

Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine

(Persatuan Kajiparasit dan Perubatan Tropika Malaysia)

# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2/2015

Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine c/o Institute for Medical Research Jalan Pahang 50588 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. www.msptm.org

**Issue 2, 2015** (for members only)

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(princess\_latha2280@yahoo.com)



#### **Corporate Members**

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#### 16-20 AUGUST

The Arena and Convention Centre, Liverpool, United Kingdom

25th International Conference of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology In association with the University of Liverpool

# THE 25<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF VETERINARY PARASITOLOGY, LIVERPOOL, UNITED KINGDOM.

The 25<sup>th</sup> International Conference of World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology (WAAVP) was successfully held at The Arena and Convention Centre Liverpool from 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> August 2015, in association with the University of Liverpool.



Opening ceremony WAAVP 2015



WAAVP 2017 Team with Dr Peter Holdsworth

The main theme for the conference was "Looking to the Future", with 11 smaller themes running through five days, which included Drug and drug resistance, Climate change, Epidemiology and modelling, Novel approaches to chemical and non-chemical control (endo- and ecto-parasites), Vaccines and Immunology, as well as currently relevant topics on One Health.

There were four plenary speakers and 23 keynote speakers; who were prominent and world renowned veterinary parasitologists from countries all over the world. These gave participants a rare view of the current trends in parasitology up close.



Malaysian Team Booth

The Executive Committee held its meeting with Dr Peter Holdsworth as President and several key issues were discussed including future programmes for WAAVP and election of the next president. Our Congratulations to Dr Douglas Colwell who was elected as the next President and Professor Richard Wall who will be taking over as Secretary /Treasurer. We also welcome two new members **Dr Reuben Sharma** (Malaysia) and Professor Domenico Otranto (Italy).

Delegates from 56 countries participated in this conference, including Malaysia. This conference was particularly important as delegates from the Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine (MSPTM) were actively promoting the next WAAVP conference, which is to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 4-8 September 2017.





Presentation by our Vice President Dr. Chandrawathani.

The Malaysian team set up a booth and was also allowed to give a presentation to promote the upcoming WAAVP during the closing ceremony. On-site super early bird registration

was also encouraged and little fridge magnets were given out to visitors to the booth to remind them of the upcoming event in 2 years.

We hope to see you in Malaysia 2017!

For further info please go to website www.waavp2017kl.org.

Contributed by Dr. Khadijah Saad (UMT) & Dr. Chandrawathani P. (DVS)



-8 Sept, 2017
Conference of the World
Association for the Advancement
of Veterinary Parasitology

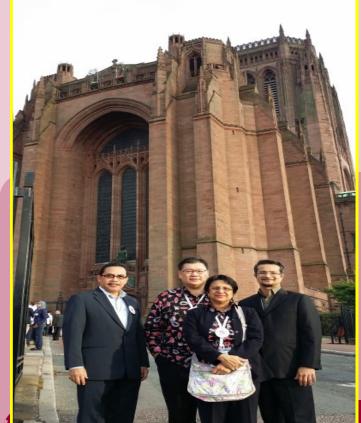
Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Malaysia

Hosted by The Malaysian Society of Parasitology & Tropical Medicine (MSPTM) and Department of Veterinary Services (DVS)





