On behalf of the Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology (APAGE), we wish you a warm welcome to Gastro 2013 - Asian Pacific Digestive Week and World Congress of Gastroenterology 2013.

Gastro 2013 is an outstanding meeting; more than 5,000 registrants from 50 countries and with numerous State-of-the-Art Lectures and named lectureships, symposia, free paper and poster sessions, and participation of more than 60 pharmaceutical companies. Based on these statistics, Gastro 2013 is the biggest gastroenterology-based meeting ever held in the Asian Pacific region, and the APAGE, as the core GI association in the region, is tremendously proud of this!

The APAGE is particularly proud to welcome members of our world body - the World Gastroenterology Organization. It is with your partnership with the APDWF that we have been able to organise such a huge meeting. Our Chinese hosts should also be suitably proud - the most populous nation in the world and a true modern powerhouse country and having organised a stunningly successful Olympic Games in 2008, China in 2013, plays host to this really wonderful World Congress!

To our hardworking Steering Committee Chairpersons, Professors Kwong-Ming Fock and Richard Kozarek, may we commend you on your astute leadership. To our Scientific Chairpersons, Professors Eamonn Quigley and Kentaro Sugano, thank you for an exceptional programme and your unstinting hard-work. To Professor Dai-Ming Fan, President of the Local Organising Committee and Professors Z S Li and Kai-Chun Wu, congratulations! We are truly proud that China has held this “once in a lifetime” extraordinary meeting.

To all delegates, enjoy Gastro 2013, enjoy China and welcome once again to the Asia-Pacific!
President
Professor Khean-Lee Goh *(Kuala Lumpur)*

Vice-President
Professor Kentaro Sugano *(Tochigi)*

Secretary-General
Professor Dai-Ming Fan *(Xi’an)*

Treasurer
Associate Professor Choon-Jin Ooi *(Singapore)*

Chairman, Programme Advisory Committee
Professor Varocha Mahachai *(Bangkok)*

Chairman, International Liaison Committee
Associate Professor Peter Katelaris *(Sydney)*

Chairman, Awards Committee
Dr Huck-Joo Tan *(Kuala Lumpur)*

Chairman, Ethics Committee
Dr John Wyeth *(Wellington)*

Chairman, Education & Research Committee
Professor Peter Gibson *(Melbourne)*

Council Members
Associate Professor Tiing-Leong Ang *(Singapore)*

Professor Jae J Kim *(Seoul)*

Professor Jaw-Town Lin *(Taipei)*

Professor Kazuichi Okazaki *(osaka)*

Professor Ta Long *(Hanoi)*

Professor Kai-Chun Wu *(Xi’an)*

Professor Arif M Siddiqui *(Lahore)*

Professor Aziz H A Rani *(Jakarta)*

Professor Albert E Ismael *(Manila)*

Professor B S Ramakrishna *(Vellore)*

Professor Benjamin Wong *(Hong Kong)*

Professor Justin Wu *(Hong Kong)*

EX-OFFICIO

APD2012 President
Professor Udom Kachintorn *(Bangkok)*

APD2013 President
Professor Dai-Ming Fan *(Xi’an)*

Representative, JGH Foundation Committee
Professor Neville Yeomans *(Melbourne)*

Committee of Past Presidents
Professor Kwong-Ming Fock *(Singapore)*

Professor Shu-Dong Xiao *(Shanghai)*

Professor Shiu-Kum Lam *(Hong Kong)*
The Scientific Programme, which combines a full one-day Postgraduate Course / Live Demonstration Endoscopy Programme with the three-day Main Meeting, will result in a golden opportunity for the participants to be informed of the latest scientific achievements, to discuss recent discoveries, and finally, to renew both professional and personal friendships with peers from around the world. Participants are invited to the Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception which will take place on the evening of Saturday, 21st September, for live discourse with friends and colleagues from around the globe.

Topics will cover new and cutting-edge information on the etiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis and treatment of the broad range of gastrointestinal, liver and related disorders. For the duration of the meeting (22nd to 24th September), symposia sessions will be offered in four primary tracks: Endoscopy, Upper GI, Lower GI, and Liver Disease.

The Endoscopy track on 22nd to 24th September will feature special sessions focussing on a broad spectrum of current topics including two Working Party Reports that will be highlighted within these sessions. Also integrated into the Endoscopy track are Live Demonstration Endoscopy sessions where attendees will have the opportunity to observe experts as they guide delegates through a series of endoscopic techniques in real time.

The Upper GI, Lower GI and Liver Disease tracks will each feature nine symposia spread over the three days of the Main Meeting, with seven Working Party Reports highlighted throughout these three tracks. The presentations will focus on the fusion of basic science and clinical practice with a spotlight on the Asian-Pacific region presented by faculty from all corners of the globe.

**Other key programmatic components offered during Gastro 2013 include:**

**WE O FRANÇOIS MOUTIER LECTURE**
Innovations in diagnostic endoscopy
Thierry Ponchon, Lyon

**WE O SADATAKA TASADA LECTURE**
Recent advances in endoscopy in the Asian Pacific region
William Chao, Hong Kong

**WE O RUDOLF SCHINDLER LECTURE**
Evolving endoscopic surgery
Paulo Sakai, Sao Paulo

**WGO HENRY L BOCKUS MEDAL AND LECTURE**
Research misconduct: A grand global challenge for the 21st century
Michael Farthing, Brighton

**WGO GEORGES BROHÉE MEDAL AND LECTURE**
New views on pathogenesis of NASH and how it should inform management.
Geoffrey Farrell, Canberra
The Working Party Reports and Guidelines continue to be distinctive features of the World Congress of Gastroenterology and Asian Pacific Digestive Week meetings, respectively. The following selected working party reports that will be presented during the Congress, cover current areas in need of a “new look” or where real guidance is required on classification, diagnostic criteria or therapeutic strategies:

