

FAOPS NEWS LETTER

President's note



Dear Members of FAOPS:

First of all, I do wish you and all your loved ones have a very happy, healthy and prosperous lunar new year of Monkey!

I am extremely honored to have been elected to serve as the 16th president (2015-2019) of our society on the 8th

FAOPS Congress (FAOPS 2015 Congress) hosted by the Physiological Society of Thailand on November 22–25, 2015 at the Centara Grand at Central World Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand.

This Congress was a great meeting, there were 594 participants from 26 countries to attend this congress. I would like to use this opportunity to thank again Prof. Chumpol Pholpramool and his colleagues of the Physiological Society of Thailand. Their great effort made this Congress successful and became one of the long lasting memories for participants.

I also would like to take this opportunity again to appreciate Julie Y.H. Chan, Yasunobu Okada, BR Park, David Cook, Harbindar J Singh and the other members of the 15th FAOPS Council (2011 - 2015) for their great contribution for the FAOPS development in their term.

As we may know, FAOPS was found in November, 1990 in New Delhi, India. FAOPS is a unique organization comprising of countries located in Oceania region and across the Asia Continent. Set up the purpose of the organization is to promote the development of Physiological Sciences; strengthen exchanges in the physiological sciences and related disciplines and the popularization of knowledge of Physiological Sciences; to encourage physiological science research; and to promote all other local physiological science level of development. The founding president is Dr. M. Ito, a famous neurophysiological scientist over the world. Under the great efforts of many leading scientists of FAOPS council members, FAOPS is gradually growing up and getting stronger. The Federation has 2 kinds of members, that is official (regular) members and associate ones. Nowadays, officially members, include Australia, China, Chinese Taipei, Japan, India, Thailand, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Iran,

Israel, Korea, Malaysia, and some associate members. Spanning over 25 years, our society has a long and rich history of scientific breakthroughs, technical innovations and professional development, well-organized operations, and fruitful strategic developments.

But we should be aware that we have a long way to go for the establishment purposes of FAOPS, and there are more difficult works to do. The most critical bottleneck problems to constraint FAOPS development are the number of members, lack of funds and lack of vitality. How to solve these problems? During the 16th FAOPS new council meeting, we have discussed what we should do in our term. We have reached a consensus, in order to accelerate the development of FAOPS, we should carry out reform and innovation. The following 8 issues should be done as soon as possible.

1. Strengthen ties with non-official member states, increase the strength of the development of members, and pay attention to attract enterprises to become our members.
2. Strengthen academic communication between basic physiological scientists and clinical scientists and strengthen the frequency of academic conferences, supports the special academic meetings, such as focusing on the translational medicine or precise medicine, and training courses organized by the Member States, and to promote scientific and research cooperation between Member States scientists.
3. Strengthen education and training to promote the development of regional physiological discipline.

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President's note

4. Strengthen the construction of FAOPS website, run well the society's publication - Newsletter, to explore the possibility to create the FAOPS official magazine, enhance the cohesion of the society.

5. Strengthen the learning of FAOPS history, cultural heritage and propaganda, and to improve the influence of the society. Start the editing work of the society history books, and the biography of the outstanding members who have made important contributions to the development of the world's physiology, in order to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the establishment of FAOPS.

6. Strengthen the funds raised. Through the establishment of FAOPS development foundation, to attract charitable funds and corporate funds for the relief of developing countries membership fees and support the development of the society.

7. Strengthen the cultivation for mid-young talents. Set up the famous scientist or a corporate naming FAOPS Research awards for Scientists and Young Scientist Award to promote the discovery and construction of mid-young talents.

8. Strengthen the communication and cooperation with the Asia Oceanic regional, international organization related physiology and Enterprise, and so on, based on the advantages and characteristics of Asia Oceanic region, to hold international, multi-discipline conferences, to build a platform for research and production.

In order to promote the smooth development of the above 8 tasks, the first council meeting of The 16th FAOPS has decided to set up the following 5 subcommittees, that are: Organization subcommittee, Education subcommittee, Research subcommittee, Finance subcommittee and International liaison subcommittee. I do hope our members may see some results or benefit from their work.

We have much to do in 2016 to ensure the continuing development of our society. There are 3 main activities. May you find out one you like to join?

The internship (approximately 2 weeks) of NIPS, Japan. (<https://www.nips.ac.jp/eng/graduate/internship.html>)

5th Tehran IBRO School will be hold in Apr 30- May 11, 2016 in Iran (<http://ibro.info/events/applications-now-open-for-ibroaprc-5th-tehran-school-of-neuroscience>)

2016 International Conference of Physiological Sciences (ICPS2016) to be held in the China National Convention Center, Beijing on September 25-28, 2016. (<http://www.pco-online.com/icps2016>).

