prof. Yasuo Tano Travel Grant

Ten additional Prof. Yasuo Tano Travel Grants will be offered to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and to support more ophthalmologists attending the Congress.

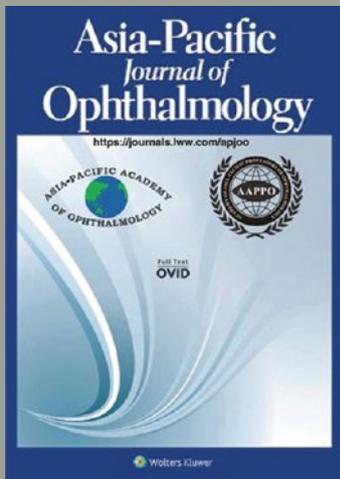
## APAO Anniversary Quiz Game

The Anniversary Quiz Game invites teams of training residents from APAO member countries to test on their knowledge of APAO. Winners will be awarded with attractive prizes.

# APAO60 CELEBRATIONS

## APJO Commemorative Issue

Led by Prof. Dennis Lam, the Asia-Pacific Journal of Ophthalmology (APJO), the official journal of APAO, will have a special issue commemorating the APAO Diamond Jubilee. The issue collates the top of the top articles and will be freely shared.



## APAO Museum

With 60 years of establishment, there are countless developments and memories that are invaluable to conserve and will last for generations. Featuring a permanent collection of APAO historical documents and realia, as well as lecture videos from prominent speakers, the everlasting APAO Museum shall become a popular destination for eye care practitioners to learn about history of APAO and ophthalmology.



## Souvenirs for APAO leaders

Souvenirs are prepared for APAO leaders in gratitude for their long-term dedication and immense support throughout the years.



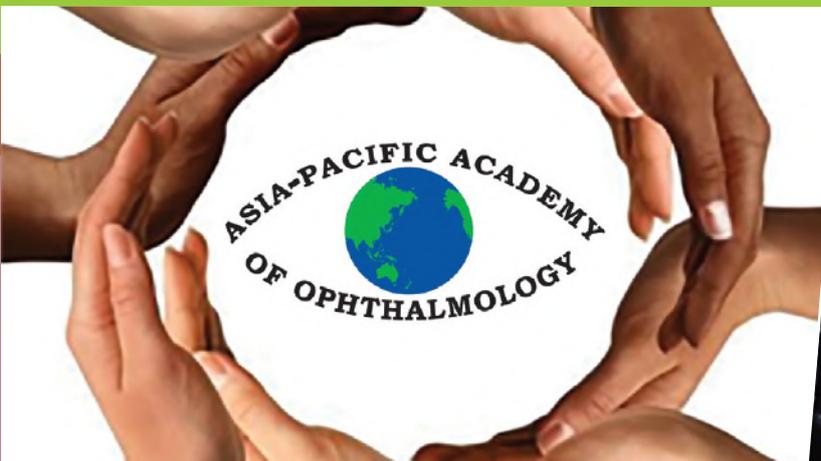


## Fellowship Training

In addition to the existing International Fellowship Program (IFP), the Fellowship Training focuses on providing IFP graduate fellowship opportunities in the Asia-Pacific region where certain eye diseases are significantly severe, such as Laos, Cambodia and Mongolia.

## Beyond 2020 Future Program, YO Mentorship Program & LDP Special Program

The 3-in-1 Beyond 2020 Future Program, YO Mentorship Program and LDP Special Program aims to nurture our future leaders in ophthalmology. A special session will be organized for young leaders to showcase their leadership and efforts paid back to the community.



## National Members' Project – What Can We Do for You?

National members' project is an opportunity to review what was lacking in the past and what we should do more in the Asia-Pacific region with a common effort from national members, in order to make more significant progress in eye care work.





# Welcome Messages

# Message from President



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

**W**e are so excited to have you join us for Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Let me share with you the history from where we begin.

APAO was established in 1960 by Dr. William J. Holmes, a well-respected ophthalmologist originally from Budapest, Hungary, who emigrated to the United States in the 1920s. Serving first in an ophthalmology residency in Chicago, IL, he later opened his own practice in Honolulu, Hawaii. Dr. Holmes, worked along with Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo, Dr. Jesus Tamesis, Dr. Angelo, and Dr. Ronald F. Lowe to found the APAO Constitution. Among them, Dr. Holmes, Dr. De Ocampo, and Dr. Lowe took up the position of APAO President over time and set a significant and strong foundation for the future development of APAO.

Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo was the "Father of Modern Philippine Ophthalmology" and the first APAO President and Congress President. He had an outstanding academic record and a long career as a teacher of ophthalmology, with extensive contributions to the clinical, experimental, and theoretical aspects of cornea and bio-ophthalmology. In honor of Dr. De Ocampo, the APAO Council instituted the De Ocampo Lecture in 1983, which was the highest award to ophthalmologists from the Asia-Pacific region with an exceptional clinical or basic-research background.

Dr. Ronald F. Lowe launched the first Jose Rizal Award in 1968, and the APAO Congress went from being held every four years to biennially during his presidency.

When Dr. Holmes took up the presidency in 1976, he realized the demand for quality congresses in the region. The APAO congresses gradually moved its focus from general topics of prevention of blindness to boarder specific areas, in order to fit different interests of ophthalmologists. It successfully attracted more and more participants in the latter congresses and increased the congress scale. Recent APAO Congresses have been held in conjunction with the World Ophthalmology Congress (WOC), first in Hong Kong (2008), then in Tokyo (2014), and very soon in 2022.

Thanks to these great predecessors, APAO was established with a strong foundation and has gone through decades of incredible growth. APAO will strive to expand its footprint to other parts of the Asia-Pacific region by joining hands with more countries and subspecialties, in order to achieve its mission of promoting prevention of blindness and the science and art of ophthalmology among all people and nations of the region. We hope you will join us on our continuing journey.

**Ningli Wang**

President

Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology



# Message from APAO Secretary- General & CEO

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Ophthalmology is advancing at an unprecedented pace in our region of the world, with a new generation of ophthalmologists and visual scientists from Asia-Pacific nations leading this revolution. Working together, our mission of preventing blindness and restoring sight now seem more within reach than ever before. But first of all, let's recognize the leaders that have developed APAO over the past 60 years.

Dr. William J. Holmes of Hawaii was appointed APAO's first Secretary-General in 1960. Since the Academy did not initially have a strong financial base, Dr. Holmes donated the use of his own facilities and contacts to finance the first international links for APAO.

Following Dr. Holmes, Prof. Akira Nakajima from Japan became the second Secretary-General in 1964. He provided strong leadership and was the major driving force in the rapid growth and development of the Academy for 26 years, until 1990. To honor Prof. Nakajima, the APAO Nakajima Award was established in 2005, to recognize young individuals for their magnificent international work in ophthalmology. I personally feel very honored to be the humble recipient of the first Nakajima Award.

Prof. Arthur Lim from Singapore became APAO Secretary-General in 1990 and served APAO continuously in this position until 2005. Under his capable leadership, the organization saw substantial development, and he was honored with the APAO José Rizal Medal in 1983.

Prof. Lim was succeeded by Prof. Dennis Lam from Hong Kong, who was the fourth Secretary-General right up to 2013. During this period, the Secretariat went from Singapore in 1997, led by Prof. Lim, to Hong Kong in 2010, and arrived at its current Guangzhou headquarters in 2015.

To date, APAO is well represented in the Asia-Pacific, consisting of 25 national members and 11 subspecialty society members. The annual congress has an average of over 7,000 attendees from over 70 countries.

In addition to the congress, we have several ways of helping ophthalmologists learn and grow in their careers. These programs represent our continued growth in the coming decades.

The Asia-Pacific Journal of Ophthalmology (APJO) is the official journal of the APAO. Under the leadership of Prof. Dennis Lam (founding Editor-in-Chief) and Prof. Jost Jonas (Editor-in-Chief), APJO has been indexed in MEDLINE (2015), Scopus (2016), and Emerging-SCI (2016), and is recently included in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in 2021. We also have quite a number of accomplished senior academics, of which 15 are current or past Editors-in-Chief of other reputable eye journals, as well as many energetic young members. We are confident and fully committed to making APJO a quality "international" eye journal, serving readers from both the East and the West.

Our newly launched Satellite Congress, first taking place in Vietnam (2018) and then in Mongolia (2019), has provided clinical training to local doctors and improved patient care in the local community.

The Leadership Development Program (LDP), which consists of an orientation class, masterclass, and alumni reception, has been performing well and will continue to do so. The program reached its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020.

Our Young Ophthalmologists (YO) Programm is aimed to provide more support to ophthalmologists just getting started in their careers. Our new YO Travel Grants will allow more young ophthalmologists to attend the APAO annual congress. We have plans to arrange more opportunities to link up YO with senior mentors and leaders in the industry in future.

These are very exciting times for both ophthalmology and our Asia-Pacific region. To make the best of this APAO platform that our predecessors have so painstakingly established, let us build lasting friendships and collaborations, as we work closely together to raise eye health to the next level through even better ophthalmic care.

## **Clement Tham**

Secretary-General and CEO  
Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology



# Message from APAO60 Organizing Committee Chair



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

**I**t is my pleasure to announce that the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee.

An Organizing Committee has been formed since January 2019 and has worked non-stop with a dozen Committee Members and volunteers to map out a series of commemorative events to celebrate this exciting moment. I will share with you some of these activities below.

We have the Commemorative Video that highlights the importance of APAO and the great ophthalmologists who contributed to its success. A Commemorative Book and Website will supplement the video and record the fond memories and milestones of APAO over 60 years. All these will be shared with the APAO family and friends through all APAO channels.

In addition, a Special Commemorative Exhibition & Symposium, with the theme "Then & Now", invites speakers from various subspecialties to share developments in their area over the past 60 years. The exhibition travels us back to the good old days and displays invaluable photos rarely shown to the public.

We have also published a special issue of the official journal, Asia-Pacific Journal of Ophthalmology (APJO), which collates the top of the top articles and will be freely shared with APAO friends.

The Leadership Development Program reached its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020. A Special Program will be presented, where alumni will showcase their leadership and efforts paid back to the community.

Last but not least, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Abstract Awards will be named under APAO60 to award ophthalmologists with outstanding contributions to the submitted program of the APAO Congress. Additional ten travel grants, named as APAO 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Prof. Yasuo Tano Travel Grants, are also offered to support more ophthalmologists attending the Congress.

We invite our supportive members, partner organizations, friends, and practitioners to rejoice together in this universal celebration, and to witness our resolve towards exploring another 60 years together.

**Dennis Lam**

Chair  
APAO60 Organizing Committee



# The Way Forward by President-Elect

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I would like to take the joyous opportunity to express my deepest satisfaction in celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology.

APAO provides a unique platform for the ophthalmologists of the Asia-Pacific region who have dedicated their lives in the field of eye care. It is the direct result of our hard work and commitment that more and more patients in this region are receiving world-class eye care service in the capacity of our own communities. Providing eye care services to mitigate visual impairment is an important contribution to economic growth and development. This is achieved by improving access to education and employment.

There are a few different ways that APAO seeks to provide access to education in this field. The International Fellowship Program (IFP) has been helping, and will continue to help, promising young ophthalmologists to improve their clinical skills and to give them surgical exposure. These doctors are empowered to bring their skills back to their native countries, which will enhance long-term patient care in the region.

The Asia-Pacific Eye Care Week has been going for 10 years, with the participation of over 14 regions and countries in the Asia-Pacific region. It will continue to promote the prevention of blindness and eye care education in the territory.

The Gateway Project of APAO needs to be strengthened. We need to generate interest and enthusiasm amongst our member societies, in particular those in need, to really get this ball rolling.

The APAO Museum, to be set up in the Guangzhou headquarters, will soon act as an archive, recording APAO history and many valuable moments in future years. It will feature a permanent collection of APAO historical documents, as well as lecture videos from prominent speakers, for eye care practitioners to learn from.

Let us work together to take APAO from going strength to strength in the days to come. We like to believe that someday soon, we will be able to eradicate blindness from the face of the earth. With your support and cooperation, we would like to take APAO one step closer to being the pioneer in ushering that day. Though significant challenges await, APAO should feel very confident in its ability to meet them head on. During the coming years, future generations will be well equipped to continue the remarkable story of ophthalmic development in the Asia-Pacific region for another 60 years and beyond.

**Ava Hossain**

President-Elect

Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology





# Acknowledgement

# Acknowledgement

The APAO would like to express its gratitude to the following Council Members and special friends, who have given their generous support, advice, and contribution to organizing the APAO60 activities:

## APAO60 Organizing Committee

<b>Chair</b>	Prof. Dennis Lam (Past President 2015 – 2017)
<b>Co-chairs</b>	Prof. Frank Martin (Past President 2009 – 2013) Prof. Rajvardhan Azad (Past President 2013 – 2015) Prof. Charles McGhee (Immediate Past President 2017 – 2019) Prof. Ava Hossain (President-Elect)
<b>Committee Members</b>	Dr. Paisan Ruamviboonsuk (Congress President 2019) Prof. Ke Yao (Congress President 2020) Prof. Lin-Chung Woung (Councilor-at-Large) Dr. Ruben Lim (Regional Secretary, Philippines) Dr. Catherine Green (Leadership Development Program Standing Committee Chair) Dr. Seng-Kheong Fang (Young Ophthalmologists Standing Committee Chair) Dr. Marcus Ang (Young Ophthalmologists Standing Committee Member)
<b>Ex-Officio</b>	Prof. Ningli Wang (President) Prof. Clement Tham (Secretary-General & CEO)

## Subcommittees

<b>Commemorative Video Committee</b>	Prof. Paisan Ruamviboonsuk (Convener) Dr. Marcus Ang Dr. Ruben Lim Prof. Dr. S. Natarajan
<b>Commemorative Book &amp; Website Committee</b>	Prof. Frank Martin (Convener) Dr. Seng-Kheong Fang Dr. Ruben Lim Prof. Dr. S. Natarajan Prof. Lin-Chung Woung



**Special Commemorative Exhibition & Symposium Committee**

Prof. Dennis Lam (Convener)  
Prof. Dr. S. Natarajan  
Prof. Hugh Taylor  
Prof. Ningli Wang  
Dr. Hongwei Gu  
Prof. Huaijin Guan  
Dr. David Kaufman

**APJO Commemorative Issue Committee**

Prof. Dennis Lam (Convener)  
Prof. Jost Jonas

**APAO Museum Committee**

Prof. Yizhi Liu (Convener)  
Prof. Nadeem Butt  
Prof. Dr. S. Natarajan  
Prof. Tetsuro Oshika

**Beyond 2020 Future Program Committee**

Dr. Marcus Ang (Convener)  
Dr. Seng-Kheong Fang  
Dr. Catherine Green  
Prof. Dr. S. Natarajan

**Anniversary Quiz Game Committee**

Prof. Santosh G. Honavar (Convener)  
Prof. Rajvardhan Azad  
Dr. Rashmin Gandhi

**Fellowship Training Committee**

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Prof. Syed Imtiaz Ali  
Prof. Rajvardhan Azad  
Prof. Ava Hossain  
Prof. Dr. S. Natarajan  
Prof. Paisan Ruamviboonsuk  
Prof. Lin-Chung Woung

**LDP Special Program Committee**

Dr. Catherine Green (Convener)  
Dr. Marcus Ang  
Dr. TD Gondhowiardio  
Prof. Frank Martin  
Dr. Michael Brennan  
Dr. Vivek Dave  
Dr. Madhuwanthi Dissanayake  
Dr. Muhammad Moin  
Dr. Shaheeda Mohamed  
Dr. Sherman Valero

**YO Mentorship Program Committee**

Dr. Seng-Kheong Fang (Convener)  
Dr. Marcus Ang

**National Members' Project Committee**

Prof. David Mackey (Convener)  
Dr. Heather Mack  
Dr. David Andrews

**Anniversary Souvenir Committee**

Dr. Namrata Sharma (Convener)  
Dr. Catherine Green  
Prof. Ki Ho Park  
Prof. Ke Yao

Special thanks to the following members and friends who have assisted in organizing the Vision 2020 Exhibition and Symposium:

**Vision 2020 Exhibition & Acknowledgement Committee**

Prof. Ningli Wang (Convener)  
Prof. Hugh Taylor  
Dr. Taraprasad Das  
Prof. Dr. S. Natarajan  
Dr. Hongwei Gu  
Prof. Huajjin Guan  
Dr. David Kaufman

**APAO60 Commemorative Book Editorial Board**

**Editors**

Prof. Dennis Lam (Editor-in-Chief, Asia-Pacific Journal of Ophthalmology)  
Prof. Ningli Wang (President)  
Prof. Clement Tham (Secretary-General & CEO)

**Board Members**

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Dr. Taraprasad Das (Vice President)  
Prof. Tetsuro Oshika (Vice President)  
Prof. Hyosook Ahn (Treasurer)  
Prof. Mingguang He (Deputy Secretary-General)  
Prof. Frank Martin (Past President 2009 – 2013)  
Dr. Ruben Lim (Regional Secretary, Philippines)  
Prof. Lin-Chung Woung (Councilor-at-Large)  
Dr. Seng-Kheong Fang (Young Ophthalmologists Standing Committee Chair)  
Prof. Dr. S. Natarajan (President, Asia-Pacific Ophthalmic Trauma Society)  
Dr. Namrata Sharma (Regional Secretary, India)  
Prof. Hugh Taylor (Councilor-at-Large)  
Prof. Nadeem Butt (Fellowship Standing Committee Chair)  
Prof. Ki Ho Park (President, Korean Ophthalmological Society)  
Prof. Santosh G. Honavar (Representative, Asia-Pacific Society of Ocular Oncology and Pathology)





# Congratulatory Messages from Partner Organizations

# International Council of Ophthalmology



**F**or 60 years, the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology has been a pillar of the international eye community by its distinguished service in the ophthalmic world. On behalf of the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO), I offer my sincere congratulations to the APAO on the celebration of its Diamond Jubilee.