**Radiological exposure in gastroenterology**  
Chair: Immanuel Ho, Philadelphia, USA

**Diagnostic approaches to chronic diarrhea**  
Chair: Lawrence Schiller, Dallas, USA

**Celiac disease - An emerging epidemic in the Asian-Pacific region and a global concern**  
Chairs: Govind Makharia, New Delhi, India  
Chris Mulder, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

**Genetics of GI disease**  
Chair: Janusz Jankowski, Plymouth, United Kingdom

**Standardized endoscopy reporting**  
Chair: Lars Aabakken, Oslo, Norway

**Interval lesions in colorectal cancer screening and serrated polyps**  
Chairs: Evelien Dekker, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Silvia Sanduleanu, Maastricht, The Netherlands  
Gerrit Meijer, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

**A novel validated classification for perianal lesions and fistulas in Crohn’s disease**  
Chairs: Geert D’Haens, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Brian Feagan, London, Canada  
Jean-Frédéric Colombel, Lille, France

**Endoscopic management of early gastroenterology cancers**  
Chair: Kenneth Wang, Rochester, USA

**Definition of acute on chronic liver failure**  
Chairs: Rajiv Jalan, London, United Kingdom  
Patrick Kamath, Rochester, USA

**NURSING PROGRAMME**  
A meeting for GI nurses and other allied health professionals will be organised by the Society of International Gastroenterological Nurses and Endoscopy Associates (SIGNEA) in collaboration with local and regional nursing bodies. It will be held on 22nd to 24th September, at the Shanghai Convention Center, in conjunction with Gastro 2013 APDW/WCOG Shanghai.

**WEO LEARNING CENTER**  
The WEO Learning Center will provide all Gastro 2013 delegates an opportunity to delve into the world of Endoscopy during the Congress through interactive lectures, video teaching and hands-on training on simulators.

**YOUNG CLINICIANS PROGRAMME**  
This unique programme commences prior to the main meeting and continues throughout the main meeting. The YCP programme will bring together trainees from around the world who clearly represent future opinion leaders in their respective countries. The programme will incorporate formal lectures and hands-on training sessions in various practical skills, as well as provide opportunities throughout the Congress week for discussion and review of topics presented.

Shanghai is located in central-eastern China, confronting the East China Sea. Roughly, Shanghai is sectioned into two parts: Pudong (to the east of the Huangpu River) and Puxi (to the west of the Huangpu River). For tourists, most of the historical and scenic sites in Shanghai are in Puxi while Pudong is the new development area. Shanghai literally means “the City, by the Sea”. It has such important sites as the Bund, Temple of Jade Buddha, Yu Garden, Old City Bazaar, Shanghai Museum, Children’s Palace, Xintiandi Former Residence of Dr Sun Yat Sen, Oriental TV Tower, Shanghai Nanjing Road, and Huangpu River cruising.

Shanghai was once the number one metropolis in the Far East and after several decades of slumber the city has risen with rapid economic development through its reform and has opened itself to the outside world. It has, and continues to display its inexhaustible vitality and brilliant achievements to the world with a new image and infinite charm. Take a walk by night, under the dazzling lights or enjoy a peaceful morning walk by the Huangpu River among the magnificent high-rise buildings, or amidst graceful and cozy street landscapes, and you will feel the cosmopolitan atmosphere of a great international metropolis.

**Shanghai Expo Center**  
The Shanghai Expo Center is one of the leading exhibition centers for international events worldwide, with advanced structure and facilities, as well as eco-friendly infrastructure. It is located at the World Expo site that housed the World EXPO in 2010. Rooted in its architectural style of graveness, elegance and classic, the Shanghai Expo Center appears stately yet moderate, representative of a harmonious spirit of social civilization and progress, and extends goodwill of "better city, better life". With its site area of 6.65 hectares in which the landscaped covers 13,300 sqm, the total built-up area of Shanghai Expo Center is 140,000 sqm, consisting of 99,990 sqm above grade and 42,000 sqm below grade. 40 meters in height, the building has eight levels. Seven levels above grade and one basement level.
Professor Kwong-Ming Fock
MBBS, M.Med (Int Medicine), FRCP (Lond & Edin), FRACP, FAMS, AGAF, FACP, FACG
Co-Chairman, Steering Committee

Professor Fock is a Clinical Professor, Faculty of Medicine, National University of Singapore. He is ACEO of Eastern Health Alliance (EHA) and a Senior Consultant Gastroenterologist at Changi General Hospital (CGH). His previous positions at CGH include Head of Gastroenterology, Chief of Medicine, and Chairman of the Medical Board. Currently, Professor Fock is also President, Asian Pacific Digestive Week Federation (APDWF) and Member of WGO Nominations Committee.

Professor Fock has authored more than 170 papers and presented at numerous Gastroenterology conferences/seminars. His research interests include H-pylori, GERD, gastric cancer and functional dyspepsia and has authored Consensus on H.Pylori Infection, Gastric Cancer and GERD.

Currently, Professor Fock is an Editor of Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, and Senior Editor of Journal of Digestive Diseases. He is a Member of the International Editorial Board, Alimentary Pharmacology & Therapeutics, as well as the International Editorial Board, Gastrointestinal Endoscopy.

Professor Fock is a Fellow of the American College of Gastroenterology (FACG) and American Gastroenterology Association (AGA), as well as American College of Physicians (FACP) and Royal College of Physicians (FRCP – London & Edinburgh).