Dear friends, we live in a fast-paced world. Our knowledge, technological development and growth is increasingly linked to our ability to engage with multidisciplinary peers from all over the world. We also find ourselves in direct competition with other professional societies and entities. We also face challenges in our membership development, continued education and societal outreach and so on. We should ask and answer the question, what can FAOPS members do for the Society and, in turn, what can the Society do for its members? In fact, these challenges are also our opportunities! To our current members, I would like to thank you for being part of the FAOPS family. If you are not a member yet, I invite you to join us, and I promise you will benefit from being part of the new FAOPS.

Over my term, hopefully, I will keep you informed. Please don't hesitate to contact me by e-mail (xmwang@ccmu.edu.cn) if you have any suggestions and ideas for building and improving our Society. I am looking forward to your active participation in our efforts to make a difference to our shared future.

Thank you all for my opportunity to serve for FAOPS. I will do my best to make the job well done.

The President, FAOPS



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February 2016

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FAOPS interview: Prof. V. Mohan Kumar, India

First of all, I would like to have a brief introduction, especially your education (and personal) profile.



I was born in a lower middle class family, with two elder brothers and no sisters. I was educated in a local government school, where the medium of instruction was the local language (Malayalam). The school had a mixture of students coming from very affluent homes, and also those from very poor homes. While at school, I was more interested in sports and games rather than in studies.

After graduating from a local college, I was fortunate in getting admission for post-graduation in Physiology at Madras Medical College in Chennai. I was again fortunate in getting admission for PhD at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at Delhi, and I got a faculty position at the same department, immediately after getting PhD. I retired from there as Professor and Head of the department of Physiology, AIIMS. After superannuation from AIIMS, I was made Emeritus Scientist by Council for Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), Government of India & Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR). With these distinctions received from CSIR and ICMR I joined the "Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology (SCTIMST)" in Trivandrum, which is a Centre of Excellence under Government of India, where I am continuing as Visiting Professor. At SCTIMST, I established a Comprehensive Centre for Sleep Disorders.

Please give detailed answers to the following questions:

What factors in your general life influence you most?

Luck guided my destiny. I am a great admirer of Mahatma Gandhi, and I was greatly influenced by some of the teachings in Bhagawat Gita. My parents had taught me to do my work, to the best of my ability, without thinking about the returns that I may or may not get. I have always admired people who feel for others, though I have never been able to emulate their example.

How your family has influenced your scientific work? How your family has been influenced by your scientific work?

My father had always believed that I will be a great scientist one day. Though I cannot claim that I am a great scientist, my greatest sorrow is that he did not live long enough see my achievements. He would have been the proudest man in the world if he had been alive when I was making progress in my career. He died when I was a young faculty member.

Talking about influence in scientific work, I should give due credit to my wife for taking care of home when I was spending excess time in the laboratory. She also helped me with the preparation of my scientific manuscripts, especially during the earlier stages of my scientific career. As I did not have primary education in English, I had a lot of difficulty in expressing in English.

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

It was destiny that brought me to Physiology. I applied for post-graduation in Anatomy at Madras Medical College, Chennai, India. During the interview,

there were professors of Anatomy, Physiology and Biochemistry sitting across the table, apart from other officials. They asked me why I want to become an Anatomist. I told them that I want to become a scientist. Next question was what scientific work that I want to do? A few days earlier I had read an article about parthenogenesis. It had dealt with some new finding that the growth and development of an unfertilized egg can be achieved by some external mechanical stimulation. I told them about it. After the interview, when the results were announced I found my name among the candidates selected for Physiology.

When and in what area of study did you start your career?

Research or thesis was not part of the curriculum during my post-graduation. After post-graduation in Physiology in 1968, I joined for my PhD at the Department of Physiology, at All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in New Delhi, which was an important centre of neuroscience research, right from its very inception. Coming from a place where I had no exposure to research, I was thrilled to see the research work going on there. I was placed under Prof Anand and Dr Chhina for my doctoral thesis work. Their research interests were primarily neural regulation of feeding. So I had no choice but to work on the topic of their interest. Though I finished my PhD in three years, fastest one at that time, my research works were never published. After PhD I got a job as a Lecturer in Environmental Physiology. Though my heart was in neurophysiology of sleep, there was no position available in neuroscience. A job at AIIMS is something

FAOPS interview: Prof. V. Mohan Kumar, India

that one cannot think of refusing. So I continued to work in Environmental Physiology for about five years, without producing any worthwhile publication.