Following its mission to “promote the science and art of ophthalmology among all people and nations of the region”, APAO has given access to high quality eye care and education in the Asia-Pacific region, home to more than half of the world’s population and more than half of the visually impaired.

Last year marked VISION 2020 – the Right to Sight, a global initiative launched by WHO, ICO and IAPB in 1999, whose mission was to address the main causes of preventable blindness. ICO and APAO have worked together in this initiative to prevent blindness and restore sight. Another field of cooperation is the World Ophthalmology Congress. The WOC will be held in the year 2022 with APAO as cohost.

The APAO Congress invites ophthalmologists from all over the world, to explore the latest scientific innovations, medical treatments and surgical techniques. The exciting scientific program will provide a platform for the exchange of ideas and prepare eye doctors for the major new developments and the ever-changing future of eye care.

It gives me immense pleasure to join you at the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee celebration. May this meeting be APAO’s best yet.

**Peter Wiedemann**

Immediate Past President  
International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO)



# American Academy of Ophthalmology

n behalf of the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) and its 32,000 members around the world, I would like to congratulate the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

For six decades, APAO has promoted the science and art of ophthalmology among all people and nations of the region and played a significant role in the worldwide fight against preventable blindness.

At our annual meeting in San Francisco in 2019, the Academy was pleased to present the APAO with the Distinguished Service Award to recognize its longstanding success as the supranational organization in the Asia-Pacific region. Our organizations have a long history of working together on a number of initiatives, from annual meetings to leadership development.

We wish the APAO nothing but the best in the celebration of its Diamond Jubilee and look forward to many more decades of collaboration and success!

**George A. Williams**

Past President 2019  
American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO)



# American Academy of Ophthalmology



**W**ith great respect, we offer our congratulations to the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology in the year of its Diamond Jubilee. It is our honor to join the APAO for its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. What a remarkable run APAO has had in its six decades of service to ophthalmologists and their patients in the Asia-Pacific region. The APAO has significantly advanced scientific research in the field and broadened the educational opportunities available to ophthalmologists here.

Many thousands of ophthalmologists from dozens of countries have been looking forward to the festivities of this milestone congress. It will be an outstanding opportunity for learning.

The American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) acknowledges all of APAO's hard work and wishes the APAO great success this year and beyond!

**Anne L. Coleman**

Immediate Past President 2020  
American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO)



# The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology

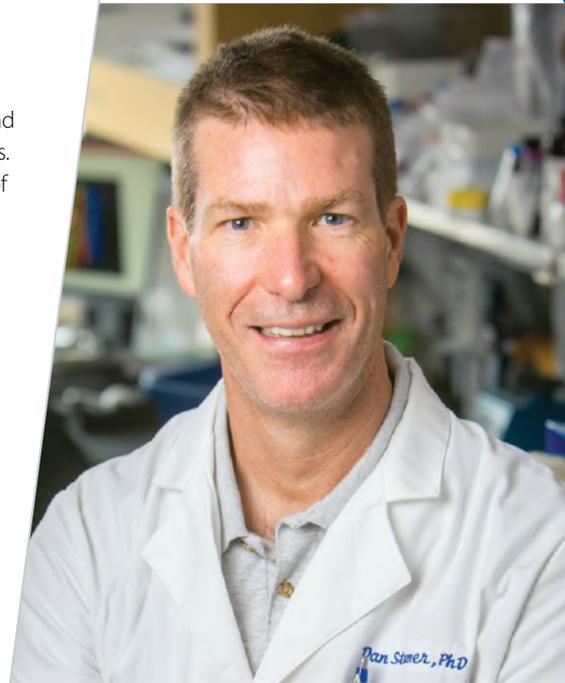
**O**n behalf of the ARVO Board of Trustees, it is my pleasure to recognize and thank APAO for their great work in the Asia-Pacific region for 60 years. APAO's contributions to the advancement of the science and art of ophthalmology is commendable.

We look forward to your continued success.

**W. Daniel Stamer**

Immediate Past President 2020

The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)



# Middle East Africa Council of Ophthalmology



**O**n behalf of all Ophthalmic Societies in the Middle East Africa Council of Ophthalmology and MEACO Board, we extend our heartiest congratulations to Asia Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology for completing 60 glorious years of success. APAC has always been one of the top ophthalmic organizations for serving the community as well the ophthalmologists and member societies in Asia Pacific Regions

Our warmest congratulations to the President: Ningli Wang and the entire Board of APAC with whom we have excellent cordial relationship and we often meet in various meetings and congresses. For me it has been real honor and privilege to work closely with members of your Board. We value our excellent relationship and look forward to build on this relationship and contribute and participate in APAO events,

We in MEACO, wish you all success for the upcoming The 35th Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology Congress which will be held April 22 – 26 in Xiamen, China and hosted together with the Chinese Ophthalmological Society. I am hoping that Ophthalmologists and Eye Works from our region will be able to participate in APAC Congress.

We are thankful to all Ophthalmologists and all Eye Workers from your regions who have always contributed to congress events of MEACO. We are currently preparing for our major event of World Ophthalmology Congress 2020 in Cape Town, South Africa where MEACO is Co-hosting the event. We look forward for the participation of your members in this event.

With your commitment, sincerity and dedication you have time to time proven your worth and have gained much deserved recognition and fame. With your services, the community has gained a lot. You are well known for providing a learning platform for ophthalmologists, ophthalmologist in training as well as Eye Workers.

We in MEACO wish you all success for many more years to come.

**Ahmed Abdulla Ahmed**

President  
Middle East Africa Council of Ophthalmology (MEACO)



# Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology

**W**e congratulate the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) on its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. As a supranational organization, APAO traverses a mosaic of cultures and languages. We admire Dr. William John Holmes, and the other founding board members, whose vision founded the APAO.

As Dr. Holmes noted later in his address at the 2<sup>nd</sup> APAO Congress in Melbourne in 1964, "The idea for the organization of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology grew out of the realization that eye surgeons in the neighboring countries of Asia, Australasia, and Oceania were faced with identical ophthalmological problems."

We are certain the Founding Fathers of APAO would be very proud to see how this organization has grown and continues to serve as an important platform to promote the prevention of blindness and restoration of sight through service, research, teaching and education in ophthalmology. We applaud your free exchange of ophthalmic knowledge and the advancement of the standard of eye care through the organization of congresses.

We take this opportunity to congratulate the APAO for fostering closer relations among ophthalmologists and ophthalmological societies in the Asia-Pacific region in order to combat blindness.

Congratulations for your 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

**Miguel N. Burnier Jr.**

President  
Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology (PAAO)



# Societas Ophthalmologica Europea



**O**n behalf of the Societas Ophthalmologica Europea (SOE), I would like to send our warmest congratulations to the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on the occasion of its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We respect and admire your great contribution to ophthalmology in your region and beyond. We wish you every success in the future and look forward to many years of continued collaboration and mutual support between our Societies.

**Wagih Aclimandos**

President  
Societas Ophthalmologica Europea (SOE)





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<b>H. D. Dastoor</b> (India)	(1964 – 1968)
<b>Ronald F. Lowe</b> (Australia)	(1968 – 1972)
<b>Akira Nakajima</b> (Japan)	(1972 – 1976)
<b>William J. Holmes</b> (Hawaii)	(1976 – 1981)
<b>Ramachandra Pararajasegaram</b> (Sri Lanka)	(1981 – 1985)
<b>Arthur S. M. Lim</b> (Singapore)	(1985 – 1987)
<b>R. K. Tamin Radjamin</b> (Indonesia)	(1987 – 1989)
<b>Charles Calvin Ring</b> (New Zealand)	(1989 – 1991)
<b>Saiichi Mishima</b> (Japan)	(1991 – 1993)
<b>Sang Wook Rhee</b> (Korea)	(1993 – 1995)
<b>S. Selvarajah</b> (Malaysia)	(1995 – 1997)
<b>Prachak Prachakvej</b> (Thailand)	(1997 – 1999)
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<b>Frank J. Martin</b> (Australia)	(2009 – 2013)
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<b>Dennis S. C. Lam</b> (Hong Kong, China)	(2015 – 2017)
<b>Charles McGhee</b> (New Zealand)	(2017 – 2019)

## Past Academy Secretaries-General

<b>William J. Holmes</b> (Hawaii)	(1960 – 1964)
<b>Akira Nakajima</b> (Japan)	(1964 – 1990)
<b>Arthur S. M. Lim</b> (Singapore)	(1990 – 2005)
<b>Dennis S. C. Lam</b> (Hong Kong, China)	(2005 – 2013)



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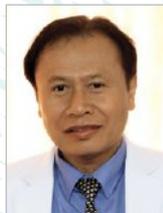
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# 12 Great Minds in Ophthalmology and APAO

(600 B.C. - 2009)



# Susruta

600 B.C.

1

**T**he legendary Indian physician Susruta (also spelled Sushruta), who was recognized as the "Father of Indian Surgery", introduced and practiced extracapsular cataract extraction back in 600 BC. Susruta lived, practiced and taught surgery in the area that corresponds to the present day city of Varanasi (Kashi, Benares) in North India.

Over two centuries, Susruta teachings were passed down by his disciples and written by various authors. His work was compiled into a *Samhita* (compendium), famously known as the *Susruta Samhita*. Though the original Sanskrit language manuscript of *Susruta Samhita* is not preserved, copies and revisions are available. It is translated in Arabic, Latin, English and German languages.

The *Susruta Samhita* includes 18 chapters on 76 different diseases of the eye and also describes 101 blunt instruments and 20 sharp instruments. The *Susruta Samhita: Uttar Tantra* (an addendum), describes cataract in a chapter on drishti (pupil) of the eye (Drishti-Gata-Roga-Vijna'Niya). It also includes the treatment options for cataract (Drisht-tigata Roga Pratishedha) along with explanation of the surgical measures for curing a case of Kaphaja Linga Nasa (obstruction or choking up at the pupil with a cataract). *Susruta Samhita* further describes and illustrates the Susruta instruments that were used during cataract surgery.

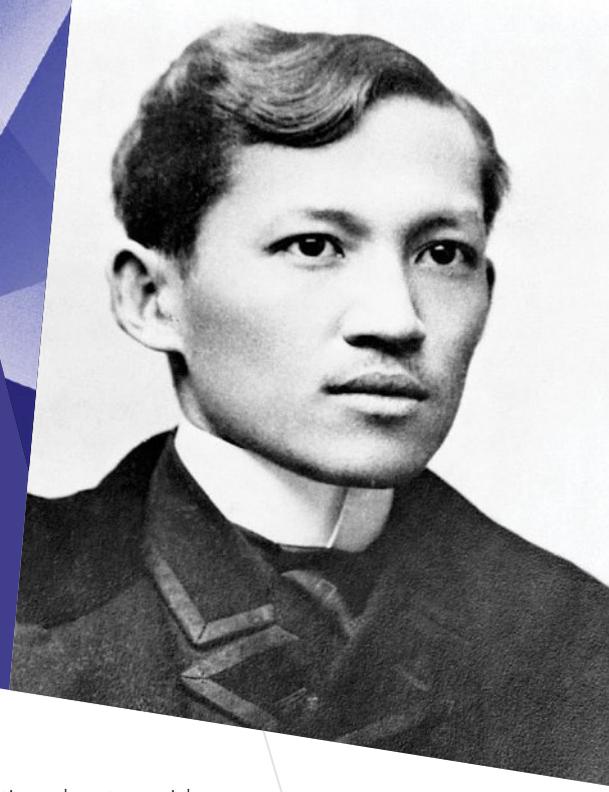
In addition to cataract surgery Susruta is also known for his contribution towards other types of surgeries. He was the first surgeon to systematize surgery by dividing it into separate fields, and is considered as the originator of plastic surgery, laparotomy, and vesical lithotomy.



# 2

## José Rizal

1861 – 1896



**D**escribed as one of the most interesting, brilliant, enigmatic, charismatic, and controversial figures in history, Dr. José Rizal was a sportsman and excellent student, a world traveler, a romantic, an artist, a political activist, a polyglot who spoke 22 languages and dialects, a writer, martyr and finally, an ophthalmologist.

He was born in 1861, and grew up in the colonial Philippines, under the rule of Spain. In 1878 he enrolled in the University of Santo Tomas to study philosophy and letters. He did not originally enroll in medicine, and it was only upon his learning that his mother was going blind due to cataracts that he decided to study medicine with the intention of specializing in ophthalmology at the UST Faculty of Medicine and Surgery. However, he did not complete the medicine program because of discrimination by the Spanish Dominican friars against Filipino students.

He would end up in Spain to finish his studies at the Universidad Central de Madrid in 1884. While in Europe he specialized in ophthalmology, training in Paris under the famous oculoplastic surgeon, Dr. Louis de Wecker, one of the foremost ophthalmologists of the 19<sup>th</sup> century; and at the University of Heidelberg under Dr. Otto Becker, who was a pioneer in ophthalmic pathology from whom Dr. Rizal learned the basics of ophthalmological examination and diagnosis.

Upon return to Manila in 1887, he immediately successfully operated on the left eye of his mother. He was viewed with awe by his peers, being the only Europe trained ophthalmologist in the country, and possibly in Southeast Asia in 1887.

However, not soon after, he had to leave again to escape political persecution. The wandering doctor traveled to Spain, London, and eventually Hong Kong in 1891, where he grew a thriving practice. While in Hong Kong a prominent Portuguese physician, Dr. Lorenzo Marquez, was so impressed with his eye surgical skills that Dr. Marquez eventually referred all his eye patients to Dr. Rizal. While in exile Dr. Rizal wrote and published two novels, *Noli Me Tángere* and *El Filibusterismo*, which showcased the social ills at that time and the oppression of the Filipinos by Spanish colonial rule.

He returned to the Philippines in 1892. Less than 2 weeks later, Dr. Rizal was arrested, placed on a boat, and exiled to Dapitan. In typical Rizal fashion, while in Dapitan, he not only practiced ophthalmology but also general medicine, general surgery, obstetrics, gynecology, and even dentistry. He was executed in Manila by the Spanish authorities for sedition, rebellion, and conspiracy on December 30, 1896. Although he never wrote any scientific papers in ophthalmology, Dr. Rizal was indeed a skilled ophthalmologist who in death, as in life, helped his people see the light, and he was declared the National Hero of the Philippines.



# Geminiano de Ocampo

1907 – 1987

3

**D**r. Geminiano de Ocampo, a distinguished ophthalmologist, a multi-awarded national scientist, and an inventor, was well-known and honored as the “Father of Modern Philippine Ophthalmology”. He was a man of diverse talents and abilities. He had an outstanding academic record and a long career as a teacher of ophthalmology, with extensive contributions to the clinical, experimental, and theoretical aspects of cornea and bio-ophthalmology.

Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo was born in Malolos, Bulacan on September 16, 1907. He held several distinguished positions such as Associate Professor and Professor in Ophthalmology and head of the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat (EENT) department and the first Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Philippines-Philippine General Hospital Medical Center, Consultant in Ophthalmology at the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and Chairman of the first Board of Ophthalmology. He was instrumental in establishing the Philippine Eye Bank in 1950. He invented the De Ocampo Corneal Dissector in 1956. He instituted the first eye hospital in the Philippines in 1952 and founded the Philippine Ophthalmologic Society in 1958. He was the President of the Philippine Ophthalmologic Society until 1964. He assisted in the establishment of the Philippine Eye Research Institute and the passage and amendment of Republic Act No. 343, which covered donation of eyeballs for corneal transplantation.

On his inauguration as the third president of the Philippine Ophthalmological and Otolaryngological Society in 1950, Dr. De Ocampo said, “The ultimate goal of Philippine ophthalmology should be that any Filipino with an eye disease is given adequate treatment, and that no blindness should come to any Filipino [given] the benefit of modern ophthalmologic knowledge and practice.”

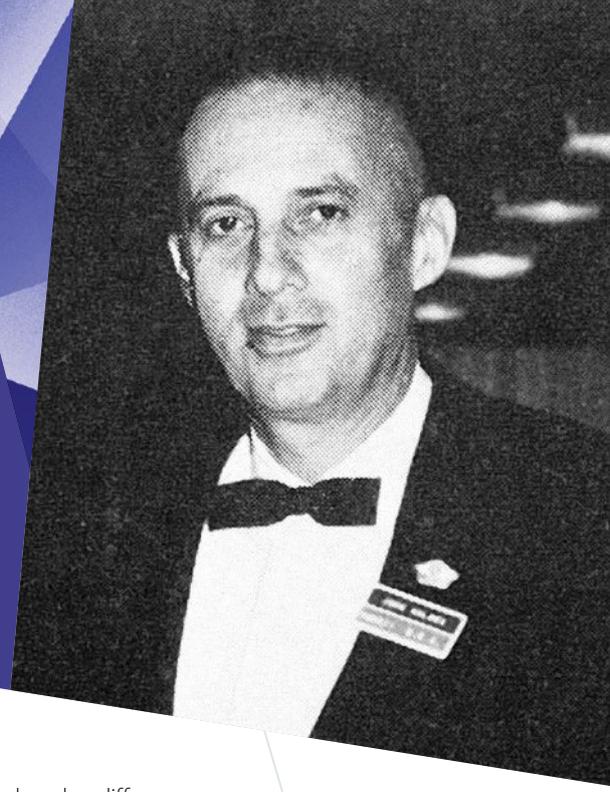
The late Dr. De Ocampo was the leading light and the Founder President of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology. In honor of Dr. De Ocampo, the council of APAO instituted the De Ocampo Lecture in 1983, which was the highest award to ophthalmologists from the Asia-Pacific region with an outstanding clinical or basic-research background.



# 4

## William John Holmes

1911 – 1989



**D**r. William John Holmes was a man who was internationally known and made a difference in peoples' lives. Certainly because of his interest in contributing to areas with originally little ophthalmic care, Dr. Holmes was a prime mover in the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology in 1958, which has grown from its inception as a 10-man group to its present size. He was the President of the Academy from 1976 to 1981.