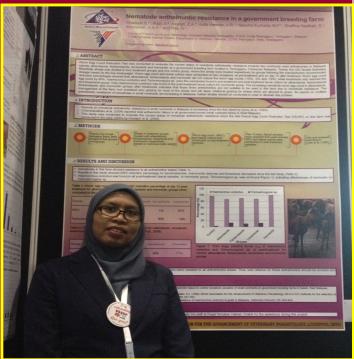
Beautiful Moment In Liverpool











## Beautiful Moment In Liverpool



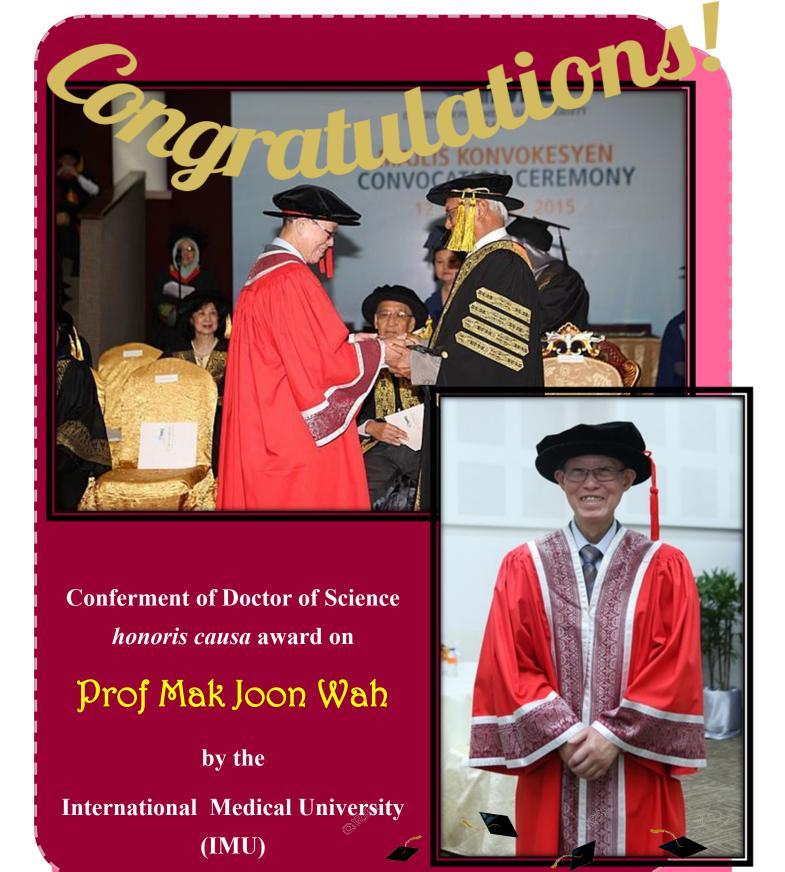












on 12 September 2015

## PROF MAK JOON WAH





CONVOCATION, 12 SEPTEMBER 2015 13

#### Conferment of Doctor of Science honoris causa upon Prof Mak Joon Wah

Mak Joon Wah was born in Penang in 1942, and is the fourth child of six boys of Mak Kok Kee, a businessman, and Pak Mooi Chee, a housewife. Joon Wah received his secondary education from Methodist Boys School in Penang, and obtained his medical degree from the National University of Singapore in 1967. After graduation, he served in various hospitals under the Ministry of Health, Malaysia for five years before joining the institute for Medical Research (IMR) in 1972. During his stay with the IMR, Dr Mak headed the Malaria and Filariasis Division, and the Biotechnology Division before his appointment as Director in 1995. After his retirement from IMR, he joined the Faulty of Medicine and Health Sciences in Universiti Putra Malaysia in 1997 where he served for three years as Professor of Tropical Medicine.

Prof Mak joined international Medical University (IMU) as Professor of Medical Parasitology in 2001, and served as Dean of the School of Postgraduate Studies from 2006 to 2013. He was appointed as the Vice President (Research) on 1 September 2011, and as Director of the Institute for Research, Development and Innovation (IRDI) IMU in September 2012. Prof Mak is also a Fellow of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia, and a Fellow of the Academy of Medicine Malaysia.

Throughout his research career, Prof Mak's main interests are in tropical medicine, bloactive molecules, and infectious diseases. He is a globally recognised expert in filariasis and malaria, and has been appointed as a WHO consultant in 17 countries. He has published over 345 scientific papers in refereed journals. He was the Foundation Editor of the journal, "Tropical Biomedicine", which is the first biomedical ISI journal in Malaysia (published by the Malaysian Society of Tropical Medicine and Parasitology). Recognising the urgent need for a good resource for medically important parasites, he produced an "Atlas of Medically Important Parasites" together with his wife, Dr Choong Mool Fal. This book is now used as a text in universities for the training of medical and health science undergraduates and postgraduates, and is currently in the third edition, with more than 5000 copies being sold worldwide. In addition, Prof Mak has successfully supervised 13 PhD and 11 MSc students.