Richard Kozarek
Co-Chairman, Steering Committee

Professor Kozarek completed his gastroenterology fellowship at the University of Arizona-Phoenix VA Medical Center in 1978. He has been a Member of the Section of Gastroenterology at Virginia Mason Medical Center since 1983, serving as Chief of GI for 15 years and currently as the Executive Director of the GI Institute, as well as Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington. In a career spanning 35 years, Professor Kozarek has contributed over 500 scientific papers, invited reviews, book chapters and editorials, and ten books to the medical literature on topics ranging from therapeutic endoscopy, inflammatory bowel diseases and practice economics. Prior to being President of the World Gastroenterology Organisation from 2009-2011, Professor Kozarek had served on the WGO Executive Committee since 2002, initially as Deputy Secretary General, and subsequently, as Coordinator of New Projects. He is a Past President of the Society for Gastrointestinal Intervention (SGI), as well as the ASGE (American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy), and the 2005 recipient of the ASGE’s highest honor, the Schindler Award.

Eamonn Quigley
Co-Chairman, Scientific Programme Committee

Dr Eamonn M M Quigley is Chief of the Division of Gastroenterology at the Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas, USA. He serves as Chair of The World Gastroenterology Foundation (WGOF) and is a Past President of WGO. He has also served as President of the American College of Gastroenterology. Prior to moving to Texas, Dr Quigley was Dean of the School of Medicine at University College Cork in Ireland and a Principal Investigator at the Alimentary Pharmabiotic Centre at UCC, a role he continues. His clinical and research interests are functional bowel disease and the role of the gut microbiome in health and disease.

Kentaro Sugano
Co-Chairman, Scientific Programme Committee

Professor Kentaro Sugano is the Chair Professor of the Division of Gastroenterology at Jichi Medical University and currently, the President of the Japanese Society of Gastroenterology and the Organization of Japanese Digestive Disease Week. In Asian Pacific region, he is serving as the Vice-President of the Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology (APAGE) and Co-Chairman of the Scientific Committee of WGO/APDW joint meeting in Shanghai.

Dai-Ming Fan
Local Organising Committee

Professor Dai-Ming Fan is the academician and Vice-President of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, Past President of Fourth Military Medical University, director of State Key Laboratory of Cancer Biology. He is now the President of the Chinese Society of Gastroenterology, Vice-President of the Chinese Anti-Cancer Association, Secretary-General of Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology, Co-Chair of Scientific Programmes Committee of the World Gastroenterology Organisation. He is the President of the World Congress of Gastroenterology (GASTRO2013) and Asian Pacific Digestive Week to be held in Shanghai in September 2013. He has a long-standing interest in both clinical and basic research of digestive diseases, and has achieved a grand success especially in the study of gastric cancer. As an Editor-in-Chief, he has authored 15 books on Gastroenterology and Oncology. As the first or corresponding author, he has published more than three hundred papers on the international journals. He has become the Editor or Associate Editor for seven international medical journals.

Kai-Chun Wu
MD & PhD
Local Organising Committee

Professor Kai-Chun Wu is a Chairman of the Department of Gastroenterology and an Executive Vice-President of Xijing Hospital of Digestive Diseases Fourth Military Medical University, Xi’an, China.

He is holding State “Chang Jiang Scholars” Professorship Secretary-General and Standing Committee Member of CSGE. Professor Kai-Chun Wu is a Council Member of Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology and Croucher Visiting Professor to The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

He was a Research Fellow and received Postdoc training at Oxford University 1986-1988, Nottingham University 1997-1998 in the UK, and Northwestern University 2004-2005 in the USA. His major interest is on GI cancer and inflammation and he has published more than 170 peer-reviewed articles.

Zhao-Shen Li
Local Organising Committee

Professor Zhao-Shen Li, the President of Chinese Society of Digestive Endoscopy, is a Director of Department of Gastroenterology of the Shanghai Hospital, Second Military Medical University, Shanghai, China. Professor Li pioneered more than 20 new technologies in digestive endoscopy in China and published more than 200 original articles in international peer-reviewed journals.
D NAGESHWAR REDDY

CURRENT POSITIONS

Founder and Head of the Asian Institute of Gastroenterology (AIG) in Hyderabad, India.
Research Committee Chairman of the World Endoscopy Organisation.

Dr Reddy is an outstanding leader in gastroenterology in the world today. Through his efforts in developing therapeutic endoscopy in India, he has become one of the best and most widely respected therapeutic endoscopists, teacher and mentor in the world today, and has contributed immensely to the field with his undisputed expertise, teaching and organisation of meetings and workshops.

Dr Reddy started and runs the now world-renowned Asian Institute of Gastroenterology in his hometown of Hyderabad, more than 20 years ago. From humble beginnings, the centre has now evolved into one of the most exciting, innovative and largest centres in therapeutic endoscopy, as well as in gastrointestinal and hepatobiliary surgery. The centre is also a cutting-edge research centre and has produced seminal papers on genetics of chronic pancreatitis in recent years.

Dr Reddy’s contribution to the field of gastroenterology has been immense and highly constructive with a high degree of maturity, broad sense and consideration for the particular situations that we work in, in the Asian Pacific region. He has also been conferred one of the highest awards by the Indian government - the Padmashri Award, as a mark of recognition of the immense contribution he has made in his own nation. A man of great humility and imbued with a wonderful sense of humour, Dr Reddy is not only an exceptional gastroenterologist and endoscopist but also an exceptional human being.

JOSEPH J Y SUNG

CURRENT POSITIONS

President and Vice Chancellor, Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), a top 20 ranked University in the world.
Mok Hing Yiu Professor of Medicine and Chair Professor in Medicine, Department of Medicine & Therapeutics, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong.

