

Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine

(Persatuan Kajiparasit dan Perubatan Tropika Malaysia)

NEWSLETTER



Highlight

ISSUE 1 / 2016

Malaysian Society of Parasitology
and Tropical Medicine
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Salam Aidilfitri

*Selamat Hari Raya,
kawan - kawan ..*

Maaf Zehar dan Batin

Corporate Members

- Sumitomo Chemical Enviro – Agro Asia Pasific Sdn Bhd
- Agricultural Chemicals (M) Sdn Bhd

President's Message

53rd MSPTM Council 2016/2017



My warm Greetings to all members,

It is a special honor and a privilege to begin my term as President of the 53rd MSPTM Council (2016/2017) for the second time. Our outgoing president, **Prof Wan Kiew Lian**, deserves an enormous thank you from all of us for guiding the society so ably and for organising a successful Annual Conference from the 1-3 March 2016 at Grand Season's Hotel. Prof Wan and previous Presidents have been a terrific role model, and their shoes will be impossible to fill. I am especially grateful that I will be able to rely on his wise counsel during my term. I also take this opportunity to thank previous council members, few who are with this council and a warm welcome to the brand new team members who are coming in with a lot of enthusiasm. A

special thanks to our secretary **Dr Husna** and treasurer **Cik Noor Afizah** for helming us through the past year and who are thankfully with us in our present council.

I hold a special place for MSPTM in my scientific heart. This year thus will be a momentous year with several key activities planned out. First and foremost would be the WAAVP 2017 conference which MSPTM is co hosting with DVS and will play a key role in the successful implementation process. For this, I foresee our society being thrust to International limelight, which is timely. **Dr Ramlan Mohamed** will helm the Organizing committee with the help of AOS our conference organizers.



Apart from this, the MSPTM also will ensure the **office lot** is ready to be utilised for office space to store all MSPTM materials and maybe even have a meeting or two in the future! I thank Prof Wan and the Asset committee for spearheading this activity. The MSPTM journal, *Tropical Biomedicine* has been smoothly passed over to **Prof Sinniah** who is overseeing its publication with **Mdm Premaalatha** and **Pn Ernieenor**. Consequently, the newsletter has also been actively

sharing out happenings in the society and we encourage more information from members. One of our annual activities, the **Mid year seminar** is a time for members to get together and I encourage all members to attend and participate as its free of charge and we try to accommodate some new knowledge for everyone's interest.



Also, we have regularly held workshops and charity events which includes visit to orphanages, orang asli villages for some parasite related activities and we hope this will carry on with everyone's support. One of the activities we plan to finalize is the **website** which will have a new look and we welcome suggestions and info from members to make it better!



Our society is 53 years old, and we have done well and can do so much more in this age of technology! The vehicle for spearheading our society would be our website, journal and activities. With the whole nation progressing, we need to improve and keep up to be relevant. I ask all members to give us ideas, be participative and in the spirit of giving this society your very best, as our old timers have done unstintingly, to make it what it is today.

For new potential members, so, why should you be an MSPTM member and support this society? MSPTM is devoted to promoting the discipline of parasitology and tropical medicine. This means using all of our resources to expand and improve scientific training and mentorship at all levels, to provide venues for our members to share their findings— whether in person, print or online — and to establish important contacts to facilitate scientific exchange and collaboration. MSPTM can help bring us together to make our science better and to keep the camaraderie among colleagues.

So, dear members, thank you for your continued support, and please don't hesitate to let me know what you think will make us even better.

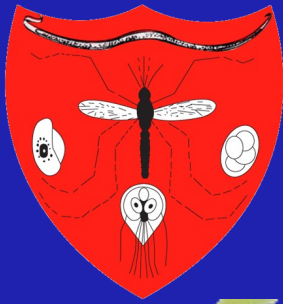
***MSPTM - Always Learning,
Always Growing !***

With best wishes
Dr Chandrawathani P.
President
53rd MSPTM Council (2016/2017)



WAAVP
4-8 Sept, 2017
Kuala Lumpur
26th International 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)



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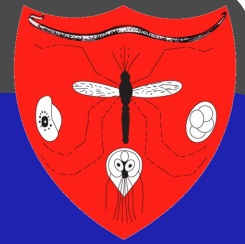
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Ms Noor Afizah



