

NEWSLETTER THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS

Vol. 1:2; April '92

President's Column.

Since last December, the College has made significant progress on a number of fronts and I would like to record my appreciation to all Council and Committee members who have worked so hard to achieve this. One of the most important is the completion of the final draft of the 'Regulations on Post-Graduate Training and Examinations'. You will read more about this elsewhere in this newsletter. Let me add a personal invitation to every fellow and member; please take a little time to read through the draft and let the Committee have your comments. These regulations will have a strong influence in shaping the future of pathology training in Hong Kong. It is our aim to have the finalized regulations ready for distribution in printed form by July - August this year.

The Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Bill will be presented to Legco this month for its third reading and if all goes according to plan, an Interim Council will be appointed by the Governor soon after the Bill is passed and enacted. The Hong Kong College of Pathologists will then apply formally to become an Academy College and will have the responsibility under the aegis of the Academy for monitoring standards in Pathology Training, and accreditation of specialist status. We look forward to the successful establishment of the Academy which would be a landmark in the development of medicine in Hong Kong. Please support the Academy in its fund raising campaigns. One of the

most urgent needs is to build the Academy Headquarters which will accommodate offices for the Colleges as well as educational facilities.

I am pleased to report that the College now has a total membership of 128 (up till 31st March 1992). We are most honoured by applications for fellowship coming from some senior members of the profession overseas. Thank you to you all for your support. To all fellows and members - please be generous in giving us your advice on all the areas the College is embarking on - we truly need to have as many comments and suggestions as possible to guide the Council and its Committees, to achieve the best for the profession in Hong Kong. There is one category of membership which we should particularly make an effort to increase - that is the Associates (for trainees and others interested in continuing education in pathology). I hope that all fellows will make a special point to encourage those trainees working with you to join the College. We need a truly representative body for the whole profession.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find important news on educational activities, and an exciting new project: The Museum. Also, I would like to thank Dr Albert Chan for sending in the first letter for publication in the Newsletter. I hope this will be the start of an active correspondence column. You will of course have noticed the bright new

layout for the newsletter - my congratulations and thanks to the Editor, Dr. Rob Collins for his splendid effort. Knowing Rob, I am sure he will continue to find innovative ideas to promote the image of the College! Please make use of the newsletter to publish your views and news! Your contribution will make it so much more lively and meaningful. Happy Easter to everybody, and I look forward to meeting many of you at the coming courses.

Chinese Name For The College.

The issue of the most appropriate Chinese name for the College was raised at the Inaugural General Meeting. Subsequently, several proposals were received from Professor C.T. Huang and these were considered in detail by the Council. The recommended name is as follows:

For those not familiar with Chinese, _____ means 'Hong Kong', _____ stands for 'pathology', _____ means 'specialty' and _____ means 'college'.

Our Honorary legal adviser has also confirmed that the Chinese name does not necessarily have to conform to the Academy Bill's legal translation for Academy Colleges.

If any fellows or members have strong objections to this form of the name please register them with the Council for consideration.

Progress With The Training Regulations.

The mammoth task of formulating the College Regulations on Postgraduate Training and Examinations for the seven training programmes is almost complete.

The final draft, which has been approved by Council Members and Members of the Training and Examinations Committee has been distributed, for comments, to the following:

The Chairman of Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Preparatory Committee; Registrar of the Royal College of Pathologists; Chairman of Board of Censors of The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia; Post-Graduate Dean of Medical Faculty of Hong Kong University; Post-Graduate Dean of Medical Faculty of Chinese University of Hong Kong; Chairman of the Hospital Authority; Director of Health and Honorary Fellows.

The Council and the Training Committee would like, through this newsletter, to invite all fellows, members and associates to give their comments. Copies of the final draft have been sent to the following institutions:

Pathology Departments at Queen Mary Hospital, Prince of Wales Hospital, Institute of Pathology Sai Ying Pun, Kowloon Institute of Pathology, Virus Unit, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital, Caritas Medical Centre, United Christian Hospital, Nethersole Hospital, Kwong Wah Hospital, Tang Shiu Kin Hospital and Grantham Hospital.

Please approach the Heads of the above departments for a copy of the draft.

If any Fellow, Member or Associate is unable to gain ready access or if they wish to have their own copy of the draft they should

contact the Registrar, Dr W.P. Mak.

Please give your comments and suggestions by the end of May.

Application Forms For The Approval Of A Laboratory For Training Purposes.

These forms are also in the final draft and will be circulated to those in charge of laboratories for their information.

Report From The Education Committee.

Planned educational activities for this year are as indicated below.

Monday, April 13

Lecture: "Susceptibility to ischaemic heart disease is determined in infancy. Discuss" Professor C.L. Berry. Lecture Theatre, 10th Floor, New Wing, Kwong Wah Hospital at 6.00pm.

Monday April 20th

A Day Course on Liver Pathology with Professor R.N.M. MacSween, Dr P.C. Wu, Dr M.S. Tsui and Dr Irene Ng. University Pathology Building, Queen Mary Hospital commencing at 8.00am.

May/June

Basic Pathological Sciences Course (Dr R.J. Collins)

September

Molecular Biology Course (Dr Andrew H. Wyllie)

Basic Pathological Sciences Course.

The BPS Course was held last year

as an aid to those sitting for the RCPA examinations. The Education Committee has decided to offer a similar course this year, as sound knowledge of the basic pathological sciences forms an important part of our College's training requirements. The course should also be of assistance to those sitting the RCPA exams. A similar format to last year is expected and it will be held either on the last weekend of May or the first weekend in June.