Professor Joseph Sung is one of the most outstanding gastroenterologists of our time. He has contributed to gastroenterology and medicine in so many aspects - as a dedicated clinician, researcher, teacher and as a mentor to so many young doctors and researchers in the field.

At the Chinese University of Hong Kong where he has worked since graduation from medical school in 1983, he has achieved the highest position and now serves as Vice-Chancellor and President of the University. The Chinese University of Hong Kong, through the sterling and exceptional efforts of leaders like Joseph Sung, has now achieved a high top 20 ranking amongst universities in the world.

Apart from a phenomenal list of seminal scientific publications and a very high level of excellent scientific research work carried out in the Chinese University of Hong Kong, through his unrelenting efforts and leadership, he has established several pan-Asian working parties and consensus meetings on colorectal cancer and upper gastrointestinal bleeding. These working groups have helped put Asian gastroenterology firmly on the world map. Joseph Sung is a true Asian leader in gastroenterology.

An archetypal Asian, Professor Sung embodies the virtues of hard-work, humility and integrity. Without question, he is a pride to the whole gastroenterology fraternity not just in Asia but to the whole world.
The APDW was the brainchild of Professor S K Lam. The first APDW was held in 2001 in Sydney under the presidency of Professor Geoff Farrell. The forerunner of the APDW was the combined Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology and Asian Pacific Society for Digestive Endoscopy meeting which was held every four years. Since its inception, the APDW has been held yearly in various cities in the region. In 2014, the APDW will be held in Bali, Indonesia, under the presidency of Professor Aziz Rani. For the APDW, the APASL and the ISDS has joined the APAGE and APSDE in organising this meeting. The steering committee of the APDW was replaced by a formalised APDW federation in 2010.

JGH Foundation State-of-the-Art Lectures

(In 2002, the JGH Foundation State-of-the-Art Lecture was renamed the Okuda State-of-the-Art Lecture, in honour of the late Professor Kunio Okuda)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>SPEAKER</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Bangkok, Thailand</td>
<td>Yun-Fan Liaw</td>
<td>Hepatitis flares and HBeAg seroconversion: Implications in anti-HBV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Taipei, Taiwan</td>
<td>Geoffrey Farrell</td>
<td>NASH. What is it and why is it important in the Asia Pacific Region?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Shiu-Kum Lam</td>
<td>The role of cyclo-oxygenase (COX) in GI Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Beijing, China</td>
<td>Dai-Ming Fan</td>
<td>A bird’s eye-view on gastric cancer research of the past 25 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Seoul, Korea</td>
<td>Sung-Gyu Lee</td>
<td>Asian contribution to living donor liver transplantation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Cebu, Philippines</td>
<td>Malcolm Alison</td>
<td>Stem cell therapy in liver diseases</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Kobe, Japan</td>
<td>No presentation</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>New Delhi, India</td>
<td>No presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Taipei, Taiwan</td>
<td>Ding-Shin Chen</td>
<td>Towards elimination and eradication of Hepatitis B</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia</td>
<td>Anna SF Lok</td>
<td>Does antiviral therapy for hepatitis B &amp; C prevent HCC?</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Masashi Mizokami</td>
<td>Optimising treatment for chronic hepatitis C - Incorporating pharmacogenetics into clinical practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Bangkok, Thailand</td>
<td>Jia-Hong Kao</td>
<td>Risk stratification for hepatitis B related HCC</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Shanghai, China</td>
<td>Fu-Sheng Wang</td>
<td>Immune disorders lead to liver damage and influence antiviral efficacy in patients with chronic HBV infection</td>
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### The JGHF Marshall-Warren Lectureship

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<th>YEAR</th>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>New Delhi, India</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>Taipei, Taiwan</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>Bangkok, Thailand</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>Shanghai, China</td>
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<th>SPEAKER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barry Marshall</td>
<td><em>Helicobacter pylori</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Sung</td>
<td>Peptic ulcer bleeding: An expedition of two decades in Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neville Yeomans</td>
<td>Aspirin: Old drug, new uses and challenges?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francis Chan</td>
<td>Anti-platelet therapy and managing ulcer risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentaro Sugano</td>
<td>Premalignant conditions of gastric cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mamoru Watanabe</td>
<td>Adult tissue stem cell therapy for gastrointestinal diseases</td>
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### Emerging Leaders Lectureship