He was born in Budapest, Hungary, but emigrated to the United States in the 1920s. He received his medical degree from Rush Medical College after receiving his Bachelor of Science from the University of Chicago. He went on to obtain ophthalmology residency at Presbyterian and Cook County Hospitals, Chicago, Illinois.

During World War II, Dr. Holmes conducted research in dark adaptation, and his 1950 AOS thesis was entitled, "Night Vision Tests, Clinical Applications". After the war, Dr. Holmes engaged in a busy private practice of ophthalmology in Honolulu, Hawaii. The Hawaii Medical Association bestowed upon Dr. Holmes one of its highest honors by naming him the physician who had contributed the most to the community for its annual award in 1965.

The international stature of his reputation was firmly established by a perusal of his memberships in various organizations. This list included All-India Ophthalmic Society, Française D' Ophthalmological Society, Ophthalmic Society of the United Kingdom, Oxford Ophthalmological Congress, and honorary memberships in the Korean Ophthalmic Society, Ceylon Ophthalmic Society, Ophthalmological Society of Australia, New Zealand Ophthalmological Society, and the Institute Barraquer, Barcelona, Spain.

Over his lifetime, he published over 30 works in medical journals throughout the world, as well as served as an editor of two books.



# Ronald Francis Lowe

1913 – 1998

5

**P**rof. Ronald Francis Lowe was devoted to the very highest standards of ophthalmology. A tall and imposing man, he stood tall intellectually and demanded the highest standards of himself and those who worked with him, but also enjoyed great devotion from his patients and was much admired by his peers.

Born in 1913, he began his working life as a pharmaceutical chemist in 1933. Fortunately for medicine and for ophthalmology, he decided to embark on the study of medicine, graduating from the University of Melbourne in 1945 with a Diploma of Ophthalmology (DO).

He served as a medical officer in the army in the Second World War and during the latter years of the war was resident at the then Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital. After the war, he became a fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and was later awarded the first ever fellowship in ophthalmology by the Royal College of Surgeons, England. He would go on to work at the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital for nearly twenty years from 1955, holding many positions there including Dean of the Clinical School from 1962-1968.

Prof. Lowe was part of a group of ten eye surgeons that first met in 1958 whilst attending the International Congress of Ophthalmology in Brussels. Together, they outlined the principal objectives, defined geographical boundaries and set a date for the first meeting of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology. In 1964, he became Academy Vice-President, and from 1968 to 1972, he served as President of the Academy – the first Australian to have done so.

One of his greatest contributions to ophthalmology coincided with the first congress of APAO. It was on this occasion that his magnum opus, "Peripheral iridectomy for acute glaucoma, practical experiences" made its first appearance. A seminal piece of clinical research conducted on his own time over a period of roughly 17 years, it contributed immensely to the literature on the study of angle closure glaucoma.

In addition to publishing 60 papers on angle closure glaucoma, he studied anterior chamber geometry, posterior corneal curvature, and the anterior lens surface. He wrote also on glaucoma screening and geographic and racial variations in angle closure glaucoma. On the conclusion of this work, he undertook a study of the myoepithelium of the human iris by stereoscopic studies and electron microscopy. He also made contributions on strabismus and orthoptics, clinical pathology, pamphlets for patients, and a revision of the lecture notes at The Royal Eye and Ear Hospital.

In 1982, the Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital's Medical Library was named the Ronald Lowe Library in his honor.



# 6

## Charles Calvin Ring

1916 – 1998



**K**nown as the most influential and dedicated ophthalmologist in Auckland in the second half of the twentieth century, Dr. Charles Calvin Ring as a young doctor saw William A. Fairclough performing eye surgery at Auckland Hospital and knew then that ophthalmology was for him.

He stayed a third year as a junior doctor at Auckland Hospital and acted as a registrar in ophthalmology and ENT. When World War II broke out he joined the New Zealand Medical Corps. After the war, it did not take Dr. Ring long to secure one of the sought-after positions as a house surgeon at Moorfields Eye Hospital. He became the Senior House Officer, which was a position of responsibility respected by the senior surgeons.

Dr. Ring's great contributions to ophthalmology were in the areas of education and surgery. He gave unstinting service to the public system until the then mandatory retirement age of sixty-five. Every week for half an hour before his busy clinic, he gave a teaching ward round on his patients for the benefit of the nurses, house surgeons, and registrars. He would always have a prepared tutorial which related to one or two of his patients. His surgical standards were very high, and he expected the same of his registrars. "If you take your eye off the eye, take the instrument off the eye" was a one-liner remembered by many trainees.

Dr. Ring was also involved in overseas ophthalmic education. He joined Dr. Bignall from Melbourne to work in Thailand, where he went on three occasions. He also joined the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology, which was started in 1960 by Dr. William J. Holmes of Hawaii and Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo from the Philippines, and became President at the time of the 1990 meeting in Kyoto, Japan, at which thirty-five countries were represented.

Dr. Ring's surgical skills allowed him to be more intrepid than most of his colleagues. Thus he was a natural to pioneer the use of intra-ocular lenses in New Zealand, and the first to produce good long-term results.

In 1991, he predicted that the future of ophthalmology lay in refractive corneal surgery, and in retinal advances, in particular the treatment of macular degeneration. Within a decade he was correct on both counts. Dr. Ring was very proud of his eldest son, Peter, for becoming an ophthalmologist, and continued consulting until just a few months before his passing in 1998.



# Akira Nakajima

1923 – 2017

**P**rof. Akira Nakajima was a great international leader of ophthalmology, and was also instrumental in the growth and development of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology, driving its development from 1964 to 1972 as the Vice President of APAO, and from 1972 to 1976 as the President of APAO. Under his distinguished leadership, APAO went from strength to strength. Subsequently, he became APAO's longest-serving Secretary-General from 1976 to 1990.

Born on 14 July 1923, Prof. Nakajima graduated from the University of Tokyo in 1945. He started his ophthalmic career in 1945 as Assistant in Ophthalmology at the University of Tokyo. By 1949, he was Head of the Eye Clinic in Hanaoka Hospital in Japan, and in 1954 he was Assistant Professor at the Department of Ophthalmology, Juntendo University, School of Medicine, and was appointed Professor and Chairman in 1960.

He received the José Rizal Medal in 1987 for his outstanding contributions to the development of clinical ophthalmology and great achievements of the prevention of blindness in the Asia-Pacific region.

Prof. Nakajima's considerable clinical expertise and contributions were in the areas of cornea and external eye diseases, ocular genetics, and refraction, but his research interests also included molecular biological, immunological, and electrophysiological studies on chorio-retinal degeneration, vitreous diseases, uveitis, and glaucoma. Throughout the decades, he made unparalleled contributions to ophthalmic teaching and training, clinical and laboratory research, and clinical ophthalmic practice, in Japan, in the Asia-Pacific region, and well beyond.

The APAO Nakajima Award was established in 2005 in Prof. Nakajima's honor, and is presented at the APAO congress to young distinguished ophthalmologists from the Asia-Pacific region for their outstanding accomplishments in international ophthalmology.



# 8

## Saiichi Mishima

1927 – 2005



**B**orn in 1927 in Osaka, the young Mishima, who was bright and scholastic, was accepted to Tokyo University Medical School—the most prestigious institution in the country—in 1945. After the intern year, he started his ophthalmology training at the same university, followed by academic positions at Kanto Teishin Hospital and Tokyo Medical and Dental University.

In 1959, his contacts with ophthalmology outside the borders of Japan began. He received a scholarship from the British Council for 1-year study at the Institute of Ophthalmology in London on corneal physiology with David Maurice. PhD. David was the leading thinker and experimentalist in the field for many years, and Sai quickly jumpstarted the topic of fluid regulation in the cornea and its clinical implications.

Subsequently, he continued his brilliant research on the imbibition pressure of the corneal stroma at the laboratory of the Corneal Unit of what was then called the Retina Foundation, now Schepens Eye Research Institute. This was followed by another 3 years of research at the Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, where his attention shifted to the corneal endothelium and its pump function.

After returning to Tokyo University in 1968, 3 years later, he was appointed Full Professor and Chairman of the country's foremost ophthalmology department. There, he showed extraordinary leadership in helping junior faculty in their careers and research, as well as colleagues throughout the country, and he served as an effective link with the world of ophthalmology. He became the President of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology from 1991 to 1993.

Prof. Mishima was a brilliant scholar, but also a warm, friendly, generous, kind, and cheerful person who became invariably popular with his colleagues. His sharp mind and high standards had great influence on his collaborators and trainees, many of whom reached major positions in Japan and elsewhere. He left a remarkable legacy in ophthalmology around the world.



# Arthur Siew Ming Lim

1934 – 2014

9

**W**idely respected as one of ophthalmology's greatest teachers and visionary leaders, Prof. Lim not only devoted his career to developing quality eye care, education and research, he was also a mentor to many and an icon to eye surgeons around the world.

As Founding Medical Director of the Singapore National Eye Centre and the Singapore Eye Research Institute, and the inaugural Chief of the Department of Ophthalmology at the National University Hospital and National University of Singapore, he introduced microsurgical techniques and intraocular lens implantation to Singapore and to the Asia-Pacific region half a century ago.

A founder member of the Asia-Oceanic Glaucoma Society, in 1981, he was elected one of the Vice-Presidents of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology, and served as its President from 1985–1987, and as Secretary-General from 1990 to 2005. Under his capable leadership, APAO saw substantial development, and he was honored with the APAO José Rizal Medal in 1983 and selected to present the Holmes Lecture in 1987 and the Susruta Lecture in 1993.

In recognition of Prof. Lim's significant contributions to ophthalmology, the Academy established the "Arthur Lim Award" in 2008 to recognize ophthalmologists who have demonstrated exemplary leadership in the field of ophthalmology and subsequently made substantial improvements in ophthalmic teaching and training in the Asia-Pacific region.

Prof. Lim was also well-known for his philanthropic work. In the 1980s, he spearheaded a major movement in China to control mass cataract blindness. He advocated the use of cataract extraction with intraocular lens implantation to restore patients' sight, and founded the International Intraocular Implant Training Center Tianjin (which subsequently became the Tianjin Medical University Eye Center), as well as the Xiamen Eye Center, in 1986 and 1997, respectively. For these efforts, he received the Friendship Award from the Chinese Government in 1996.

Throughout his career, Prof. Lim was bestowed many important honors internationally, including the International President's Medal of Distinction by the Lions Club International, the World Glaucoma Award by World Glaucoma Association (WGA), the Special Recognition Award by the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO), the Golden Apple Award for the Best Clinical Teacher in Asia and the G.O.H. Naumann Award for Leadership in Global Eye Care by the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO).

A prolific author and researcher, Prof. Lim published over 30 books and more than 300 scientific papers in his lifetime, making him one of the best-known ophthalmology authors in Asia. Prof. Lim's legacy will continue to influence and inspire many younger generations of ophthalmologists to come.



# 10

## Por Tying Hung

1934 – 2018



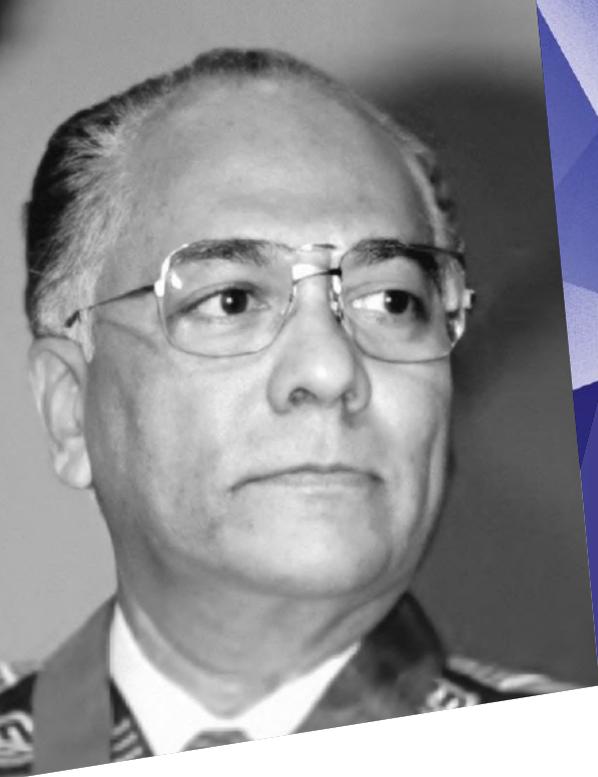
**P**rof. Por Tying Hung was a great leader of ophthalmology in Taiwan, who made a significant impact on eye care in the Asia-Pacific region.

He graduated from the Medical College of Taiwan University in 1959. Over a period of 35 years at National Taiwan University Hospital and Taiwan University, he was a resident, full-time attending, instructor, Associate Professor, Professor, and then Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology (1977 – 1983), and Deputy Director of the hospital (1983 – 1992). He spent time at Wilmer Eye Institute of Johns Hopkins University (1967 – 1968), and was a National Institutes of Health Fogarty Fellow at New York Medical College (1974 – 1976). He was a diplomate of the American Board of Ophthalmology.

His academic interests were broad, but mainly focused on glaucoma and related fields, with over 300 publications to his name. Together with Prof. Yoshiaki Kitazawa and Prof. Arthur Lim, Prof. Hung founded the Asia-Oceanic Glaucoma Society. This organization later combined with the South East Asia Glaucoma Interest Group and the Asian Angle Closure Glaucoma Club to form the Asia-Pacific Glaucoma Society, one of APAO's first subspecialty member societies.

Prof. Hung was also a member of the Glaucoma Society of the International Congress of Ophthalmology, and an editorial board member of the *Journal of Ocular Pharmacology and Therapeutics*, *Journal of Glaucoma*, and *International Glaucoma Review*. He was Chief Editor of the Asian Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology, and President of the Civil Medical Publisher of Taiwan University Hospital. In 2011, he joined the editorial board of *Glaucoma Management*.

For his immense contributions towards eye care, teaching, and research, particularly in the field of glaucoma, Prof. Hung was recognized with the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology Distinguished Service Award in 1987. Prof. Hung was also Congress President of APAO 2001 Congress in Taiwan.



# Sivaguru Selvarajah

1935 – 2010

**P**rof. Selvarajah is described as a man of wisdom and one of the most esteemed leaders in Ophthalmology in the Asia-Pacific region. He graduated from University Malaya in Singapore in 1958, and went on to receive his specialist degrees, FRCO from the Royal College of Ophthalmology and FRCS from the Royal College Of Surgeon of Edinburgh. Prof. Selvarajah had an illustrious 33-year career with the Malaysian Medical Service. As the Chief Consultant Ophthalmologist in the Ministry of Health, Malaysia, he spearheaded the development of Ophthalmology in Malaysia.

Prof. Selvarajah was appointed Professor of Ophthalmology at the National University of Malaysia in 1992 and Professor at the University Putra Malaysia in 1999, from which he retired in 2005. He then followed on as a Guest Professor at the International Medical University in Kuala Lumpur.

Prof. Selvarajah was the President of the Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) (1978–1979), President of the College of Surgeons of Malaysia (1986–1990), and Chairman of the Ophthalmological Society of MMA (1982–1988). Internationally, he was President of APAO (1995–1997), member of the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO) (1995–1999), and member of ICO's Advisory Committee (2000–2001). He was elected to the Academia Ophthalmologica Internationalis in 2002.

He was credited with numerous significant contributions to the field of ophthalmology, particularly in ophthalmic training and education in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. He was actively involved in teaching both undergraduate and postgraduate students in Ophthalmology, and was the pioneer of postgraduate ophthalmic training in Malaysia. In the 47 years he spent in the field of Ophthalmology, he mentored more than 200 residents. He was a regular examiner for the FRCSE (Ophth) examination for several years, and also examined students in India and Pakistan. Additionally, he conducted teaching courses in Thailand, Vietnam, and Indonesia.

Prof. Selvarajah was instrumental in training of Para-ophthalmic personnel. He was the Chairman of an International Task Force of the ICO, which developed four curricula to train Para-ophthalmic personnel. He was involved in the International KORAT course for Ophthalmologists and paramedics in Thailand. Prof. Selvarajah was also very active in prevention of blindness activities since the early 1970s both nationally and internationally.

Prof. Selvarajah won several national and international awards. In February 2006, he was honored by the ICO medal in great appreciation and deep admiration for his contribution to ophthalmic education worldwide. He received the ICO Golden Apple Award for the Best Clinical Teacher in Ophthalmology in the Asia-Pacific Region in 2009. He has more than 50 scientific publications in Malaysian and International journals to his credit, and has also authored one book and one chapter in an Ophthalmology book.



# Yasuo Tano

1948 – 2009



**A**s a vitreo-retina specialist and Chair Professor of the Department of Ophthalmology of Osaka University Medical School, Prof. Tano's leadership was pivotal in the development of ophthalmology in not just Japan and the Asia-Pacific, but all over the world. He played very key and active roles in many international and regional ophthalmological societies, including the Treasurer of International Council of Ophthalmology, the President of Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology, and the Founding President of Asia-Pacific Vitreo-retina Society.

Prof. Tano authored over 660 peer-reviewed scientific papers and 59 textbooks, and received over 20 major honors and awards in recognition of his outstanding achievements and contributions in ophthalmology, as well as the presentation of the De Ocampo Lecture at APAO Congress in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in 2005.

He also served as editorial board member for a number of internationally peer-reviewed journals, including *American Journal of Ophthalmology*, *Graefé's Archive of Ophthalmology*, *Survey of Ophthalmology*, *Current Eye Research*, *Retina*, *Seminars in Ophthalmology*, *Current Opinion in Ophthalmology*, and *Eye Science*, etc. He was Editor-in-Chief of a few Japanese peer-reviewed journals, including the *Journal of Japanese Ophthalmological Society*.

Prof. Tano's achievements were phenomenal and his impact was worldwide. His great leadership inspired generations of ophthalmologists and eye care professionals in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. A person of great integrity, a caring eye specialist, an outstanding surgeon, a dedicated teacher, an accomplished researcher, and a prolific writer, his contributions to vitreo-retinal surgery and his highly acclaimed leadership in international ophthalmology is fondly remembered by generations of ophthalmologists.



