

E-Newsletter



October 1, 2018

Message from President Chin San Liu, M.D., Ph.D.

Dear members of ASMRM,

It is my honor and privilege to serve as the 6th President of the Asian Society for Mitochondrial Research and Medicine (ASMRM). One of my missions as the ASMRM president is to promote more interactions among different local members of Societies for Mitochondrial Research and Medicine. During this term, we already tried online conferences to communicate among council members. My hope is to bring members of our society closer to create more collaborating opportunities among international research groups, by hosting international meetings and educational courses to help enthusiastic researchers gain a better understanding of the field of mitochondrial research. The ultimate goal is to promote more scientists to contribute to the medical care and benefit mankind.

Great thanks to Prof. Jin Han, Cardiovascular and Metabolic Disease Center, College of Medicine, Inje University for the assistance and support. The main focus of the 2018 ASMRM Conference will be on mitochondrial research advancing clinical evolution (MIRACLE) that explores novel approaches to rescue mitochondrial dysfunction linked with numerous diseases, including metabolic syndrome, neurodegenerative diseases, cardiovascular diseases, cancer, and aging. Prof. Minhong Shong, President of Korean Society for Mitochondrial Research and Medicine (KSMRM), and Prof. Jin Han will be in charge of hosting at Busan, Korea. I believe you will have a productive meeting



and a good time. Let us also make a deal and look forward to having a family reunion of ASMRM at Busan to get in touch with all our brothers and sisters and extend our passion in mitochondrial research and medicine.

By sharing new knowledge through the our annual conferences, our society has become a window for global information exchange in the field of mitochondrial medicine. In the future, this society will continue serve as a platform for academic discussions and clinical research education. More clinically oriented workshops and academic events/meetings are expected in our society to achieve this ultimate goal. To keep up with the global mitochondrial medicine research and therapies, I hope we can also integrate multiple academic groups and invite internationally renowned scholars, physicians, and professors to conduct seminars and hands-on training for experimental skills for the young researchers.

Last but not the least, welcome to join us! We appreciate your comments and suggestions that can help make ASMRM a better society.

Sincerely,

Patrick Chin San Liu
President of TSMRM/ASMRM,
Director, Institute of ATP (iATP), Changhua Christian Hospital,
Professor in Neurology, Chung Shan Medical University, Taiwan

15-Year History of the Asian Society for Mitochondrial Research and Medicine

Yau-Huei Wei, Ph.D.

In the late summer of 2002, Professor Hong Kyu Lee of the Department of Internal Medicine, Seoul National University College of Medicine wrote me an e-mail. He asked for my opinion about the idea to establish an international society to promote research of mitochondrial medicine and clinical applications. I immediately replied him and expressed my enthusiasm to work together with him to make his vision a reality. Professor Lee communicated frequently with me and Dr. Masashi Tanaka in the following months. Dr. Tanaka approached the Japanese Society for Mitochondrial Research and Medicine (J-mit) and arranged a meeting with the key

members of J-mit during the 2002 annual Meeting of the Japanese Biochemical Society held in Kyoto. At a small restaurant, Professors Dongchon Kang, Yusaku Nakabeppu, Shigeo Ohta, Masashi Tanaka, Hong Kyu Lee and I discussed issues to establish the Asian Society for Mitochondrial Research and Medicine (ASMRM). We hammered out the bylaw of the ASMRM and confirmed the support of J-mit. The timely formation of ASMRM responded to the emerging needs of a platform to exchange ideas and share experiences of research scientists and clinicians who are involved in mitochondrial research and medicine. Owing to the tireless effort of Professor Lee and his colleagues, the First ASMRM Conference was held in Seoul on February 5-6, 2003. Before official

opening of the conference, the founding members of the ASMRM and most of the invited foreign speakers were invited to attend a business meeting in the late afternoon on February 4. Professor Lee made a report on the conception, formation and organization of the ASMRM. The bylaw of the society was read and approved. Professor Lee was then elected as the first president of the ASMRM, and at that meeting Dr. Tanaka and I were elected as the vice presidents. In the