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>CITY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Khay-Guan Yeoh</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Kai-Chun Wu</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Justin Wu</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Min-Shiang Wu</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Khek-Yu Ho</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Manoj Sharma</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Vincent Wai-Sung Wong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Chun-Jen Liu</td>
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<tr>
<th>SPEAKER</th>
<th>TALK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Khay-Guan Yeoh</td>
<td>How do we improve outcomes for gastric cancer?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Man-Fung Yuen</td>
<td>A result of the natural history of chronic hepatitis B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kai-Chun Wu</td>
<td>Molecular basic of therapeutic approaches to gastric cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin Wu</td>
<td>Gastroesophageal reflux disease - An Asian perspective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Min-Shiang Wu</td>
<td>Proteomic identification of biomarkers related to <em>H. pylori</em> associated gastroduodenal disease - Challenges and opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bor-Shyang Sheu</td>
<td><em>Helicobacter pylori</em> colonization of the human gastric epithelium: The first step of bug and novel target for us</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rong-Nan Chien</td>
<td>On treatment monitoring of chronic hepatitis B virus infection: An Asian Pacific perspective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khek-Yu Ho</td>
<td>From GERD to Barrett’s Oesophagus: Is the pattern in Asia mirroring that in the west?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry L Y Chan</td>
<td>The decoding of HBV genomics by a clinician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manoj Sharma</td>
<td>Chronic hepatitis B infection and normal ALT: Treat or not to treat?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ping-I Hsu</td>
<td>A new look at antiplatelet agent-related peptic ulcer: An update of prevention and treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vincent Wai-Sung Wong</td>
<td>Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease in Asia - A story of growth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jae Hee Cheon</td>
<td>Genetics and epigenetics in the pathogenesis of inflammatory bowel diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katsunori lijima</td>
<td>Involvement of luminal nitric oxide in the pathogenesis of gastro-esophageal reflux disease spectrum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chun-Jen Liu</td>
<td>Dual HCV and HBV infection: Resolved and unresolved issues</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EDITOR’S NOTE:**
The JGH and the JGH Foundation have played a crucial role in the development of gastroenterology in the Asian Pacific region. Amongst its efforts is the sponsorship at each APDW two named lectures and two Emerging Leader’s Lectures. In addition, the JGHF awards the Young Investigator Award, as well as twenty Travelling grants to the APDWs.
In January 1986, the first issue of The Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (JGH) was published. This followed two years of extensive discussion between Blackwell Science Publishing (now Wiley-Blackwell) and Asia-Pacific leaders in Gastroenterology and Hepatology about the need for an international journal in this specialty from this region. Several countries, notably Japan, China, Korea and India, already had their own national journals, and at least 20 other international journals were dedicated to the aspects of gastroenterology and hepatology. However, the ethnic, socio-economic demography and disease patterns of the Asia-Pacific region, were considered sufficiently distinctive and important, internationally to justify a new journal with roots here. The late Professors Kunio Okuda (Japan, who became the first Editor-in-Chief of JGH), Seah (Singapore, whose untimely death prevented his becoming a Founding Editor), Professors S K Lam (Hong Kong), DJC Shearman (Adelaide, Australia) and L W Powell (Brisbane, Australia), together with an active team of Editorial Board “assistants”, launched a lilac-banorred (somewhat “dingy”), second-monthly journal that initially contained case reports, limited investigative studies and review articles.

By 1989, JGH had sufficient copy to become a monthly journal with articles from around the world. It was supported by both regional organisations (APAGE and APASL) as well as gastroenterology societies in Australia, Bangladesh and Hong Kong, and was poised to “take off” as a significant journal. The 1990 WCOG in Sydney provided the impetus to increase the impact factor from 0.9 to 1.6, particularly with publication of the Working Party reports – most notably, those describing the “Sydney system” for classification of gastritis (this being the early days of H. pylori).

During the 1990s, there were extensive discussions between the Publisher and JGH Editors which culminated in formation of the JGH Foundation. This Foundation now shares (50%) ownership of JGH. The aims of JGH and its owners (Wiley-Blackwell and JGH Foundation) are to produce a world-class journal committed to promoting the highest standards of clinical practice, education and research in the twin specialties of gastroenterology and hepatology. The ultimate objective is to improve the health of Asia-Pacific communities and the well-being of patients with liver, gut and pancreatic disorders.

As a vehicle for publishing articles and reviews on such topics, JGH is readily identified as “user-friendly” to the Asia-Pacific region, although many articles come from outside the region. By December 2010, JGH had completed its first 25 years of publication. This was celebrated in the highly successful Silver Jubilee Supplement that accompanied the January 2011 issue. The longer term objective of JGH editors has always been “to grow JGH into a leading international journal in the specialty.” Between 1991 and 2005 the gradual improvement in impact factor and JGH ranking among its “peers”, was marked by consolidation. During the next seven years, the present Editors and a revitalised Editorial Board worked hard to change any external perception that JGH was a “modest” journal, so that by 2013, the impact factor (for 2012) reached 3.325. There has been an increased numbers of editorials and high quality reviews each year, radically improved efficiency of manuscript review and decision-making, and “accepted articles” are online within two weeks of acceptance. Last year, we received more than 1,600 manuscripts for review, 50% more than in 2009, and the acceptance fell below 15%.

Is JGH becoming a better and more useful journal for our readers? By download data, there appears to be a major increase in usage of JGH copy. During the last five years, numerous Special Articles describing Working Party reports and Clinical Guidelines for common disorders within the Asia-Pacific region have been published and made available for free download. Consistently, these articles are highly cited, and should prove influential in dissemination of measures to prevent disease and improve patient care. Likewise, review articles in areas such as viral hepatitis, endoscopy, cirrhosis complications, epidemiology of regional diseases, prevention of hepatocellular carcinoma and the basic sciences that underpin our specialties have been well-received. JGH continues to publish major reviews as “Advances in clinical practice” and “The scientific basis of gastroenterological, pancreatic and liver diseases.” The section on Education and Imaging (featured on the now cheerful orange-banded front cover) is also very popular and “accessible” to our numerous interested clinician readers.

The core of JGH’s publishing mission remains original scientific and clinical research. It is vital for JGH to reach its potential as a “top 10” journal in the specialty, that investigators in the region consider JGH as a place to publish their
best work, particularly articles that may not be competitive for journals with an impact factor that exceeds 10.

In addition to its importance as a publication vehicle relevant to research, education and clinical practice, JGH has brought the region together. The Editors have come from at least ten countries in the region, and comprise a dynamic forum for cooperation, sharing of ideas and launching new initiatives. The JGH Foundation, which receives 50% of the Royalties of JGH, invests those profits in educational initiatives, such as named state-of-the-art lectures at APDW (these have also been offered to APASL), YIAs and travel bursaries for young clinicians and investigators. It also seeds grants for Consensus Working Parties and cooperative research initiatives. The Editorial Board of JGH is now comprised of more than 100 experts from around the region, whose cooperative input on reviewing and writing for JGH enhances the Journal, and furthers understanding and international cooperation within this diverse region.