Council Member
Dr. Chen Chee Dhang

**TeamWork Makes
The Dream Work**

THE MSPTM 52ND ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE IN KUALA LUMPUR, 2016



The Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine 52nd Annual Scientific Conference was held from 2nd to 3rd March 2016 at the Grand Seasons Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia with the theme entitled **“Towards Impactful Collaborations in Parasitology and Tropical Medicine”**. The theme was chosen because we believe that there is an essential need to highlight the importance of collaboration in addressing local and global challenges, particularly those brought about by emerging tropical diseases. The President of 52nd Council, Prof. Dr. Wan Kiew Lian, reiterated that the meeting, in addition to providing a platform for fruitful scientific discourse, will offer opportunities to initiate and establish meaningful linkages amongst the participants.



The President Prof Dr Wan Kiew Lian, presenting the **Nadchatram Medal 2015 to Dr. Noor Azian Md. Yusuf** from IMR for her excellent scientific work



President of 52nd Council of MSPTM, Prof. Dr. Wan Kiew Lian passed over the Presidential medal to **President 53rd Council of MSPTM, Dr. Chandrawathani.**

A forum on the **“National Collaborative Efforts in Parasitology and Tropical Medicine and their Implications on the Animal and Community Health”** was conducted with facilitator Prof. Dr. Suresh Govind and three eminent panellists; Datuk Dr. Lokman Hakim Sulaiman from the Ministry of Health Malaysia, Dato’ Dr. Quaza Nizamuddin Hassan Nizam from the Department of Veterinary Services, and Academician Professor Emeritus Dato’ Dr. C.P. Ramachandran formerly from Universiti Sains Malaysia. Among several issues discussed, is the role of the Health and Veterinary Departments to facilitate and encourage scientific research in moving ahead with current times where zoonotic diseases are becoming evident. The discussion elucidated many interesting comments and queries on how better to interact with government agencies, academia and the private sector for the betterment of the country.



Honorary guests at the opening ceremony of MSPTM Scientific Conference

There were more than 150 registered delegates from over 6 countries. A total of 16 invited speakers, 46 oral papers and 60 poster papers were presented during the 2-day conference. We also had a 3-minute oral presentation competition session for university students. It was very exciting and interesting to see the 6 competitors who used only 3 minutes to present their work and how creatively they impressed the judges and the audience!



Participants listening at the oral session



The forum session

There was also a special session on **“Meet the Experts”**, with 3 experts Dr. Sam Mohan (Tree Code Sdn. Bhd.), Assoc. Prof. Dr. Siti Nursheena Mohd Zain (University of Malaya) and Dr. Vickneshwaran Muthu (Ministry of Health) for young researchers to interact and have an idea of various career options in the field of parasitology and tropical medicine. Information on the upcoming WAAVP 2017 conference, which will be held in Kuala Lumpur at the prestigious KLCC from 4-8 September 2017 was also highlighted to create awareness among foreign and local participants. The 52nd Annual Scientific Conference culminated with an awesome dinner after the AGM of the MSPTM where Dr. Azdayanti Muslim organised a funny and exhilarating comedy duet with announcement of the new 53rd MSPTM Council and lucky draws with gifts for many who attended.

Contributed by B. Premaalatha (VRI)

Building bridges : Malaysia and the Philippines

I had a wonderful opportunity to be hosted by the University of the Philippines Los Banos (UPLB), Manila, Philippines from 8 till 12 March 2016. Upon my arrival on 8th March, I was invited to participate in the International Symposium on the Internationalization of Graduate Education in the Context of ASEAN organised by the Nagoya University Asian Satellite Campus-Philippines (UPLB) at Acacia Hotel, Alabang, Muntinlupa City, Philippines. I was able to interact with many renowned Filipino and Japanese academicians who were attending the symposium.



Professor Dr Fernando C Sanchez, Jr, Chancellor of University of the Philippines Los Banos delivering his plenary paper.

During my visit to the University of the Philippines Los Banos, I presented a talk on “Novel molecular tools for rapid detection of zoonotic pathogens in Southeast Asia” during the World Expert Lecture Series of the Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of the Philippines. This talk was held at the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), University of Philippines Los Banos, Laguna, Philippines.

