AFOMP President’s Message

This is my third message as the AFOMP President here in News Letter. AFOMP have solved several pending problems for these twelve months.

First example is establishment of constant financial revenue by means of collection of AFOMP dues and AFOMP Corporate Membership fee. The new business plan including activities such as cultivation of new AFOMP members and holdings of training courses in provincial area was made. Problem of AFOMP dues has been solved, and now we are asking IOMP officers to collect AFOMP dues together with IOMP dues.

Second example is to increase number of AFOMP member Countries. Present number is 17, but we are making effort to have another 3 countries (Brunei, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) join AFOMP.

On the other hand, still we have problem of realization of compatibility of education/training (Phase1 activity) with academic research (phase2 activity) in medical physics in AFOMP region. Vertical climbing up to extreme top of advanced physics and technologies such as that in development of heavy particle accelerators, clinical application of such facility itself and associated research can be found. Computer aided diagnoses is another example. Excellent papers should be submitted to top ranked international journals However, horizontal spread/extension to clinical routine work by carrying out educations, training and professional development is another important job of medical physicists. Exchange between these two phases of activity must be frequent enough to stimulate translational research as well as technology transfer. Especially cooperation between medical physicists in clinical environment and engineers in manufacturers should be strengthened.

Our activity of bodies such as Scientific Committee (SC), Education/Training Committee (ETC) and Professional Development Committee (PDC) must be reinforced. Consecutiveness and integration of two phases in AFOMP activities should be sought and be kept being aimed higher. We have to make the most of ETC, PDC in Phase 1, and SC in Phase2.

By the way, I am very proud of that two IOMP officers have been selected from AFOMP members by recent election, next President Elect Dr. Kin Yin Cheung and next Secretary General Dr. Madan M. Rehani. Two IOMP presidents shall have been servicing from AFOMP members in 9 years. It is symbolic phenomenon of AFOMP's raising in Medical Physics in the world, isn’t it?

Followings are summing up of recent AFOMP activity.

AFOMP’s annual meetings have been held every year since 2001. Sixth AOCMP was held together with

(Continued on page 2)

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 Venue for AOCMP 2009: Chiang Mai, Thailand
The main activities of ETC during the period September 2008 to September 2009 are summarized as follows.

Collaboration with IAEA- The ETC Chair represented AFOMP and attended the first planning and coordination meeting held in May 2009 at IAEA Headquarters on a new IAEA inter-regional project on strengthening medical physics in radiation medicine. AFOMP ETC is contributing to the project on issues including defining the role and responsibilities of medical physicists; education, training, and professional certification of clinical medical physicists; staffing levels of medical physicists; and raising awareness of the profession. ETC also collaborated with the IAEA on medical physics training initiatives in AFOMP region, including contributing to IAEA training workshops and implementation of IAEA pilot scheme on training of radiation oncology medical physicists.

9th AOCMP- ETC is collaborating with organizers in Thailand in organizing a pre-conference training course and a symposium on education and training of medical physicists, and in seeking financial support from IOMP. A funding of US$1500 was granted by IOMP.

AFOMP Travel Awards- The ETC is assigned with the responsibility to handle the following AFOMP travel awards: (a) AFOMP WC2009 travel award- An award of $1500 was allocated to partially support one AFOMP medical physicist from developing country to attend WC2009 in Munich. EXCOM approved the award to Mr. Heru Prasetio of Indonesia, who was placed first in the AFOMP medical physicist waiting list for IOMP WC2009 travel award. (b) AFOMP 9th AOCMP travel awards- A funding of $2500 has been allocated to support medical physicists from developing countries in AFOMP to attend 9th AOCMP. The ETC Travel Award Selection Committee was reactivated to implement the application process and selection of the awardees.

Professional Certification of Medical Physicists- Professional certification of AFOMP medical physicists is a major interest of AFOMP medical physicists. This and other issues such as medical physics training are being discussed at ETC meeting during WC2009 in Munich, Germany as well as during 9th AOCMP in Chang Mai, Thailand.