For his contributions to science, Prof Mak was the joint recipient of the first National Science Award (Anugerah Sains Negara) in 1985, and awarded the Sandosham Gold Medal in 1989, in 2011, Prof Mak was the winner of the prestigious Merdeka Award for "Outstanding Scholastic Achievement", in recognition of his contributions to fundamental and applied research in parasitology and parasitic diseases, public health and pathology. Prof Mak was instrumental in influencing the Ministry of Science, Technology and innovation (MOSTI) to include the private universities in the country in the allocation of research funds. This is a milestone achievement for the progress of scientific research in Malaysia.

Under the dedicated stewardship of Prof Mak, IMU has made significant progress in research, as evidenced by the significant increase in publications in peer reviewed Journals, success in getting external grants for research, and increased number of postgraduate students. Prof Mak is instrumental in setting the directions of research in IMU, which focus on four thrust areas, namely Environmental and Population Health, Cancer and Stem Cell Research, Bloactive Molecules and Drug Delivery, and Health Professional Education Research, Under the ASPIRE strategic plans. Prof Mak set the stage with the establishment of the institute for Research, Development and Innovation (IRDI) on 18 September 2012.

Prof Mak and his wife have three children - two boys, Yew Meng and Yew Nam, and a girl, Yuet Mei and five grandchildren. He has many hobbies which include jungle trekking, hiking, gardening and reading, especially poems and classics.





# HEALTH SCREENING IN JALINAN KASIH ORPHANAGE

A health screening program was conducted for children at Rumah Jalinan Kasih, at No 2 & 4, Jalan Megah 31, Taman Megah, Cheras Batu 10, 43200 Selangor on 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2015. This event is a project co-organized by Institute of Biological Science, Faculty of Science, University of Malaya, University Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC), Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine (MSPTM) and the Faculty of Medicine, Monash University Malaysia.



The children watching attentively as Dr Siti Noraida from Monash University Malaysia draws blood samples

A total of 35 children participated; 17 males and 18 females with age ranging from 2 to 17 years old. The health screening included determination of their BMI by measuring their weight and height followed by blood sample collection for full blood profile screening. This was followed by examination for ecto parasites such as head lice and scabies



The main purpose of this health screening is to determine the health status amongst orphans that were generally ignored due to financial constraints. This project also aims to educate the children about proper personal hygiene care and prevention on diseases transmission.



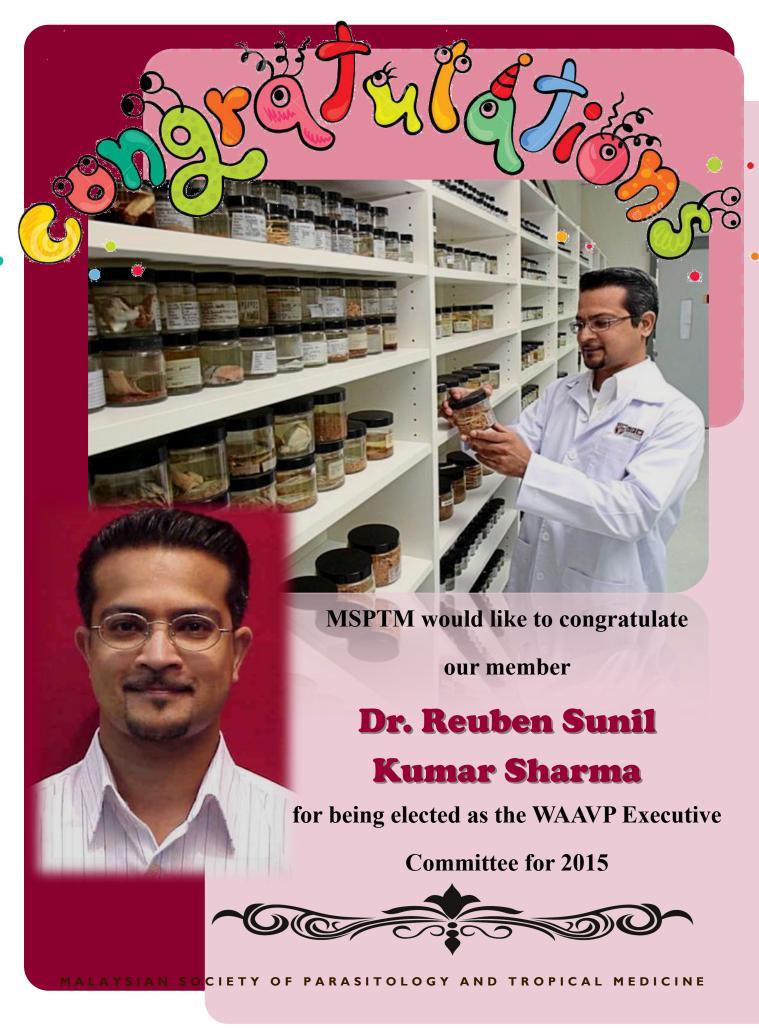
Boys with shaven heads to reduce the transmission of head lice.



