

**Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine**  
(Persatuan Kajiparasit dan Perubatan Tropika Malaysia)

# Newsletter

Issue 2, 2010

**Malaysian Society of Parasitology  
and Tropical Medicine**  
c/o Institute for Medical Research  
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[www.msptm.org](http://www.msptm.org)

**Issue 2, 2010**  
(for members only)  
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## President Message 47<sup>th</sup> MSPTM Council 2010/11

The Society has yet again succeeded in showing remarkable success in its activities during 2009. The past council was successful in recruiting new members, organizing scientific talks at different institutions, a mid year seminar at the International Medical University and finally a very well attended and rich scientific congress.

The 47<sup>th</sup> Council took office in March 2010 soon after the 46<sup>th</sup> AGM and got down to some serious work to sort out the issues that were raised at the AGM. The issues that this council has to address will be

- a) Outsourcing of the Tropical Biomedicine as the workload is increasing with the increase in number of volumes (currently 3);
- b) The ASEAN Confederation of Parasitologists which is pending registration by the ROS;
- c) The review of the Society's Constitution to make it relevant to changing times;
- d) The appointment of a new Trustee as Prof. Mak Joon Wah has been appointed as a Honourary Member and his place as Trustee is vacant;
- e) The uploading in pdf format of all past journals on the MSPTM website;
- f) Purchase of an additional building for the society.

The President and his Council will try to do their best to achieve all the recommendations set at the last AGM.

The Council wishes all Muslim members 'Selamat Hari Raya'.

**Assoc. Prof. Dr Stephen Ambu**

**President MSTPM 2010-2011**  
c/o Faculty of Medicine  
International Medical University, (IMU),  
Bukit Jalil, Selangor, Malaysia

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## Corporate members

Sumitomo (M) Sdn Bhd  
BASF (M) Sdn Bhd  
TreeMed Sdn Bhd  
BP Automation Sdn Bhd  
IPSH Gasmaster Sdn Bhd  
Harris Enterprise  
Unggul Impiana Sdn. Bhd  
D.I. Scientific Sdn Bhd

**SCENES FROM THE 46<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE  
MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF PARASITOLOGY**



**Recipient of this year's Young Scientist award**



**Dr Lee Han Lim reading the citation for the MSPTM Medal recipient, Dr Khadri Shahar**



**Secretariat team working hard**



**Speakers for the panel discussion  
(from right, Dr Lee Han Lim,  
Dr Kamaruddin Isa, Dr Suresh Kumar  
and Dr Chong Chee Kheong)**



**Mr John Jeffery receiving the Sandosham Gold Medal from the IMR director, Dr Shahnaz Murad**



**And...a birthday surprise cake for Dr Siti Nursheena during the closing ceremony**

## MID YEAR SEMINAR

### The Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine Midyear seminar in VRI, Ipoh

The MSPTM midyear seminar was held in the Veterinary Research Institute Ipoh on 15 June 2010. This is the third time, the midyear seminar is held in VRI and the turnout was good! A total of 60 participants from IMR, VRI, UiTM, DVS as well as, private veterinarians from nearby establishments attended the event. Three speakers ; Dr Ramlan (VRI) on Global scenario of HPAI, Dr Lee H.L (IMR) on the RIDL for Mosquito control and Dr Donald (IMU) on TREMS gave very informative and enlightening talks.

The seminar started at 10am and ended at 1pm with lunch. Some participants who were curious as to VRI's activities were taken on a tour of the facilities. We were honored to be able to host the midyear seminar and showcase our institute to visitors.

Organising Committee  
Parasitology unit , VRI  
Chandrawathani P., Nurul Aini R. , Zawida Z., PremaLatha S., Jamnah O., Adnan M., Zainin C.M. , Nor Hafizah.  
[www.jphvri.gov.my](http://www.jphvri.gov.my)



Dr Lee Han Lim , IMR, KL



Dr Donald from IMU, KL



Participants enjoying the talks !



Group of participants after the VRI tour!



