



# ASIAN SURGICAL ASSOCIATION

# Newsletter

Please visit the Association Website:  
[www.AsianSurgAssoc.org](http://www.AsianSurgAssoc.org)

Number 10

Editor: Yiu-Che Chan

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## 19TH ASIAN CONGRESS OF SURGERY SINGAPORE



On behalf of the Congress Organising Committee and the Council of the Asian Surgical Association (ASA), it is my pleasure to invite you to the 19th Asian Congress of Surgery and 1st SingHealth Surgical Congress to be held in July 2013 in Singapore.

The ASA, which has been building professional bonds throughout the Asia-Pacific region, uses the biennial Asian Congress of Surgery as the medium of sharing of surgical knowledge and expertise, has chosen to partner SingHealth in hosting the 19th Asian Congress. The Inaugural Congress in 1976 was also in Singapore and this is a timely return to our shores.

SingHealth is the largest public healthcare provider in Singapore with a strong tradition of excellence in clinical care, training and research through its institutions: Singapore General Hospital (SGH) with a legacy of 190 years and is the flagship hospital of the Ministry of Health Singapore, KK Women's and Children's Hospital (KKH) and the 5 National Centres incorporating National Cancer Centre Singapore (NCCS), National Dental Centre Singapore (NDCS), National Heart Centre Singapore (NHCS), National Neuroscience Institute (NNI) and the Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC).

This current Congress theme is "Training for the Future", emphasising the importance of training with advancements in technology and innovation, changes in the socioeconomic and healthcare demands of our nations.

The Congress is planned around hands-on, interactive workshops so that there is seamless and integrated engagement of participants across the various topical tracks, and will also be held in SingHealth's Academia facility which features the largest and most comprehensive collection of skills training and education facilities.

We look forward to welcoming you to Singapore.

**Professor London Lucien Ooi**

*Congress President*

*19th Asian Congress of Surgery and 1st SingHealth Surgical Congress*

Abstract  
Submission Deadline  
**30 April 2013**

More information available at "[www.acs2013.org](http://www.acs2013.org)"

## TRAINING FOR THE FUTURE

**19<sup>th</sup>**  
**Asian Congress**  
**of Surgery**

**18 - 23 July 2013**  
**The Academia, Singapore**  
**[www.acs2013.org](http://www.acs2013.org)**

**& 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**SingHealth**  
**Surgical Congress**

The 19th Asian Congress of Surgery and 1st SingHealth Surgical Congress is a highly anticipated event that brings together surgical, medical and healthcare professionals in quality fellowship and educational activities. It features a rich scientific programme and a distinguished line-up of international speakers who will share on a variety of topics. With an augmentation of expertise from across the region, you can expect to participate in a stimulating meeting with meaningful discussion and sharing.

To be conducted from the 18th to 23rd of July 2013, the Congress will be held in The Academia on Singapore General Hospital Campus, a new building that has 3 floors dedicated to conferencing and education needs. With a theme - 'Training for the Future', it emphasizes the importance in preparing our surgeons to meet the medical demands of the future.

The scientific programme is planned around 4 days of hands-on and interactive workshops that will take place before and after the Congress. This will allow participants to have integrated engagement across the various scientific tracks. The committee has worked hard to put together a very comprehensive programme, covering diverse aspects of surgery such as Trauma and Critical Care, Oncology, Vascular Surgery, Nursing, as well as Surgical Training and Education. The programme will also incorporate the annual SGH ENT Week and SGH Colorectal Week.

**DEADLINES**

**Submission 30 April 2013**

**Notification of Acceptance 25 May 2013**

**Payment for Registration 15 June 2013**





# 18<sup>TH</sup> ASIAN CONGRESS OF SURGERY PHILIPPINES

The 18th Asian Congress of Surgery was held in conjunction with the 37th Philippine College of Surgeons Mid-year Convention. It took place on 12th to 14th May 2011 at the Waterfront Cebu City Hotel & Casino, Lahung, Cebu City, Philippines. Professor Alex Erasmo was the Congress President. The Meeting had a total of 974 participants from more than 17 countries.

On 11th May 2011, there was a pre-congress workshop on 'Surgical Coaching and Mentoring' with participants discussing new methods of training young surgeons on the era of fast growing technology and minimally invasive surgery. The Congress started with an Opening Ceremony with a parade of the President and Council Members.

The scientific programme was based on the theme of advances in surgical treatment and how it could be applied effectively and efficiently for the Asian patients. Different surgical subspecialties were covered, both in invited lectures and symposium, and also in parallel lectures. Many common general surgical topics (such as the management of intestinal obstruction, the management of the multi-trauma patient, the application of robotic technology) were also discussed by international experts. Apart from the named and plenary lectures, there were in addition a total of 69 free paper sessions, and 50 poster presentations.