They are expected to be able to know the essential of hygiene knowledge. Hence, understanding the good sanitation of living environment undoubtedly will help them to prevent the transmission of diseases and improve the health quality amongst the orphanage. This event received goodies from numerous bodies Follow Me body wash, Fresh and White toothpaste and toothbrush and Shoon Fatt biscuits The children was also provided with pizzas and drinks as a treat sponsored by MSPTM.

The event was indeed a huge success and received positive response from the caretakers of the orphanage.





## Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical

Medicine (MSPTM)



Mid-Year Seminar 2015



The Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine (MSPTM) Mid-Year seminar is a joint effort by the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (PERHILITAN) with the Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine and held annually at various locations to promote the spread and sharing of scientific knowledge. The MSPTM Mid year seminar was held at the headquarters of Department of Wildlife and National Parks (PERHILITAN ) in Cheras, Kuala Lumpur on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2015 from 9.30am to 1pm. The event was officiated by Director of Ex Situ Conservation Division, Mr Fakhrul Hatta bin Musa and the President of MSPTM Prof Wan Kiew Lian.



There were three speakers; namely Mr Jeffrine Rovie Ryan Japning, a senior researcher at PERHILITAN giving a talk on the Past, Current and Future Research activivities of the Department, followed by Mr Salman Saaban, Director of Conservation of Biodivesity speaking on Conservation Programmes of the Department and lastly Dr Nazni Wasi Ahmad from Institute of Medical research, talking

on Forensic Entomology: Its benefits in solving the puzzle. The three speakers held the audience of 140 participants in

complete awe as they shared various aspects of their exciting work and research.

The overwhelming response from participants from universities, private veterinary practise, industry and government departments is a good indication of the interest in new knowledge and in sharing ideas. This event was kindly sponsored by Biovet Bhd, MSPTM and DWNP with CPD points of 12 awarded by the Malaysian Veterinary Council.