# Past Congresses and Past Congress Presidents

By putting our best energies and enthusiasm, the goal of our congress is to create new opportunities for interaction, further innovation to advance the science and art of ophthalmology. APAO Congress was organised very four years, initially, for the first four Congresses. Since 1972, the Congress took place biyearly to enhance idea exchanging and cutting-edge finding. Starting from 2006 in Singapore, the APOA Congress holds annually.

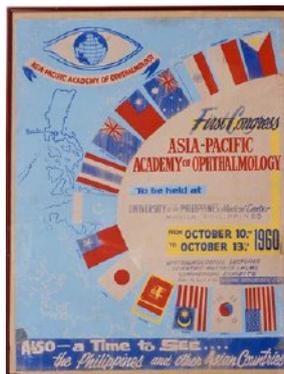
1<sup>st</sup>

1960



**Manila, The Philippines**

*Congress President*  
**Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo**



2<sup>nd</sup> 1964



**Melbourne, Australia**

*Congress President*  
**Sir Norman Gregg**

3<sup>rd</sup>



1968

Singapore

*Congress President*

**Dr. Robert Loh**

4<sup>th</sup>



Auckland, New Zealand

*Congress President*

**Dr. George Fenwick**

1974



Colombo, Sri Lanka

*Congress President*

**Dr. P. Sivasubramaniam**

5<sup>th</sup>

1972



1979

7<sup>th</sup>



**Karachi, Pakistan**

*Congress President*

**Professor Raja Mumtaz**

9<sup>th</sup> 1983



**Hong Kong**

*Congress President*

**Dr. John Chang**

6<sup>th</sup>



1976

**Bali, Indonesia**

*Congress President*

**Professor Isak Salim**

8<sup>th</sup>



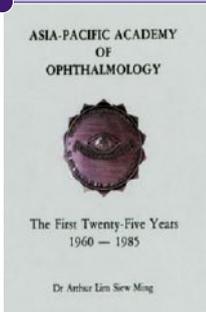
1981

**Bangkok, Thailand**

*Congress President*

**Dr. Kobchai Prommindaroj**

10<sup>th</sup>



1985

New Delhi, India

*Congress President*

**Dr. Agarwal Lalit Prakash**

**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

11<sup>th</sup> 1987



Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

*Congress President*

**Dato' Dr. Keshmahinder Singh**

12<sup>th</sup>



1989

Seoul, Korea

*Congress President*

**Professor Dong Ho Youn**



**Dhaka, Bangladesh**

*Congress President*

**Professor M. A. Matin**

**14<sup>th</sup>**



**1993**

**13<sup>th</sup>**



**1991**

**Kyoto, Japan**

*Congress President*

**Professor Saiichi Mishima**

**15<sup>th</sup>**



**1995**

**Hong Kong**

*Congress President*

**Professor Patrick Ho**

# 1999

Manila, The Philippines

*Congress President*

**Professor Romeo V. Fajard**

17<sup>th</sup>



16<sup>th</sup>



# 1997

Kathmandu, Nepal

*Congress President*

**Dr. Ram Prasad Pokhrel**

18<sup>th</sup> 2001



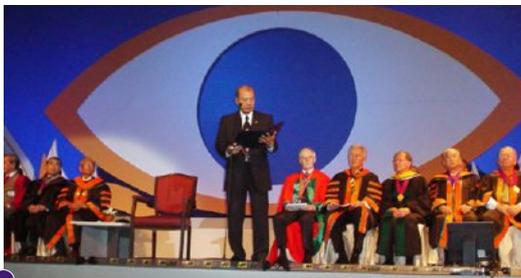
Chinese Taipei

*Congress President*

**Professor Por-Tying Hung**



19<sup>th</sup>



2003

Bangkok, Thailand

*Congress President*

**Professor Visuthe  
Tansirikongkol**

21<sup>st</sup>



2006

Singapore

*Congress President*

**Dr. Steve Seah**

20<sup>th</sup>



2005

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

*Congress President*

**Dr. George Thomas**

24<sup>th</sup>



2009

Bali, Indonesia

*Congress President*

**Dr. Tjahjono**

**Gondhowiardjo**

22<sup>nd</sup>



2007

Lahore, Pakistan

*Congress President*

**Professor Shad  
Muhammad**

23<sup>rd</sup>



2008

Hong Kong, China

*Congress President*

**Professor Dennis Lam**



# 2011

26<sup>th</sup>



**Sydney, Australia**

*Congress President*

**Professor Ivan Goldberg**

25<sup>th</sup>



# 2010

**Beijing, China**

*Congress President*

**Professor Xiaoxin Li**

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**



27<sup>th</sup>



# 2012

**Busan, South Korea**

*Congress President*

**Professor Hyung Woo Kwak**

28<sup>th</sup>



2013

Hyderabad, India

*Congress President*

**Professor Rajvardhan Azad**

29<sup>th</sup>



2014

Tokyo, Japan

*Congress President*

**Professor Makoto Araie**



30<sup>th</sup>



2015

Guangzhou, China

Congress President

Professor Ningli Wang

No. of delegates	No. of invited sessions	No. of invited speakers
10,139	172	675



31<sup>st</sup>

2016

Chinese Taipei

Congress President

Professor Lin-Chung Woung

No. of delegates	No. of invited sessions	No. of invited speakers
4,567	138	615



# 2017

## Singapore

Congress President

**Professor Tien-Yin Wong**

No. of delegates	No. of invited sessions	No. of invited speakers
<b>5,090</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>564</b>

**32<sup>nd</sup>**





No. of delegates	No. of invited sessions	No. of invited speakers
5,206	130	630

**33<sup>rd</sup> 2018** Hong Kong, China  
 Congress President  
 Professor Clement Tham

1<sup>st</sup> Satellite Congress  
**Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam**  
 Co-Host  
**Vietnam Ophthalmological Society**  
 President, Vietnam Ophthalmological Society  
 Professor Ton Thi Kim Thanh

No. of delegates	No. of invited speakers
>2,000	6



2<sup>nd</sup> Satellite Congress

## Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Co-Host

### Mongolian Ophthalmologist's Society

President, Mongolian Ophthalmologist's Society

**Dr. Chimgee Chuluunkhuu**



No. of delegates

160

No. of invited speakers

12

34<sup>th</sup>

2019

## Bangkok, Thailand

Congress President

**Professor Paison Ruamviboonsuk**

No. of delegates

5,255

No. of invited sessions

133

No. of invited speakers

712





# History of APAO

# History of APAO



Group photo of the delegates



The 1<sup>st</sup> APAO Congress



The official poster

## 1958

Brussels, Belgium

The Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) was formed by Dr. William J. Holmes in 1958. He formed the APAO Constitution with Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo, Dr. Jesus Tamesis, Dr. Angelo and Dr. Ronald F. Lowe.



Dr. Joaquin Barraquer, Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo, Dr. William J. Holmes, Dr. Jesus Tamesis, Dr. R. Ching, Dr. Akira Nakajima

## 1960

Manila, The Philippines



Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo spoke in the podium.

Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo, the "Father of Modern Philippine Ophthalmology", was the first APAO President and Congress President.

## 1964

Melbourne, Australia

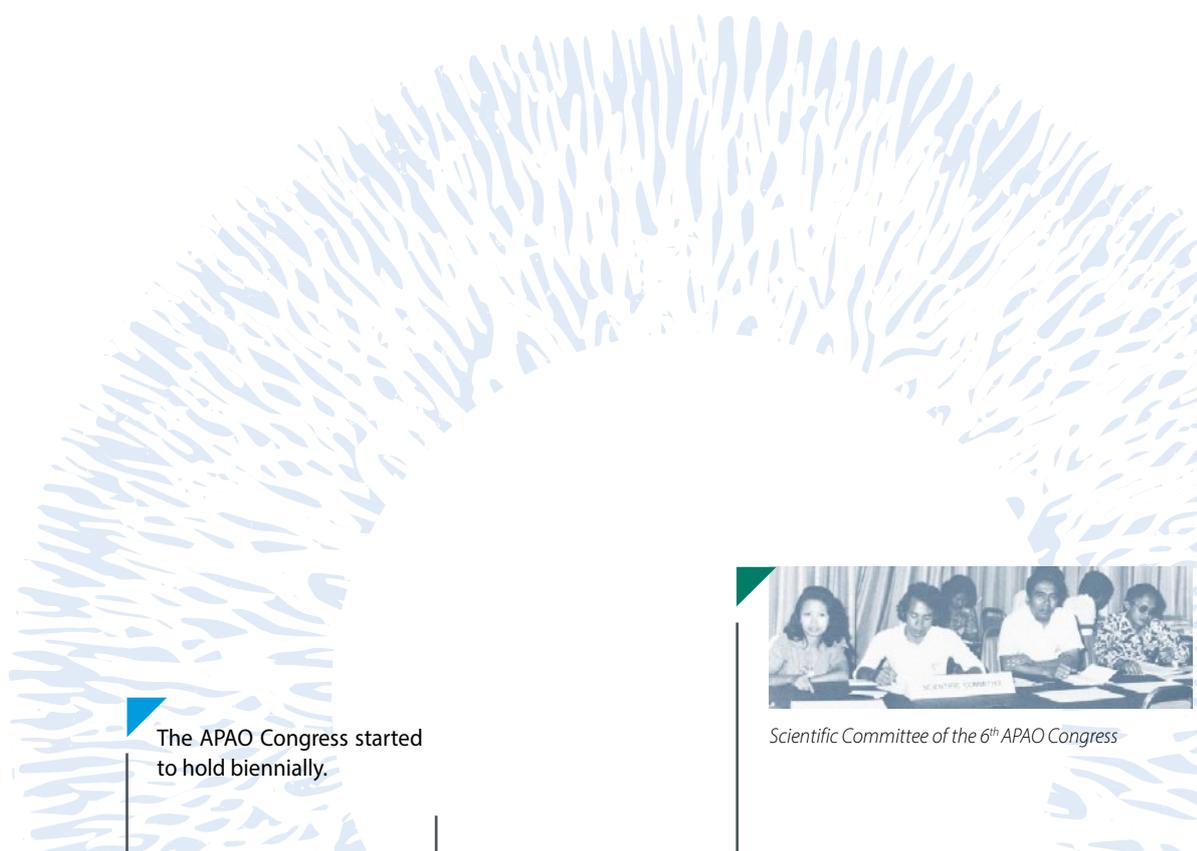
Dr. William J. Holmes shared the mission of APAO. "The idea for the organization of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology grew out of the realization that eye surgeons in the neighboring countries of Asia, Australasia, and Oceania were faced with identical ophthalmological problems.

**1<sup>st</sup>** 

APAO Congress

**128** delegates from  **12** countries

**39**  papers presented



The APAO Congress started to hold biennially.



Scientific Committee of the 6<sup>th</sup> APAO Congress

**1968**  
Singapore

**1972**  
Auckland, New Zealand

**1974**  
Colombo, Sri Lanka

**1976**  
Bali, Indonesia

APAO launched the first Jose Rizal Medal.



The Jose Rizal Medal is the most prestigious medal of the APAO and is awarded to outstanding ophthalmologists for their excellence in ophthalmology within the Asia-Pacific region. It honors Dr. Jose Rizal, who was the first Filipino-known ophthalmologist and a national hero in the Philippines.



Dr. Jose Rizal

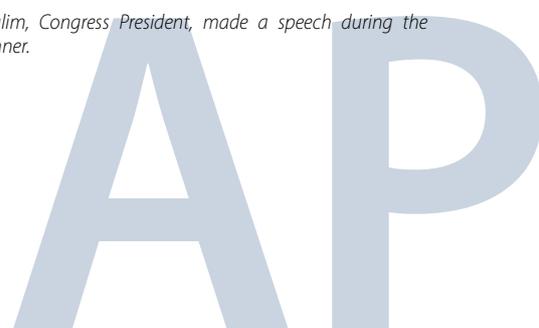


Jose Rizal Medal

The scientific program shifted its focus from general topics of prevention of blindness to more specific areas, such as retinal disorders of vascular origin, optic neuropathy, reconstructive surgery of the eyelid, congenital cataract and pseudophakia.



Prof. Isak Salim, Congress President, made a speech during the Welcome Dinner.





Ophthalmologists learned microsurgery by practicing on animal's eyes.



Microsurgical workshops taken place at the Congress.



Teaching sessions

Microsurgery was very new in the 1970s. APAO held the very first Microsurgical Teaching Workshop as part of its program for Continuing Education. The workshop was conducted by Prof. Saiichi Mishima (Japan), Dr. Arthur Lim (Singapore), Prof. Ian Constable (Australia), and Dr. Ian Robertson (Australia).

The first Distinguished Service Award was set up.

**1979**  
Karachi, Pakistan

**1981**  
Bangkok, Thailand

**1983**  
Hong Kong

**1985**  
New Delhi, India



(Second right) The late (Baron) Prof. Jules Francois, the then President of the International Council Ophthalmology, was the first awardee of Jose Rizal International Medal. With him were Prof. Kobchai Prommindaraj, Congress President of the 8<sup>th</sup> APAO Congress.

The first Gold Jose Rizal Medal (later: Jose Rizal International Medal) was initiated.

The Gold Jose Rizal Medal is another prestigious medal awarded to outstanding personalities from outside the Asia-Pacific region, who have made exceptional contributions to ophthalmology in the Asia-Pacific area.



Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo

APAO instituted the Holmes Lecture and the De Ocampo Lecture.



The Holmes Lecture is the highest award for exceptional contributions in preventive ophthalmology in the Asia-Pacific region. It honors Dr. William J. Holmes, whose main interest was in preventive ophthalmology.



Dr. William J. Holmes

The De Ocampo Lecture is the highest award to ophthalmologists from the Asia-Pacific region for their excellent academic achievements. It honors Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo, who had a distinguished academic record and a long career as a teacher of ophthalmology.





Susruta introduced and practiced extracapsular cataract extraction.

The Susruta Lecture was inaugurated.



This Lecture recognizes ophthalmologists who have contributed to the control of mass cataract blindness. It honors Susruta, an ancient Indian physician back in 600 B.C. He used anatomy as the basis for surgery and practiced a wise system of therapeutics and surgical skills.

**1987**

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**1989**

Seoul, South Korea

**1991**

Kyoto, Japan

**1993**

Dhaka, Bangladesh



The 12<sup>th</sup> APAO Congress in Seoul

**12<sup>th</sup>**  APAO Congress

**1,106** delegates from  **34** countries

**322**  papers presented



# 6

subcommittees were formed.

- Prevention of Blindness Committee
- Research Committee
- Education Committee
- Congresses/Budget/Finance Committee
- International Committee
- Constitutional Changes Committee

The APAO Travel Grant was instituted.



Group photo of delegates to the 17<sup>th</sup> APAO Congress.

## 1995

Hong Kong

The APAO Secretariat was formed.



Prof. Arthur Lim formed the secretariat at his own cost.

The Outstanding Service in Prevention of Blindness Award was set up.

## 1997

Kathmandu, Nepal

## 1999

Manila, The Philippines

## 2001

Chinese Taipei

# 17

national members joined APAO.



# APAO

**3** additional subcommittees were formed.

- Advisory Committee
- Ethics Committee
- Implementation Committee

The APAO Congress held from every 2 years to every year.

The Nakajima Award first took place.



The Award honors Prof. Akira Nakajima and is presented to individuals who have done outstanding international work in ophthalmology. The international activities should relate to prevention of blindness, ophthalmic service and research on major blinding conditions.



## 2003

Bangkok, Thailand



The APAO logo was formed.

## 2005

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

APAO explored cooperation with specialty organizations, including the Asia Pacific Association of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons (APACRS), the International Glaucoma Societies in the Asia Pacific, Asia Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery (APSOPRS), and International Retinal Foundation.

## 2006

Singapore

The first ICO Mark Tso Golden Apple Award was presented.

APAO launched the Achievement Award Program.



(Third left) Prof. Yasuo Tano, (fourth left) Prof. Dennis Lam, and (third right) Prof. Arthur Lim inaugurated the 21<sup>st</sup> APAO Congress in Singapore.



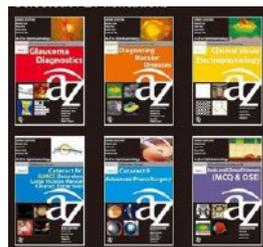
The 23<sup>rd</sup> APAO Congress is the first joint meeting with World Ophthalmology Congress (WOC), with a record high of 13,019 delegates.



(From right) Prof. Yasuo Tano, APAO President, Prof. Dennis Lam, WOC President and 2008 Organizing Committee Chairman, inaugurated the 23<sup>rd</sup> APAO Congress in Hong Kong with (first left) Prof. Bruce Spivey, ICO President, and Mr. John Tsang, Acting Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Prof. Yasuo Tano Travel Grant was established in memorial of Prof. Yasuo Tano and to provide young ophthalmologists with sponsorship to attend APAO congresses.

The Grant was funded by endowments raised from general donations and all proceeds of the first edition of the A-Z in Ophthalmology series, of which Prof. Tano was one of the editors.



A-Z in Ophthalmology (first edition)



Prof. Yasuo Tano

## 2007

Lahore, Pakistan

The Congress Standing Committee was formed. Associate Prof. Frank Martin was appointed as Chairman.

The Committee oversees APAO's annual congresses and works with local organizing committees to ensure there is continuity in planning and delivery of the congresses.

The formation of the Congress Standing Committee makes further congresses of APAO formalized and organized.



(From left) Prof. Frank Martin and Prof. Nadeem Butt during the APAO Council Meeting

## 2008

Hong Kong, China

The first Arthur Lim Award took place.



The Award recognizes ophthalmologists who have exhibited exemplary leadership leading to substantial improvements in ophthalmic teaching and training. It honors Prof. Arthur Lim, who was a world leader in ophthalmology.



Prof. Ian Constable was the first recipient of the Arthur Lim Award.

## 2009

Bali, Indonesia

APAO inaugurated the first APAO Leadership Development Program (LDP).