My frustration was so bad that I had thought of leaving AIIMS, several times. But I could never gather enough courage to do that for several reasons. Though I had worked very hard, I was never allowed to publish any paper, or submit any research project to any funding agency, for nearly seven years, even after I became a faculty member. As I had no publication to my credit, it was difficult for me to find a good place to work. It was at that time, I had an offer from Prof Mancina in Milan, Italy, to do intracellular recording from cortical neurons in his laboratory. Though the fellowship was very meagre, not even enough to make both ends meet, I grabbed the opportunity. That was also the first time that I was going out of the country. I had to live in a non-air conditioned attic in Milan, with atmospheric temperature going below zero for several days during winter. There I had my first scientific publication in Brain Research in 1979.

Could you please describe in brief your laboratory including the environment, the staff, and the students regarding their degrees?

The sailing was not very smooth even when I returned to India with a few good publications. Though I was technically qualified to accept students, no student was allowed to join me by the head of the department. The students had to accept someone else as guide, and I had to be contented to remain as co-guide. I had two students with me, Sujit Sikdar and Neelam Gandhi, who were registered under someone else as guide, and myself as co-guide. In spite of all the obstacles, I was able to get a research grant from my own institute (AIIMS) for Rs. 10,000/- (US\$ 150/-) per year for two years. I was determined to utilise that money to purchase one micromanipulator, and establish a laboratory to record from single neurons. Micromanipulator was available from a company in Germany and another one from Japan. The German one was very costly, but the one from Narishige, Japan was costing a little more than Rs. 20,000/-, in Indian currency. At that time Prof Oomura, the renowned neuroscientist from Japan, visited the department. He took keen interest in the work that we were doing, and used to spend sleepless nights with us in the laboratory. He came to know about my desire to purchase the micromanipulator, and the difficulty that I was having in terms of available money at that point in time. When Prof Oomura went back to Japan, he talked to Narishige Company and arranged them to sell half the

micromanipulator during that year and the other half during the next year. So, the micromanipulator became the first instrument that I purchased in my life. That it was the turning point in my life.

By then, I started publishing from India. With a few publications in hand, I started applying for extramural research projects from ICMR and CSIR. I was fortunate in getting funding from them, and started accepting students as a full guide. After that there was no looking back. I had several students and several publications. These students actually made my career. I would not have become what I am today but for them. It was extremely enjoyable for me to work with such hard working, intelligent students. I can recall with pleasure the long hours that I had spent with them in the laboratory.

When the idea of becoming a scientist came to your mind for the first time?

Though my father always believed that I will be a great scientist one day, I never had any such dream in my younger days. As a school boy, my greatest ambition was to become a good hockey player or a tennis player. In spite of my sweaty hands (palmar hyperhidrosis), I was fairly successful as a hockey player. I used to love the cheering of crowd when I scored goals. But it all came to a sudden end during my early college days, when I was almost bed ridden for nearly a year with tuberculous pleurisy. After recovering from the illness, when I went back to the play ground, I realised that I cannot repeat my performance. There were no cheering from the crowd, and the silence from the gallery was almost killing. That forced me to leave games and start concentrating on my studies. At that age and stage I never knew as to what a scientist does, or how to become a scientist. All the same time, during interviews etc, I also used to say that I want to become a scientist. Even now I do not know how to define a scientist. How is a scientist different from a good sculptor or a painter? Can we say scientist is one who publishes papers? Probably not. So my honest admission is that the idea of becoming a scientist never came to my mind.

How many hours a day do you work usually? Could you please describe that how do you spend your working hours including time managing, education, meetings, lectures, travels and professional consulting?

Again, it is a difficult question to answer. In my younger days, I used to spend much time in work. I used to love doing experiments with my own hands. Even now I love working with my own hands.

FAOPS interview: Prof. V. Mohan Kumar, India

My friends and students used to say that I have a good surgical hand. Well, it is a God given gift, and I cannot claim any credit for it. Anyway, that accounted for some amount of success in my career. I always plan my activities well ahead of time, whether it is teaching, meetings, or travels. I have never counted the number of hours that I worked. Eating, sleeping and working occupied my entire day (and night). At times I used to feel that I was not getting enough sleep. I used to feel guilty, when I spent time watching TV, or reading newspapers and novels. As I am a slow reader, I used to take more time than others in reading scientific articles. I always believed in doing things properly. If I cannot do it properly I will not do it.

What are the remarkable characteristics of a distinguished scientist?

As I had expressed earlier, I do not know how to define a scientist. But there are definitely certain qualities that a person should have to be a successful scientist in today's world. He should be intelligent and hard working, and should be very good at human resource management. Above all, he/she should be lucky enough to be at the right place, in right time, with the right kind of people above and below him/her.