At the entrance of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Los Banos with Associate Professor Dr Vachel Gay Paller

The next day (9th March) was filled with courtesy visits to the Dean, College of Arts and Sciences and Director, Institute of Biological Sciences, University of the Philippines Los Banos. I was also given a tour to the *International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)*, Los Banos.





Delivering a talk at the World Expert Lecture Series of the Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of the Philippines

On the 11th March, I travelled to Lucban, approximately 2 hours from Los Banos to speak at the Food and Water-Borne Parasites: From Production to Consumption Seminar held at RPN Hall, SLSU Main Library, Southern Luzon State University, Lucban, Quezon, Philippines. I presented a talk on “Connecting water to food: a focus on pathogenic parasites”. I also had the chance to interact with students from the Biological Society. We had an interesting question and answer session. The enthusiasm of the students was palpable.



With Professor Dr Felino P. Lansigan (left), Dean of College of Arts and Sciences and Associate Professor Dr Vachel Gay Paller (right, my gracious host).



Delivering a talk at Southern Luzon State University



With some students from the Biological Society of Southern Luzon State University



On the last day (12th March), I delivered a keynote address at the Philippine Society of Parasitology (PSP) Annual Conference, 8th Scientific Meeting at the Midas Hotel, 2702 Roxas Blvd., Pasay City with the theme: "Philippine Society of Parasitology: Responding to the Challenges in the Elimination of Neglected Tropical Diseases."



Delivering the keynote address at the Philippine Society of Parasitology (PSP) Annual Conference



Giving Dr Mary Jane a momento (MSPTM batik) of friendship from Malaysia

At the end of the talk, I presented our MSPTM batik to the Philippine Society of Parasitology President, Dr Mary Jane Cruz-Flores. Our batik was a big hit among the participants. They thought it is a great idea to have parasites imprinted cloth. During my various visits, I also took the opportunity to promote our upcoming WAAVP 2017. There were much interest in this event and I hope we will see many Filipinos attending **our WAAVP 2017**.



It was indeed a hectic working trip to Philippines but a real fruitful and meaningful one. The Filipinos were excellent host and I am sure that the bridges that were built during this visit will be an impactful one.



Last but not least, "Maraming Salamat" to my new found Filipino friends and colleagues.

Contributed by Prof Dr Yvonne Lim Ai Lian (UM)



1st Intersvarsity Parasitology Quiz and Oratorical Competition by University Malaya (UM)



The Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya has successfully organised the First Intersvarsity Parasitology Quiz and Oratorical Competition to commemorate the 111th Anniversary of University of Malaya. The competition was held on 20th April, 2016 from 10 am to 4 pm at Dewan Jemerlang, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya. A total of ten universities i.e. UM, USM, UPM, USIM, IMU, UiTM, AIMST, UCSI, MSU and Melaka Manipal Medical College (MMMC) participated. The event aimed to promote communications among Parasitology educators and students. Through careful selection and design of the questions, we wished to provide further education in Parasitology. This coincides with the vision of MSPTM.



Accompanying lecturers from all 10 participating universities receive certificate of appreciation as judge and student

The competition was based on oral quiz and the entries were on a knock out basis with the winning team of each round move to grand final. For oratorical contest, one contestant from each university gave a talk on “Why parasitology is important in today’s context?” in three minutes. Medical students from the UM emerged as the champion for both oral quiz and oratorical. Medical students from MMMC won the second place in both quiz and oratorical categories. USIM team won the third place in oral quiz.

This is in fact one of the few times parasitology educators from both public and private medical schools got to meet one another. More importantly, the event has also sparked a novel idea of having a national curriculum of Parasitology stating the ‘must-know’ information among the future doctors. Despite a short notice, ten universities responded to the challenge. As the organising committee, we were delighted and amazed with the passion and enthusiasm projected by both students and educators. We have pledged to have a fair competition. All grouping and position on stage were determined by random draw. We will try our best to attract all local medical schools next year. Let’s make this event an annual gathering for Parasitology educators and students. We sincerely hope MSPTM will continue to give its full support for the event in future.