With such strong support and concerted effort, the strategies JGH now has in place to publish only the best articles and the most informative review articles should eventually ensure that the Asia-Pacific region takes its rightful place among the top regions contributing to knowledge and practice of gastroenterology and hepatology internationally.

EDITOR’S NOTE:
Professor Geoff Farrell was an outstanding Editor-in-Chief for the JGH from 2006 to 2012. During his tenure and through his dedicated efforts, Professor Farrell has streamlined the overall running of the journal and made it one of the most efficient journals. Under his watch, the impact factor in 2013 of the JGH has now risen to 3.4. Previously, he had been Senior Editor for several years of the JGH, and was also Chair of the JGHF Trust Foundation. Professor Farrell was the President of the 1st APDW held in Sydney, in 2001.

HISTORY OF THE JOURNAL OF GASTROENTEROLOGY AND HEPATOLOGY

Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (JGH) was launched in Singapore 20 years ago at an Asia Pacific Association of Gastroenterology (APAGE) Congress. This had followed discussion between Blackwell Publishing and the founding editors, SK Lam, Kunio Okuda, Lawrie Powell and David Shearman. Back then, the Journal was published quarterly and we were fortunate to have some support from the industry across Asia for its launch. The vision was to enable human progress in gastroenterology and hepatology through stimulation of knowledge creation and transfer of the knowledge created, and the mission was to internationalize Asian gastroenterology and hepatology.

From that day forward the Journal started its climb to its position today where it is the only Board Journal covering both gastroenterology and hepatology representing specialists across the Asian region. The impact factor is now 1.796 and the rejection rate for manuscripts is around 70%. On average, 15,000 articles are downloaded each month, 250 articles are published each year in 1500 pages over 12 issues. Paper copies of the Journal are circulated to 3500 libraries and institutions, mainly in the region. Online, the Journal is available to over 17,000,000 readers worldwide.

Along the way there have been some significant contributions and milestones. Professor Kunio Okuda rose from Founding Editor to Editor-in-Chief and held that position for around 12 years until his death 2 years ago. When the income to the Journal started to exceed costs after the initial investment phase, half of the ownership of the Journal was transferred by Blackwell Publishing to the Journal editors. We in turn set up the JGH Foundation and since its formation profits from the Journal have been reinvested by the Foundation into gastroenterology and hepatology in the region. Industry support has continued since the Journal’s launch, but a special mention should be made to Sumitomo in Japan, without which the Journal’s continued publication may not have been possible.

In the early years the gastroenterology societies from Australia and Hong Kong supported the Journal, and that support continues until this day with many national gastroenterology and liver societies seeing JGH as a focus for the region. After a few years, APAGE and later the Asia Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver (APASL) got behind the Journal and it remains their official publication to this day. With the formation of Asia Pacific Digestive Week (APDW), now an annual event, the Journal is associated as the official publisher of the abstracts and the Okuda Lecture. APDW and the Journal have become a powerful coupling force to enable scientific progress of gastroenterology and hepatology in Asia, as much as Digestive Disease Week (DDW) and Gastroenterology in North America, and United European Gastroenterological Week (UEGW) and Gut in Europe.

The birth, growth and success of JGH would not have been achieved without readers, authors and editors, including of course the current editorial team with Professors Hiromasa Ishii and Rakesh Tandon as joint Editors-in-Chief.

S K LAM
Founding Editor of the Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

EDITORS NOTE:
The other founding editors were Professors K Okuda (Chiba, Japan), L Powell (Brisbane, Australia), DJS Shearman (Adelaide, Australia)
After founding the Hong Kong Society of Gastroenterology in 1982, I made up my mind to devote my lifetime energy to Asian gastroenterology.

In 1985, at the time of the founding of the Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, the Editors, Prof Kunio Okuda, Prof Laurie Powell, Prof David Shearman, and myself, felt that in order to give life to Asian gastroenterology, it is important to activate the then rather dormant Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology (APAGE). As a young professor then, I was the most energetic of the group. We tried to revise the APAGE constitution, putting in democracy, invigorating its functions, generating ownership, incorporating the Journal, engendering communication, and stimulating academy.

With the help of APAGE Presidents, Prof Rudolf Simadibrata of Indonesia and Prof Kim Chung Yong of Korea, the new constitution was adopted, and in 1992 in Bangkok, Prof Vikit Viranuvatti became the 9th APAGE President and the first one by election.

In 1998, Blackwell Scientific and I formulated the idea of Asian Pacific Digestive News, and under the leadership of Prof K M Fock, the first issue of APDNews appeared in 1999, and this, together with JGH and APAGE, formed a steel triangle of Asian Gastroenterology.

Meantime, the JGH developed into a full-swing international journal of gastroenterology, and the editors put together all the editorial earnings since the inception of the Journal, and formed the JGH Trust, with the sole purpose of advancing gastroenterology and hepatology in Asia.

After I became President of APAGE in 2000, I extended what is already a momentum gathered in Asia of having major yearly scientific meetings into the Asian Pacific Digestive Week (APDW) to replace the Asian-Pacific Congress of Gastroenterology. The First APDW was held in Sydney under the leadership of Prof Geoff Farrell.

All this progress would not have been possible without the firm vision, tireless support, and selfless devotion of the many heroes of gastroenterology in Asia, who believe not in power-seeking, but in academic force through the joining of hands; not in name-building, but in regional advance through the uniting of minds; not in politics-bullying, but in world harmony through the bonding of fellowship. I salute them!