AFOMP President’s Message

WC2006 in Seoul. 7th AOCMP was held in August, 2007 in conjunction with Annual Meeting of Chinese Society of Medical Physics. 8th AOCMP and 6th SEAFOMP were held in Ho Chi Minh City in October 2008 with pre-congress training courses and post-congress workshops. These were first training events under the name of AFOMP. I am very pleased to report that Vietnam Association for Medical Physics (VAMP) was established.

On the other hand, Key members of AFOMP attended 25th Annual Meeting of ACMP (American College of Medical Physics) held in May, 2008. That was our first activity by which AFOMP could make appearance in an international theater.

5th Korea-Japan Joint Meeting on Medical Physics was held in Cheju, Korea, in September, 2008. Even though it was local meeting, we discussed possibility of integration of domestic meetings such as K-J and SEAFOMP into future AFOMP meetings.

Thailand will complete Radiation Oncology Medical Physics (ROMP) Training in Aug. 2009 along IAEA RCA Project (RAS 6038 Strengthening Medical Physics by Education and Training).

Professor Krisanachinda of Chulalongkorn University is proposing AFOMP to discuss about Certification for Qualified MP in Asia. We AFOMP shall proceed in this significant issue.

Ninth and 10th AOCMP will be held in 2009 and 2010 in Thailand and Taiwan respectively. As for Eleventh AOCMP, Japan is raising her hand to hold that in 2011.

I am now very pleased to transfer my President’s job to Professor Kwan Hoon Ng at the moment of 9th AOCMP being held in October 2009 at Chiang Mai in Thailand. He will be engaged in servicing and contributing to AFOMP much more than what I did.

Venue for AOCMP2010: Taipei, Taiwan
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Following many years of success, Unfors unveils a new edition of the highly acclaimed Unfors Xi system. The new Unfors Xi Platinum edition boasts a long list of improved features such as longer waveform memory and the addition of a survey detector for measurements of leakage and scatter radiation – all nicely fitted into one small and durable aluminium case.

The Unfors Xi system can simultaneously measure kVp, dose, dose rate, HVL, pulse, pulse rate, dose/pulse, time and waveforms with the R/F & MAM detector. More possibilities are presented by adding detectors for luminance and illuminance, CT dose and scatter/leakage applications. Available today or as a future upgrade when the need arises. All components are available as a complete system.

The Unfors Xi Platinum edition offers all features of the Unfors Xi which adds new possibilities and features that can be expected from a manufacturer dedicated to new technology and innovative solutions.
International Conference on Medical Physics, Radiation Protection & Radiobiology (ICMRPR 2K9) and XIV Annual Convention of Northern Chapter of Association of Medical physicists of India was held at S.M.S. Medical College & Hospital, Jaipur during 11-13 February, 2009. The conference was officially inaugurated on 11th Feb 2009 at 9 AM. Shri S. K. Sharma, Chairman Atomic Energy Regulatory board was the chief guest of the function. He spoke on role and contribution of Medical Physics to human health. He also stressed the need of radiation protection and the steps being taken by AERB in creating radiation protection awareness and implementing the Atomic Energy act. Dr. G.K, Rath, Director IRCH, AIIMS was the guest of honors and he spoke on increasing role of medical Physicists in modern day Radiotherapy. Dr. Ashok Panagaria, Principal & Controller, SMS Medical College & Hospital, presided over the function. Dr. Lalit Agarwal, Secretary, AMPI- NC presented the secretaries report and talked about the activities & achievements of AMPI – NC. Dr. Arun Chougule, Organising Secretary, welcomed all the speakers and the participants and thanked the trade for the support.