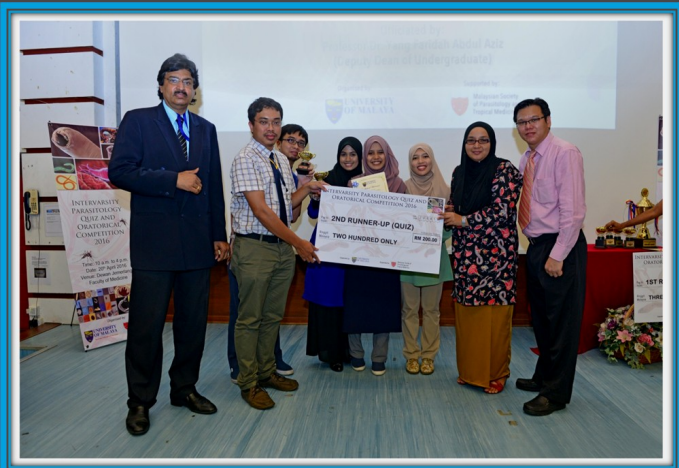
CONGRATULATIONS



Stage 2 MBBS students from University of Malaya emerge as the champion for Parasitology Quiz



Year 3 MBBS students from Melaka Manipal Medical College emerge as the First Runner-up in Parasitology Quiz



Year 3 MBBS students from Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia emerge as Second Runner-up in Parasitology Quiz

CONGRATULATIONS



UM emerge as oratorical champion while MMMC won the First Runner-up in oratorical.



USM, IMU, UiTM and MMMC compete in Round 1. MMMC students emerge as the winner and move to Grand Final



AIMST, USIM and UPM compete in Round 2. USIM students emerge as the winner and move to Grand Final



UCSI, MSU and UM compete in Round 3. UM students emerge as the winner and move to Grand Final

What they said about the competition



“Thank you for the education, the networking opportunities and the scope for further improvement. It was good to see the young adults enjoy themselves. Their body language oozed enthusiasm.”

Prof. Rajesh Perumbilavil, AIMST University



“It was transparent, fair and also exciting moment to meet Malaysian Parasitologists.”

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Thu Zar Han, UCSI University

Contributed by Dr. Tan Tian Chye (UM)

What they said about the competition



“Thank you and the whole team from University Malaya for hosting the Parasitology Competition and arranging everything. The whole process is fair.”

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kyu Kyu Win, UCSI University



“That was a good experience for the students as well as for myself.”

Dr. Nik Ahmad Irwan bin Nik Him, USM



“The event really opened my mind that the parasitology research and teaching culture here in Malaysia is vibrant. UM provided the platform. Our students also enjoyed their quiz and hopefully open up their minds to Parasitology.”

Dr. Fadlul Azim Fauzi bin Mansur, USIM



“This event serves as a beacon of inspiration and advancement in the field of parasitology. It reminds us that despite the vast magnitude of the universe, the stars are none other than the miniscule, silent entities- parasites.”

Cornelius Lee Chun Yin, Year 4 MBBS student from AIMST University



“A fantastic platform for healthcare professionals to broaden views on clinical parasitology. It also lets healthcare professionals to bulk-up for unpredictable emerging and re-emerging parasitic infections in future.”

Pee Xu Kent, Year 4 MBBS student from AIMST University



“Thanks for conducting this game for us. Had a great time, glad to see such passion.”

Eow Li Ni, Year 3 MBBS student from MMMC



“Questions are moderate, not too easy and not too hard. The briefing is understandable and precise.”

Mohamad Ikhwan bin Zulkifli, Year 3 MBBS student from USIM



“The competition was indeed a fruitful experience for me. It was a really great opportunity for me to learn the presentation skills from the other contestants. It has also widen my knowledge in Parasitology.”

Alicia Choo Jia Chi, Year 3 Biomedical Science student from IMU



“The competition was nice and motivating, I was very enjoying it.”

Voon Boon Khai, Year 3 Biomedical Science student from IMU



“We learned a lot from the competition.”

Muhammad Iqbal bin Zulkiflee, First year MBBS student from UPM

Marketing trip of WAAVP 2017 to Japan



Dr Chandrawathani P. attended the recent seminar in Tokyo, Japan as follows: Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products (4th Cycle) where she presented a much anticipated area of veterinary drug use entitled “Importance of antiparasitics and lack of effective drugs for parasitic diseases in animal health and production in Asia”. Other topics that were discussed by participants (focal points) from various countries include Antimicrobial resistance which is fast spreading and needs concerted efforts to stem it.