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In 2008, the Asia Pacific Working Group on CRC published the Asia Pacific Guideline for Colorectal Cancer Screening (Sung et al. GUT 2008). There has been a lot of advancement in knowledge and experience over this time, and in Asia, a number of new research findings. In order to update medical practitioners in this field, the Asia Pacific Working Group on CRC invited a few international experts (Ernest Kuipers (Netherland), Robert Steele (UK), Linda Rebaneck (Canada) and Grame Young (Australia)) to join us in critically looking at the literature as well as guideline/consensus statement to come up with an updated version of Asia Pacific Consensus on CRC (II). The meeting was held on 9-10 June 2013 at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (photos) The statements that are listed below;

1. Population screening for Colorectal Cancer is recommended in Asia-Pacific Region where incidence of CRC is high. In both genders, subjects age 50 to 75 years are the target for CRC screening
2. In the Asia-Pacific region, age, male gender, family history, smoking and obesity are risk factors for CRC
3. gFOBT should be replaced by FIT
4. FIT identifies individuals who should be referred for colonoscopy
5. Flexible sigmoidoscopy (FS) is effective for CRC screening.
6. Colonoscopy is effective for CRC screening
7. CT-colonography is not recommended for colorectal cancer screening. It may be used in cases in whom total colonoscopy is not possible
8. A role for capsule colonoscopy in CRC screening is not defined. It may be used in cases in whom total colonoscopy is not possible
9. A stratified screening approach based on risk for CRC is recommended
10. Surveillance interval should be tailored to risk for colorectal neoplasia
11. First-degree relatives of patients with CRC and/or advanced adenoma diagnosed at age < 60 are at an increased risk of colorectal neoplasm and early screening is warranted
12. Good quality colonoscopy is key to success of a screening program and quality of colonoscopy should be audited
13. Ancillary methods with the exception of chromoendoscopy have not proven to be superior to high definition white light endoscopy in identifying adenoma
14. Right sided lesions and sessile serrated polyps can be difficult to detect and contribute to interval cancers
15. CRC Screening should be prioritized for some races. There are ethnic differences in CRC risk and screening program should take this into account
16. CRC Screening program should be audited on quality of FIT flexible sigmoidoscopy and colonoscopy. All components of CRC screening program should be audited and quality controlled. The most important difference in this consensus, compared to that in Europe and North America, is in Statement 9, in which a risk stratification approach is endorsed using the risk factors identified in the Asia Pacific region.
During the last two decades, there has been a significant advancement in the knowledge related with Celiac disease. Once thought to be rare disease and believed to occur only in the Western Europe, celiac disease is now a common disease affecting almost 1% of world’s population. Along with Europe, America (both North and South), Middle East; Celiac disease is emerging even in the East including many Asian countries. While celiac disease is emerging, the level of awareness is too low not only amongst general physicians, family physicians, internists, and other specialists but also amongst Gastroenterologists and Paediatricians. The rate of diagnosis is very low in most part of the world. Celiac disease was believed to be a disease limited to small intestine, it is now known that it is a multisystem disease and can affect liver, skin, brain and many organs. Therefore, it has a very wide spectrum of presentation.

While Celiac disease is now recognized to occur in certain countries in Asia Pacific region, it is still unknown in most of Asian nations. There are number of issues related with celiac disease (to name a few recognition of the disease, diagnostic criteria, availability of gluten free food), which require urgent attention by all the stakeholders.

Committee of World Gastroenterology Organization and Asia Pacific Association of Gastroenterology has formed a Working Party on Celiac Disease under chairmanship of Govind Makharia and Chris Mulder to identify the issues related with Celiac disease in this region. Subsequently a Working Group was formed including members from Asia Pacific, Europe, North America and South America.

The working Group members reviewed the relevant existing literature. The focus was placed on the issues specific to Asia Pacific region either in terms of what exists and what need to be done. A one and half day meeting was held in New Delhi from April 21-22, 2013 and 12 members participated in the meeting. Three members could not participate. After each talk, an in depth discussion was held and the salient point were gathered and recorded. At the end of the meeting, Mission Statements was generated which is being presented during Gastro 2013. Based on the discussion and the review presented during the meeting, a manuscript is also being generated for publication.

Govind Makharia, Co-Chairman
Professor, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi, India,
Chris Mulder, Co-Chairman
Professor, VU Medical Center, Amsterdam, Netherland
**EUROPEAN HELICOBACTER STUDY GROUP**  
12th - 14th September 2013  
Madrid, Spain  
XXVIth International Workshop On Helicobacter and related bacteria in chronic digestive inflammation and gastric cancer

**TAIWAN DIGESTIVE DISEASE WEEK (TDDW2013)**  
4th - 6th October 2013  
Sheraton Taipei Hotel  
5th - 6th October 2013  
NTUH International Convention Center

**JAPAN DIGESTIVE DISEASE WEEK 2013**  
9th - 12th October 2013  
Grand Prince Hotel Takanawa & Shinagawa Prince Hotel, Tokyo

**4TH ASIAN PACIFIC SINGLE TOPIC CONFERENCES ON FUNCTIONAL GI DISORDER**  
10th – 12th January 2014  
Taal Vista Hotel. Tagaytay City, Philippines  
www.apagefgid2014.org

**KYOTO GLOBAL CONSENSUS CONFERENCE**  
31st January – 1st February 2014  
Kyoto, Japan  
Kyoto Global Consensus Conference on Helicobacter Pylori

**INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM**  
16th – 19th February 2014  
Sheraton Waikiki Hotel, Honolulu, Hawaii  
International Symposium IgG4-RD & Associated Conditions