During three days of the conference 25 Invited talks by expert faculty from all over the world, to mention a few, Prof. Anders Brahme, Sweden, Dr. K. Bharruth Ram, South Africa, Prof. Tae Suk Suh, S. Korea, Dr. Murty Godu, USA, Virendra Patel, Australia; Prof. R van loon, Belgium, Prof. Hong Zhang, China, Dr. Satish Jaywant, USADr. Tamas Porubsky, Hungary, Prof. Salhuddin Ahmed, USA, Dr. Eva Bezak, Australia, Dr. Jacqueline Esthapan, USA, Harrie Mol, Belgium on various topics were delivered in X scientific session sessions. In addition to invited talks, 22 oral papers and 60 poster presentation were done. A panel discussion on “Radiobiological Models – past, present and future directions was organized. The Panelist were Dr. Anders Brahme, Dr. Pradeep kumar, Dr. Sanjay Supe, Prof. Hong Zhang.

The conference attended by more than 300 delegates and more than 70 delegates were from abroad. The conference organizers have arranged for cultural programme on 11th Feb and 12th Feb for the delegates and their family.
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NEW TomoDirect® brings even more power to the Hi-Art® platform.
Creating an International Medical Physics Credentialing Board

Raymond Wu, Ph.D
President, American Collegae of Medical Physics

The IBMP (International Board of Medical Physics) Constituting Panel held two meetings in Virginia Beach, on May 2nd and May 3rd, 2009. The meetings were one hour each, chaired by Dr. Edward Sternick of USA, to share the current information on general education and training backgrounds of practicing medical physicists in different countries. On May 5, there was the International Medical Physics Symposium entitled “Creating an International Medical Physics Credentialing Board”. The following regions and countries were represented: AFOMP (Tae Suk Suh and Rena Lee of Korea), Hong Kong (Colin Orton), China (Yimin Hu), India (Arun Chougule), MEFOMP (Ibrahim Duhaini of Lebanon), AFLIM (Laura Furnari of Brazil), Poland (Julian Malicki), Iraq (Muthana Al-Ghazi), Canada (Ervin Podgorsak), United States (Raymond Wu and many others), Bahrain & Saudi Arabia (Adel Mohamed), and Taiwan (Ti-Chuang Chiang). Dr. Chougule was not able to come in person but participated in all three sessions via the web-based facility set up by Mr. Chiang. The presentations are available for download or browse in the ACMP.org website in the 2009 Annual Meeting Programs pages - http://www.aapm.org/meetings/09ACMP/prsessions.asp?mid=41&sid=2951

Among all represented countries other than United States and Canada, at least five already have a board certification system in place. Of interest is most of the certification granting institutions were initiated by or strongly supported by the national medical physics organizations. According to the presentations, the certification system of at least one of the countries is run by the government. Some of the medical physics organizations participating in these three-day discussions may choose to become the lead of the project of establishing an internationally recognized process that other countries may join in later.

The Constituting Panel will work on guidelines and standards but will not be involved with the creation or the operation of the credentialing board. The IOMP Professional Relations Committee chaired by K.Y. Cheung established a Task Group to take up this task. The Chairman of the Task Group is the author of this article. One of the first jobs of the Task Group is to identify member countries which are interested in creating such a credentialing process at the international level. These countries may be called Charter Member Countries of the Board. In an informal meeting in Korea during the International Stereotactic Society meeting, it was suggested that each Charter Member Country will contribute $100 to $500 to the operation fund, and budget an annual international trip for its representative to attend a face-to-face meeting if such a meeting is needed in addition to emails and phone conferences. In the upcoming World Congress, this idea will be discussed in the PRC meeting.
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Report of Visit to Seoul, Korea (June 2009)

Prof. Azam Niroo mand-Rad,
Past President, IOMP

During my one-week visit to Seoul, Korea in June 2009, I made a presentation on the “Education, Training, and Certification of Medical Physicists in South East Asia”. I also discussed how we can improve medical physics practice globally and in particular in South East Asia. Attached please see copies of my presentation, proceeding of my paper, and my Certificate of Appreciation.