The seminar was organised by International animal health organisation (OIE) with OIE Scientific and Technical Department officer Ms Elisabeth Erlacher-Vindel, leading discussions on priorities/ issues in member countries and possible technical supports related to veterinary product use. As for Anthelmintic resistance, the experiences from the USA and Australia was well received. Cooperation and teamwork is needed to overcome the challenges faced by agriculture based communities in order to produce safe food for the world.

The upcoming WAAVP 2017 conference was also highlighted and pamphlets were distributed to all present.



Contributed by Dr. P. Chandrawathani

GOOD JOB!



MSPTM would like to extend our heartiest
congratulations to

Prof. Dr. Yvonne Lim Ai Lian (UM)

for their article “Helminth Infection Promotes Colonization via Type
2 Immunity” which appeared online on 14 April 2016 in the
Prestigious Journal Science (Impact Factor 33.611)

SCIENCE ARTICLE OUTCOME OF HIR FUNDED PROJECT

UM HIR BREAKING

NEWS

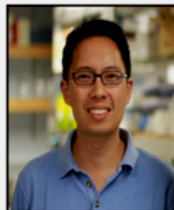
15 April 2016

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Congratulations to Prof. Yvonne A.L. Lim and postdoc Dr. Lee Soo Ching, Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, for their article "Helminth Infection Promotes Colonization Resistance via Type 2 Immunity" which appeared online on 14 April in the prestigious journal SCIENCE (Impact Factor 33.611). This paper resulted from Prof. Lim's project, partly funded by HIR, and conducted in collaboration with Dr. P'ng Loke, a Malaysian scientist and associate professor at New York University.



Prof. Dr. Yvonne A.L. Lim



Dr. P'ng Loke



Dr. Lee Soo Ching

Parasitic worm infection promotes growth of "helpful" bacteria, driving out harmful bacteria tied to Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (IBD)

In medicine, the hygiene hypothesis states that a lack of early childhood exposure to infectious agents, symbiotic microorganisms (such as the gut flora or probiotics), and parasites increases susceptibility to allergic diseases by suppressing the natural development of the immune system.

Adding evidence to this hygiene hypothesis, researchers at the University of Malaya together with New York University (NYU) Langone Medical Center and other institutions have found a way for parasitic worms to potentially earn their keep: they promote growth of probiotic bacteria that might one day help treat inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD) such as Crohn's Disease and ulcerative colitis.

In this **SCIENCE** article, the researchers found that infection with intestinal worms in mice increased the number of Clostridia bacterial species, which are known to be "anti-inflammatory", and decreased the abundance as much as a thousand-fold for Bacteroides, bacteria thought to promote IBD. This finding is among the first to link parasites and bacteria in the origin of IBD, supporting the hygiene hypothesis.

The UM Parasitology team compared the bacteria found in 75 members of the Orang Asli people in rural areas to those of 20 people living in urban Kuala Lumpur. They found that rural people had much fewer Bacteriodes than city dwellers. The research team also found that Bacteroides levels increased and Clostridia levels decreased in Orang Asli members who were treated for worm infection. These results were part of a PhD dissertation by Dr. Lee Soo Ching.

"Preliminary trials have suggested that worm therapy could be beneficial in treating a host of allergies and autoimmune ailments. The current results will provide a clearer direction for future investigations as we unravel the synergistic relationships of microorganisms in our gut and exploit them therapeutically for the treatment of various diseases," said Prof. Lim.

"The hygiene hypothesis may be important for a wide assortment of inflammatory diseases associated with the gut bacteria because their origins may stem from an imbalance in bacterial populations," Dr. P'ng Loke added.

Funding support for the study was provided by UM HIR MoHE, the National Institute of Health (USA) and the Burroughs Wellcome Fund.

Science

REPORTS

Cite as: D. Ramanan et al., *Science* 10.1126/science.aaf3229 (2016).

Helminth infection promotes colonization resistance via type 2 immunity

Deepshika Ramanan,^{1,2*} Rowan Bowcutt,^{3*} Soo Ching Lee,⁴ Mei San Tang,⁵ Zachary D. Kurtz,⁶ Yi Ding,⁷ Kenya Honda,^{8,9} William C. Ganse,¹⁰ Martin J. Blaser,¹¹ Richard A. Bonneau,¹² Yvonne A.L. Lim^{1*}, P'ng Loke,¹³ Ken Cadwell^{14,15}

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 ‡These authors contributed equally to this work.