Giving thanks to Mr Salman Saaban for the interesting talk on Conservation



A good crowd at the auditorium of PERHILITAN

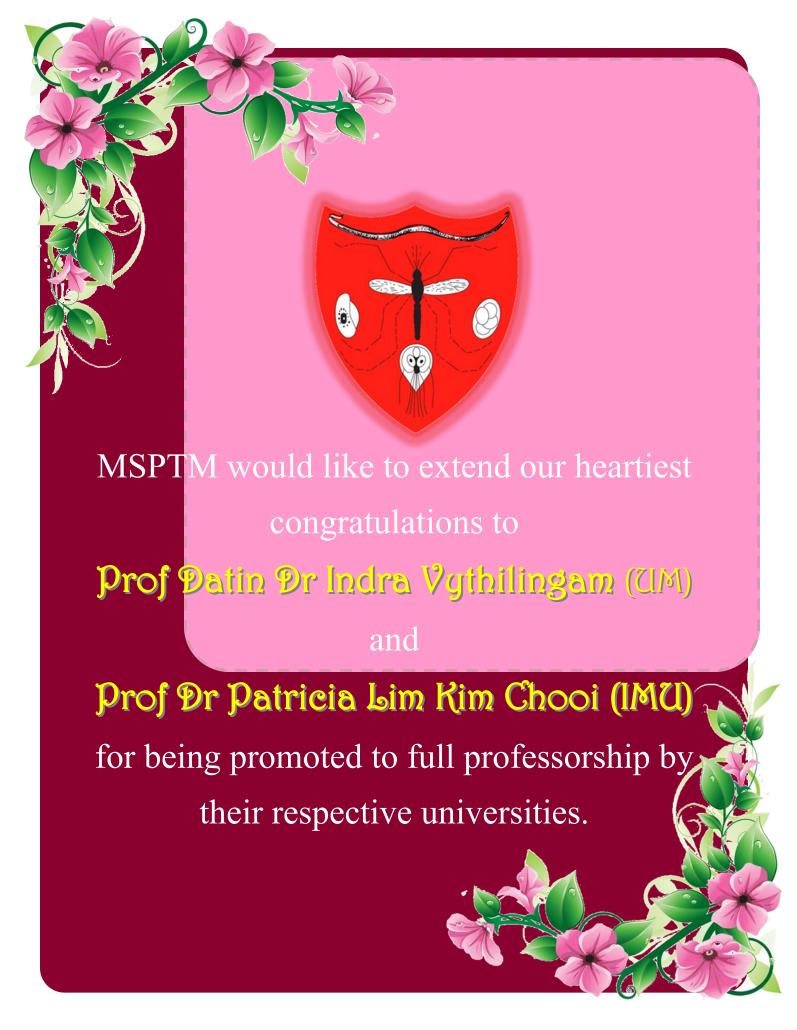


Dr Nazni Wasi Ahmad holding the audience captive with Forensic Entamology



Research in Wildlife – an eye opener for may scientists by Dr Jeffrine Rovie Ryan Japning

Contributed by Dr. Chandrawathani P. (DVS Putrajaya)





Prof Patin Pr Indra Vythilingam is a world renown entomologist with 36 years of

Environmental Health Institute, Singapore prior to joining UM. She is one of the very few Malaysian member of the WHO (World Health Organization) Vector Control Advisory Group (VCAG). As the 40<sup>th</sup> MSPTM President, she mooted the idea of having an ASEAN Congress of Tropical Medicine and Parasitology in 2004. She envisaged that this Congress would provide an affordable and pragmatic platform for researchers from around the region to share their scientific knowledge and also foster collaboration among them in the ASEAN region. The ASEAN Congress is still actively being rotated within the ASEAN countries every two years. She has also been the editor of Tropical Biomedicine, an ISI Malaysian published journal by MSPTM from 2006 till 2014 and was instrumental in bring the journal to greater heights. In UM, she assisted in designing and seeing through the establishment of

the Arthropod Containment Level 2 Laboratory (ACL2) at Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya. She plays a vital role in spearheading many projects on vector control for dengue and malaria as well as filariasis, chikungunya etc.







#### Prof Pr Patricia Lim Kim Chooi

joined MSPTM since 1979 and has held various membership positions at different levels through the years.

She started her career as a Research Officer at the Division of Filariasis, Institute for Medical Research (IMR) in 1978, eventually heading the Molecular Pathology Unit, Cancer Research Centre at IMR from 1996 till 2004. She was then appointed the Chief Scientific Officer at Malaysian Bio-Diagnostics Research SdnBhd, UKM-MTDC Smart Technology Centre (2005-2009) and was involved with the development and commercialization of several diagnostic kits for infectious diseases. In 2009, she joined Ninebio Sdn Bhd as Senior Vice-President (Research and Lab Services) where she developed the research programme for vaccines and biologics. After her industrial stint, she joined the International Medical University (IMU) as Associate Professor in Pathology Department, School of Medical Sciences in February 2011. Due to her vast experience and knowledge, she was appointed the Head of Commercialization and Business Development Unit, Institute for Research, Development and Innovation (IRDI), IMU from September 2012- December 2013 and subsequently as the Deputy Director, Commercialization and Support arm of IRDI from 2014 till present. Under her leadership, she was instrumental in improving the visibility of IMU's researchers' expertise, research products and consultancy services. She also initiated efforts to establish an IMU Patent Review Board to facilitate IP/patent commercialization.