During my visit I visited the following centers in Korea:
Department of Biomedical Engineering, Research Institute of Biomedical Engineering, College of Medicine, The Catholic University of Korea. Prof. Tae-Suk Suh is the Director of this center.
Department of Radiation Therapy and CyberKnife Treatment Center at Seoul St. Mary’s Hospital, The Catholic University of Korea. Prof. HongSeok Jang is the lead medical physicist at this center.
Department of Neurosurgery, The Inje University College of Medicine, Inje University Ilsan Paik Hospital. Prof. Dong-Joon Lee is the Chief Medical Physicist at this center. He is also President of Korean Society of Medical Physics for Radiosurgery (KSMPR).

National Cancer Institute, Proton Therapy Center. Dr. Se Byeong Lee is the Chief Medical Physicist at this center.

In addition I also met several Korean colleagues. Following is the list of some of them whose names I can remember:
Prof. Soo-Il Kwon, Department of Radiation Oncology, Korean University Medical Center, Seoul, Korea. He is also President of the Korean Society of Medical Physics (KSMP).
Prof. Bo-Young Choe, Department of Biomedical Engineering at the Research Institute of Biomedical Engineering at the Catholic University of Korea.
Prof. Wee-Saing Kang, Department of Radiation Oncology, Seoul National University, College of Medicine, Seoul National University Hospital.
Prof. Youngyih Han, Department of Radiation Oncology, Samsung Medical Center, Sungkyunkwan University School of Medicine. She is the Chair of Scientific Committee of the Korean Society of Medical Physics (KSMP).

For the record, I gave four AAPM books, entitled “Advances in Radiation Oncology Physics, Dosimetry, Treatment Planning, and Brachytherapy” to my colleagues in Korea. This book which was edited by Prof. James Purdy, AAPM Past President, was published for the AAPM Summer School in 1992. These books were given to the following individuals for the benefits of education and training of medical physicists in their centers:
Prof. Tae-Suk Suh
Prof. Dong-Joon Lee
Prof. Soo-Il Kwon
Prof. Sung-Young Park

I like to note that radiation oncology treatment centers that I visited were equipped with the state-of-the-art equipment and Korea can take a leading role in improving education and training of medical physicists from neighboring countries in South East Asia. I also like to express my appreciation for the hospitality of my hosts and colleagues in Korea; in particular Prof. Tae-Suk Suh and Prof. Dong-Joon Lee.
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AFOMP NEWS

AFOMP Dues

The AFOMP dues were being voted form last year because of a lack of quorum. (only 7 nations voted till first deadline)

Three nations sent their ballots additionally voted till this January. Total 10 nations (Australia, Bangladesh, Hong-Kong, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand) voted for AFOMP dues.

The number of total votes were 26 from 17 nations. And the votes cast was 14 from 10 nations. So, the vote for AFOMP dues is satisfy the quorum. (more than half).And, the AFOMP dues were passed unanimously.

Call for Expressions of Interest in hosting the AOCMP

The AFOMP executive committee is seeking expressions of interest (EOI) in hosting the 11th Asia-Oceania Congress on Medical Physics in 2011. The expressions of interest must contain the following details and follow the same order/structure in order to be considered.

1. Congress highlights
2. Proposing party description
3. Congress venue
4. Accommodation facilities
5. Social events
6. Transportation
7. Local organizing committee
8. Budget plan
9. Others

The expressions of interest should be sent to Dr. Tae-Suk Suh, Secretary General at subsanta@catholic.ac.kr before the August 22, 2009.

The detailed qualification criteria and template is also available via AFOMP website www.afomp.org.

AFOMP Council Meeting at WC2009

AFOMP Excom would like to discuss some urgent issues at AFOMP Council Meeting during WC2009 On Sep. 9 (12:30-14:30) in Munich.

Meeting place will be announced soon. Please visit websites for detailed information.