Increasing incidence of inflammatory bowel diseases such as Crohn's disease (CD) in developed nations is associated with changes to the environment, such as decreased prevalence of helminth colonization and alterations to the gut microbiota. We find that helminth infection protects mice deficient in the CD susceptibility gene *Nod2* from intestinal abnormalities by inhibiting colonization with an inflammatory *Bacteroides* species. Colonization resistance to *Bacteroides* was dependent on type-2 immunity, which promoted the establishment of a protective microbiota enriched in Clostridiales. Additionally, we show that individuals from helminth-endemic regions harbor a similar protective microbiota, and that deworming treatment reduced Clostridiales and increased Bacteroidales. These results support a model of the hygiene hypothesis whereby certain individuals are genetically susceptible to the consequences of a changing microbial environment.

Ramanan, D., Bowcutt, R., Lee, S. C., Tang, M. S., Kurtz, Z. D., Ding, Y., . . . Cadwell, K. (2016). Helminth infection promotes colonization resistance via type 2 immunity. *Science*. doi:10.1126/science.aaf3229 (2016)



7TH ANIMAL AWARENESS DAY

- Is This World Beautiful ?

In 2016, this twice yearly charitable event reaches another milestone in keeping the event alive with the dedicated participation of UM's international students. This event has served as a platform for those who show love with no limit for the well-being of animals and has managed to draw enthusiastic participation from donors, sponsors, NGOs and veterinarians. Interest in animal welfare has seen dramatic improvement both locally and internationally.



As the saying goes "Rome wasn't built in a day", similarly the same can be said in our fight for animal welfare to succeed. It is mesmerizing to glance through the historic figures with gratitude, respect and dignity as far as animal issues are concerned. One would not want to imagine how our prime and foremost evolutionary ancestors being utilized in the hands of humans. *Jane Goodall*, a primatologist, who has worked for more than half of her life to serve and protect our closest primates as well as educate people regarding the ecological preservation by living in peace and harmony especially with Chimps, *The second most intelligent primate*. The only creature that has the closest relationship with human for ages is none other than Dog...goD, *The man's best friend*. But how it has come to be that street dogs have been subjected to human's cruelty is beyond our imagination. *John Dalley*, a father of street dogs, rescues and cares for thousands of dogs include special needs ones every year and also provides a safe place to live.



The hospital for street animals comes to life in keeping the promise to all the animals in his care to always provide the necessary medical care they need and deserve. How many people are aware of what happened in the commercial dog breeding industry?. And, how these man-made sentient beings have to endure living in a confined place that is more or less like a prison. *Theresa Starder*, a mother Theresa of mill dogs, has been working tirelessly in rescuing dogs from puppy mills and has been educating people about the cruelty of puppy milling, in fulfilling her promise to her beautiful Lily, *Please adopt-don't shop*. The two giants in the animal kingdom are none other than the elephant and the rhino. It is such a sad situation when it comes to human's mistaken beliefs and worst still our greed.



The insatiable demand of elephant ivory and rhino horn in Asia is the driving force behind the poaching of these unfortunate animals. As a result of these criminal activities, orphan-elephants are left to fend for themselves. *Dame-David Sheldrick*, a pioneer in conservation, set up the most successful orphan-elephant rescue and rehabilitation program which allows those little majestic living creatures to live freely in Africa, *The land of wildlife*.





The above are just a few examples in the world of noble people who dedicate their lives to provide a better world for animals with kindness, devotion, perseverance and responsibility. In life, one may not be able to commit one's life-time as an animal advocate, but at least be a volunteer to serve others particularly animals. In reality, one should look beyond the external beautiful world. Let's craft one's own beautiful world inside one's heart with unconditional love and then proudly says Yes, *This world is beautiful!!!*



SPEAK UP, TAKE ACTION AND NEVER GIVE UP !

Contributed by Dr. Veeranut Nissapatorn

7th Asean Congress of Tropical Medicine and Parasitology

17-19th May 2016

Savana Hotel, Malang, Indonesia



The strong support from the Malaysian delegates at the meeting

experts from the region to talk and network on AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and NTDs. Kudos to Prof Teguh and team for a memorable event for all the delegates.