LDP aims to provide both orientation and skill development to future leaders of ophthalmology in the Asia-Pacific region. Dr. Michael Brennan, Past President of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, generously gave his advice and support for the Program.

The LDP Committee was also set up. It consisted of Prof. Frank Martin, Prof. Philip Lam, Prof. Dennis Lam, Dr. S. Natarajan, and Dr. Jun Shyan Wong.



The veteran doctors shared their experiences in the Leadership Development Program.

APAO Fellowship Program was launched in January 2012. It aims to help promising young ophthalmologists from developing nations to improve their clinical skills and broaden their perspectives of ophthalmology.

The first Asia-Pacific Eye Care Week was held from January 2 to 8, 2012. National members including Bangladesh and Hong Kong organized eye care activities as participation.



Kick-off ceremony of the Free Cataract Surgery Program during the 1<sup>st</sup> Asia-Pacific Eye Care Week in Hong Kong



A sharing session on elimination of preventable blindness in Hong Kong and China hosted by Prof. Dennis Lam (second right)

## 2010

Beijing, China

The 25<sup>th</sup> APAO Silver Jubilee Congress, co-hosted by the Chinese Ophthalmological Society (COS) in Beijing, had a total of 11,607 delegates from 103 countries, the highest record of an APAO congress without any co-hosting organization.

# 18

standing committees were finally formed.

- Advisory
- Advocacy
- Award
- Congress
- Constitutions and Bylaws
- Fellowship
- Journal
- Leadership Development Program
- Membership
- Online Education
- Ophthalmic Education
- Practice Guidelines
- Prevention of Blindness
- Public Education
- Research
- Subspecialty
- Women Ophthalmologists
- Young Ophthalmologists



APAO Council 2010

## 2011

Sydney, Australia

## 2012

Busan, South Korea

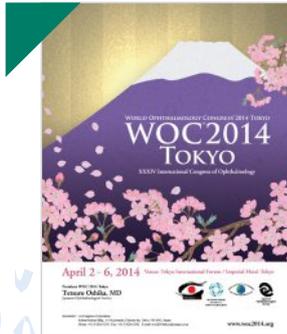
The premier issue of the Asia-Pacific Journal of Ophthalmology (APJO) was launched on January 23, 2012.



Early cover of the APJO

The APAO Executive Committee was formed in 2012.





Poster of the 29<sup>th</sup> APAO Congress cum WOC 2014

The 29<sup>th</sup> APAO Congress was held in conjunction with World Ophthalmology Congress (WOC) 2014 in Tokyo. It had 19,651 of registrants, broke the record in 2008.



Representatives of APAO, International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO), Academia Ophthalmologica Internationales (AOI), and Japanese Ophthalmological Society (JOS) honored leading ophthalmologists from around the world during the Opening Ceremony.

2013

Hyderabad, India

2014

Tokyo, Japan

2015

Guangzhou, China

2016

Chinese Taipei

5

subspecialty societies joined APAO.

- Asia-Pacific Glaucoma Society (APGS)
- Asia-Pacific Society of Ocular Oncology and Pathology (APSOOP)
- Asia-Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (APSOPRS)
- Asia-Pacific Strabismus and Paediatric Ophthalmology Society (APSPPOS)
- Asia-Pacific Vitreo-retina Society (APVRS)



Grand Rounds Around the World, the educational platform of APAO, was launched.

The headquarters of APAO Secretariat was set up at Zhongshan Ophthalmic Center (ZOC) in Guangzhou. APAO expresses its heartiest gratitude to ZOC for offering a complimentary venue as our Secretariat office.



Inauguration of the Guangzhou office



APAO Secretariat office at Zhongshan Ophthalmic Center

APAO



(From seventh left) Dr. Chimgee Chuluunkhuu, President of the MOS, Prof. Jamiyanjav Baasankhuu, Past President of MOS and APAO Council Member (2012 – 2017), and Prof. Clement Tham, APAO Secretary-General & CEO and Chair of APAO Congress Committee, pictured with all invited speakers.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> APAO Satellite Congress was held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. It was co-hosted by the Mongolian Ophthalmology Society (MOS).



Group photo taken at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Satellite Congress

**2017**  
Singapore

**2018**  
Hong Kong, China

**2019**  
Bangkok, Thailand

**2020**

The 1<sup>st</sup> APAO Satellite Congress was held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. It was co-hosted by the Vietnam Ophthalmological Society (VOS).



Prof. Ton Thi Kim Thanh (in red shirt), President of VOS, pictured with invited speakers.



Over 2,000 delegates attended the inaugural Satellite Congress.

To date, APAO has:

**25**  national members

**11**  subspecialty society members

**34**  congresses

**120,000**  delegates participated

over **1,470**  awards presented





# Member Societies

# Asia Cornea Society

**O**n behalf of the Asia Cornea Society (ACS), I would like to extend our heartiest congratulations to APAO on its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

A Diamond Jubilee celebration is a significant milestone for any society. The ACS is excited to work closely with APAO in promoting the science and art of ophthalmology among clinicians and promoting prevention of blindness activities and restoration of sight through education, research, and clinical service.

Both societies are dedicated to providing a forum for regional interaction so as to advance the development of ophthalmology in Asia, and to contribute to international developments in the field.

We are proud to be associated with APAO and congratulate APAO on its Diamond Jubilee celebrations!

**Donald Tan**  
President



## About Asia Cornea Society

The formation of the Asia Cornea Society (ACS) is spurred by a common vision amongst corneal subspecialists, ophthalmologists, eye care professionals, and researchers throughout Asia to foster the exchange of knowledge and information on clinical, educational, and research aspects of the corneal subspecialty with particular focus and relevance to Asian corneal diseases. The scope of corneal subspecialty that the ACS aims its focus on includes, but is not limited to corneal and external eye diseases, ocular surface disorders, corneal transplantation, and other forms of corneal surgery, including keratoprosthesis surgery, corneal refractive surgery, the medical contact lens field, and eye banking.

Since 2007, the society is dedicated to providing a forum for regional interaction so as to advance the development of these fields of ophthalmology in Asia, and to contribute to international development in this arena, with the ultimate aim of alleviation of corneal blindness.



# Asia Dry Eye Society (Associate Member)

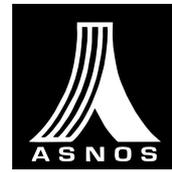
I would like to congratulate the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We believe, with the efforts of all the members, APAO will make more contributions to the development of ophthalmological societies in Asia and all over the world.

**Zuguo Liu**  
President



## About Asia Dry Eye Society

Asia Dry Eye Society (ADES) is the biggest and most influential academic organization in the area of dry eye around the Asia. The missions of ADES are to provide the communicating platform for dry eye specialists, researchers and ophthalmologists who are interested in dry eye, hold the annual Asia Dry Eye Summit, provide continuing education, conduct multicenter research, publish consensus in dry eye field, train young doctors, and promote intensive cooperation among dry eye doctors and researchers in various areas of Asia.



# Asian Neuro-Ophthalmology Society (Associate Member)

**W**e were informed that the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology is celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. Congratulations on reaching such a milestone with great success. This is all because of each member society's constant support and dedications that have made this journey possible, but there is one more thing we should not miss. That is, all these successes in all these years would not have been possible but for Prof. Dennis Lam and his team leading us from the front. It's been an honor and a privilege for us, the Asian Neuro-Ophthalmology Society, being a part of the APAO. We look forward to another amazing year with strong professional relationships, and to take the APAO to reach greater heights. Let's keep up the good work and keep aspiring for more.

**Satoshi Kashii**  
President



## About Asian Neuro-Ophthalmology Society

The Indian Neuro-Ophthalmology Society had formed and organized the first annual meeting in Delhi on September 31, 2018 and joined the Asian Neuro-Ophthalmology Society (ASNOS) as the 10<sup>th</sup> national member society. The Neuro-Ophthalmology Society of the Philippines (NOSP) held the 10<sup>th</sup> ASNOS congress in Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines between December 3 and 5, 2019, being led and chaired by Dr. Jesus M. Tamesis, Jr. and the 2019 ASNOS Congress President, who is the Founding Father of the NOSP. The ASNOS congresses have been held every two years since 2002. In association with the Philippine Academy of Ophthalmology, Dr. Karen B. Reyes, President of NOSP, Dr. Franz Marie Cruz, Head of Scientific Program Subcommittee and their NOSP team have organized the outstanding neuro-ophthalmology program and hosts the congress under the theme: "Bridging Practice Patterns as East Meets West".



# Asia-Pacific Glaucoma Society

**N**o one has worked as hard as APAO has for ophthalmology in the Asia-Pacific. Asia-Pacific Glaucoma Society is honored to partner with APAO, who knows how to make ophthalmology in our region a friendly and inspiring environment. We're glad that APAO has reached its Diamond Jubilee.

It has been an incredible journey altogether. We shall work together with our best efforts for the better eye health of our population, as well as sharing what we learn to our global counterparts.

May success be with APAO on the new ventures now and then. We congratulate APAO on the 60 wonderful years of success.

**Prin Rojanapongpun**

Immediate Past President 2020

## About Asia-Pacific Glaucoma Society

The Asia-Pacific Glaucoma Society (APGS) was formed by the joining of the 3 different glaucoma societies, namely: Asia-Oceanic Glaucoma Society (AOGS, established 1995), South East Asia Glaucoma Interest Group (SEAGIG, established 1997), and Asian Angle Closure Glaucoma Club (AACGC, established 2001). The 3 societies merged in 2011. The APGS is to facilitate contact between glaucoma specialists in the region, to encourage collaborative research and service projects, to increase the opportunities for exchange of skills and knowledge in glaucoma, and to assist our comprehensive ophthalmological colleagues and other eye care workers (whether medically trained or not) to be up to date with advances in all aspects of glaucoma diagnosis and management.

APGS hold the biannual congress and several satellite congresses in between. APGS runs its instruction courses and joint symposium with APAO, AAO, APACRS, WGA, AGS and several national glaucoma societies. The special interest groups, i.e. AACGC and MIGS hold meetings under the umbrella of APGS as well as promoting and publishing educational materials. APGS has several educational resources, including IMAGE modules and the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Asia Pacific Glaucoma Guideline, which are translated into different languages. The Asian Journal of Ophthalmology is the official journal of APGS. The next APGS congress will be held from June 4 – 8, 2021.

### APGS Executive Committee



**Ki Ho Park**  
President



**Clement Tham**  
Vice President &  
Awards Committee



**Seng Kheong Fang**  
President-Elect



**Norman M. Aquino**  
Secretary-General &  
Congress Chairman



**Visanee Tantisevi**  
Deputy Secretary-General  
& Newsletter Editor



**Paul Healey**  
Treasurer



**Prin Rojanapongpun**  
Immediate Past President  
2018 – 2020



**Tetsuya Yamamoto**  
Past President  
2016 – 2018



**Makoto Araie**  
Past President  
2014 – 2016

# Asia-Pacific Ocular Imaging Society

(Associate Member)

I write on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Ocular Imaging Society (APOIS) to congratulate the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Diamond Jubilee celebration.

Since 1960, the APAO, especially through its annual meetings, has provided a significant platform to member societies for the contribution and advancement of ophthalmology through the exchange of knowledge, education, and skills transfer, thus improving the standards of clinical service, teaching, and research in the region.

APOIS counts the APAO and its members as partners, and we look forward to greater collaborations while advancing ophthalmology and imaging science. So, together with the Council and members of the APOIS, I wish the APAO continued success for decades to come.

**Tien Yin Wong**  
President



## About Asia-Pacific Ocular Imaging Society

The Asia-Pacific Ocular Imaging Society (APOIS), which was recently established in 2017, aims to provide a dynamic professional and educational platform for ophthalmologists and vision scientists from around the world to meet, exchange, and advance knowledge in ocular imaging, to develop standards and guidelines in new and emerging ocular imaging technology, to encourage collaborative research and clinical service projects, to assist ophthalmological colleagues to be up to date with advances in all aspects of ocular imaging, and to contribute to international development in ocular imaging. The 1<sup>st</sup> APOIS Meeting was held in January 2020.



# Asia-Pacific Ophthalmic Trauma Society

**A**s President of Asia-Pacific Ophthalmic Trauma Society, I convey my gratitude towards the well-achieved success of completing and celebrating 60 years of the APAO. The achieved worthwhile goal would boost the confidence for enhancing the awareness with the joint efforts. A goal is a dream with a deadline.

*"Take up one idea, make that one idea your life. Think of it, dream of it, Live on that idea let the brain, muscles, nerves, every part of your body be full of that idea, and just leave every other idea alone. This is the way to success." – Swami Vivekananda*

**S. Natarajan**  
President

## About Asia-Pacific Ophthalmic Trauma Society

The Asia-Pacific Ophthalmic Trauma Society (APOTS) was informally formed in March 2011 on the side-lines of the APAO Congress.

The objectives of the society are to encourage dialogue and collaboration between relevant practitioners working in the Asian subcontinent and along the Pacific Basin. In these ways, the society will enhance knowledge, education, and patient care. The society hopes to take advantage of our geography to enable more affluent sites to share resources and expertise with less affluent areas. Methods envisaged to achieve these objectives include virtual and actual conferences, newsletters, a website with scientific articles, and educational case reports.

APOTS represents a frequent cause of emergency ophthalmic visits and has a significant impact regarding suffering, impairment of life quality, and the reduction of workability. It is the only *ophthalmic* trauma society, while others are *ocular* trauma societies.

APOTS deals with sports injuries, industrial injuries, road traffic accidents, cracker injuries, etc. and is working on a petition for the legislation and enforcement of regulations for the public and commercial use of firecrackers and/or fireworks in India.

### APOTS Executive Committee



**S. Natarajan**  
President



**Rajvardhan Azad**  
President Emeritus



**Hua Yan**  
Vice President



**Rupesh Agrawal**  
Secretary General



**Caroline Chee**  
Treasurer



**Gangadhara Sundar**  
Chairman, Scientific Committee



**Kendrick Shih**  
Joint Secretary



**Ashok Grover**  
Councillor at Large



**Retneswari**  
Scientific Committee



**Lingam Gopal**  
Council at Large



**Dato Veeraramani**  
ASEAN Representative



**Ferenc Kuhn**  
International Advisor



**David E. Pelayes**  
International Advisor

# Asia-Pacific Society of Ocular Oncology and Pathology

**I**t is memorable that Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology celebrates its milestone, the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

APAO has done a tremendous job to form the ophthalmological society. The contribution that APAO has made in preventing blindness and in sight restoration succeeded medical service itself. It brings welfare to all people and nations in the Asia-Pacific region.

Inspired by the culture and spirit of APAO, the Asia-Pacific Society of Ocular Oncology and Pathology (APSOOP) has dedicated itself to ophthalmic education and services since 1940.

On behalf of the APSOOP, I would like to extend great congratulations for the continued success of APAO. All the best!

**Xianqun Fan**  
President



## About Asia-Pacific Society of Ocular Oncology and Pathology

Asia-Pacific Society of Ocular Oncology and Pathology (APSOOP) was established in 2011. The goal of APSOOP is to promote and facilitate the exchange of knowledge and ideas in ocular oncology and pathology, such that we can provide high quality care and treatment to our patients. APSOOP has been organizing numerous teaching courses and symposia in various regional and international conferences. APSOOP is dedicated to providing a platform for regional interaction so as to advance the development of ocular oncology and pathology in the Asia-Pacific region.



# Asia-Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

**O**n behalf of the Asia-Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (ASPOPRS), I would like to express my heartfelt congratulations on the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology.

Unbeknownst to many, there are a few similarities between the APAO and the APSOPRS. Both organizations were founded in Manila, and both had Filipino founding presidents.

APAO meetings will be a wonderful opportunity for the entire Asia-Pacific member countries and subspecialty societies to showcase their past and present achievements, and use these to propel the academy to greater heights in the years to come. Congratulations APAO!

**Raoul Paolo D. Henson**  
Immediate Past President 2020



## About Asia-Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

The Asia-Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (APSOPRS) was founded in Manila in November 2000 with just over 40 founding members. Meetings are held every two years in different Asia-Pacific countries on a rotational basis to promote the exchange of ideas and camaraderie among its members. After 20 years and 10 presidents, the society has grown to more than 200 members from twenty Asia-Pacific countries. The current secretariat is based in the Philippines.

The APSOPRS' main objective is to unify the Asian ophthalmic plastic and reconstructive surgeons and societies into a cohesive and productive organization. In a matter of two decades, the society has achieved this objective and is now organizing oculoplastic societies in smaller underserved countries in the region. An important role of the society is education and training. Members of the society have top notch fellowship programs and have trained regional oculoplastic surgeons who now practice in far flung areas to serve the poor and the indigent. A number of APSOPRS members and institutions have also excelled in research and are now considered one of the top research arms in the world. Also, the society has been a leader in sharing its expertise on regional diseases and Asian surgical procedures. APSOPRS has sponsored courses and sessions in Asian, American, European, and other international meetings. From a small group twenty years ago, the APSOPRS has now evolved into a world-class society ready to conquer the region and the rest of the world.

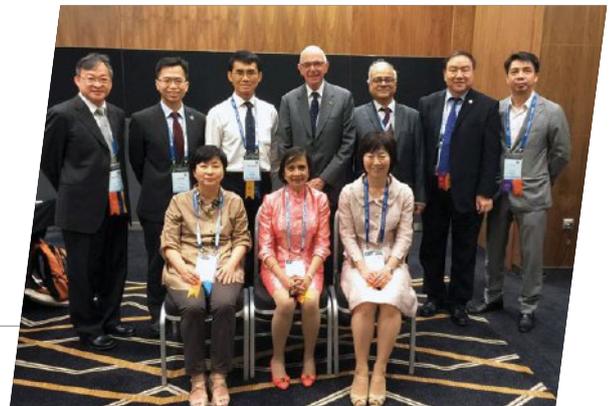
# Asia-Pacific Strabismus and Paediatric Ophthalmology Society

**T**he Asia-Pacific Strabismus and Paediatric Ophthalmology Society (APSPoS) congratulates the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on its Diamond Jubilee. APSPoS is proud to be associated with APAO in its endeavor to improve eye health for all individuals in the region and to eradicate preventable visual impairment and blindness.