AFOMP
http://www.afomp.org
9th AOCMP
http://www.tmps.or.th/9AOCMP

Travel Awards

Goals of the Awards
1. To assist young medical physicists from developing countries in the AFOMP region to participate in medical physics scientific, educational and professional activities at the international level and make them more effective to advance medical physics in their own country.
2. To foster international co-operation in the field of medical physics between AFOMP member countries.

The Awards (US$ $2500 in total)
1. USS 100 for speakers from Thailand
2. USS 500 for speakers from outside Thailand

Successful applicants shall receive their awards in US Dollar during 9th AOCMP.

Mandatory Requirements
1. A medical physicist currently practicing in a medical institution in a developing AFOMP member country and with an age of 45 or under on 22 October 2009; and
2. A medical physicist has his/her paper accepted by 9th AOCMP (this condition does not apply to applicants from Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar); and
3. Each awardee must submit a short report by November 15 2009 to the AFOMP Secretary-General and their Medical Physics Association/Society on what was learnt at the Congress and how they intend to apply that in their own country.

Selection Criteria
1. Physicists from the least developed AFOMP countries/areas.

2. The level of responsibility in performing and/or supervising others to perform medical physics service.
3. Physicists who have had less opportunity of attending overseas training/conferences.
4. Value of attending the congress for the applicant and employer/hospital as judged by case put forward by applicant.
5. Higher priority will be given to those who have not received any AFOMP travel awards before.
6. Not more than $500 will be awarded to the successful applicants from any given country.

Selection Process
All applications shall be considered by the AFOMP 9th AOCMP Travel Awards Committee, whose decision shall be final.

Application and Procedure
1. Submission through national medical physics organization. All applications must be made through the country’s Medical Physics Association/Society.
2. Duly completed application forms must be sent by email to: Dr. Kin Yin Cheung, Chairman of 9th AOCMP Travel Awards Committee, kycheung@ha.org.hk by September 15, 2009

AFOMP Webpage

The AFOMP homepage is managed by Mr. Seungjong Oh and Mr. Jeong-Hoon Park. And the annual maintenance fee of 240USD per year is paid officially from AFOMP budget from last year. The fee will be paid during 1-22 December every year.

Answer to AFOMP Quiz #5

This artefact was caused by exposure aborted during the mammography examination (premature release of the exposure button) and movement of the breast (as indicated by the shift of BB skin marker).
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India’s Advanced Telecobalt Machine
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Website: www.panaceaomedical.com Email: contact@panaceaomedical.com
### Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 June 2009</td>
<td>1st Asia-Oceania Radiosurgery Physics Meeting in conjunction with ISRS 2009; Seoul, Korea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:suhsanta@catholic.ac.kr">suhsanta@catholic.ac.kr</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:bhead@catholic.ac.kr">bhead@catholic.ac.kr</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>7-11 June 2009</td>
<td>ISRS 2009, 9th Biennial Congress and Exhibition of the International Stereotactic Radiosurgery Society; Seoul, Korea</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Venue: Sheraton Grande Walkerhill</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.isrs2009.org">http://www.isrs2009.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>21-25 June 2009</td>
<td>American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) Annual Meeting; Anaheim, CA USA</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.aapm.org/meetings/">http://www.aapm.org/meetings/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>7-12 September 2009</td>
<td>WC 2009 - World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering; Munich, Germany</td>
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<td>Abstract submission: 15 April, 2009</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.wc2009.org">http://www.wc2009.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>23-24 October 2009</td>
<td>The 9th AOCMP and 7th SEACOMP will be held in chiang Mai, Thailand with the theme of “Update in Medical Physics”.</td>
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<td>The final dates of 9th AOCMP are:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Pre Congress Program: October 22nd, 2008</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• AOCMP &amp; SEACOMP: October 23rd to 24th, 2008</td>
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<tr>
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<td>The deadline for submission of abstract is:</td>
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<td>July 31, 2009 and the official website is:</td>
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<tr>
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<td><a href="http://www.tmps.or.th/9AOCMP/">http://www.tmps.or.th/9AOCMP/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>22-25 May 2010</td>
<td>American College of Medical Physics Annual Meeting; San Antonio, TX, USA</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.acmp.org">http://www.acmp.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>31st May to 3rd June 2010</td>
<td>The 16th International Conference on the Use of Computers in Radiation Therapy. (ICCR2010) will be held in Amsterdam, Netherlands.</td>
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<td>The official website is:</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.iccr2010.org">http://www.iccr2010.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-26 June 2010</td>
<td>The Computer Assisted Radiology and Surgery (CARS) 2010 will be held in Geneva, Switzerland.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The deadline of abstracts/papers submission is January 11, 2010.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>For more detailed information, please visit website:</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.cars-int.org">http://www.cars-int.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-22 July 2010</td>
<td>American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) Annual Meeting; Philadelphia, PA USA</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.aapm.org/meetings/">http://www.aapm.org/meetings/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-31 October 2010</td>
<td>The 10th AOCMP will be held in Taipei, Taiwan.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Officers and Council of AFOMP