The beautiful city of Malang, Indonesia was the setting for the 7th ACTMP this year organised by Prof. Dr Teguh Wahyu Sarjono and his committee from University of Brawijaya. The three day event was a gathering of more than 200 medical doctors and scientist not only from the Asean region but as well as India, Pakistan, China, Iraq, Japan and Australia. The theme for this year was ‘Combating the Big Three of Infectious Diseases and Increasing the Awareness of the Neglected Tropical Disease’ gathered



The NTD plenary speakers (Prof Yvonne Lim, Prof Praphatip Eamsobhana, Prof Rahmah Nordin) with session moderator and chairperson of the Indonesian Parasitic Control Association (P41) Dr Rita Kusriastuti and Prof Teguh Sarjono, the Chairman of the 7th ACTMP



Networking session with Prof Balbir Singh, Assoc Prof Dr Siti Nursheena and Dr Reuben Sharma with the organizing committee.

Contributed by Assoc Prof Dr Siti Nursheena

Dato Dr Lim Teong Wah (1934-2016)

Dato Dr Lim Teong Wah leaves behind an indelible mark on our nation's medical and health landscape. Part of the select group that successfully led the transition from the colonial medical service, Dato's medical contributions parallel very much with the history and progress of the nation's Institute for Medical Research popularly known as the IMR. The IMR earned an enviable reputation as a regionally and globally acclaimed center of excellence for tropical infectious diseases in its heyday. Teong Wah was himself an



internationally recognised virologist, trained in the UK. He headed the Institute's Virology Division for many years before completing his tenure in the government service in the prestigious position as the Institute's 20th Director. On retirement from government service he was forthwith grabbed by the World Health Organisation, WHO, which he served for nearly a decade mainly out of its New Delhi office, where he became a familiar and well sought out figure in the South-East Asian Regional Office of the WHO.

During all these years, he endeared himself to all he came in contact, with his knowledge, wisdom, humility and ever-ready penchant for sharing and mentoring. I can certainly be numbered amongst his mentees, having joined the IMR some 10 years after him and eventually succeeding him as Director. For that, I am indeed grateful.

Equally appreciated was his eminently visible success at creating for himself the perfect "work-life balance", well before the phrase became fashionable. Nobody could say that Teong Wah did not know when to work and when to play. Such balance saw him participate and many times take the helm not only in professional societies like the Malaysian Society of Pathologists and Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine (attended the last AGM on 2nd March 2016) but social clubs like the Royal Selangor. He was a bridge player of no mean repute either. His record of being the oldest ever participant at the SEA games in Indonesia, barely four years ago, will, I am sure, never be outed. Teong Wah certainly epitomises the life truly well lived.

Now, rest well my friend. Most deservedly.

By Tan Sri Dr. M Jegathesan



Information for Sharing About International Conference of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology, WAAVP 2017



Conference Theme Combating Zoonoses : Strength in East - West Partnership

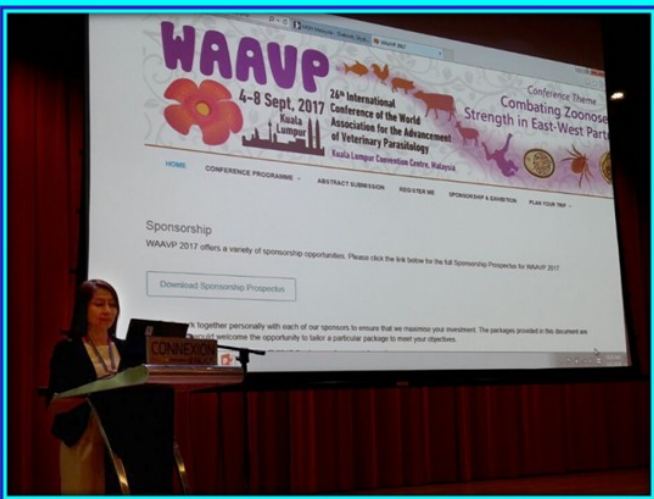
The 26th International Conference of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology, WAAVP 2017 will be held on 4 – 8 September 2017 in Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre.

