

MSPP NEWSLETTER

January 2019



President's Message

Prof. Dr. Norfilza Mokhtar

Dear MSPP members.

The year has come and gone. It is now 2019. I wish everyone a productive year ahead. This year, MSPP will continue to arrange various activities and act as a platform to facilitate teaching and research for all undergraduate and postgraduate students, scientists, clinicians and academicians. At present, the committee members are obliged to stimulate and disseminate pertinent knowledge through effective and comprehensive teaching and research. To achieve this, we get together at events to share and analyse research that we performed, mentoring the young members, also translate science to the public.

At present, MSPP host many postgraduate students, active and life members. This society will also provide opportunity for the young academician/ researcher to develop essential skills to flourish in academia. We strongly encourage scientists, clinicians, academicians and postgraduates to join us and help us to shape the society, as what really matter is the science and what we could offer for a better Malaysia.

Stay tuned for our upcoming events and hope to see more of you, more often.

Editorial Message



Prof. Dr. Norazlina Mohamed

Greetings to all MSPP members.

We are pleased to launch the latest MSPP newsletter as a way of keeping in touch with all members. This biannual newsletter will keep you posted on updates and developments planned for year 2019.

In this issue, we will recount precious moments from last year's events and activities. The highlight was the 32nd MSPP Scientific Meeting which was held in August 2018.

We also welcome articles and opinions from members to be published in our newsletter. In this issue we portrayed a write-up about MSPP and last year's scientific meeting, which was published in Pharmacology Matters.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue and we ask for your continued support to the MSPP newsletter. Your contribution and active involvement are vital for the newsletter's success. Kindly forward your articles, suggestions and comments to me at azlina@ppukm.ukm.edu.my or to MSPP's official email at mspp.secretariat@gmail.com.

Become a contributor for MSPP Newsletter.
Send your articles/write-up to us.



32nd MSPP Scientific Meeting

The 32nd MSPP Scientific Meeting was successfully organised on 8th-9th August 2018 at Bangi-Putrajaya Hotel.

The annual event organised by Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia featured 1 keynote, 5 plenaries, 12 symposium speakers and 2 lunch talks. The scientific meeting brought together scientists, academicians and students to share their findings in 48 oral and 42 poster presentations.

A write-up on MSPP and the 32nd MSPP Scientific Meeting by Dr Wan Amir Nizam Wan Ahmad was published in Pharmacology Matters (re-published on page 6).



Some of the committee members who organized the 32nd MSPP Scientific Meeting.

UM to host in 2019

The baton for organising the next MSPP Scientific Meeting was passed to Universiti Malaya's representative. For more updates and information on the 33rd MSPP Scientific Meeting, please visit

<https://sites.google.com/view/mspp2019/>

Hope to see more members participating this year.



Assoc Prof Dr Dharmani from UM receiving the baton to host the 33rd MSPP Scientific Meeting.

The announcement for the 33rd MSPP Scientific Meeting

Second Announcement **33RD SCIENTIFIC MEETING
MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF
PHARMACOLOGY &
PHYSIOLOGY**

TOWARDS INNOVATIVE AND SUSTAINABLE RESEARCH IN DRUG DISCOVERY

Abstract submission deadline:
30 April 2019

Registration deadline:
31 May 2019

FOCUS AREAS

- New frontiers in drug discovery
- Cellular and molecular physiology of diseases
- Nanotherapeutics and drug delivery
- Physiology and pharmacology in medical education and clinical practice

15-16 July 2019, The Everly Hotel, Putrajaya

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY





CONFERENCE FEE	
MEMBER (MSPP/MyCRS)	RM700
NON-MEMBER	RM800
STUDENT	RM500
INTERNATIONAL	USD300

<https://sites.google.com/view/mspp2019/>
✉ 33rd.mspp2019@gmail.com

Let's bid for next Scientific Meeting

The practice to invite bids from institutions for organising next year's Scientific Meeting started in year 2018. Call for bid was sent out to various institutions.

This year, the bid was for the 34th Scientific Meeting in 2020. Universiti Tuanku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) and Monash University Malaysia, presented their proposals during the 44th AGM of MSPP.

Congratulations to Monash for winning the bid!

Look out for the next call for bid.



Monash University will host the 34th MSPP Scientific Meeting in 2020.

Young Investigator Award

For several years, MSPP has organised the Young Investigator Award competition. This year was no exception.

Young Investigator Award, led by Prof Dr Harbindar Jeet Singh, was conducted on 8th August 2018, during the 32nd MSPP Scientific Meeting.

There were 3 participants contesting for the award. Congratulations to Dr Chin Kok Yong (UKM) for winning the award.



Dr Chin Kok Yong receiving the Young Investigator Award.