2014 ASMRM meeting at Taipei

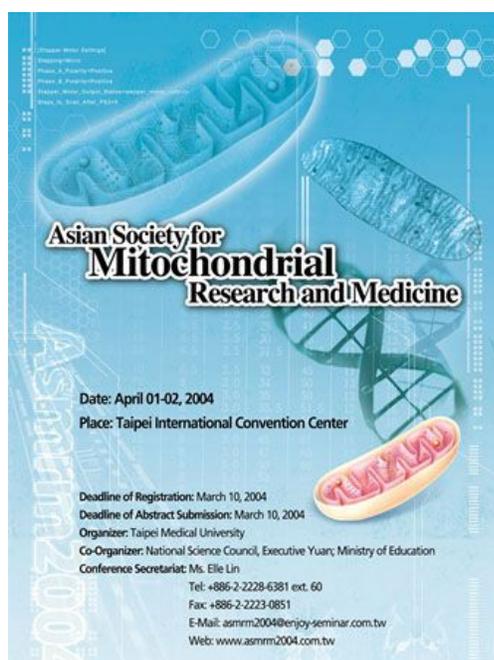
following years, I was elected as the second president, Dr. Masashi Tanaka the third president, Dr. Minxin Guan the fourth president, Dr. Myung-Shik Lee the fifth president, and Dr. Chin San Liu the sixth president of the ASMRM. The president and appointed officials serve the society for three years in each term. The ASMRM website (www.asmrm.org) was established in January 2003 and has been managed by Professor Jin Han and his colleagues in the Cardiovascular and Metabolic Disease Center, Inje University School of Medicine, Busan, Korea with the generous support of Professor Hong Kyu Lee.

Renowned scientists and clinicians from the United States, Italy, Japan, China, Russia, and Taiwan were among the 150 plus participants of the First ASMRM Conference. The conference was composed of lectures and a workshop to discuss about the establishment of a network for international collaboration on diagnosis and research of mitochondrial diseases. The participants shared the experiences and recent advances in gaining a better understanding of the qualitative

and quantitative alterations of mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) in aging and disease with a hope to solve the questions of mitochondrial roles in life and death of cells and many diseases in humans. Under the superb leadership of Professor Hong Kyu Lee, the first ASMRM conference was a great success. The proceedings of the conference have been published in 2004 as volume 1011 of *The Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*.

At the concluding session of the first ASMRM conference, it was proposed by the executive council members of ASMRM that the Second ASMRM Conference would be held in Taiwan. With the support of President Hong Kyu Lee and council members of the ASMRM, Professor Chung Y. Hsu, President of Taipei Medical University, agreed to serve as the chairman of the organizing committee of the Second ASMRM Conference. With his high academic standing and

close ties with many scientists in the field, Professor Hsu was very successful in inviting top-notch scientists and generated a scientific program covering a wide spectrum of topics, which included mitochondrial DNA variations, mitochondrial diseases and animal models, mitochondrial functions, oxidative stress, antioxidants, and apoptosis. A website was established maintained by a group of young faculty members of Taipei Medical University for the Second ASMRM Conference at <http://www.asmrm2004.com.tw>. The conference was held on April 1-2, 2004 in Taipei International Convention Center, Taipei, Taiwan. The scientific program featured one keynote address, 3 plenary lectures, 4 special lectures and more than 100 free papers contributed by investigators from Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, and the United States. More than 150 scientists and clinicians attended the conference. Review articles written by invited speakers and some original papers presented at the Second ASMRM Conference were edited by Professors Yau-Huei Wei, Horng-Mo Lee and Chung Y. Hsu, and



2004 ASMRM meeting poster

published in 2005 as volume 1042 of *The Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*.