The conference theme is “Combating Zoonoses: Strength in East – West Partnership”. This is the first time the WAAVP Conference will be held in Southeast Asia, which is a totally new region from the past conferences which was mainly in the western countries. The WAAVP 2017 Local Organising Committee strongly believes this is a great opportunity to strengthen the partnership amongst the experts within and beyond this region of the world.

We are pleased to announce the revised topics for WAAVP 2017 Conference as follow:

<i>Zoonoses & One Health</i>	<i>Asian Parasitic Issues</i>
<i>Human Food & Water Borne Pathogens</i>	<i>Poultry & Swine</i>
<i>Novel Parasite Control Options & Diagnostic</i>	<i>Ruminant Livestock</i>
<i>Drug Resistance & Therapeutics</i>	<i>Wildlife & Exotics</i>
<i>Drug Residues in Food</i>	<i>Primates</i>
<i>Biotechnology & Genetics</i>	<i>Aquatic Animals</i>
<i>Parasitic Disease & Animal Welfare</i>	<i>Companion Animals</i>
<i>Herbal Remedies & Antiparasitics</i>	<i>Equine</i>

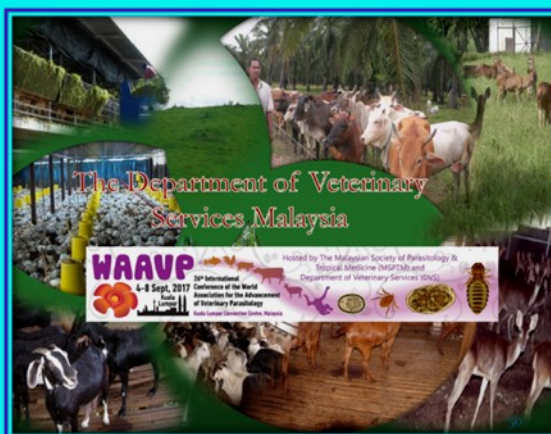
Marketing activities have been carried out around the ASEAN region. We would like to extend our sincere appreciation for those who have been helping us so much in promoting the conference via emails and posting the conference banner on your websites.



WAAVP 2017 LOC Dr. Lau Yee Ling – promoting the Conference during International Conference on Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (ICMBB), 9-11 March 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



Namaste and Vaṅakkam from India! Special thanks to Prof. Dr. L.D.Singla who has been promoting WAAVP 2017 throughout India and neighbouring countries.



Kon'nichiwa and Cheers from Japan! WAAVP 2017 LOC Dr. Chandra's trip to the Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Veterinary Products (4th Cycle), Tokyo, Japan, 2 – 4 March 2016



The Philippines! WAAVP 2017 LOC Prof. Dr. Yvonne Lim delivering the keynote address at the Philippine Society of Parasitology (PSP) Annual Conference and promoted WAAVP 2017 during her visit to a few universities in the Philippines



Bonjour Ms. Florence!

It was good to meet up with you in Kuala Lumpur!



Indonesia, we are coming!

WAAVP 2017 LOC Dr. Ramlan will be attending the 7th ASEAN Congress of Tropical Medicine and Parasitology in Malang, Indonesia, 17 – 19 May 2016.

Important Dates



**Super Early Bird
Registration**
1 June 2016 -
31 Dec 2016

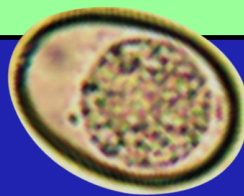
**Call for Abstracts
Close**
31 Mar 2017

**Late / Onsite
Registration**
16 Aug 2017
Conference

**Call for Abstracts
Open**
1 July 2016

Regular Registration
16 May 2017 -
15 Aug 2017

**Early Bird
Registration :**
1 Jan 2016 -
15 May 2016



For more information, please visit: www.waavp2017kl.org

Information

TROPICAL BIOMEDICINE JOURNAL

- * The Tropical Biomedicine is a softcopy journal.
- * USD200 per manuscript for papers accepted for publication starting from January 2016.
- * For papers accepted prior to 2016, page charges apply @ USD20 per page.
- * MSPTM Members with at least 3 years membership only will qualify for free publication

editor@msptm.org



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)
- Corporate Membership : RM 500.00

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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 adverts 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

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