**The 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Congress of Tropical Medicine & Parasitology**  
**TROPICAL INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND VECTORS IN A VIBRANT AND EVER -**  
**CHANGING ENVIRONMENT**  
**2-4<sup>th</sup> June 2010,**  
**Raffles Town Club, Singapore.**

The ASEAN Congress of Tropical Medicine and Parasitology was inaugurated in 2004 to provide an affordable platform for scientists, academia and public health practitioners from the ASEAN region to present their findings and network within the region with the aim of reducing the burden of tropical infectious diseases in the region. This year the Congress was held in Singapore from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> June 2010, at the Raffles Town Club, Singapore. The theme this year was “Tropical Infectious Diseases and Vectors in a Vibrant and Ever-changing Environment”. The overwhelming response of about 320 participants from 25 countries, including ASEAN and other countries such as Turkey, Colombia, United Kingdom, Australia and Iran, is a testimony to the importance of this subject. Prof Duane Gubler of Duke NUS addressed the participants with a keynote address on “Global re-emergence of infectious diseases: the roles of climate and environmental change”. He highlighted the importance of good public health programs that contributed to the success of the control of infectious diseases in the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. While climate change may have an impact on disease transmission, Prof Gubler emphasized and showed evidences that other factors such as increased air travel, development of high density urban cities and poor vector control programs have and would have greater impact on disease transmission.

The congress also introduced the Young Scientist Travel Fellowship. These travel fellowship was granted to nurture young scientists for the future. Made possible by the generous support from our donors, 11 young scientists have received full sponsorship for their participation in the congress. Our committee secretary, Ms Adela Jiram was fortunate to be one of the recipient of this award.



Young Scientist Presenters with Professor Paul Reiter



Organizing Committee, Keynote and Plenary Speakers of the Fourth ASEAN Congress of Tropical Medicine and Parasitology



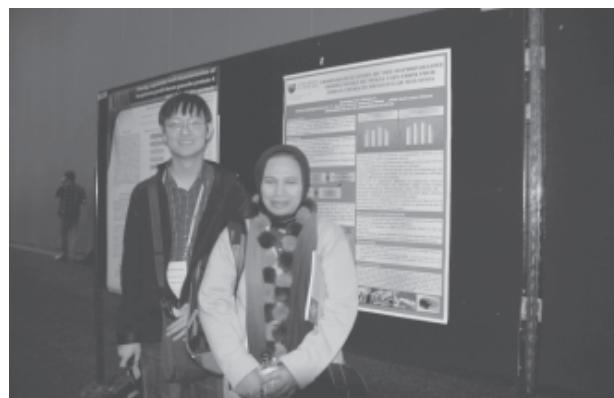
Ms. Adela practicing the hip-hop for conference dinner.

## International XII<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Parasitology (ICOPA XII)

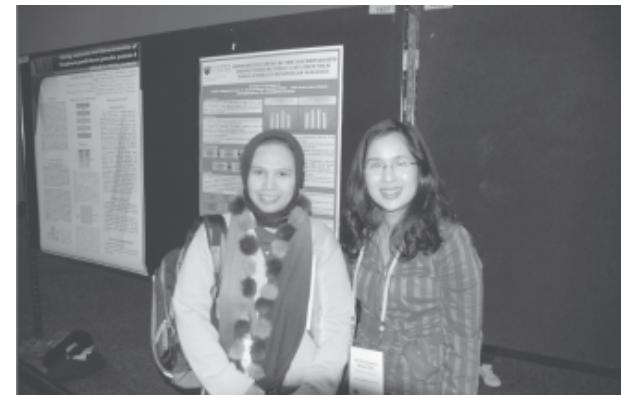
Parasitologists from all over the world congregated in the city of Melbourne for the week long at the Melbourne Exhibition and Conference Centre. This congress held every 4 years was appropriately themed 'Understanding the global impact of parasites-from genomes to function of disease'. This conference covered a variety of topics from, malaria to chemotherapies for helminth infections. A sizable number of MSPTM members came to support this event by sharing their research through talks and displaying poster throughout the event.



Dr Reuben Sharma sharing his research with the audience.



Mr Heo Chong Chin and Dr Rusliza Basir



Smiles for the camera during the poster session.



## Silver Medal Nomination

Every year, the MSPTM Silver Medal is awarded to scientists, 45 years of age and below for their outstanding research and contribution in the field of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine. Hence, it gives great pleasure to announce that the MSPTM Silver Medal Award is nomination is open.

You are invited to submit your nomination/application (CV and necessary documents) via mail or email by 17th of December 2010 (Friday). Kindly inform your friends and colleagues. Please send all applications to address below:

The Honorary Secretary,  
Malaysian Society of Parasitology and  
Tropical Medicine (MSPTM),  
C/O Medical Entomology Unit,  
Institute for Medical Research,  
Jalan Pahang, 50588 Kuala Lumpur.

