

IAGG Asia / Oceania Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics

NEWSLETTER

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Report from Regional Chair: Professor Keith Hill

Hello everyone. Welcome to our August newsletter.

I recently attended my first IAGG Executive Council meeting as Chair of the Region, held in Seoul on June 26. There was broad ranging discussion around key IAGG issues including IAGG office activities, activities in each of the regions, Master Class activities, research networks and training programs, and a proposal to build a database for international research on ageing.

Also in June I attended the Asian Conference on Sarcopenia Research (see brief report elsewhere in this newsletter). The production of the consensus statement for Asia is an excellent reflection on the strong regional collaboration

between researchers in six different countries. Congratulations to Professor Liang-Kung Chen who led the initiative, and the large team of collaborators for achieving this successful outcome.

I also attended an International Workshop on the Continuum of Care for Older people in Seoul in June. The workshop brought together speakers from around the world, and considered differing models of the continuum of care in terms of (1) effectiveness and efficiency; (2) professional perspectives across different settings; and (3) long term care perspectives. The workshop provided diverse international perspectives, and opportunities for discussion.

It is hoped that this newsletter will continue to be produced each 6 months. Please consider contributing updates for future newsletters.

Asian consensus for sarcopenia diagnosis report

A working group, led by Professor Liang-Kung Chen from Taiwan, was established in March 2013 to review research from the Asian region on sarcopenia to determine diagnosis recommendations for people in Asia. Researchers who have conducted relevant research from six countries across Asia were part of the working group. The working group have developed a consensus paper published in the Journal of the American Medical Directors (JAMDA, Feb 2014), and individual papers on the relevant data informing the consensus paper were published in a special issue of Geriatrics and Gerontology International (February 2014). A recent conference in Taipei reported on the various papers contributing to the consensus paper, and highlighted the need for future collaborative work in standardising measurement, and progressing to interventional research in sarcopenia within the region. On behalf of the Region I congratulate the team involved in this major collaborative undertaking, and commend the consensus report and individual papers contributing to the report.



2015 Regional Congress—Chiang Mai Thailand—abstracts open soon



Mark your diary for October 19-22 2015—to join colleagues from across the Region and other parts of the world in Chiang Mai, Thailand. For regular updates, check the congress website:

www.iaggchiangmai2015.com.

You can also contact the congress organizers to be on an email update list, so that you won't miss important timelines such as dates for symposia and abstract submissions—email: info@iaggchiangmai2015.com.

Also contact the organizers if you are interested in exhibition or sponsorship opportunities.

Japan Geriatrics Society Activity Report

Social Activities

The Japan Gerontological Society and Japan Geriatrics Society started to reexamine the appropriateness of the conventional definition of the elderly by chronological age of 65 in Sep 2013.

The Japan Geriatrics Society made a statement on frailty and its unified Japanese translation on May 13, 2014.

Education

The 8th Geriatrics and Gerontology Summer Seminar for undergraduate medical students (years 4-6) hosted by the Japan Geriatrics Society and National Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology was held in July 31 to Aug 1, Karuizawa, Nagano, Japan.

Upcoming meeting

June 12-14, 2015, Yokohama, Japan; 29th Meeting of Japan Gerontological Society (President: Hideki Ito, M.D., Ph.D., Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Gerontology) will be held jointly hosted by Japan Geriatrics Society, Japan Socio-Gerontological Society, Japan Society for Biomedical Gerontology, Japanese Society of Gerodontology, Japanese Psychogeriatric Society, Japan Society of Care Management, Japan Academy of Gerontological Nursing.

Contact by email: Convention Academia Inc. at 29rounen@coac.co.jp

Successful Master Class—Seoul

The 5th IAGG Master Class on Ageing (MCA) took place from June 23 to 25, 2014 at the Institute of International Education, Kyung Hee University in Seoul, Korea. Prof CW Won (Kyung Hee University) coordinated and led the Master Class. The Master Class included keynote presentations from a number of international speakers, as well as poster presentations and group discussions by all participants. Of course, participants also enjoyed some sightseeing, and some wonderful cuisine. Congratulations to all involved on this successful event.



New Regional WHO Report

New report from the Western Pacific Regional Office of the World Health

The Western Pacific Regional Office of the World Health Organisation has just released a report titled: *The Health of Older People in Selected Countries of the Western Pacific Region*. Authors of the report included Julie Byles, Cassie Curryer, Natalie Edwards, Natasha Weaver, Cate D'Este, John Hall, Paul Kowal (Report number: ISBN 978 92 9061 657 3 - http://www.wpro.who.int/topics/ageing/health_of_older_people_in_selected_WPR_countries.pdf?ua=1). The report highlights the extent and pace of population ageing across a diversity of settings in the Region, and emphasises some key health challenges and opportunities that accompany these changes. Policy implications are also discussed. The report is also accompanied by 20 country fact sheets which provide snapshots of demographic and epidemiological transitions and the policy implications.

Regional Conferences 2014-2015

SEPTEMBER 2014

- **New Zealand Association of Gerontology Conference**, Sept 12-14, Dunedin, New Zealand— <http://www.events4you.co.nz/nzag2014.html>

OCTOBER 2014

- **International Psychogeriatric Association International Meeting**, Beijing, China, Oct 23–26. <http://www.ipa-beijing2014.org/>

NOVEMBER 2014

- **New Zealand Nurses Organisation National Gerontology Section Conference**, Nov 3-4, Auckland New Zealand—<http://www.nzno.org.nz/groups/sections/gerontology/conference>
- **IOF 5th Asia Pacific Osteoporosis Meeting**, Nov 14-16, Taipei, Taiwan — <http://www.iofbonehealth.org/taipei-2014>
- **6th biennial Australian and New Zealand Falls Prevention Conference**, Nov 16-18, Sydney, Australia—www.anzfpconference.com.au
- **III World Congress on Geriatrics and Gerontology**, Nov 17-19, Karnataka, BioGenesis Health Cluster, India— <http://www.geriatricsconference.com>
- **Australian Association of Gerontology Conference**, Nov 26-28, Adelaide Australia – Website: www.aag.asn.au
- **9th Pan Pacific Conference on Rehabilitation / Annual Congress of Gerontology** - "Rewinding the Aging Clock". Nov 29-30. Website: <http://www.rs.polyu.edu.au/hk/pccr/2014>

APRIL 2015

- **30th Annual International Conference of Alzheimer's Disease International**, Perth, Australia. April 15-18. - www.adi2015.org

JUNE 2015

- **3rd International Conference on Ageing in a Foreign Land**, Adelaide, Australia. June 24-26. <http://www.ehospace.com/australia/Events/tabid/1113/smid/3871/EventType/0/Audience/0/Country/0/Region/0/ArticleID/8092/language/en-GB/Default.aspx>
- **29th Meeting of Japan Gerontological Society**, Yokohama, Japan. June 12-14. 29rounen@coac.co.jp

If you have information you would like included in the next IAGG Asia / Oceania Regional newsletter, please forward details to:
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