What are the qualities that discriminate a prominent and successful scientist from the less successful ones?

Achievements of a successful scientist are certainly much more than many others. But that does not mean that all those who are not very prominent and successful have fewer achievements. For every scientist given distinction, there would be several others who are equally competent, but not recognized. These unsung scientists may not be lucky enough to be at the right place, in right time, with the right kind of people above and below him/her. More often they are not very good at human resource management.

What advice would you like to give the young scientists for their future careers?

I am not a great person to give advice to future generation. I can only share some thoughts from my personal life. If you have chosen a scientific profession, pursuit of science is not only your work. You should consider it as your religion. There is happiness when one does some work with honesty and sincerity. The happiness that one gets at the end of a successful experiment or a project is immeasurable. Happiness that one gets after achieving a Nobel Prize is probably less than that. So, if you have enjoyed your work, and if you are unable (or disinterested) in projecting

yourself, and not received laurels, you have lost nothing. On the other hand, if Nobel Prize winner did not enjoy when he/she made the discoveries, then he had achieved nothing in life.

What do you consider as your most important studies and contribution to physiology?

My research studies on "Neurophysiology of Sleep" started after I worked for a year in Milan, Italy, in 1977 with Prof. Mancina, who was the disciple of Morruzi. I established the sleep research laboratory in the Department of Physiology, of AIIMS, New Delhi, India and I had contributed towards the understanding of the neural regulation of sleep. The first fully telemetrically recorded animal sleep recording laboratory, was established by me at the department of Physiology, AIIMS. I dedicated it to the memory of Prof Baldev Singh, the famous Neurologist, whose close personal rapport attracted me to sleep research.

Our holistic approach to the understanding of the brain function revealed the importance of the preoptic-basal forebrain in several visceral functions including sleep, reproduction and thermoregulation. We also studied the neurotransmitters involved in these interactions. The role of the noradrenergic system in the preoptic-basal forebrain area was the focus of our study for several years. We were pioneers in undertaking neural transplantation and magnetic resonance imaging in experimental animals. Based on several years of work, I concluded that the normal sleep is an auto-regulated global phenomenon, and that sleep and wakefulness result from the collective action of hundreds of neurons with oscillating membrane potential.

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

I don't believe that basic sciences and clinical sciences are different disciplines. There are no compartments in science. Medical science cannot grow unless there is input from other sciences. Medical scientists cannot make significant contribution, unless they have some knowledge of other branches of science. That may be the reason why many major contributions in medical science are made by people who started off their careers in other branches of science. Some people view this subject in a different way, ie how to establish better links between basic scientists and clinicians. There is nothing wrong in this thinking, as constructive cooperation is always good. Some basic science departments have established some laboratory facilities in their departments, which provide service to the patients coming to the clinical departments.

FAOPS interview: Prof. V. Mohan Kumar, India

There is nothing wrong in it, but you are not doing any service either to the basic science or to the clinical science. You are only trying to justify your existence. On the other hand, if you make use of the clinical material coming to you, to address some important scientific question, then you are doing a good job.

What is your idea about allocating awards in general and which one have been the most truly emotive for you?

Let me first give my answer to the second part of the question. The most truly emotive award was the first award that I received, ie B.K.Anand Research Prize in Physiology by the Association of Physiologists and Pharmacologists of India for the year 1980 for our paper published in *Brain Research* (Kumar VM, Sikdar SK, Chhina GS, Singh B. Sensitivity of ventromedial hypothalamic units to rostral and caudal brain stem reticular inputs. *Brain Res.* 1980 Sep 8;196(2):530-5). It was truly emotive for several reasons. It was my first paper based on the work done in India. This paper is based on the thesis work done for partial fulfilment of MSc degree of my first student SK Sikdar. Sikdar was insistent that the paper should have my name first. Though I felt embarrassed, I accepted it with a sense of guilt. I have not got over it even today.

Coming to my idea about allocating awards in general, it certainly helps one to prove his/her credentials. Some people go out of the way to get them. That is not good. This leads me to narrate an incident in my life. I almost received an award in 1978. That would have been my first award. I presented a paper on "Intracellular recordings from cortical neurons" during the annual conference of Neurological Society of India held at Trivandrum in 1978. This was based on my work done at Milan, Italy in the lab of Prof Mancina. My paper was selected as the best paper presented during the conference. I did not know about it at that time. The decision of selection committee for best paper award was placed before the Executive Committee of Neurological Society of India, before announcing the award publicly. Professor Baldev Singh who happened to be present in the meeting opposed the decision of the selection committee on the grounds that the work was done in a lab outside India. Prof. Baldev Singh was one of the founder members of Neurological Society of India. He was one of the most respected senior neurologists of the country, and no one would ever say a word against him at that time. Here I should introduce to you the great personality called Professor Baldev Singh. Though he started the department of Neurology at AIIMS in 1965, he left neurology and joined the department of Physiology, AIIMS as Emeritus Professor, to pursue his research interest. I was greatly

attracted by the personality and attitude of Baldev Singh. Looking back, I even wonder whether it was my interest in neurophysiology, or my admiration for Professor Baldev Singh, which took me to sleep research.