**President:** Kiyonari Inamura, Ph.D.  
Kansai University of International Studies  
Email: ina-kiyo@kuims.ac.jp

**Vice President:** Kwan-Hoong Ng, Ph.D.  
Department of Biomedical Imaging (Radiology), University of Malaya  
50603 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Tel: +60-603-7949-2088 Fax: 603-7958-1973  
Email: ngkh@um.edu.my

**Past President:** Barry Allen, Ph.D, D.Sc.  
St.George Hospital Cancer Care Centre  
Gray St., Kogarah, NSW 2217 Australia  
Tel: +61-2-9524-2502 Fax:+61-2-9524-1169  
Email: barry.allen@sesihs.health.nsw.gov.au

**Secretary General:** Tae-Suk Suh, Ph.D.  
Dept. of Biomedical Engineering  
College of Medicine, The Catholic University of Korea, 505 Bampo-dong, Seocho-gu, Seoul, 137-701, Korea  
Tel: +82-2-590-2414 Fax: +82-2-532-1779  
Email: suhsanta@catholic.ac.kr

**Treasurer:** Anchali Krisnachinda, Ph.D.  
Department of Radiology, Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University, Rama IV Road, Bangkok 10330 Thailand  
Tel: +66-662-256-4283-4 Fax: 662-256-4162  
Email: kanchali@yahoo.com

### AFOMP Committee Chairs

**Education and Training Committee:**  
Chair: Kin Yin Cheung, Ph.D.  
Department of Clinical Oncology  
Prince of Wales Hospital  
Shatin, Hong Kong SAR, China  
Tel: +852-2632-2110 Fax: +852-2632-4558  
Email: kyCheung@ha.org.hk

**Professional Development Committee:**  
Chair: Kwan-Hoong Ng, Ph.D.  
Department of Radiology, Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University, Rama IV Road, Bangkok 10330 Thailand  
Tel: +66-662-256-4283-4 Fax: 662-256-4162  
Email: kanchali@yahoo.com

**Scientific Committee:**  
Chair: Shanglian Bao, Ph.D.  
The Institute of Heavy Ion Physics  
Peking University, Beijing 100871, China  
Tel: +86-10-7275-1880 Fax: 86-10-6275-1880  
Email: bao@pku.edu.cn

**Commercial Fund Committee:**  
Chair: Barry Allen, Ph.D, D.Sc.

**AFOMP correspondence** should be addressed to:  
Drs. Kiyonari Inamura and Tae-Suk Suh

**Advertising requests** should be addressed to:  
Dr. Barry Allen

**Event information** should be addressed to:  
Dr. Tae-Suk Suh

**AFOMP webmaster:** Mr. Jeong-Hoon Park  
(jhoon@catholic.ac.kr) and Mr. Seungjong Oh  
(bhead@catholic.ac.kr)

**AFOMP newsletter contact:** Mr. Jeong-Hoon Park  
(jhoon@catholic.ac.kr)
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