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**GI LIVE DEMONSTRATION 2014**  
24th – 26th February 2014  
King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital & Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, Bangkok, Thailand  
Translational practice in experimental prototype

**7TH SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL ENDOSCOPY SYMPOSIUM 2014**  
6th – 7th March 2014  
Hilton Sydney, Australia  
Incorporating the Westmead Endoscopy Symposium Nurses’ Workshop

**THE 100TH GENERAL MEETING OF THE JAPANESE SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY**  
23rd – 26th April 2014  
Tokyo International Forum, Tokyo

**4TH INTERNATIONAL FORUM**  
25th – 26th April 2014  
Tokyo International Forum, Tokyo, Japan  
1. Drug-Associated GI injury: Advances of the pathogenesis and recent clinical topics,  
2. Challenge to the Pancreatic and Biliary cancer

**FN M 2014**  
5th – 7th September 2014  
Royal Paragon Hall, Siam Paragon. Bangkok, Thailand  
The 1st Federation of Neurogastroenterology and Motility Meeting  
http://fnm2014.org

**5TH ASIA-PACIFIC TOPIC CONFERENCE**  
Date: 22nd October 2014  
Kobe International Conference Center, Hyogo, Japan

**3RD JSGE INTERNATIONAL TOPIC CONFERENCE**  
23rd – 24th April 2015  
Sendai International Center, Miyaki, Japan  
Translational Research in Gastroenterology

**10TH JSGE-AGA JOINT MEETING**  
23rd April 2015  
Sendai International Center, Miyaki, Japan  
Pancreatitis
THE 4TH ASIAN PACIFIC SINGLE TOPIC CONFERENCE ON FUNCTIONAL GI DISORDERS OPENS THE NEW YEAR IN 2014!

The 4th Asian Pacific Single Topic Conference will be held on 10th-12th January 2014, in Tagaytay City, Philippines. Organised by the Philippine Society of Gastroenterology (PSG), this important meeting will focus on Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders (FGID) and is designed to gather experts from the Asia-Pacific region, as well as, a number of famous authorities from the West.

In addition to providing the latest updates on the traditional etiologies associated with FGID, the scientific programme will tackle new concepts in the etiopathogenesis and recent strategies in the management of FGID. Sessions highlighting cutting-edge researches on FGID from Asia, shall be the other major focus of this meeting.

The conference will be held in Tagaytay City, just 34 miles south of Manila, is known for its cool, misty, easy going sub-tropical weather and home to one of the most iconic views in the Philippines, the famous Taal Lake – the lake with a volcano with another lake within!

Developed under the auspices of the Asian Pacific Association of Gastroenterology (APAGE), and in collaboration with the Japanese Society of Gastroenterology and the PSG’s sister societies of Endoscopy and Hepatology, the conference is now accepting scientific abstracts and early registrations. The deadline for abstract submission and early registration is on 10th November, 2013. For more detailed information about the FGID conference, please log on to www.apagefgid2014.org.

The Local Organising Committee is looking forward to saying “Mabuhay” to you in January! . . . surely, it’s more fun in the Philippines!
The next 12th Asian Pacific Digestive Week on the theme of “Harmony of Advanced Medical Sciences, Technology and Best Practices in Gastroenterology and Hepatology” will be held in Bali Nusa Dua Convention Center (BNDCC), Bali, Indonesia, from 22nd to 25th November 2014, hosted by the Indonesian Society of Gastroenterology (ISG), in collaboration with the Indonesian Society for Digestive Endoscopy (ISDE), the Indonesian Association for the Study of the Liver (Ina-ASL) and the Indonesian Society of Digestive Surgeons (ISDS). This important meeting will feature an eminent faculty from the Asia Pacific region and other parts of the world to discuss a wide array of topics and hot issues in the field of gastroenterology, digestive endoscopy and liver diseases. We assure that the APDW2014 will provide the opportunity to the participants to learn and discuss the latest advances in research, knowledge, medical technology and new treatment modalities through the active participation and discussion from all the faculty members and colleagues.

On the other hand, all participants will also enjoy the nature, history, sights and tastes of Indonesia, especially the unique and always exciting Bali, the island of Gods. The APDW2014 Scientific Committee will arrange a dynamic and stimulating varied scientific programme of the highest quality. The Congress will begin with a Post-Graduate Course on issues in gastroenterology, digestive endoscopy and liver diseases with a Live Demonstration Endoscopy Course. On the same day, another important session that is going to be conducted is the Hands-on Workshop of Advance Endoscopy Procedures with the use of animal models. The Scientific Committee plans to conduct the Live Demonstration Endoscopy Course at two sites which are the Cipto Mangunkusumo National General Hospital, Jakarta, Indonesia, and the Asian Institute of Gastroenterology, Hyderabad, India. The Hands-on Endoscopy Workshop with animal models will be held in the Sanglah Hospital, Denpasar, Bali.

The Scientific Programme will be held on the following three days, 23th to 25th November 2014; there will be symposia in four primary tracks: Live Demonstration Endoscopy, Upper Gastrointestinal, Lower Gastrointestinal and Liver Diseases. Each day, the core programme will begin with a plenary session including Named Lectureship. Other components offered will include Consensus, Free Paper Session, Endoscopy Nurses Programme and Biomedical Industry sponsored symposia.

As the Congress will fall on the fourth week of November 2014, overseas participants as well as foreign visitors, will be delighted to arrive in luminous Bali with the new advanced Ngurah Rai International Airport and some other new facilities to give them a memorable visit of Bali.

We look forward to welcoming you to Bali, Indonesia. We can assure you that this will be a very impressive scientific meeting with the participation of both regional and international faculties. For more information, we invite you to visit www.apdw2014.org.