



Editorial

A new milestone for the Asia-Pacific Association for gynecologic endoscopy and minimally invasive therapy

First of all, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to all those who contributed to the development of the Asia-Pacific Association for Gynecologic Endoscopy and Minimally Invasive Therapy. Hereby, we are deeply honored to announce the official journal of APAGE, Gynecology and Minimally Invasive Therapy (GMIT) is launched in 2012, and the first step means a lot to this association and will lead it to another page.

I still remember that the days when I had been invited as speaker around the Asia-Pacific region, there were few opportunities for doctors in this region to learn the advanced surgical skills related to the laparoscopy, endoscopy and minimally invasive

therapy, and they didn't even have enough approaches to learn the latest and new knowledge in this field.

Recognizing the need to unify the experts in this region and to build an association for promote the laparoscopic surgery, the experts around the world and I decided to establish an association which is not only focusing on providing training opportunities but also seeking to offer access to gynecological education for doctors in Asia-Pacific region.

Therefore, in 2003, the Asia-Pacific Association for Gynecologic Endoscopy and Minimally Invasive Therapy (APAGE) was officially founded in 2003 by a group of committed endoscopists (Chyi-



2011 Annual Congress, Singapore

First line (left to right: Peter J. Maher, Bao-Liang Lin, Chyi-Long Lee, C.Y. Liu, Wu-Chou Lin, Bernard Cher, Osamu Tsutsumi, Joo-Hyun Nam, Lee Keen Whye, P.M. Yuen)

Second line (left to right: Chih-Feng Yen, Sevellaraja Supermaniam, Prashant Mangeshikar, Felix Wong, Somchai Kovitcharoenkul, Blanca C. De Guia, Mitsuru Shiota, Wai-Ieng Fong)

Long Lee, Bao-Liang Lin, Pong-Mo Yuen, Keen Whye Lee, Joo-Hyun Nam, Felix Wong, C.Y. Liu, and Prashant Mangeshikar), who endeavored to share their research achievements and led the professional training in gynecologic endoscopy in different countries.

Since 2004, we start to hold the annual congress in different countries around this region, aiming to have doctors meet the world-famous experts and acquire newest trend of this field. We also launched various workshops to meet diverse learning needs; from 2006, the Laparoscopic Gynecologic Oncology Surgery & Hands-on Animal Workshop is held annually in Shanghai, China. To have doctors obtain advanced surgical skills in the gynecologic field, we also launched single-incision laparoscopic surgery workshops and robotics master course in gynecology from 2011. We are not only holding international conference but also have the regional meetings to let doctors share their authentic experiences.

surgical techniques and research findings and provide a platform for doctors to exchange ideas.

Once again, we are pleased to have all of experts around the world to participate in the publication of GMIT and join in our editorial board for making GMIT an enjoyable, readable and informative journal. I am grateful to have this chance to be the Editor-in-Chief in the memorable initial issue of GMIT, and we also appreciate the great contribution from the two experienced editors – the Honorary Editor-in-Chief of GMIT, Prof. P.M. Yuen and Prof. Chih-Ping Chen; in addition, the continued supports from our Associate Editors also let this journal collect various research outcomes and findings around the Asia-Pacific region. We believe the official journal of APAGE will achieve great success because of the efforts from all of our colleagues and will do the GMIT a high academic reputation journal.



2011 Annual Congress, Osaka, Japan

First line (left-right): Prashant Mangeshikar, Wu-Chou Lin, En-lan Xia, Osamu Tsutsumi, C.Y. Liu, Bernard Chern, Chyi-Long Lee

Second line (left-right): Lee Keen Whye, Sevellaraja Supermaniam, Chyi-Feng Yen, Pong Mo Yuen, Peter J. Maher, Felix Wong, Bao-Liang Lin

In these educational conference and workshops, the APAGE also published its academic publications such as newsletters and program books. These publications record valuable educational talks in the APAGE events, facilitate newest gynecologic endoscopy trend unfold rapidly in this region, offer experts to share their novel

Chyi-Long Lee, M.D., Ph.D.,
Editor-in-Chief,
Founder of the APAGE Chairperson of the APAGE Board of Trustees

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