At the closing ceremony of the Second ASMRM Conference, it was decided that the third ASMRM conference would be held jointly with the 5th Conference of Japanese Society of Mitochondrial Research and Medicine (J-mit) in the winter of 2005. Dr. Masashi Tanaka served as the chair of the organizing committee. He and his colleagues successfully invited many eminent scientists to give lectures covering various areas of research in mitochondrial biology, genetics and medicine at Toshi Center Hotel, Tokyo. In addition, more than 100 posters were presented by young scientists and graduate students from Australia, China, Hong Kong, Korea, the Philippines, Taiwan, and the United States who attended this conference. Some of the lectures delivered at the conference were later published in the journal *Mitochondrion*.

In the following years, the annual ASMRM conferences have taken place in Seoul (4th), Tianjin (5th), Taipei (6th), Fukuoka (7th), Kagoshima (8th), Beijing (9th), Seoul (10th), Taipei (11th), Hangzhou (12th), Tokyo (13th), and Xi'an (14th), respectively. The ASMRM council meetings have been held in the past 15 years during the annual conferences without interruption and the organizers and venues of future conferences were decided at the meetings. It is worth mentioning that Professor Yong Zhang of Tianjin Research Institute of Sports Medicine



2009 ASMRM meeting at Taipei

volunteered to host the 5th ASMRM Conference in Tianjin in the summer of 2008. The conference was held jointly with the Chinese Society for Mitochondrial Research and Medicine (Chinese-Mit), which had been established in 2005, on the theme of “From Bioenergetics to Cell Biology and Medicine”. This was the first time that an ASMRM conference was held in China. We solicited 15 papers presented at this conference and published them in March 2010 as a Special Section of *Mitochondrial*

Research and Medicine in *Biochimica et Biophysica Acta – General Subjects*, volume 1800, Issue 3, pp. 203-315.

Professor Yasutoshi Koga at Kurume University School of Medicine (near Fukuoka) organized the 7th ASMRM Conference on “Mitochondria, Life and Intervention 2010” jointly with the

10th Conference of the Japanese Society of Mitochondrial Research and Medicine in Fukuoka International Congress Center on December 16-18, 2010. In consideration of the enthusiasm and strong commitment of Professor Hideyuki J. Majima of Kagoshima University, the members attending the 2010 ASMRM council meeting approved his proposal to host the 8th ASMRM Conference jointly with the 5th Biennial Meeting of the Society for Free Radical Research-Asia (SFRR-Asia) and the 11th Conference of the Japanese Society of Mitochondrial Research and



2013 ASMRM meeting at Seoul

Medicine in Kagoshima, Japan on August 31-September 4, 2011. Aside from many outstanding mitochondrial researchers and clinicians from Asia, Professor Douglas C. Wallace, Professor David C. Chan and many eminent scientists from other countries working in the field of mitochondrial biology and medicine have been invited to give inspiring lectures in the ASMRM conferences that have been held in the past 15 years. The society has successfully served as a platform for scientists and clinicians working in the field of mitochondrial medicine to

share their most recent findings and to foster collaborations. The active participation of the ASMRM constituent society members and mitochondrial research scientists from other parts of the world has reflected the rapid advance of the research and development in the field of mitochondrial medicine.

At the council meeting held during the 14th ASMRM Conference, it was decided that the Korean Society for Mitochondrial Research and Medicine (KSMRM) will take up the responsibility to host the 15th ASMRM Conference in Busan on November 7-8, 2018. From the scientific program and the keynote speeches, invited lectures on a wide variety of topics and the newly developed P2P sessions, we can anticipate high quality presentations of updated research on the mitochondrial roles in human health, aging, diseases, and interventions. It is noteworthy that rapid advances have been made in the development and application of mitochondrial transfer techniques, which have hold great promise in the future treatment of neurodegenerative disorders and other diseases caused by or associated with mitochondrial dysfunction. I would like to

express my sincere thanks to Professor Minho Shong and Professor Jin Han and other members of the local organizing committee for their tireless efforts in putting up such a well-organized high standard scientific program. I am sure that the lectures, poster presentations and discussions at this conference will bring us updated information and inspire our constituent society members and friends to engage in various aspects of mitochondrial research and medicine in the coming years. As one of the former presidents and on behalf of the ASMRM council members, I would like to welcome all of you to this conference and wish that your stay in Busan is fruitful in scientific endeavor and you all have an enjoyable experience of Korean hospitality, cuisine and culture.