Coming back to the story, when I reached back Delhi after the conference, Professor Baldev Singh called me to his room and told me what happened during the Executive Committee meeting of Neurological Society of India at Trivandrum. I felt happy to know that my paper was selected as the best paper. More than that my admiration for this great man only increased. He had the courage and conviction to oppose, on principle, an award being given to one of his own loved junior colleagues. He told the story to the other faculty members of the department. But they were extremely angry. One senior faculty member called me aside and told me "Dr. Baldev Singh is a b----. He pretends to be your well wisher. How can he stand in the way of your getting an award?" I was shocked to find this kind of reaction from the members of the department. I was dumfounded and I could not say anything to her at that time as she was a senior faculty member. But I was not able to forgive her for using such bad language against such a saintly person as Professor Baldev Singh.

Now coming back to the point in discussion, did I lose anything by not getting that award in Trivandrum? A big no is the answer. On the other hand this incident drove home one important lesson in my life. It is really immaterial as to what you accomplish and publish while working in a foreign land. What is important is what you do and accomplish in your own country, especially if you are from an under developed country.

I have seen several senior scientists canvassing, influencing and even arguing with the members of judging panel for an award for their students. This is a very shameful thing for any teacher to do, but more disgusting fact is that many students are extremely grateful to their teachers for influencing the judges for getting them the awards. Is it worth getting awards in this manner? Such a tendency among a few people brings down the credibility of the awards.

What is the most important scientific challenge you would like to answer?

Now, my days are over. I cannot attempt to answer any scientific challenge at this stage in my life. But there is no harm in dreaming. Sleep regulation is a mystery, and it was a dream for me to unravel this mystery.

FAOPS interview: Prof. V. Mohan Kumar, India

Let's have a flash back to the time of your early education, in this case did you choose your present field of study again?

As I had stated earlier, I never chose my career. Destiny brought me to Physiology. If the destiny brings me again to this position, I will again choose to work on sleep regulation.

What are the most important questions you like to be asked about? If there is any, please talk about them.

What concerns me always is the non-recognition of 'not so fortunate' scientists, with good scientific achievements. Many a times, differences in the achievements of a successful scientist and not so successful ones are very subtle, or even non-existent. More often, it is the recognition that one gets, or does not get, that differentiates a successful and a less successful scientist. Unfortunately, it is the inability (or disinterest) to project oneself that lead to non-recognition of many less fortunate ones. While showering praises on those great achievers, let us not look down upon those hard working non-achievers.



Prof. V. Mohan Kumar with his wife during the ceremony to honor him with Life Time Achievement Award by the Association of Physiologists and Pharmacologists of India at Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India during November 2015

FAOPS Council Meeting and General Assembly in Bangkok

The FAOPS Council met on 22 November 2015 at Centara Grand Hotel in Bangkok. Amongst matters discussed included reports from the office bearers, the Organising Chairman of the 8th FAOPS Congress, the 9th FAOPS Congress (2019) Organising Committee, Kobe, Japan, and the nominating committee. In addition, the issue of overdue membership payments was also discussed. The Officer's reports from 2011-2015 were presented and accepted unanimously by the Council members. Members were informed that FAOPS income up to October 2015 was USD 9,485.95 and the expenditure was USD 28,271.55 (this includes USD 20,000 support provided to 8th FAOPS Congress). The Cash Balance at October 2015 was USD 58,289.33. Member societies were reminded to make the necessary arrangements to settle the overdue payments as soon as possible. A request from the Federation of Indian Physiological Societies (FIPS) for a waiver of their outstanding payment from 2004 - 2015 was discussed. In its appeal, the president of FIPS had indicated that FIPS had been non-functional between 2004 and 2012. After a lengthy discussion, the Council agreed that FIPS should pay all dues accrued from 2012 onwards.