#### BACK TO BASICS PARASITOLOGY

#### WORKSHOP 2015



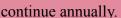
**Participants** 



On the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2015, The Division of Diagnostics and Quality Assurance, Department of Veterinary Sevices (DVS) conducted a 2-days basic parasitology workshop for 14 staff from government veterinary labs, at the Veterinary Public Health Laboratory (MKAV), Salak Tinggi, Selangor. The workshop coordinator, Dr. Chandrawathani, stressed the main aim for this programme is to refresh, update and harmonize all the laboratory techniques that have been practiced by all the government veterinary laboratories throughout Malaysia.



Thus, what was shared and learnt during the workshop can be applied consistently in all labs so that the results are reproducible and uniform, giving efficient service to the client. Similar programmes on bacteriology, virology and pathology will be conducted in the near future. The active networking of all participants will forge better understanding and benefit all in the field of parasitology. It is hoped this will









Contributed by Mrs Debbra Marcel (VRI) & Dr. Chandrawathani P. (DVS Putrajaya)

#### 6th Animal Awareness Day - Dream and Reality



Since 2013, this charitable event has been organized twice yearly This event has received many positive feedbacks from within and outside the campus. We have had many donors, sponsors, NGOs and veterinarians supporting this event. As a campus twice-yearly activity, this is an important event bringing together various people and organizations to talk about animal welfare and protection. This is also a wonderful moment to be a part of the global movement on animal welfare where they have been campaigning for the plight of animals all over the world.





It is amazing to see how the power, commitment, perseverance and sincerity of people working in animal organizations or any individuals who collectively come together with the same purpose to work for the transformation of our thinking on animals and to stop the suffering of animals. The followings are some of the animal cruelties reported in the modern era: animal abuse, animal breeding for experimental and commercial purposes, animal circuses and other modes of entertainment, animal testing, bullfighting (in Spain), dog and cat meat trade (in Asia), fox hunt-

ing (in United Kingdom), Gadhimai festival (in Nepal), poaching and trophy hunting (in South Africa), Sea World (in USA) and Yulin dog meat festival (in China). It clearly shows that lives of animals are at the mercy of humans' decision.







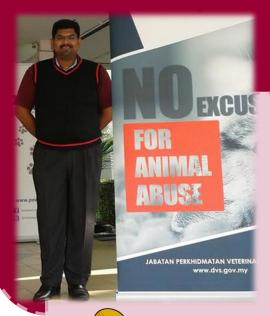
As the saying goes "Practice What We Preach". Human is the highest form of existence with the most complexity of both mind and matter, living on this planet. With having a medical background, it is sad to witness these animal cruelties as a result of human actions in general and medical profession in particular with the act of arrogance, greed, ignorance, insanity, irresponsibility and negligence. Serving and protecting the lives of others be it human or animal are the core value of any medical practitioners. And, it is no doubt that working in the medical profession is a dilemma for both private and public interests. Recently, there are international uproars from people who consciously go against animal cruelties by a dentist as well as medical specialist using licensed Trophy hunting for wildlife animals in South Africa. Being closer to animals, a veterinarian was fired after bragging about killing cat with bow and arrow without feeling any guilt by openly posting her negligent act in the social media.