Education has been the main focus of APAO through its innovative programs including the very successful Eye Care Week. APAO is a major force in world ophthalmology and we congratulate APAO on its achievements.

**Frank Martin**  
President

*APSPoS Council*



## About Asia-Pacific Strabismus and Paediatric Ophthalmology Society

The Asia-Pacific Strabismus and Paediatric Ophthalmology Society (APSPoS) was established in 2008. The goals of the society are to improve the development of paediatric ophthalmology and strabismus in the Asia-Pacific region and to provide a platform for exchange of knowledge and skills in this subspecialty.

The mission of APSPoS is to improve the development of paediatric ophthalmology in the Asia-Pacific region, and the quality of care to children suffering from eye disease and to children and adults with strabismus.

Our objectives include providing a platform for exchange of knowledge and skills in the field of paediatric ophthalmology and strabismus, promoting research collaborations in the field, promoting general public education on children's eye care and strabismus, associating with supranational ophthalmological societies in different regions and collaborating with other international and regional associations with similar interests, working with other local, regional and international organizations to co-organize symposia with their scientific programs, and organizing an independent Asia-Pacific Paediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus Society Congress at least once every two years to advance knowledge in the field.

With a rapidly growing membership, the society has more than 200 members from a worldwide geographic distribution, but predominantly from ophthalmologists in the Asia-Pacific region.

APSPoS in November 2019 held its 2<sup>nd</sup> scientific congress in Sydney, Australia in conjunction with AAPOS and RANZCO.



# Asia-Pacific Tele-Ophthalmology Society (Associate Member)

**H**appy Diamond Anniversary! Congratulations to APAO on this very big occasion. It's been a wonderful journey altogether and you have taken us to a whole new height with all the successes in all these 60 years. Let's make this day a big one for each one of us and let's hope for the best in the coming years!

**Mingguang He**  
President

*(left 3) Prof. Mingguang He  
President*



## About Asia-Pacific Tele-Ophthalmology Society

Founded by a group of outstanding tele-ophthalmology specialists in the Asia-Pacific region in May 2016, the Asia-Pacific Tele-Ophthalmology Society (APTOS) aims to bring together clinicians, researchers, technicians, institutes, and organizations to form an alliance that promotes communication, exchange, and collaboration in tele-ophthalmology. It provides a platform on which eye care or tele-medical professionals can share knowledge and collaborate to deliver efficient, accessible, and quality universal eye care throughout the region. Through its annual symposium, APTOS brings together like minds for lively discussions about how to apply technological advances in tele-ophthalmology.

In 2018, we organized an AI workshop for ophthalmologists with minimal knowledge of machine learning to help them devise their own AI algorithms. In 2019, we organized our inaugural Big Data Competition with full support from Kaggle, a subsidiary of Google Inc. Both the workshop and the competition were very well-received, and we are pleased to share with you that our Big Data Competition received more than 124,000 submissions from 3,922 participants representing 92 countries. Our initial success has demonstrated that multi-disciplinary collaboration is the key to driving ophthalmology forward, and we look forward to working more closely with APAO in this exciting ophthalmic expedition.

# Asia-Pacific Vitreo-retina Society

**O**n behalf of the Asia-Pacific Vitreo-retina Society (APVRS), I would like to congratulate the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on its Diamond Jubilee.

Over the past 60 years, the APO has successfully provided an excellent platform for ophthalmologists to share their knowledge and experience, network, and establish collaborations and friendships.

The APVRS is very honored and proud to be one of the APO member societies, and we will continue to work very closely with APO in advancing ophthalmology and promoting eye care, and through clinical service, education, and research. We wish APO every success in its future endeavors!

**Chi-Chun Lai**  
President

*APVRS Council 2019 – 2021*



## About Asia-Pacific Vitreo-retina Society

To meet the growing demand of the vitreoretinal experts, Profs Yasuo Tano, Ian Constable, and Dennis Lam first met in 2006. They all conceived the same vision – providing a platform for the vitreoretinal specialists to keep abreast of the latest advancements and developments in the field, to network, and to foster collegiality and friendship. The Asia-Pacific Vitreo-retina Society (APVRS) was thus established in the same year to fulfill their vision. The late Prof. Yasuo Tano (Founding President of APVRS) and Prof. Dennis Lam (Founding Secretary-General/CEO) assumed the two key APVRS leadership positions to move things forward rapidly.

Over the years, APVRS has developed from conception to strength. The annual congress has grown in stature and in scientific content significantly. Starting from only a few dozen at the inaugural symposium in Hong Kong in 2006, it grew to well over 4,000 delegates from 45 countries in Shanghai at the 2019 APVRS Congress.

With the ultimate goal of preventing vitreoretinal and macular blindness, the APVRS will develop from strength to strength and continue its work in elevating retinal eye care standards and advancing vitreoretinal developments in the Asia-Pacific region.





# Afghanistan Society of Ophthalmology

**A**fghanistan Society of Ophthalmology (ASO) is immensely delighted to congratulate the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on this big occasion. In this wonderful journey of 60 years, APAO has always been on the top of the list for serving the region with providing scientific and practical knowledge and support for all its member societies. We wish you all the success for many more years to come. And we look forward to continued relations between ASO and APAO.

**Sayed Shahpoor Sadat**  
President



*ASO Board Members*

## About Afghanistan Society of Ophthalmology

The Afghanistan Society of Ophthalmology (ASO) is a non-profit, non-governmental, social and independent organization established to promote academic research, deliver better eye health care, and defend the legitimate rights of ophthalmologists in this war-torn country.

ASO has around 270 members including 33 trainers, 77 trainees, and 160 ophthalmologists.

Since its establishment in 2004, ASO has conducted numerous academic research in ophthalmology to promote eye care and set up charity eye care services in remote rural areas of the country.

The society holds its congress annually to generate better relations between all the ophthalmologists of the country, and to share their knowledge and experiences of latest developments in ophthalmology.

ASO also provides a platform for its member ophthalmologists to communicate with other international ophthalmological societies and to participate in their scientific conferences, which greatly helps them in importing the most up-to-date knowledge and advancements in the field of ophthalmology. Besides these, ASO has helped many young ophthalmologists to participate in international fellowship programs granted by fellow societies.



# All India Ophthalmological Society

**T**he Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology has always been the forerunner in the ever-evolving field of ophthalmology. The Asia-Pacific Journal of Ophthalmology has continually provided exciting and latest literature, and its annual congress has always been something to look forward to, being fun and thoroughly enriching. The APAO has always stressed on training, with their fellowship being sought-after, throughout the world.

The All India Ophthalmological Society would like to extend its congratulations to the APAO for the completion of 60 glorious years, and look forward to walking hand-in-hand with the APAO towards the common goal of preventing blindness and spreading the gift of light.

**Mahipal Singh Sachdev**  
President



## About All India Ophthalmological Society

The All India Ophthalmological Society (AIOS) was established in the year 1930. We are the largest ophthalmological society in India with 22,000 native life members.

We have conducted 77 annual conferences since 1930. In the recent past, more than 6,000 delegates attended our annual conferences, in different cities in all parts of the country. We bring out proceedings of the conference every year, and several academic awards are given annually.

The Indian Journal of Ophthalmology has been running since 1953. Our academic and research committee conducts teaching courses all over India.

We have introduced AIOS 5-point vision, including ONE VISION - ONE INDIA - ONE AIOS; celebrating 200 glorious years of modern ophthalmology in India and centennial celebrations of first, exclusive and the biggest ophthalmic museum – Elliot Museum and School of Ophthalmology, which was established in 1919; rural eye care including school children vision screening (I Can See) and truck driver screening (Raastha Dekho); STOP blindness, the nationwide diabetic retinopathy screening program (Jyot Se Jyot Jalao!), and eye donation pledge that urges every Indian to pledge eye donation on the World Sight Day.

The joint APAO-AIOS Congress in 2013 was well appreciated, and was attended by around 9,000 delegates from over 50 countries. Both the scientific and the social programs were very well received by the delegates.





# Brunei Ophthalmology Society (Associate Member)

**J**ust as a diamond symbolizes love and faithfulness to others, the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology has been a constant symbol, since 1960, of love of the science and art of ophthalmology and is tirelessly committed to the promotion of preventing visual impairment in our region.

The Brunei Ophthalmology Society (BOS), as the newest associate member of APAO, looks forward to working together with the APAO to continue to fulfill its mission statement.

On behalf of the BOS, I am delighted to offer our sincere congratulations to APAO on their Diamond Jubilee.

**Helena Hurairah**  
President



*BOS Committee*

## About Brunei Ophthalmology Society

The Brunei Ophthalmology Society (BOS) was established in April 2019 following the recognition for the need of an official body to unify all those involved in eye care in Brunei Darussalam. The society's motto, is to "Innovate, Advocate, Collaborate & Educate", within the field of ophthalmology and vision science.

"Innovate" is to constantly keep up with the latest advances in ophthalmology and vision science. BOS aims to introduce new ideas and methods in its practice to provide the best evidence-based practice care.

In terms of "Advocate", members of BOS are advocates for the prevention of all causes of treatable visual impairment. They act on behalf of their patients to ensure patients have optimal access to treatment.

"Collaborate" is to work jointly with one another, national and international organizations to uphold and improve upon the practice of ophthalmology and vision science in Brunei Darussalam.

"Educate" is to provide ophthalmic education for the ophthalmic community, allied health professional, nurses, and the general public.

Although in its infancy, the BOS strives to provide a united voice for the eye care community and our visually impaired population. We are strongly committed towards eliminating preventable blindness in the region.



# Cambodian Ophthalmological Society

It is my pleasure to contribute to the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology. I want to take the opportunity to thank APAO for continuously organizing the great ophthalmological congress every year. Following the fast development of our world, technology, modern technique of treatment and eye care services, the Asian countries including Cambodia have benefited from the APAO congresses.

The Cambodian Ophthalmological Society and I look forward to continuing to work with APAO and join the APAO congresses in future. You truly are an asset to our society.

Again, congratulations on the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of APAO's exemplary service!

**Pok Thorn**  
Immediate Past President



*COS Council Members*

## About Cambodian Ophthalmological Society

The Cambodian Ophthalmological Society (COS) was established in 2003 by a group of eye doctors and approved by the Ministry of Health with the missions to provide quality eye care services in all eye care facilities in all provinces of Cambodia; to help all eye care professionals to improve their skills; and to increase patients' confidence by raising the standards of eye care services to meet the international standard.

Members of the COS include ophthalmologists and medical assistants all over the country who are currently providing eye care services and eye health education, and are also actively involved in the control of blindness in the country. Currently, the COS has 120 members.

Following the development of the world, modern technology instruments, eye operation procedures, and medications for treatments, the COS has grown and become the member of APAO in 2008, ASEAN Ophthalmological Society (AOS) in 2014, ASEAN Economic Community Ophthalmology Meeting (AECOM) in 2013, and International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO) in 2017.

The COS organized international congresses: AECOM in 2015 and 2018 respectively, Indo-China Ocular Inflammatory/Infection Meeting in 2015 and 2019, and the 4<sup>th</sup> AOS in November 2019.





# Chinese Ophthalmological Society

**A**fter six decades of growth and maturation, Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology has become the largest ophthalmological organization in the Asia-Pacific region. Many education and training programs launched by APAO have benefited numbers of young ophthalmologists and cultivated numerous potential leaders in the Asia-Pacific region. The Chinese Ophthalmological Society (COS) is very honored to witness and be one of the member societies to participate in APAO's development and achievements. Quite a lot of Chinese specialists take or have taken part in organizing and managing eye care events for APAO.

On behalf of the COS, I would extend my sincere wish to APAO for another splendid future at the occasion of its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**Ke Yao**  
President



## About Chinese Ophthalmological Society

The Chinese Ophthalmological Society (COS) was founded in 1937, Dr. Chenghu Zhou was elected as the first President. After over 80 years' successive contributions by our predecessors, the Chinese Ophthalmological Society has become one of the most influential ophthalmological societies in China and even in Asia-Pacific Region. In 2017 the 12<sup>th</sup> Committee of COS was founded and Prof. Ke Yao took over the presidency. Now COS has around 45,000 members and 13 subspecialties, including Cataract, Retina, Cornea, Glaucoma, Neuro-ophthalmology, Strabismus & Pediatric Ophthalmology, Optometry, Ocular Trauma, Oculoplastic Surgery & Orbital Disease, Blindness Prevention & Epidemiology, Visual Physiology, Ocular Pathology, and Ocular Immunity.

COS aims to promote ophthalmology and visual science research and education for ophthalmologists and researchers, and increase the eye care quality for patients. The Congress of Chinese Ophthalmological Society (CCOS), the biggest annual meeting in China, is the most important platform for exchanging ideas. Every year, we are honored to welcome more than 10,000 international and Chinese ophthalmologists to take part in CCOS.



# Chinese Taipei Ophthalmological Society

**H**appy 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary! It is my honor to witness the Diamond Jubilee of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology. The APAO congress provides a platform for each ophthalmologist to exchange expertise. The Chinese Taipei Ophthalmological Society participates in APAO meetings; we have been fulfilling the duty of being a member gratefully, joyfully, and actively. Thank you for staying with us and making our goals in medical field come true. A big congratulation goes to you on this special day!

Cheers to the upcoming achievements and the past glories! TOS really anticipates staying as part of the APAO. You have been bringing everyone the best!

**Jiann-Torng Chen**  
President



## About Chinese Taipei Ophthalmological Society

The Chinese Taipei Ophthalmological Society (CTOS) was founded in May 1960 and has a total membership of 1,654. The Chinese Taipei Journal of Ophthalmology and Bulletin Chinese Taipei Ophthalmological Society are its official journals, which are published quarterly.

The society is committed to actively participate in eye health care and to promote academic research in ophthalmology. A crucial undertaking as part of the society's short-term objectives – charity eye disease service – has been staged in rural communities across the whole country since 2004. The society's long-term objectives lie in prompting preventive medicine, promoting basic and clinical research, and establishing a nationwide register system on ophthalmic disease.

As a member of APAO, we successfully hosted the 18<sup>th</sup> APAO Congress in March 2001 and also the 31<sup>st</sup> APAO Congress at Taipei in 2016. In June 2002, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Chinese Ophthalmic Conference was also held at Taipei by the society.





# College of Ophthalmologists of Sri Lanka

I take great pleasure in congratulating the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on this 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. For the past six decades the APAO has created close friendships among ophthalmologists and ophthalmological societies in the Asia-Pacific region to work together towards prevention of blindness. Over many years the APAO has travelled a remarkable journey to achieve this objective by promoting service, research, training, and education in ophthalmology. The successful conferences created a platform to exchange knowledge and initiate plans to uplift the standards of ophthalmic care across the region. On this special occasion I extend my good wishes to the APAO and success in future endeavors.

**Ranmini Seneviratne**  
President



## About College of Ophthalmologists of Sri Lanka

The College of Ophthalmologists of Sri Lanka (COSL) is the main professional body of ophthalmologists in the country. It is the direct continuation of the Ophthalmological Society of Sri Lanka founded in 1957. In keeping with increasing academic demands of the Post Graduate Institute of Medicine and the advancement of ophthalmic care in the country, the need for the formation of a College was felt and was established in 1991. The statement in the logo is "Let there be light" in Latin (Jrra dialur Caligo). Currently it has a membership of 253.

The College holds scientific sessions annually and successfully conducted the VII<sup>th</sup>, VIII<sup>th</sup> and XI<sup>th</sup> SAARC Ophthalmology Congress and Asia-Pacific Glaucoma Society Symposium 2019 in conjunction with Annual Scientific Sessions.

The college participates in making policy decisions at the regional and national level by acting as an advisory body to the Ministry of Health. Reaching out to the public, the college calendar is filled with activities to educate the public and promotes screening programs. With its partner, the Ministry of Health, the college carries out the functions of Vision 2020 in Sri Lanka. The college actively gets involved in the training of post-graduate trainees in ophthalmology.

# Indonesian Ophthalmologists Association

**T**he APAO is very supportive to the growth and development of the Indonesian Ophthalmologists Association (IOA), or Persatuan Dokter Spesialis Mata Indonesia (Perdami), by continuously providing our members with training opportunities and CME activities. It has been an honor for Perdami to host the APAO annual congress several times since its early days. The journey has been wonderful, and we truly hope that we will continue this friendship and collaboration. Perdami is always on board to move forward in the future.

We would like to express our heartfelt congratulations for the APAO's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and to everyone in APAO who has helped propel the academy reaching its achievements thus far. Best wishes for a gem of a Diamond Jubilee.

**Muhammad Sidik**  
President



*Perdami Executive Council 2019 – 2022*

## About Indonesian Ophthalmologists Association

As of September 2019, the Indonesian Ophthalmologists Association (IOA) or Persatuan Dokter Spesialis Mata Indonesia (Perdami) has grown into a society with 2,600 members, consisting of ophthalmologists and ophthalmologists-in-training. Since the establishment in 1964, our members have grown rapidly over the years. With 12 academic institutions leading the way under the organization of the Indonesian College of Ophthalmology, each year a new batch of 50 to 100 ophthalmologists are released and ready to work. They are mostly working locally in their hometown of 24 Perdami branches spread all across Indonesia. Perdami has been an active member of the APAO for the past 30+ years. Since the beginning, the support between Perdami and APAO has been reciprocal.





# Iranian Society of Ophthalmology

**T**he 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary is a moment to celebrate the contributions of the thousands of ophthalmologists across 25 countries, gather to learn from each other, expand their knowledge and span their services to the people.

This anniversary is also a chance to look back and see how much the world has changed, how ophthalmologists around the world have addressed medical challenges, and how they ignore geographic borders to give priority to humanity.

As a new member of APAO, the Iranian Society of Ophthalmology is proud to be part of this amazing movement. We also hope this new year brings good health, happiness, and success for all of us.