A skype discussion was held with the President of IUPS and the need for more collaborative activities between FAOPS and IUPS in the promotion of teaching and research in physiology in the region, and in particular the direction of physiology was discussed. Professor Arif Siddiqui (Pakistan) and Prof Mei-Ling Tsai (Taiwan) were entrusted the task of looking into ways of enhancing visibility and efficiency of FAOPS and greater collaboration in the promotion of teaching and research in physiology within the member countries.

A total of 28 delegates from member societies attended the General Assembly, which was held on 23 November 2015 at Centara Grand Hotel in Bangkok. Office bearer's reports were presented and unanimously accepted and endorsed by the delegates. The decisions of the FAOPS Council meeting were presented and endorsed by the delegates at the General Assembly.

Bids for the 2023 FAOPS Congress from Chinese Physiology Society, Korean Physiology Society and Physiology Society of Iran were presented. Following a closed ballot the Physiology Society of Iran was selected as host for the 2023 FAOPS Congress.

The nominations for membership of the Council for the term 2015 – 2019 were presented by a member of the nomination committee approved at the General Assembly

FAOPS Council 2015 – 2019

President: Xiao-Min Wang (China)

Past-President: Julie YH Chan (Taiwan)

1st Vice President: Javad Mirnajafi-Zadeh (Iran)

2nd Vice President: Yoshiro Kubo (Japan)

Secretary-General: Harbindar Jeet Singh (Malaysia)

Treasurer: Anuwat Dinudom (Australia)

Council Members:

Suchinda Malaivijitnond (Australia)

Chae Hun Leem (Korea)

Israel Sekler (Israel)

Arif Siddiqui (Pakistan)

Shashi Bala Singh (India)

Colin H Brown (New Zealand)

Mei-Ling Tsai (Taiwan)

Report of the 8th FAOPS Congress

The 8th FAOPS Congress (FAOPS 2015 Congress) was hosted by the Physiological Society of Thailand on November 22nd – 25th, 2015 at the Centara Grand at Central World Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand. In this 4-day event, we had 1 keynote lecture and 2 plenary lectures from Nobel Laureates (Bert Sakman, Erwin Neher, and Aaron Ciechanover, respectively), 4 named lectures, 6 special lectures and 24 symposia. We also had Teaching in Physiology Workshop which includes 2 keynote lectures, 2 special lectures and 4 symposia. All scientific programs were arranged such that 6 sessions ran in parallel each day.



We were able to receive a gracious kindness from Her Royal Highness Princess Soamsawali to preside over the opening ceremony of FAOPS 2015 on Sunday November 22nd. The local organizing committees, privilege sponsors, keynote, plenary, named and special lecturers had an honorable opportunity to take a special group photograph with the Princess.

There were 376 abstracts submitted including 99 abstracts from invited speakers, 49 abstracts of young scientist award recipients (35 oral and 14 poster presentations), 228 abstracts for general participants (45 oral and 183 poster presentations). The abstracts were published in the Journal of Physiological Sciences with additional 5 full papers. All abstracts and full papers were strictly reviewed by experts in related fields.

From our list, 594 participants from 26 countries registered to this congress. The number of registrants from each country are, in alphabetical order, as follows; Australia (11), Brazil (1), China (50), Egypt (1), France (2), Germany (9), Hong Kong (2), Hungary (1), India (3), Indonesia (12), Iran (17), Israel (2), Japan (130), Korea (25), Kuwait (1), Malaysia (12), Myanmar (16), New Zealand (1), Pakistan (1), Singapore (7), Sri Lanka (4), Taiwan (31), Thailand (238), Turkey (2), United Kingdom (2), and United States (13). We also had 24 non-registered participants and 104 registered exhibitors (including 77 Thai and 27 foreigners). In total, we had 722 persons attended at the FAOPS 2015 congress.

Report of the 8th FAOPS Congress

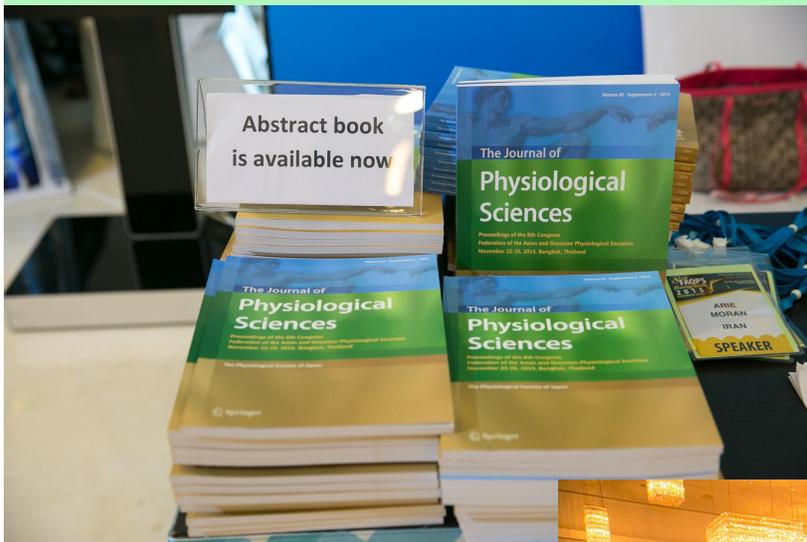
We were able to get supports from many granting agents such as Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau (TCEB), Bangkok Bank, Chaopraya University, Federation of Asian and Oceanian Physiological Societies (FAOPS), International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS), Journal of Physiological Sciences and 25 exhibitors.