Needless to say, there are many more incidences in particularly related to animal diseases that can spread to humans such as mad cow disease, influenza or even rabies. When performing one's medical duty, one is always caught in between; either being the one who wants to serve regardless of the benefit for human or animal, as the Saint, or the one who wants to destroy regardless of having other better alternative choices, as the Satan. Where is the fine line between the two opposite labels? It all lies within one's consciousness. We all have different views on solution, but most of the time, they are the product of one's own creation. With good intention in practice, one can accomplish and make a difference to benefit many lives of animals. If one lacks kindness and ethical morality, then what makes one differs, better or even higher than animals. Life is short and how many people who can live up to a century old? Let us live in peace and harmony with the environment especially animals and irrespective of one's role, ability, responsibility and diligence which will ultimately yield positive outcomes.







It is my hope that this event will continue to grow, serve and achieve the aims of spreading the awareness of kindness to animals far and wide through this campus activity, to encourage students to take part in this social engagement, to recognize animal welfare and any individual of his/her perseverance and commitment toward the betterment of street animals' well-being and to raise funds for medical assistance to selected organizations.



~We dedicate our good thought and commitment to all sacrificed canines in the wake of this so called "Rabies outbreak?" in the three northern states of Malaysia~

Die well by Living well ~Justice will Prevail

Contributed by Dr. Veeranoot Nissapatorn

## List of new membership starting 2015......

Membership No.	Name	Affiliation	Institution
0562	Erkihun Aklilu	Dr	Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University Malaysia Kelantan, 16100 Pengkalan Chepa, Kota Bahru, Kelantan
0563	Zubaidah Ya'cob	Mrs	Institute of Biological Science, Faculty of Science, Universiti Malaya, 50603, Kuala Lumpur
0564	Muhamad Syamsul Naim bin Noorazmi	Ms	Veterinary Research Institute, 59, Jalan Sultan Azlan Shah, 31400, Ipoh Perak
0565	Than Kyaw	Assoc Prof	FPV, UMK Kelantan
0566	Nor Athirah bt Mohd Mokhtar	Ms	Fakulti Perubatan Veterinar, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, Pengkalan Chepa, Kota Bahru
0567	Pwaveno Huladeino Bamaiyi	Dr	Fakulti Perubatan Veterinar, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, Pengkalan Chepa, Kota Bahru
0568	Mohd Mokhtar Arshad	Assoc Prof	Fakulti Perubatan Veterinar, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, Pengkalan Chepa, Kota Bahru
0569	Hossein Nahrevanian	Prof	Department of Parasitology, Pastuer Institute of Iran, Pastuer Avenue, Tehran 1316943551, Iran
0570	Wong Jun Leong	Dr	Department of Medical Microbiology & Parasitology, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Kubang Kerian, Kelantan
0571	Hafizatul Anis binti Mohamed Zan	Mrs	Medical Microbiology Department, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur
0572	S. J. Lahvanya Raoov A/L Subramaniam	Mr	Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur
0573	Fatin Nur Elyana binti Mohd Sidek	Ms	Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur
0574	Sandee Tun	Ms	Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur
0575	Mohammad Masrin Bin Azami	Mr	Veterinary Research Institute, 59 Jalan Sultan Azlam Shah, 31400 Ipoh, Perak
0576	Ramlan Bin Mohamed	Dr	Putrajaya, Wisma Tani, Blok Podium 4G1, Presint 4, 62630 Putrajaya
0577	Thamayanthi Nada Raja	Ms	Malaria Research Center, Seksyen 22, Lot 77, Faculty of Medicine & Health Science, UNIMAS, Jalan Tun Ahmad Zaidi Adruce, 91350 Kuching, Sarawak
0578	Liew Sze Tze	Ms	Malaria Research Center, Seksyen 22, Lot 77, Faculty of Medicine & Health Science, UNIMAS, Jalan Tun Ahmad Zaidi Adruce, 91350 Kuching, Sarawak
0579	Hidayati Binti Hamdan	Dr	Pusat Asasi Pertahanan, Universiti Pertahanan Nasional Malaysia, Kem Sg. Besi, 57000 Kuala Lumpur
0580	Chiam Keng Hoong	Dr	Department of Internal Medicine, Hospital Keningau, Peti Surat 11, Jalan Apin-apin - Keningau, 89008 Keningau, Sabah
0581	Benedict Sim Lim Heng	Dr	Department Medicine, Hosp. Sg. Buloh, Jln. Hospital, Sg. Buloh, 4700 Selangor
0582	Muhsin	Dr	Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur
0583	Muhamad Mazhar Ayaz	Dr	Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan, Pakistan
0584	Mohd Shukri Baba	Dr	Department of Biomedical Sciences, Kulliyah of Allied Health Sciences, International Islamic University Malaysia, Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah, 25200 Kuantan, Pahang
0585	Goh Xiang Ting	Ms	Parasitology Department, Faculty of Medicine, University Malaya, 50603, Kuala Lumpur
0586	Yap Nan Jiun	Ms	Parasitology Department, Faculty of Medicine, University Malaya, 50603, Kuala Lumpur
0587	Yunita Armiyanti	Dr	JL Kalimantan, No 37, Kampus Teqal Boto, Jember East Jawa Indonesia
0588	Vickneshwaran Muthu	Mr	Bahagian Kawalan Penyakit, Aras 3, Blok E10, Kompleks E, Pusat Pentadbiran Kerajaan Persekutuan, 62590, WP Putrajaya