*The opening parade*

The Welcome Dinner on 12th May 2011 was held at Bluewaters Maribago Beach Resort. The resort covers a total of 10 hectares, and the entire resort is Filipino native-styled as shown by the design of the buildings. We were welcomed by a variety of colorful, beautiful and vibrant Filipino Folk Dances, before setting in for a feast with delicious delicacies such as the very famous *lechon* where the entire pig was spit-roasted over coal fire. The pig was stuffed with star anise, pepper, spring onions, laurel leaves and lemongrass, and the skin was crispy and golden-brown.



*Filipino folk dance during welcome dinner*



*The officers and Council Members of the Asian Surgical Association*

## NAMED LECTURES

### RACS Foundation Lecture

The Impact of Specialism on Surgery in the 21st Century

Ian Civil, *Australia*

### GB Ong Lecture

The Aquino Health Agenda: Universal Healthcare for Filipinos

Enrique T. Ona, *Philippines*

### Law-Lui Lecture

The Asian Surgeon and the Asian Patient

John Wong, *Hong Kong*

The Congress Banquet on 13th May 2011 was held at the Ballroom of the Grand Majestic Hotel. The entertainment consisted of many traditional Filipino dances performed in traditional Filipino tribal costume, originally designed to thank the gods for natural and agricultural events, and now enchanting modern audiences just the same. The President's Medallion was presented to Professor Alex Erasmo, who then handed the Asian Surgical Association flag to Professor London Ooi, the Congress President of the 19th Asian Congress of Surgery.

The 19th Asian Congress of Surgery will be held in conjunction with the 1st SingHelath Surgical Congress, from 18th to 23rd July 2013 at The Academia, Singapore. The Theme is "Training for the Future", and we look forward to another successful meeting.



*Professor John Wong delivering Law Lui lecture*



*Professor Alex Erasmo presenting the ASA flag to Professor London Ooi, Congress President of the 19th Asian Congress of Surgery*



*The Congress Banquet*



*The entertainment at the Congress Banquet*



## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

**Alex A. Erasmo, Philippines**

(President, 2011 – 2013)

Professor Erasmo is a Professor at the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery of the University of Santo Tomas in Manila, Philippines. He is currently the President of the Asian Surgical Association. Professor Erasmo is also the Chairman of the Department of Surgery of the Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center. He served as President of the Philippine College of Surgeons in 2009 and as Chairman of the Philippine Board of Surgery in 2010. Presently, he also sits as member of the Board of Directors of the Philippine Board of Surgery and the Philippine Association of Laparoscopic and Endoscopic Surgeons.



Professor Erasmo is also the President of the Surgical Oncology Society of the Philippines. He is a Fellow of the Philippine College of Surgeons, American College of Surgeons, Philippine Society of General Surgeons, and the Philippine Association of Laparoscopic and Endoscopic Surgeons.

**London Lucien Ooi, Singapore**

(Council Member, 2011 – 2013)

Professor London Lucien Ooi is Chairman, Division of Surgery at Singapore General Hospital, overseeing 13 clinical departments including the Departments of Anesthesiology & Surgical Intensive Care, Cardiothoracic Surgery, Colorectal Surgery, General Surgery, Hand Surgery, Neurosurgery, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Oro-Maxillo-Facial Surgery, Orthopaedic Surgery, Otolaryngology, Plastics & Reconstructive Surgery, Surgical Oncology and Urology, and the specialty services of Hyperbaric Medicine, Pain Service, and Trauma Service. In addition, he oversees the Major Operating Theatre Complex including Urology OT and Ambulatory Surgery Centre, the Theatre Sterile Supplies Unit, and the SGH Surgical Skills Centre.



Professor Ooi is also concurrently Chairman of the Surgery Academic Clinical Programme for SingHealth/Duke-NUS that brings together surgical departments in the SingHealth group in both the SGH and KKH campus with a key focus on an academic medicine agenda. He is also Director of SingHealth Transplant, a comprehensive conglomerate of 9 transplant programmes throughout the SingHealth cluster, as well as being Adviser at the National Cancer Centre Singapore, where he was previously Deputy Director, Deputy Chairman of Medical Board, and Head, Department of Surgical Oncology.

His clinical sub-specialty interest is in hepatopancreaticobiliary surgery and he is Chief of HPB Surgery at Singapore General Hospital and the National Cancer Centre Singapore, as well as Visiting Senior Consultant for HPB Surgery to the Department of Paediatrics Surgery at the Kandang Kerbau Women's & Children's Hospital.

Professor Ooi has a keen interest in research, in particular with regards to hepatocellular carcinoma. His research interests include basic science and clinical trials in HCC, and he obtained his doctorate (MD) with a dissertation on HCC. He has published widely with more than 100 publications, 7 book chapters and 7 books to his credit. He also sits on numerous national/international committees, advisory panels and editorial boards. He chairs and sits on various review boards for research.