There are many activities alongside the congress such as a FAOPS Council meeting on November 22nd, “the Japan night towards FAOPS2019” held by the Japanese Physiological Society on November 23rd, a General Assembly of FAOPS delegates on November 23rd, a FAOPS New Council meeting and a Congress dinner on the River Cruise on November 24th. On the last day of the event (November 25th), the subsequent host for the FAOPS 2019 and the new council members of the FAOPS were announced at the closing ceremony. To invent a new tradition of FAOPS congress, we had made a FAOPS flag, which will be exhibited at the congress site during its activity and passed on from the present to the next host. The flag was then handover from the Physiological Society of Thailand to the Physiological Society of Japan, the host of FAOPS 2019, at the conclusion of the FAOPS 2015 Congress.

We received a very good feedback from many participants who enjoyed and impressed for both scientific and recreation activities during the congress and expressed their impressions that this congress will be one of the long lasting memories for them.

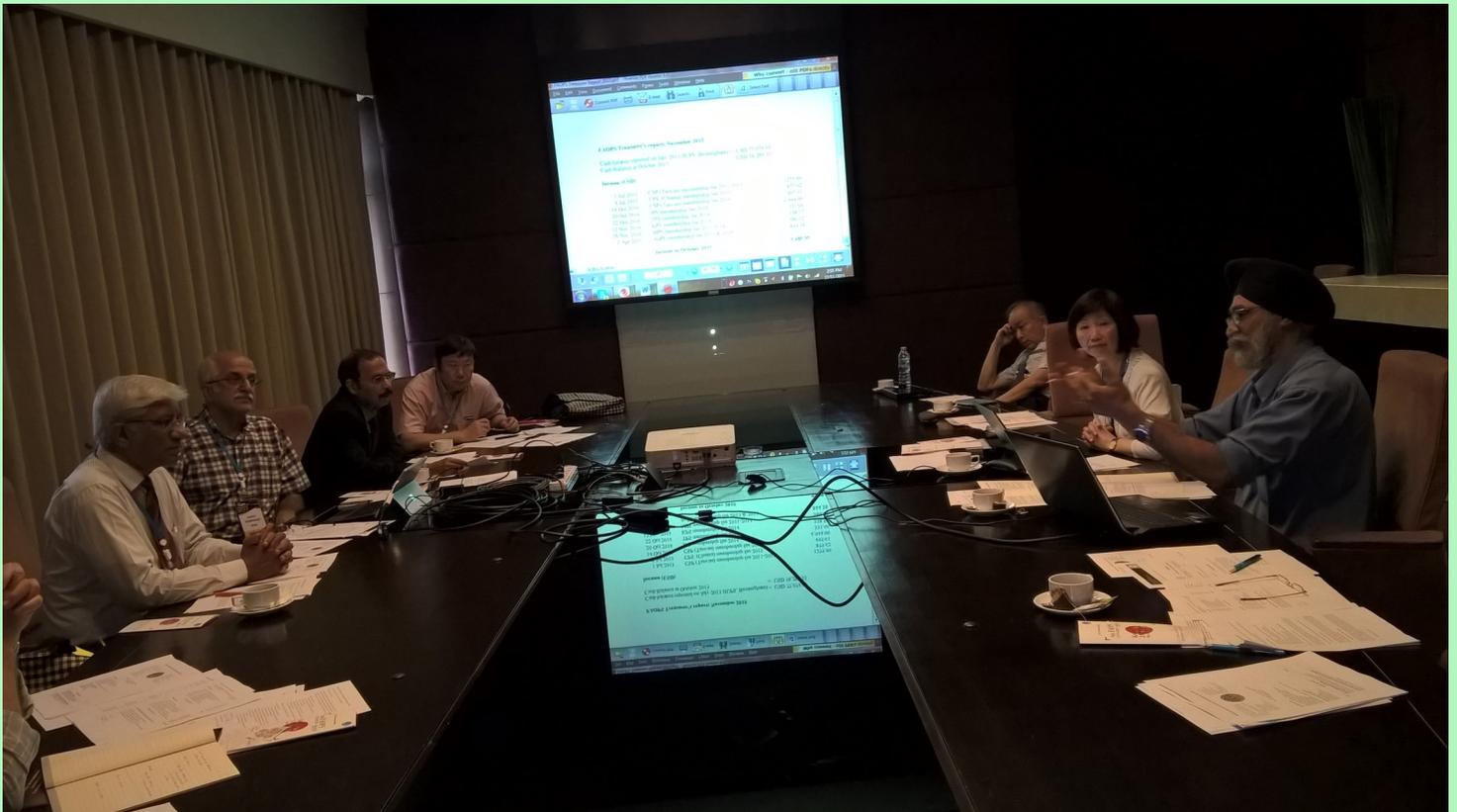
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Report of the 8th FAOPS Congress