(Professor Yau-Huei Wei is currently the Director of the Center for Mitochondrial Medicine and Free Radical Research, Changhua Christian Hospital, Changhua City, Taiwan. Professor Wei was ASMRM President during 2006-2008.)

Upcoming conferences

2018 Annual Meeting of TSMRM at HsinChu City, **Taiwan**

October 27, 2018

[Read more on the website](#)

2018 Annual Meeting of ASMRM at Busan, **Korea**

November 6 - 7, 2018

[Read more on the website](#)

2019 Annual Meeting of ASMRM at Fukuoka, Japan

October 3 - 5, 2019

Message from the organizer

Welcome to “Explore the Mito-World! 2019”

The 16th Conference of Asian Society for Mitochondrial Research and Medicine (ASMRM) and The 19th Conference of Japanese Society of Mitochondrial Research and Medicine (J-mit) will be held in Fukuoka, Japan.

With great pleasure, we invite you to attend the Explore the Mito-World! 2019 which will be held in Fukuoka, Japan on October 3-5, 2019. We are sure that you will find both a place of conference and its scientific program worthy outstanding traditions of the international meetings on mitochondrial biomedical sciences.

On behalf of Japanese-Mit, we would like to extend our warmest welcome to colleagues from Asia, Australia and Oceania, USA and Europe, to participate in the conference and to visit Fukuoka.

This conference titled “Explore the Mito-World! 2019” will cover diverse research fields in the mitochondrial research and medicine, including following sessions: 1. Evolution, migration and adaptation, 2. Cell death, apoptosis and mitochondria, 3. Mitochondria-related diseases, 4. Therapeutics and treatments targeting mitochondria. In view of the importance of the international meeting, organizing and scientific committee is trying its best to provide an opportunity of face to face dialogue among scientists from international community and sharing of current information on progress in mitochondrial basic research and medicine.

We assure you will enjoy every moment of this conference. Welcome again.

Yasutoshi Koga, M.D., Ph.D.

Congress: The 16th Conference of Asian Society for Mitochondrial Research and Medicine [ASMRM] and The 19th Conference of Japanese Society of Mitochondrial Research and Medicine [J-mit]

Date: Oct 3 (Thu)-5 (Sat), 2019

Venue: Solaria Nishitetsu Hotel, Fukuoka, Japan

(<http://www.solaria-h.jp/>)

2-2-43 Tenjin, Chuo-Ku, Fukuoka, 810-0001, Japan

Theme: Explore the Mito-World!

Scientific Sessions

Plenary Sessions: To be announced

International Symposium:

International Symposium of Drug/Device

Discovery on Mitochondrial Disorders (tentative)

Scientific Sessions: To be announced

Poster Sessions: To be announced



The Evolving Concept of Mitochondria: From Symbiotic Origins to Therapeutic Opportunities, Cold Spring Harbor, USA

October 18 - 21, 2018

Organized by Anu Suomalainen (U Helsinki), John Walker (U Cambridge), Douglas Wallace (CHOP / U Penn) and Mila Pollock (CSHL). This special conference will be held at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, New York.

[Read more on the website](#)

Mitochondrial Dynamics and Signaling, Ventura, CA, **USA**

Gordon Research Conference

March 17 - 22, 2019

[Read more on the website](#)

Mitochondrial Biogenesis and Dynamics in Health, Disease and Aging, Palm Springs, CA, **USA**

FASEB Science Research Conference

May 19-24, 2019

[Read more on the website](#)

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