As an active teacher and educator, Professor Ooi has trained surgeons in advanced HPB Surgery from the region including the Philippines, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and India, as well as being visiting Professor and Examiner to some of these countries. He is a member of the Residency Advisory Committee (General Surgery) and chief examiner for the Exit Examination in General Surgery, and was previously chairman of the Specialist Training Committee (General Surgery) that oversaw basic and advanced specialty training in General Surgery, as well as member of the Specialists Accreditation Board of the Ministry of Health Singapore. He is Professor of Surgery in the Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School and oversees all Surgery Clerkships, as well as Professor in the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore.

**Po-Huang Lee, Taiwan**

(Editor-in-chief, 2011 – 2013)

Professor Lee graduated from the National Taiwan University (NTU), College of Medicine in 1974, and the Medical Science Graduate Institute of Clinical Medicine, NTU in 1986. He received his surgical residency training in the National Taiwan University Hospital (1975-1979) and fellowship training in liver transplantation in the University of Pittsburgh (1986-1987). Professor Lee is a Professor of Surgery and former Chairman of Department of Surgery, School of Medicine, National Taiwan University. He currently serves as Deputy CEO, E-DA Hospital, Taiwan. Professor Lee is past President of the Taiwan Transplantation Society and Vice President of the International Society for Digestive Surgery. His major research interests are transplantation immunology, liver regeneration, and surgical oncology in liver surgery. He has more than 300 publications related to kidney and liver transplantation and liver surgery for hepatocellular carcinoma.

**Yiu-Che Chan, Hong Kong**

(Secretary General, 2011 – 2013)

Yiu-Che Chan currently works in the Division of Vascular & Endovascular Surgery in Department of Surgery, University of Hong Kong Medical Centre. He is the current Secretary General of the Asian Surgical Association. He is the Director of Surgical Admission at Queen Mary Hospital, University of



## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Hong Kong, member of University of Hong Kong MBBS Curriculum Committee.

Yiu-Che Chan graduated MBBS (London) from Westminster & Charing Cross Medical School, University of London, in 1993. He received basic surgical training in General and Vascular Surgery at St. Mary's Hospital, London and was a Clinical Fellow and Lecturer at St. Mary's Hospital, London, which led to the award of the Doctorate of Medicine degree from the University of London in 2004. He was Senior Vascular Fellow at Guy's and St. Thomas' Hospital from

2004 to 2006, before returning to Hong Kong in 2007. He is currently the Principal Investigator and Co-investigator of many local and international Grants and Awards. He has delivered more than sixty presentations in local and international vascular conferences (many as invited speakers), and has published several book chapters and over seventy papers in peer-reviewed journals. In addition to his surgical practice as a vascular and endovascular specialist, Yiu-Che Chan has research interests in carotid disease, aortic dissection, endovascular and hybrid thoracic and abdominal aortic surgery and minimally invasive treatment of peripheral arterial disease.

## OFFICIAL PUBLICATION – ASIAN JOURNAL OF SURGERY

The *Asian Journal of Surgery*, founded in 1978, is an indexed, peer-reviewed journal that is published quarterly. Today, the Asian Journal of Surgery is also the official publication of six other professional surgical associations in the Asia-Pacific region, including:

- Asian Association of Endocrine Surgeons
- Asian Association of Paediatric Surgeons
- Asian Society for Vascular Surgery
- Association of University Surgeons of Asia
- College of Surgeons, Academy of Medicine, Malaysia
- Endoscopic and Laparoscopic Surgeons of Asia

The *Asian Journal of Surgery* enjoys a growing reputation as an important medium for the dissemination of recent developments in surgery and its related disciplines to the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. The Journal invites original contributions as Current Opinions, Original Articles, Case Reports, and Reviews across the entire spectrum of clinical and experimental surgery. Detailed information on submission of manuscripts and subscription to the Journal is available at "[www.e-asianjournalsurgery.com](http://www.e-asianjournalsurgery.com)".



## OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

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## REMINDER

## Membership Subscription

- Members who have not paid their membership fees are urged to settle their outstanding dues as soon as possible.
- Please send the payment by either credit card or bank draft made payable to "**Asian Surgical Association**" and send to **The Treasurer, Asian Surgical Association, Department of Surgery, Queen Mary Hospital, Hong Kong**
- For enquiries, please feel free to contact the **ASA Secretariat**.

Tel: (852) 2255 4231 Fax: (852) 2816 2094 Email: [info@AsianSurgAssoc.org](mailto:info@AsianSurgAssoc.org)

Web site: [www.AsianSurgAssoc.org](http://www.AsianSurgAssoc.org)