Report of the 8th FAOPS Congress



Report of the 8th FAOPS Congress



14th Inter-Medical School Physiology Quiz in Indonesia

Date: 29-30th of July, 2016

Venue: Faculty of Medicine Universitas Gadjah Mada and Grha Sabha Pramana Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Program Highlights

- ◆ Main quiz competition: written test and multiple phases of oral quiz
- ◆ Refresher course by Prof. Susan M. Barman, Ph.D (Professor of Neuroscience, Michigan State University; One of the Authors of Ganong's Medical Physiology) with the title of "The Role of The Brain in Sympathetic Activity and Blood Pressure"
- ◆ City Tour
- ◆ Cultural Night

Eligible Participants

All undergraduate university students are welcomed and invited to participate. One university team consists of a minimum of 3 to a maximum of 5 student participants. The total number of participants is limited up to 70 teams.

Registration Fee* (per participant)

Early bird (USD 50): 1 September 2015 - 31 March 2016

Late registration (USD 65): 1 April - 1 May 2016

*Registration fee includes accommodation and food (for students).

*For accompanying lecturers, registration fee of USD 50 per person is mandatory. The fee includes refresher course, food and transportation from listed hotels to venue.

Contact us:

Committee: imspq2016@gmail.com

Prof. Dr. Cheng Hwee Ming: hmingcheng@gmail.com

Facebook page: IMSPQ Indonesia 2016

Organized by:

Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia
Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine Universiti Malaya, Malaysia

Universitas Gadjah Mada **UNIVERSITI MALAYA**

29th - 30th July 2016 **14th**

Grha Sabha Pramana Universitas Gadjah Mada Yogyakarta Indonesia **Inter - Medical School Physiology Quiz**
Prof. A. Raman Challenge Trophy

Refresher course by:
Prof. Susan M. Barman, Ph.D
(Professor of Neuroscience, Michigan State University, One of the Authors of Ganong's Medical Physiology)
"The Role of The Brain in Sympathetic Activity and Blood Pressure"
• Award for the best performance on Cultural Night

Eligible Participants
All Universities are welcomed and invited to participate.
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Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia
Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine Universiti Malaya, Malaysia

Meeting Calendar 2016

Physiology 2016

Joint Meeting of the American Physiological Society and
The Physiological Society

29 - 31 July 2016

Convention Centre Dublin, Ireland



<http://www.physiology2016.org/>

6th International Conference on the Physiology and Pharmacology of Temperature Regulation (PPTR)

December 5th - 9th, 2016, Ljubljana, Slovenia

<http://www.pptr2016.org/>

**FEPS 2016
PARIS**

JOINT MEETING OF
THE **FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN
PHYSIOLOGICAL SOCIETIES AND
THE FRENCH PHYSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

JUNE 29TH - JULY 1ST 2016

Logos for the Federation of European Physiological Societies (FEPS) and the French Physiological Society (Société Française de Physiologie) are visible on the left.

http://www.feps.org/haber_detay.php

PhyCS 2016

3rd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PHYSIOLOGICAL COMPUTING SYSTEMS

LISBON, PORTUGAL | 27 - 28 JULY, 2016

<http://www.phyics.org/>

Meeting Calendar 2015



ASIA PACIFIC STROKE CONFERENCE
combined with *Stroke Society of Australasia*
Brisbane, Qld, Australia • 15-17 July 2016

*Extending Access
to Stroke Treatment*

<http://www.physiology2016.org/>



IASP

International Association for the Study of Pain

16th World Congress on Pain

September 26 – 30, 2016

Pacifico Convention Center, Yokohama

<http://www.iasp-pain.org/Yokohama16/>

Student Application



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



FAOPS e-newsletter



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