#### List of new membership starting 2015......

Membership No.	Name	Affiliation	Institution
0589	Woh Pei Yee	Ms	Institute Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, University Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur
0590	Lim Chee Hwa	Mr	One Team Network Sdn Bhd, 30 Jalan Anggerik Mokara 31/G, Kota Kemuning. 40460, Shah Alam Selangor
0591	Cheah Hoo Kiet	Mr	X-Way Sdn Bhd, 29G, Lorong 63/91, Taman Shamelin Perkasa, 56100, Cheras Kuala Lumpur
0592	Alyaa Al Khateeb	Dr	Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, UITM Sungai Buloh, Selangor
0593	Aziz Shafie	Dr	Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur
0594	Mohd Helmi Ujir	Mr	Jabatan Patologi, Hospital Pakar Sultanah Fatimah, 84000 Muar Johor
0595	Chua Lin Lin	Dr	Taylor's University lakeside Campus, No 1, Jalan Taylor's, 47500, Subang jaya Selangor
0596	Suhaila Ab Hamid	Dr	Pusat Pengajian Sains Kajihayat, Universiti Sains Malaysia, 11800, Georgetown, Pulau Pinang
0597	Thilagavathy a/p Vindasalavadi	Ms	Zoo Melaka, Ayer Keroh, Melaka

#### **ENTRANCE FEE: RM 20.00**

Annual Membership Fees:

• Ordinary Membership: RM 50.00 (for members residing in Malaysia)

• Associate Membership: RM 100.00

• Life Membership : RM 100.00 (for members residing in Malaysia)



### Upcoming Parasitology and Tropical Medicine Conference 2016



## 52nd Annual Scientific Conference of MSPTM

"Towards Impactful Collaborations in Parasitology and Tropical Medicine"

2nd & 3rd March 2016

Grand Seasons Hotel, Kuala Lumpur

Savana Hotel & Convention • Malang • Indonesia

17 - 19 May 2016

Second Announcement

7<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Congress of Tropical Medicine and Parasitology (ACTMP)

3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Molecular and Clinical Aspects of HIV-AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (ICMCA\_ATM)



Combating the Big Three of Infectious Diseases (AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and Increasing Awareness of the Neglected Tropical Disease:



We would like to thank everyone who has contributed articles to this issue. The MSPTM Newsletter thrives on the support of its members. Everyone is invited to contribute articles, photographs, comments and vacancy advents which may be of interest to the Society. We also encourage researchers to submit updates on research projects and publications, so that this newsletter may serve as a portal for disseminating current information on Parasitology and Tropical Medicine in Malaysia.

**MSPTM Website** 

Visit the MSPTM website for updates and online access to current issues of Tropical Biomedicine www.msptm.org/



Wishing you a Christmas filled with whole lat of fun and cheer Mevry Christmas



May this new year all your dreams turn into reality and all your efforts into great achievements

Happy New Year

Thank You & Happy New Year 2016