Please contact Dr R.J. Collins, Course Organizer, for further details. Phone: 8192180 Fax: 8559641.

College Logo.

Shown on the next page is one of the short listed designs for the college shield. Modifications, however, are continuing, eg. the name in

Chinese will be in its new form and the same size as the English form and the motto will be different.



The concepts behind the logo design are:

- i. to be simple enough to enable reduction to letterhead size, etc.,
- ii. to be readily identifiable, but not ostentatious,

iii. to have a dignified appearance compatible with the College's importance,

iv. to encompass characteristics particular to the discipline but not unique to any one area of pathology.

The Council feels the example above fulfills many of these requirements. The central intertwining bands are used ambiguously to suggest both the intertwined serpents of the traditional caduceus as well as the double helix of DNA. The central three linear structures are a stylised form to infer the various forms of electro-magnetic radiation, light, UV, electron and laser beams etc., used in the practice of pathology. The crossing over of the linear structures suggests focussing and this is further emphasised by the base-plate at the bottom where the beams finish. This symbol is also meant to suggest strength in numbers, ie. several sticks are more difficult to break than one. The laurel leaves are used as a mark of distinction and authority.

The aim is to produce a single design that can serve as a large symbol, as a letterhead and also be easily reduced to be used as a badge or tie-emblem.

The college logo and motto will be one of the most identifiable symbols of our college and so much care is needed in the selection. A number of alternatives will be developed before seeking comments and the final approval of the College.

Museum.

The College is negotiating with the Government, through the Government Property Agency, to allow it to use the old Pathological Institute, a protected building in Caine Lane, as a *Museum of Pathology and Medical Sciences* to preserve relics and records of historical and scientific interest,

and to act as a centre for education for the public.

This delightful building has a very strong historical link to pathology in Hong Kong. To obtain the approval of the government for the use of the building, the college has to demonstrate that is financially capable and has the ability to successfully complete and continue the project. A steering committee has been set up by the Council to achieve the above.

A great deal of work remains to be done and while sufficient funds to demonstrate the feasibility of the museum seem attainable, funds for further development and recurrent expenses will require help from as many persons as possible. Your Council members have pledged, as individuals, to give a total of about \$100,000.00 to reinforce the significance and importance of the project.

Any fund-raising ideas will be gratefully received. Donations would be much appreciated as will the support of any additional volunteers or ideas as to the functioning of the museum.

Once formal approval for the project is achieved, a 'visit to the premises' will be arranged for all interested fellows. Please watch for news of further progress.

Remember the museum when you are considering the disposal of old or obsolescent equipment, records, or in fact anything that could form part of a museum.

New Fellows and Members.

The college extends a warm welcome to the following:

Fellows:

Dr Lee Kai Man, Joseph
Dr Liu Hing Wing
Dr Kwong Yok Lam

Dr Yuen Wah Fun, Nancy
Dr Lyon, Donald James

Overseas Fellows:
Dr Kung Tak Min, Ignatius (Melbourne)
Dr Chu George Joseph (Sydney)
Dr Timbury, Morag Crichton (London)
Professor Pounder, Derrick John (Dundee)

Associate Members:

Dr Wong Hon Man
Dr Tso Chi Bun

Associates:

Dr Mak Wing Lai, Tony
Dr Mahaliyana R.D.
Dr Shek Wai Hung, Tony

Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Foundation Fund Raiser.

The second major fund-raising event organized by the HKAMFF will be a sponsored walk -- "Walk for the Academy -- Walk for Health."

The walk, to be held on Saturday, May 16th from 2.30 - 5.30pm along a route in Tai Tam Country Park, will be started by the Governor, Lord Wilson.

Further enquiries can be directed to Dr L.C. Chan, C/o Haematology, Queen Mary Hospital. Phone: 8553160.

Support the Academy!

Letter From A Fellow.

Dr Albert Y.W. Chan, Consultant in Chemical Pathology at Princess Margaret Hospital writes (14/2/92):

Dear Professor Ho,

I hope to raise 3 points for discussion.

(1) The formation of our college is another step forward in the development of the pathology discipline in H.K. Maybe it is timely to review the history of Pathology in H.K. Would the college produce a document on this topic?

(2) Would the college consider producing, for example, the H.K. College of Pathologist's Journal?

(3) Manpower survey. While, I suspect, there is no lack of manpower or training opportunity for histopathology and its subspecialties, I am not sure about other branches of pathology. Would the college review the situation and lobby the Government / Hospital Authority / Universities to set up more posts for these specialties?

Reply from the President, Prof. Faith Ho:

1. The history of pathology in Hong Kong is well worth preserving and I agree it is something that falls within the responsibility of the College. This would most appropriately be achieved through the Museum project. This project has a high priority with the Council. I hope to give more news about this in forthcoming newsletters.

2. I know the Academy is also proposing to set up a journal covering all the specialities. I look forward to hearing the views from other fellows concerning the need for a separate College journal.

3. The Training and Examinations Committee will be conducting a manpower survey soon. When the results are known we will certainly take appropriate steps to address any deficiencies, together with the authorities mentioned.

Any comments from members on these issues would be welcome.

Address any Correspondence to
"The Editor, Newsletter, The Hong Kong College Of Pathology, C/o Department of Pathology, University of Hong Kong, Queen Mary Hospital." Fax: 8725197