**Mahmoud Jabbarvand Behrouz**  
President

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## About Iranian Society of Ophthalmology

The Iranian Society of Ophthalmology (IrSO) was founded by the late Prof. M.G. Chams in 1947. All registered ophthalmologists, fellows, and residents in training are members of IrSO. Non-Iranian board-certified ophthalmologists can also be registered as associate members.

Currently, IrSO has more than 2,000 members and 6 subspecialty societies, including Cataract and Refractive Surgery, Vitreo-Retinal Diseases, Glaucoma, ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Strabismus, and Pediatric Ophthalmology and Uveitis. In addition, 15 out of 31 states in Iran have their own state societies of ophthalmology.

The mission of IrSO is to promote progress in ophthalmology and to improve eye care standards in Iran. The international IrSO Congress has been held annually since 1990.



# Japanese Ophthalmological Society

**C**ongratulations on the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology. During these 60 years, the APAO has contributed to the promotion of activities to prevent blindness through teaching and research, and encouraging the people and nations of the Asia-Pacific region to collaborate. We believe these activities have achieved great success. Young ophthalmologists and researchers who have joined these activities will contribute to the future worldwide progress in the fields of ophthalmology and visual sciences. All the members of the Japanese Ophthalmological Society applaud the activity of APAO for the past 60 years, and congratulate APAO again on its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**Hiroko Terasaki**

Immediate Past President 2020



## About Japanese Ophthalmological Society

The first professor of ophthalmology in Japan was Jujiro Komoto, who returned from Germany to Tokyo Imperial University in 1889. In 1897, Takuji Suda, Yoshiakira Ohnishi, and Genjiro Kawakami established the Japanese Ophthalmological Society (JOS) and invited Prof. Komoto to be its first president. The JOS is the second oldest medical society in Japan. It celebrated its centennial anniversary in 1996. With a history spanning over 120 years since its foundation, the JOS currently has over 15,000 members.

JOS is now promoting itself to further its internationalization. Through the International Symposium in the yearly conference of the JOS and the JOS International Young Investigator Award program for young Asian physicians, the JOS promotes exchanges between our specialists and young doctors and assists in the promotion of international meetings of the various specialties in our region. The JOS is planning to expand its relationships within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as the US and Europe, and prompt an increasing number of ophthalmologists to participate in international conferences.



# Korean Ophthalmological Society

I am delighted to extend my warm congratulations to APAO on its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Asia-Pacific region is home to more than half of the world's population. Thus, ophthalmologists in the Asia-Pacific region have an important role to play in the fight against preventable blindness. Over the past six decades, APAO has provided a strong foundation to nurture numerous proficient and dedicated ophthalmologists with national ophthalmological societies together. The Korean Ophthalmological Society will continue to work with APAO to address the issues of improving ophthalmic education, research, and leadership in the Asia-Pacific region.

**Ki Ho Park**  
President



## About Korean Ophthalmological Society

Since being established in 1947, the Korean Ophthalmology Society (KOS) has continued to expand its presence in the international community, by playing a pivotal role in research, training, education, and clinical practices as a hub of medical science in Korea and Asia-Pacific countries. Having held the APAO congress twice so far, the 12<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> APAO Congresses, the KOS has gained a wealth of knowledge and experience in hosting successful national and international conferences. The KOS is one of largest association of ophthalmologists in the Asia-Pacific region. A community of 4,300 ophthalmologists protect sight by setting the standards for ophthalmic education and advocating for our patients and the public. The KOS innovates to advance our profession and to ensure the delivery of the highest quality eye care using various education programs. During more than 70 years of history, the KOS has developed a lot to become a role model to other academic societies. The KOS will continue to fulfill its role in improving public eye health while protecting the interests of the members despite all the obstacles we face nowadays.



# Laos Ophthalmology Society (Associate Member)

**O**n behalf of the Laos Ophthalmology Society, I would like to send our heartfelt congratulations to APAO. APAO plays a distinguished past as a pioneer in the prevention of blindness and restoration of sight, and continue to provide a strong foundation to make remarkable contributions to foster young ophthalmologists. The dedication and success APAO have achieved over the past 60 years is an inspiration for all of us.

On this special occasion, I want to congratulate you again for yet another great year! And let us keep on inspiring others and make the journey glamorous.

**Vithoune Visonnavong**  
President



## About Laos Ophthalmology Society

Established in 1990, the National Ophthalmology Center (NOC) is a renowned leading institution in Laos. We intend to move forward from the tertiary level of eye care to become an excellent center of eye care in the future. We place emphasis on public relations and promote health initiatives among citizens, as well as providing training for residents and ophthalmic nurses and teaching medical students from the University of Medical Sciences.

The Laos Ophthalmology Society (LOS) was established in 2006. LOS is a member of the Asian Ophthalmology Society (AOS) and is also a member of the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO). We are grateful for the opportunity to join APAO and look forward to successful collaboration and solidarity in the future.



# Malaysian Society of Ophthalmology

**O**n behalf of the Malaysian Society of Ophthalmology, I am proud to congratulate the APAO on the event of its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Malaysia was one of the founding members of the APAO 60 years ago, and we are a strong supporter of this important organization, and we will continue to do so for the years to come. While the APAO has grown in size and stature, it still manages to retain its friendly and unique nature, especially with its annual congress in different countries. Let's hope for the best in the years to come. Happy 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary APAO!

**Kenneth Fong**

Immediate Past President 2020



*MSO Committee 2019 – 2021*

## About Malaysian Society of Ophthalmology

The society was first formed in 1964 by pioneering Malaysian ophthalmologists, as a society within the Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) designated as the MMA Ophthalmological Society (MMAOS). Over the following 45 years, the society grew in membership and activities under the umbrella of the MMA, promoting and advancing the specialty.

Eventually, the membership of the MMA OS realized that, in order for the society to fulfill its objectives and to meet new challenges more effectively, it was necessary to spread its wings and exist as an independent society.

With that, the Malaysian Society of Ophthalmology (MSO) was formed and successfully registered with the Registrar of Societies on April 15, 2008. The MMA OS was dissolved on December 31, 2009.

As our predecessor society had done so well over the years, the MSO will continue to carry the flag for the profession of ophthalmology in Malaysia, having taken over all the duties and functions of the MMA OS. Malaysia has been proud to host the APAO congress in 1987 and 2005.



# Mongolian Ophthalmologist's Society

**O**n behalf of our members and colleagues I would like to extend my congratulations to the APAO as you celebrate your Diamond Jubilee.

The Mongolian Ophthalmologist's Society cherishes the relationship with APAO that stands out as a dynamic organization with a commitment to using its expertise to promote excellence in eye care in the region and globally.

In your Diamond Jubilee year, may APAO continue to shine in global ophthalmology for the next generation and beyond.

**Chimgee Chuluunkhuu**  
President



*Executive Council 2019 - 2020*

## About Mongolian Ophthalmologist's Society

Mongolian Ophthalmologist's Society (MOS) is the main society of eye care professionals founded in 1987. Its membership includes 90% of practicing ophthalmologists, and the society issues "Ophthalmic series" at the peer reviewed journal, Innovation, once a year.

MOS is the active member society of ICO and APAO. It conducts activities for continuing professional development: monthly webinars/or grand discussions; seminars, workshops with international experts; annual meeting of MOS. Through MOS, all members are eligible for free access to the ONE NETWORK of AAO.

In the last 2 years, MOS hosted different international congresses, including the Asian Angle Closure Club Meeting 2018, the Indo-China Ocular Inflammation Meeting 2018, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Satellite Congress of APAO in 2019.





# Myanmar Ophthalmological Society

**T**he year 2020 marks the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology. Myanmar Ophthalmological Society (MOS) has been working together with APAO since 2016 to update the standard of Myanmar ophthalmic care and to harmonize the skill and knowledge among the regional members. With the strong leadership and commitment, it explored the young leadership program giving opportunity for future generations.

With understanding of the need in the regional countries involving Myanmar, APAO is the genuine growing regional association, sharing knowledge and skills to solve the common causes of blindness in southeast Asia.

On behalf of MOS, I hope that APAO continues to stand and fight against all preventable and treatable blindness with success in the future.

**Yee Yee Aung**  
President



## About Myanmar Ophthalmological Society

The Myanmar Ophthalmological Society (MOS) was first formed in 1957 with 14 members. The society functions as a specialty society of Myanmar Medical Association. Membership grew to 440 ophthalmologists in 2019. The executive committee members are elected at the Annual General Meeting and serve on a 2-year basis.

The society holds the Ophthalmic Conference annually, and the recent 31<sup>st</sup> Myanmar Ophthalmological Conference was held in October 2019. It also convenes a mid-year Academic Meeting every two years in the historical city of Mandalay.

The society collaborates in implementing the activities of National Eye Health Plan of the Prevention of Blindness Department of Ministry of Health and Sport.

Combined Continuing Medical Education programs are held every three months in affiliated universities. The society bulletins are published and disseminated to the society members every three months.



# Nepal Ophthalmic Society

I am delighted to extend my warm congratulations to the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The Academy was formed with the principal objective of fostering closer relations among ophthalmologists and ophthalmological societies in the Asia-Pacific region in order to combat blindness. Today it serves as an important platform to promote the prevention of blindness and restoration of sight through service, research, teaching, and education in ophthalmology. It is a proud moment to us to be one of the 25 national ophthalmic society members, which has been with APAO for decades for the prosperity of ophthalmology in the region.

Enjoy this special celebration on this milestone anniversary and please accept my best wishes for the Diamond Jubilee. We are proud of our long-standing partnership and look forward to ever closer partnership in the future, building on the many successes we have shared over the past decades.

On this very special occasion, I would like to wish the APAO a fruitful and memorable event, and members of APAO continued success in their future endeavors.

**Rohit Saiju**  
President



## About Nepal Ophthalmic Society

Established in 1985, the Nepal Ophthalmic Society (NOS) is one of the largest subspecialty organizations in the country. It has contributed to and played a supporting role in the advancement of ophthalmic services and of ophthalmology as a science in Nepal.

The Nepal Ophthalmic Society has successfully hosted several programs of international importance. The SAARC Ophthalmic Conferences in 1999 and 2018 and the Congress of Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology in 1997 are two of these programs. The Nepalese Journal of Ophthalmology was launched in January 2009 and has been able to attract several authors from home and abroad to make their valued contributions to the journal, which has been indexed in the PUBMED.

We are proud that the prevalence of blindness in Nepal has declined from 0.84% to 0.35% in three decades. This has been possible because of the commitment and hard work of the competent and socially accountable ophthalmologists through the network of well-coordinated eye hospitals, support of national and international non-governmental organizations, and national ophthalmic educational institutions that produce qualified specialists for the country.





# Ophthalmological Society of Bangladesh

It is my proud privilege to congratulate APAO on its celebration of its Diamond Jubilee. The annual APAO congress enriches science, art, and friendship among ophthalmologists all over the world. I wish APAO every success in celebration of the Diamond Jubilee.

**Md. Sharfuddin Ahmed**  
Immediate Past President 2020



## About Ophthalmological Society of Bangladesh

The Ophthalmological Society of Bangladesh (OSB) was established in 1971, and its registered office is situated in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh. It is the national society of all the ophthalmologists of Bangladesh, with 1,200 members.

Activities of the Society include international cooperation, allocation and use of foreign aid solicitation and distribution of grants-in-aid, received from the Government or national social welfare organization for prevention of blindness; participation in International conferences and seminars on ophthalmology; organizing the ophthalmological conferences annually and special seminars (CME) on ophthalmology in Bangladesh; endeavoring to raise and improve the standard of undergraduate and post-graduate teaching in the subject of ophthalmology and allied conditions; establishment of OSB Eye Hospital at Mirpur-2, Dhaka, in 1990; and the establishment of the Academy of Ophthalmology in Bangladesh (BAO) in 1993.

OSB aims to establish a center of excellence by developing OSB Eye Hospital with eye care services, training for ophthalmologists, and research on ophthalmic science, etc. for the benefit of the people of Bangladesh.

OSB is an active member of APAO, and is supporting and performing all APAO's activities. Every year, OSB celebrates the APAO Eye Care Week through seminars, symposia, and rallies in Bangladesh.



# Ophthalmological Society of Pakistan

**I**t is a great honor and privilege for me to congratulate Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This is a landmark year in which this landmark conference is being organized to celebrate this special occasion.

I personally witnessed the exponential growth of APAO ever since joining as a Council Member in 2008. Every year, new plans and projects are conceptualized, discussed, and approved in the Council and implemented. One example is the APAO fellowship program in which I am serving as Chair of the Fellowship Standing Committee for the last 4 years. The number of training slots and fellowships are increased and strengthened every year.

Office bearers and Secretariat are the backbone of any organization. The strong leadership of Prof. Arthur Lim as Secretary-General for 16 long years established the Academy not only in the Asia-Pacific region but also developed relationships with other supranational and global organizations, like International Council of Ophthalmology, American Academy of Ophthalmology, European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons, and Academia Ophthalmologica Internationalis. The foundations laid by Prof. Arthur Lim have been strongly nurtured by the next Secretary-Generals, Prof. Dennis Lam and Prof. Clement Tham. The Academy now has its own Office in Guangzhou, China, and an Indexed Journal that publishes high quality international research.

I wish Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology a very bright and successful future, and in the capacity of President of Ophthalmological Society of Pakistan, I offer my heartiest congratulations on its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and wholehearted support for all future plans and projects of APAO.

**Nadeem Hafeez Butt**  
President



## About Ophthalmological Society of Pakistan

Ophthalmological Society of Pakistan (OSP) came into being on December 19, 1957. Ever since its inception, it has always tried to develop, maintain, and strengthen its international linkages. OSP joined APAO from the very beginning and supported all its plans and programs. Members of OSP also served as Council Members, Treasurer, Vice President, and President of APAO during its history of 60 years. Those who served APAO in various capacities include Prof. Raja Mumtaz, Prof. Muhammad Daud Khan, Prof. Muhammad Lateef Chaudhry, Prof. Nadeem Hafeez Butt, and most recently, Prof. Syed Imtiaz Ali.

In its history of 62 years, OSP has had two opportunities to hold APAO congresses. The last congress was held at Lahore, Pakistan, in 2007, during the tenure of Prof. Yasuo Tano as President and Prof. Dennis Lam as Secretary-General of APAO. Prof. Lateef Chaudhry served as Chair of Organizing Committee and Prof. Nadeem Hafeez Butt as the Organizing Secretary of the 22<sup>nd</sup> APAO Congress. The congress was the biggest and most successful ophthalmic scientific event in the history of Pakistan.



# Pacific Eye Care Society (Associate Member)

I am delighted to extend my warm congratulations to the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on its 60<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Pacific Eye Care Society (PacEYES) has only been a member of APAO for the past 5 years, but it has further developed from the many benefits of this membership. This includes having our members participate in the Leadership Master Classes, opportunities for fellowship attachments, participating in the annual APAO congress, and so forth.

PacEYES takes this opportunity to wish APAO continuing success in their future endeavors, and many more brilliant milestones to come. Your success is our success.

**Elenoa Matoto-Raikabakaba**  
President

*Executive Council*



## About Pacific Eye Care Society

Pacific Eye Care Society (PacEYES) is a professional body of eye care workers across the Pacific sub-region which works in collaboration with multiple agencies to assist in the elimination of avoidable blindness. This society is different in a way that its members are not only ophthalmologists but also include optometrists, eye care nurses, and technicians. Members are from different countries that stretch across the blue Pacific Ocean, such as Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu, Solomon Is, Kiribati, Nauru, Tuvalu, Niue, Nauru, Federated States of Micronesia, Timor Leste, Cook Is, and Tokelau. Also known as the "Blue Continent".

The society was founded in 2003 by a few ophthalmologists from across the Pacific and it was later registered in Fiji as a charitable organization. It has now further developed into a bigger organization with most of its island members having either an ophthalmologist, optometrist, and/or eye care nurse.

The main aims of the society are to promote the practice of ophthalmology in the Pacific Region, to promote a forum for Pacific Islands eye care providers to discuss and comment on matters affecting their practice, and to promote activities that provide for mutual assistance, exchange of information, continuing education, peer review, and research in ophthalmology.

PacEYES became a member of APAO in 2014 and has enjoyed its many benefits. We look forward to further collaborations in the future.

# Philippine Academy of Ophthalmology

**O**n behalf of the Philippine Academy of Ophthalmology (PAO), I extend my warmest congratulations to the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on the occasion of its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The APAO has indeed come a long way from its first congress held in Manila in 1960 with the participation of 128 delegates from 12 countries. It has grown into the leading professional organization of ophthalmologists in the region. Its well-attended congresses served as formidable venues to foster camaraderie among members of the national ophthalmology societies as envisioned by its founder, Dr. William John Holmes. As a member society, the PAO shall continue to support the missions and objectives of the APAO.

**Maria Margarita Lat-Luna**  
President



*PAO Executive Council 2020 – 2021*

## About Philippine Academy of Ophthalmology

The Philippine Academy of Ophthalmology (PAO) is the national professional organization of ophthalmologists in the country. It is composed of eleven chapter societies spanning the entire country from Northern Luzon to Southern Mindanao. The PAO has nine subspecialty societies, namely: Philippine Cornea Society, Neuro-ophthalmology Society of the Philippines, Philippine Glaucoma Society, Philippine Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgery, Philippine Ocular Inflammation Society, Philippine Society of Pediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus, Philippine Society of Ophthalmic Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, and the Vitreo-Retina Society of the Philippines.

The PAO is one of the most active professional medical organizations in the Philippines with over 1,600 members. It is an internationally-recognized specialty society of ophthalmologists in the Philippines that exists for the benefit and welfare of its members and the Filipino patients. It aims to ensure access to quality eye care, provided by its competent, qualified members. The Academy commits to continuously develop its members professionally through clinical education, research, and practice management, in a collegial and harmonious environment, contributing to ethical, professional, and compassionate practice. It also strives to sustain its commitment to its members and society by promoting growth of its membership and its assets, forging dynamic, relevant, current and innovative approaches to influence national and regional eye care.





# Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists

**T**he Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (RANZCO) would like to extend a heartfelt congratulations to the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on the celebration of your Diamond Jubilee. The APAO and RANZCO have worked together for many years, promoting eye health in the Asia-Pacific region, and we anticipate maintaining a close working relationship for numerous years to come. RANZCO representatives look forward to celebrating this noteworthy milestone in the upcoming congress. We wish you continued success in fulfilling your mission to “promote the science and art of ophthalmology among all people and nations of the region”.

**Nitin Verma**  
President



## About Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (RANZCO) supports the leadership role of ophthalmologists in influencing the factors that impact upon the eye health and wellbeing of patients, the broader community and the healthcare they receive. Advocacy activities are focussed on the improvement of the quality and safety of care for patients and promoting eye healthcare in the community.

RANZCO and its membership work hard to improve eye care in Australia, New Zealand, and the Asia-Pacific region. Specifically, we seek to reduce avoidable blindness in the Asia-Pacific through the education and improvement of local training institutions that will, in turn, improve the eye health workforce through increased knowledge and expertise.

We work in collaboration with other stakeholders to ensure projects are sustainable and accessible to everyone, thereby seeking to contribute to the alleviation of poverty, improving gender equality, creating education opportunities and empowering local communities.



# Royal College of Ophthalmologists of Thailand

**T**he Royal College of Ophthalmologists of Thailand (RCOPT) would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and express our appreciation for its long term effort to enhance the development of our ophthalmological profession with quality of international standard.

We are proud to be a partner of the APAO in many important activities such as hosting APAO Conferences and participating in the International Fellowship Programs that have significantly raised academic and research competency level with a strong promotion of good governance, transparency, and participation of all parties concerned. In this regard, the RCOPT will continue to develop these projects to be the foundation of an encompassing and sustainable development of Ophthalmology.

Finally, the RCOPT wishes to see the collaboration of our partnership and solidarity between the APAO and Thailand and within our region, growing continuously to promote an encompassing and sustainable development which is our common goal.

**Wanicha Chuenkongkaew**  
President



*RCOPT Executive Council 2021 – 2022*

## About Royal College of Ophthalmologists of Thailand

The Association of Ophthalmologists of Thailand was established in 1978 and became the Royal College of Ophthalmologists of Thailand (RCOPT) under the royal patronage of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej on June 12, 1995.

The executive committee of the RCOPT consists of the President and 23 council members. The current President is Prof. Wanicha Chuenkongkaew. There are 1,660 active members. The college convenes two congresses annually. The Thai Journal of Ophthalmology is its official journal.

The college is responsible for the ophthalmology resident curriculum and conducts Thai Board of Ophthalmology examinations. It organizes networking opportunities for ophthalmologists and funds for academic and research activities. The college works closely with the Thai Medical Council in maintaining ethical standards for Thai ophthalmologists. The prevention of blindness and promotion of eye care and knowledge are other vital efforts in collaboration with both government and non-governmental organizations.

The college has hosted several regional ophthalmology conferences, including the three APAO congresses in 1981, 2003 and 2019, and co-hosted several other major international congresses, such as SEAGIG 2000, AACGC 2003, AOGS 2007, APACRS 2008, APAO LDP 2012 – 13, 1<sup>st</sup> AOS 2014, 3<sup>rd</sup> ICOISG 2014, APGC 2016, APVRS 2016, and APACRS 2018.



# Singapore National Eye Center & Singapore Eye Research Institute

**O**n behalf of the Singapore National Eye Center (SNEC) and Singapore Eye Research Institute (SERI), I am delighted to congratulate the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Diamond Jubilee celebration.

SNEC's and SERI's history are indeed intertwined with APAO. SNEC celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020 as APAO celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup>. Both the center and research institute were founded by Prof. Arthur Lim in 1990 and 1997, respectively.

Prof. Lim served the APAO with distinction, first as its President from 1985 to 1987 and then as its Secretary-General from 1991 to 2005, and was awarded the Jose Rizal Medal in 1983 for his service to the region.

Singapore is proud to have hosted the APAO annual meetings in 1968, 2006, and 2017. When Prof. Lim organized the 26<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Ophthalmology in Singapore, it raised the profile of ophthalmology in the Asia-Pacific region to the rest of the world.

SNEC and SERI look forward to working hand in hand with APAO in the coming years and together, we hope to take ophthalmology to new heights and ultimately provide better quality care for our patients.

Heartiest Congratulations!

**Tien Yin Wong**

Medical Director, SNEC  
Chairman, SERI



## About Singapore National Eye Center & Singapore Eye Research Institute

Singapore National Eye Center (SNEC) is the designated national eye center within the public sector healthcare network. SNEC spearheads the provision of specialized ophthalmological services with emphasis on quality education and research, with a faculty of close to 80 ophthalmologists. Since its opening in 1990, 10 subspecialties have been established to provide a full range of eye treatment from primary to tertiary levels for the entire spectrum of eye conditions. It provides specialist eye care to more than 50 percent of patients in the public sector and is ranked among first-in-class for its clinical excellence, the enduring legacy of founding Medical Director, the late Prof. Arthur Lim.

Singapore Eye Research Institute (SERI) was set up in 1997 as Singapore's national research institute for ophthalmic and vision, research, with the mission of conducting high impact eye research to prevent blindness, low vision, and major eye diseases common to Singaporeans and Asians. SERI has achieved international recognition for the quality of its research. More importantly, SERI's research has translated into effective clinical care and better outcomes for patients suffering from conditions such as corneal diseases, myopia, age-related macular degeneration, and glaucoma. The institute is also at the forefront of developing natural anti-microbial drugs that will see potential benefits going beyond treating eye conditions.



# Singapore Society of Ophthalmology

**I**t gives me great pleasure to congratulate the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology on its Diamond Jubilee.

Without question, ophthalmologists in Singapore have grown and become better physicians with the APAO education, leadership development, international fellowship programs, journals, and annual meetings, which are one of the most comprehensive ophthalmology meetings in the “neighborhood” of the Asia-Pacific region.

The annual meeting provides an excellent social opportunity to meet with other experts from the region and form friendships. Over the years, many clinical, research, and educational collaborations have been formed among members, which in turn have led to better understanding of the eye and higher standards of care in the region. The APAO’s prevention of blindness program is also another initiative which has inspired the Singapore Society of Ophthalmology and others in the region to give back to society.

I am confident that the APAO will continue to grow from strength to strength in the years ahead.

**Shu Yen Lee**  
President



## About Singapore Society of Ophthalmology

The Singapore Society of Ophthalmology (SSO) was established in 1963 and serves as a platform for the local ophthalmology fraternity to interact and socialize. It currently has a total membership base of 271 ophthalmologists. Aside from hosting the biennial Singapore-Malaysia Joint Meeting in Ophthalmology where ophthalmologists and trainees from both Singapore and Malaysia gather to acquire the latest updates and techniques in ophthalmology, the society also supports research, educational, and community outreach programs.

The SSO has successfully co-hosted large conferences such as the International Neuro-ophthalmology Symposium and three congresses of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology, the most recent being in 2017, achieving significant delegate attendances and attracting renowned speakers from around the world.

The Young Ophthalmologist (YO) Chapter was formed in 2017 with a long-term goal of engaging ophthalmologists from the time they begin residency training to attaining specialist accreditation. The YO has also been very actively participating in various conferences in the region and internationally.





# The Hong Kong Ophthalmological Society

**O**n behalf of the Hong Kong Ophthalmological Society, I am pleased and honored to extend our heartiest congratulations to the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology and its members on the Diamond Jubilee celebration.

Over the 60 years, APAO was established to combat the blindness and visual impairment, to support the research and education of ophthalmology, to be a medium of instruction, to create a network for Asian ophthalmologists to work together towards all these goals. We are privileged to be involved and conjoined in APAO congresses hosted in Hong Kong. We vividly experienced and treasured the remarkable achievements that APAO made, not only in the development of ophthalmology in the Asia-Pacific region but also in global ophthalmology.

We sincerely thank APAO's leading contributions worldwide and congratulations again on the 60 years of success.

**Pui-pui Yip**  
President

*HKOS Council 2019 – 2020*



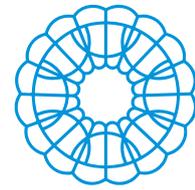
## About The Hong Kong Ophthalmological Society

The Hong Kong Ophthalmological Society (HKOS) was formed on August 16, 1954, and is one of the earliest professional organizations formed in Hong Kong. Its objectives are to maintain and upgrade the quality of local eye care, and to foster brotherhood and sisterhood among eye care professionals serving the public in Hong Kong.

Every year since 1989, HKOS has organized the annual scientific meeting (ASM) in ophthalmology, as well as other open lectures. It offers good opportunities for exchange of professional knowledge and has received international recognition. In addition, HKOS is a member society of Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) and International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO). It worked with these supranational organizations in many advocacies in international ophthalmology and issue related.

Three APAO Congresses in Hong Kong were held with great success. They were the 9<sup>th</sup> APAO Congress in 1983, the 23<sup>rd</sup> APAO Congress (over 13,000 delegates), and the 33<sup>rd</sup> APAO (around 5,000 delegates). Last year, HKOS started the first joint symposium with Greater Bay Ophthalmology Conference at the 31<sup>st</sup> ASM 2019, aiming to address important eye health issues among the regions.

At present, over 400 members are registered with the society, comprising over 95% of all ophthalmologists practicing in Hong Kong. HKOS formed the Hong Kong Young Ophthalmologists (HKYO) in 2016, aiming to strengthen the communication and exchange between local and international young ophthalmologists. HKOS is now one of the most active and prominent medical groups in Hong Kong.



# Vietnam Ophthalmological Society

**O**n the occasion of APAO Diamond Jubilee celebration, on behalf of Vietnam Ophthalmological Society, I would like to send the best congratulations to the APAO Presidents, all members of APAO Council, and society members. The APAO is home to its member countries that offers scientific activities in ophthalmology and trains ophthalmologists of various subspecialties in the region to improve their knowledge for treating eye patients and preventing blindness.

Wishing the APAO more successes to come!

**Ton Thi Kim Thanh**  
President



## About Vietnam Ophthalmological Society

The Vietnam Ophthalmological Society (VOS) was founded in 1967. There were only some members at that time. Up to now, the VOS has a number of 1,300 members.

Since the establishment of VOS, the members have been involved in the activities of trachoma disease and complication prevention around the country. So far, the trachoma disease has not been a public health problem in Vietnam. The other blinding causes have also been solved gradually. The number of cataract surgeries have been significantly increased, and the cataract operation technique was changed from Intracapsular cataract extraction (ICCE) before 1990 to Extracapsular from 1992 until now. The advanced ophthalmic equipment has also been provided and used. Since 1992, the VOS has started to join the APAO, and blindness prevention in Vietnam has also integrated into the region.

The VOS always supports and has positive activities on World Sight Day, as well as the Subspecialty Days like World Glaucoma Day, Vision for Children, etc.

The VOS members have attended and delivered scientific presentations at the APAO meetings. The blindness prevention activities in Vietnam are also being implemented in various forms, like epidemiologic and scientific research which provides updates of disease situations in Vietnam.





# Programs and Activities

# Overview of APAO Programs

## I APAO Gateway Project

The Gateway Project aims to reduce the prevalence of visual disability and blindness in the Asia-Pacific by creating partnerships between countries and organizations in the region. In particular, it identifies the ophthalmic needs of developing nations and attempts to find solutions within other APAO member societies.

Laos was the first country chosen to launch the Gateway Project in 2016. Sight For All from Australia was appointed as the coordinating agency. Other project partners included the Laotian Ministry of Health, University of Sciences and Health, Association of Lao Ophthalmologists, and the National Ophthalmic Center.

In the picture was the signing ceremony in the meeting between APAO and Sight For All to execute a memorandum of understanding regarding the Lao Project.



Commenced in August 2018, the Lao PDR Paediatric Ophthalmology Fellowship Project has been organized at the National Ophthalmology Center, Vientiane, Laos, and is still ongoing.

In total, 11 teaching weeks were undertaken over the intensive training period, and the 10 Visionaries on average contributed 38 hours for each teaching visit, resulting in a combined 420 teaching hours delivered thus far. The 10 Visionaries include Dr. Kimberly Tan, Dr. Shaheen Shah, Dr. James Elder, Dr. Joanna Black, Dr. Glen Gole, Dr. Justin Mora, Dr. Hughie Tsang, Dr. Stephen Hing, Dr. Brenda Breidenstein, and Dr. Deepa Taranath.

The teaching weeks introduced topics such as strabismus, nystagmus, infectious diseases, lacrimal disorders, metabolic disorders in children, corneal abnormalities, optic nerve anomalies, uveitis and retinal disorders, craniofacial abnormalities, eyelid anomalies, ocular and orbital tumors, phakomatoses.



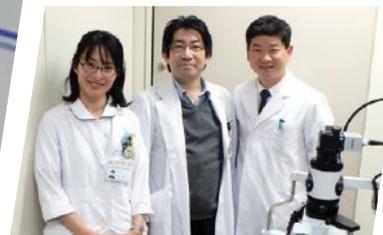


## II APAO Leadership Development Program

The Leadership Development Program (LDP) aims to identify individuals in the Asia-Pacific region with the potential to become leaders in ophthalmology; provide orientation and skills to allow them to promote ophthalmology locally and regionally; and facilitate the promotion of program graduates into leadership positions both locally and regionally.

The LDP consists of an orientation class, a mid-year master class, and a graduation class which span a year. Since its establishment in 2009, the Program has trained over 133 young leaders.





## III APAO International Fellowship Program

The International Fellowship Program (IFP) serves to help promising young ophthalmologists from the Asia-Pacific region, in particular those from developing nations, to improve their clinical skills, surgical exposure, as well as their research experience, and to broaden their perspectives of ophthalmology. Selected candidates will be matched with approved APAO international training centers where they can complete their fellowships.

As of today, APAO IFP is allied with 15 training centers in the region:

### China

- Beijing Tongren Eye Center
- C-MER (Shenzhen) Dennis Lam Eye Hospital (Clinical)
- Zhongshan Ophthalmic Center (Basic Science)

### Hong Kong, China

- Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Department of Ophthalmology, University of Hong Kong)

### Iran

- Khatam-al-Anbia Eye Hospital

### Japan

- Department of Ophthalmology, Osaka University Medical School

### Nepal

- B.P. Koirala Lions Center for Ophthalmic Studies
- Til Ganga Institute of Ophthalmology

### New Zealand

- New Zealand National Eye Center

### Singapore

- Singapore National Eye Center
- Department of Ophthalmology, National University Hospital

### South Korea

- Department of Ophthalmology, Kyung Hee University Hospital

### United States

- New York Eye and Ear Infirmary
- UCLA Jules Stein Eye Institute



## IV Asia-Pacific Eye Care Week

The Asia-Pacific Eye Care Week is organized every October in conjunction with World Sight Day in order to raise public awareness about eye care and eye health in the region. Each week features two distinct ophthalmic themes chosen by the APO Public Education Standing Committee and the APO Central Secretariat. Based on the selected themes, two of APO's Subspecialty Member Societies help prepare educational materials for the Asia-Pacific Eye Care Week, which are freely available online and can be adapted as needed.

A total of 14 national members participated in the past nine Eye Care Weeks. They are Australia & New Zealand, Bangladesh, China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.



V

## Asia-Pacific Journal of Ophthalmology

The *Asia-Pacific Journal of Ophthalmology* (APJO) positions itself as a first-class bimonthly (6 issues per year) peer-reviewed e-journal representative of ophthalmic and visual science developments in the Asia-Pacific region. It is the official journal of APAO and is now freely available to all readers.

The Journal focuses on the latest research, developments, and breakthroughs in ophthalmology and visual sciences in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. It has been indexed in MEDLINE (2015), Scopus (2016), and the Emerging Sources Citation Index (2016), and is recently included in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in 2021.

Engineered by world leading experts, the Journal also publishes special issues every year to address the latest updates on hot topics of readers' interest.

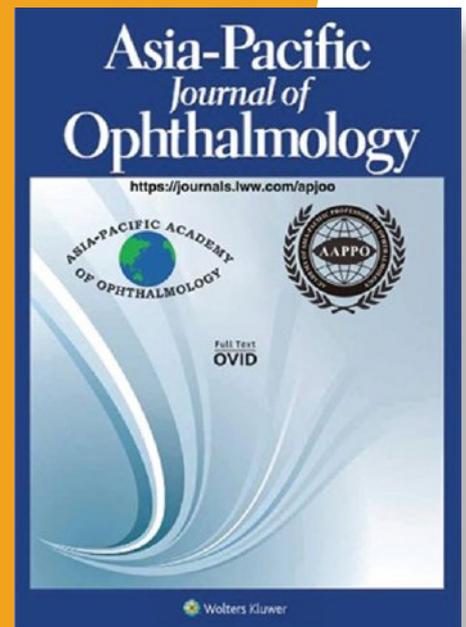
To date, the Editorial Board consists of over 40 accomplished senior academics, of which Prof. Dennis Lam and Prof. Jost Jonas are the two Editor-in-Chiefs, 11 are current Editors-in-Chief (EICs) of SCI journals, and 5 are past and current EICs of SCI & non-SCI journals.



**Prof. Dennis LAM**  
(Hong Kong, China)



**Prof. Jost JONAS**  
(Germany)



## VI APAO Satellite Congress

The Satellite Congress is a new educational initiative launched in 2018 that aims to provide ophthalmology education and science updates for APAO national members that have yet to organize an annual APAO Congress. It should be held in conjunction with an APAO National Member Society's annual scientific meeting and include symposia organized by APAO.



The 1<sup>st</sup> APAO Satellite Congress in conjunction with the Annual Vietnam Ophthalmological Society Congress (VOS) 2018 was held in Ho Chi Minh city from November 8 to 10, 2018. Over 2,000 delegates attended the inaugural congress.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> APAO Satellite Congress was held in conjunction with the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Mongolian Ophthalmologist's Society (MOS). It took place in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, from August 9 to 10, 2019.





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