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The Commencement Issue 2019

by Dr Chan Hian Hui Vincent, FCFP(S), Editor (Team C)

How time flies, another year has passed by, and on the 27th July 2019 the College conducted our Commencement Ceremony 2019. The ceremony was to mark the start of another academic year, as we welcome new trainees who embark on further post graduate training with us. College is happy that so many of our Family Medicine colleagues decided that MBBS “no enough” (to quote Jack Neo partially), that we must push the limits and train higher. Perhaps, excellence is the best way to gain recognition for our fraternity, as we continue to fight for Family Medicine to be a specialty in Singapore.

College warmly welcomes all new trainees into our 3 signature courses. We wish each and every trainee success for the courses. May all trainees persevere, complete and succeed in your respective courses. And of course, do return to serve and teach, after you have passed.

AGM and the new Council Term

In this edition of College Mirror, we also feature President's Column. As we also conducted our 48th Annual General Meeting after the Commencement Ceremony, College President Adjunct Assistant Professor Tan Tze Lee will be recapping the highlights of the last Council while introducing his new Council members. There will also be a section on who's who in the new council (see page 7 and 8).

Winning WONCA Asia Pacific 2023 for Singapore

One highlight from the last Council term, was our College winning the bid to host the WONCA Asia Pacific Conference 2023 in Singapore. We won this bid at the WONCA Kyoto Conference held in May 2019. Our bid was spearheaded by Dr Low Lian Leng and Dr Xu Bangyu, who put in many hours to prepare for this. Dr Xu will share with readers what WONCA is about and his experience at the bid.

Reflections on the LLA case and H&L

Here, Dr Wong Tien Hua shares with readers about his reflections on the Lim Lian Arn (LLA) case and its implications on Family Physicians performing the H&L steroid injection procedure. Dr Wong advises us to continue performing the procedure and encourages us to constantly upgrade our skills to “maintain (our) skills sets to prevent erosion and deskilling.”

WHO's ICD-11 on Burnout

Readers may recall, that the World Health Organization did classify “burn-out” as an “occupational phenomenon” in the International Classification of diseases 11th revision (ICD-11). College Mirror is delighted to share with readers, Dr Lawrence Ng's take on burnout and the physician, and how we should reflect on our own professional lives, align our priorities, seek support and support other colleagues who may be facing burnout. In that way, hopefully we can achieve happiness at our various workplaces.

Representing CFPS

As College grows in stature, more and more specialist organised conferences are now seeking speakers to represent Family Medicine's points of view. College Mirror is proud to present a sharing from Dr Wong Wei Mon, who represented College at the 9th ASEAN Dengue Day held on 22 June 2019. He spoke to conference goers and even addressed the media alongside “heavy weights” like Prof Leo Yee Sin. In a way, College is glad that more and more specialists and policy makers are starting to realise the importance of Family Medicine and are thus actively seeking our viewpoints.

Other articles in this issue, include Dr Hirantha's sharing on his rather serious hobby as a musician. We have also included 2 excerpts from the well-received book “Being Human – Stories from Family Medicine.”

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