Young Teacher's Award

Dr Wan Amir Nizam Wan Ahmad and his team handled the Young Teacher's Award, which was held on 27th July 2018. This activity consisted of two parallel sessions; Pharmacology and Physiology.

There were four contestants each, for Pharmacology and Physiology session. Winners were announced during the 32nd MSPP Scientific Meeting. Dr Norhafiza Razali (UiTM) won the Pharmacology session while Dr Mona Mohamed Ibrahim Abdalla (MAHSA) won the Physiology session.

Congratulations to all winners!



New Exco lineup

MSPP 44th annual general meeting was held on 8th August 2018 in conjunction with 32nd MSPP Scientific Meeting.

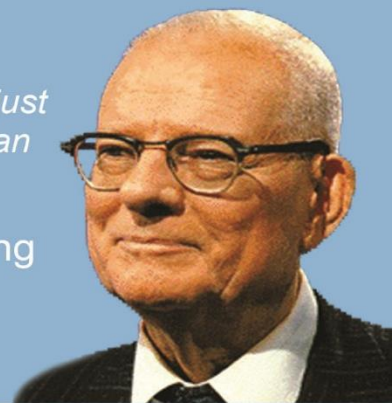
Election of office bearers for 2018/2019 was carried out. Check out the new lineup on page 5.



Quote of the issue ...

'Without data you're just another person with an opinion'

W Edwards Deming
1900-1993



MSPP EXCO 2018/2019



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Exco

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Exco

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Member's corner

Pharmacology Matters | November 2018

NEWS FROM THE MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF PHARMACOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY (MSPP)



WAN AMIR

Wan is a member of the Society's International Advisory Group. A medical doctor by training, he obtained his PhD from the University of Strathclyde. He then did his post-doctoral under Professor Robert Jones at the same university. Currently, he is a Senior Medical Lecturer in Pharmacology at School of Health Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia. His research focuses on the effects of Malaysian herbs on hypertension, diabetes, obesity and hypercholesterolaemia. His research also focuses on oxidative stress. This includes the usage of animal models of the diseases, *in vivo* and *in vitro* vascular study on the endothelium. He is currently the vice-president of Malaysian Society of Pharmacology and Physiology (MSPP). His role in MSPP includes promoting the activity of the Society and linkages among the members of the society. He is also an Academy of Science Malaysia Associate.



The newly elected Society EXCO members for 2018-2019 after the Annual General Meeting during the Society's 32nd Scientific Meeting

Our Society was initially known as the Malaysian Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, or MASPET, when it formed in 1976. Increasing numbers of physiologist members led the Society to officially change its name in 1988 to the Malaysian Society of Pharmacology and Physiology (MSPP). We are now the primary non-profit learned Society for pharmacologists and physiologists in Malaysia.

We currently have a total of 206 members in the Society, 157 of which fall into the postgraduate category, and 49 of which are life time members. We have a very even split of male to female members, of 105 : 101.

Members of MSPP work in academia, industry and health services, and encompass a broad spectrum of both applied and basic pharmacology and physiology. The mission of the Society is to advance science, teaching and ethics in our fields, to promote integration with other professionals and to be an avenue for public awareness on the use and misuse of drugs. We are committed to supporting brilliant ideas and cutting-edge research innovations.

The Society organises scientific meetings as a platform for researchers to share their research findings, network and collaborate. Our meetings were originally held biennially, however due to increasing interest and support, they now run annually. This year, MSPP and the National University of Malaysia hosted the 32nd Scientific Meeting from 8 – 9 August 2018 in Bangi, Selangor, Malaysia. The invited speakers included British Pharmacological Society

member Dr Simon Kennedy from the University of Glasgow, and Professor Alberto Avolio from the University of Macquarie, Australia.

"The meeting was a great success and in particular there were a lot of early-career scientists presenting their data. Topics ranged from the more traditional areas of pharmacology to subjects such as pharmacognosy, clinical case studies, toxicology and small clinical trials. There was a strong feeling of collegiality amongst the delegates and I got the feeling a lot of new collaborations were formed and existing ones strengthened. It was a thoroughly enjoyable meeting in a lovely setting."

Simon Kennedy

The meeting welcomed 114 participants – both local researchers and those from overseas (including from India and Indonesia) to come along and share their knowledge and findings. The Society also presented awards for young investigators and young teachers during the meetings, to recognise and encourage promising early career scientists.

The Society also encourages the advancement of teaching of pharmacology and physiology through running a series of refresher courses and workshops. This year, the refresher course focused on the pharmacophysiology of the respiratory system. In the future, the Society plans to organise more activities to reach out to the research community and schools to further advance knowledge on pharmacology and physiology.