Email: adelajiram2@gmail.com

## 1<sup>st</sup> Announcement for the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine

The Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine, together with the International Medical University, Malaysia will be organizing yet another prestigious Scientific Conference.

The 47th Annual Conference of the MSPTM will be held on the 3 - 4th of March 2010 at the International Medical University, Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia.

This scientific conference themed “ Climate Change and its Impact on Public Health” will cover the current problems and challenges that we face in country as well as the world over due to the impact of climate change on our environment and human health. This conference aims to bring together researches and experts in the field of environmental science and public health in Malaysia and the region to discuss current issues on this topic.

### **NOTICE BOARD**

#### **MEMBERSHIP Subscription**

Dear MSPTM members,

A gentle reminder that you are required to pay up your membership subscription by the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2011. According to our constitution membership in arrears of 2 years or more may be terminated. Please act NOW. The society depends on you and your support. Contact Mr Hoe Chong Chin (Treasurer) @ chon@salam.uitm.edu.my for further details or to check your membership status.

#### **Contribution of Articles**

*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**

Visit the MSPTM website for updates and online access to current issues of  
**Tropical Biomedicine**

[www.msptm.org/](http://www.msptm.org/)

## MSPTM Membership News

**The society's drive to recruit new members in the year 2010 was successful with a total of 18 new members already signed up. The committee gives a warm welcome to all new members.**

Name	Institution
Sing Kong Wah	University of Malaya
Rosemary Lees, Dr.	University of Malaya
Naelah Abdul Aziz Abdulwali Al yousefi	University of Malaya
Nurul Husna binti Abd. Hamid	Institute for Medical Research
Teoh Guat Ney	Institute for Medical Research
Norzahira Raduan	Institute for Medical Research
Noorazlin Mohd Ali	Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah Hulu Langat
Nurul Huda Binti Nordin	Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah Kuantan
Arthur Dominic	Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah Tuaran
Nurul Asyikin Binti Roslan	Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah Pekan
Rezal bin Bohari	Pejabat Kesihatan Bahagian Kapit
Ooi Siew Chian	Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah Bentong
Nor Shahida binti Ibrahim	Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah Kuala Kangsar
Zainal Abidin bin Rahim@Ibrahim, Dr.	UNIMAS
Mohd Azrul bin Lokman	Universiti Malaysia Terengganu
Nor Ashiqin Misni	University Kebangsaan Malaysia
Navindra Kumari a/p Palanisamy, Dr.	UiTM
Lwin Lwin Nyien, Dr.	UiTM
Norazsida Ramli	IIUM

## ***Members Updates***

Congratulation to the members below for their recent promotion/awards;

Dr. Yvonne Lim Ai Lian for obtaining Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Centenary Scholarship at the Scottish Parasite Diagnostic Laboratory, Glasgow, Scotland under the direction of Prof Huw Smith and Dr Rosely

Dr Yvone also obtained Hadiah Latihan Cuti Belajar (HLCB) Award to work with Prof Robin Gasser at the Faculty of Veterinary, University of Melbourne, Australia.

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### **Upcoming Parasitology and Tropical Medicine Conferences 2011**

03-07 Nov 2010	59th Annual Meeting: American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) Atlanta, Georgia, USA <a href="http://www.astmh.org/eve">www.astmh.org/eve</a>	21-24 August 2011	The 23 <sup>rd</sup> International Conference of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology (WAAVP), Buenos Aires, Argentina <a href="http://www.waavp2011-argentina.com.ar/">http://www.waavp2011-argentina.com.ar/</a>
04-07 Feb 2011	International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance (IMED 2011) Vienna, Austria <a href="http://www.usud.org/">http://www.usud.org/</a>		
05-09 March 2011	Global Conference on Entomology (GCE 2011), Chiang Mai, Thailand. <a href="http://www.entomology2011.com">http://www.entomology2011.com</a>		
12-14 April 2011	British Society of Parasitology Spring Meeting, Nottingham, United Kingdom <a href="http://www.bsp.uk.net/events.php">http://www.bsp.uk.net/events.php</a>		
01-04 June 2011	The 86th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Parasitologists, Anchorage, USA <a href="http://asp.unl.edu/">http://asp.unl.edu/</a>		
10-13 July 2011	Australian Society for Parasitology Annual Conference, Cairns, Queensland, Australia <a href="http://parasite.org.au/">http://parasite.org.au/</a>		

### **Partners in crime!!**

