



APACPH's influence on regional development has grown with commitment and specific achievements. Dr. Mark Liveris, APACPH former President from 1996-1998, Prof. Colin Binns, APACPH former vice president 2002-2004, Prof. Brian Oldenburg, the honorary secretary since 2004, and Prof. Kenji Hayashi, the former president 1998-2001, together enhanced management by establishing a very effective APACPH in the Tokyo office. Prof. Kenji Hayashi also published an APACPH book on health care management in the Asia Pacific region. Prof. Liming Lee, former president 2001-2003, further expanded the APACPH membership and brought in Hong Kong, later shown as a very active member. The SARS crisis was a challenge to APACPH and the successful global control was recognized when APACPH Awarded WHO Director-General and the Vice Premier of the People's Republic of China for the great efforts. Prof. Anuar Zaini, former president 2003-2005 also elevated APACPH status across the university and departments in the region. Prof. Amin Jalaludin, vice president since 2008 helped enhance membership, including Malaysia. Prof. Richard Southby, the past president 2005-2007 served at a time of many organizational developments and helped stabilize the APACPH.

- Expanding Horizons

Several areas are of essential interest of the APACPH in the future, including

- ICUH
- COLLABORATING Centers
- Disaster Management & Injury Prevention

- Oral Health & Cancer Prevention
- Rural/Island Health
- Peace & Health
- Research & Publication

41st APACPH Conference in conjunction with 25th Anniversary of APACPH that has improved our quality and collegiality

SY1-02

The Beginnings: Leadership as Instrument of Change **Walter Patrick**

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APACPH was founded in January 1984 with just five member Universities-Hawaii, Mahidol, Peking Medical, Philippines and Singapore National. Since then the Asia Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health (APACPH) has grown to 64 members in 21 countries. The membership spans the globe from George Washington University USA to University of Kazakhstan in Almaty and from Tokyo University Japan to Auckland University New Zealand and several other leading universities in countries in between. Unlike other organizations tending to specialize in research or elite partnerships, our purpose was to create long lasting collaborative partnership among the best to assist the neediest with the support of ministries of health and major international organizations. In that perspective we have maintained our founding vision and the working relationships with global agencies like the WHO UNICEF CDC WB whose leadership witnessed the birth of APACPH in Kauai. Twenty Five is a landmark time for any organization more so for fragile international partnerships. As we assess and enjoy the successes in collegiality collective achievements and community outcomes, we are also challenged by the many tasks that lay ahead.

Organizational Networks: The APACPH Collaborating Centers

Promoting leadership for Health was one of our primary goals to influence policy and redirect services to the underserved. The WHO Collaborating Center established (1987-2000) at the University Hawaii with partnership of international agencies and member universities was the key to this effort. Not only did world leaders support this effort but people like Hafdan Mahler (DG WHO) and James Grant (Director UNICEF) and their Regional Directors (SEARO WPRO and PAHO) served as visiting faculty to the center conferences and training programs. Nearly 100 specialists were trained. Doctoral (5) Masters (38) and other research fellows (56) on short term programs were partly or fully funded by the Center, member universities or our global partners. A Multi-University Joint MPH program was generated through this effort.

Over the years APACPH developed the concept of Collaborating Centers where one or more universities with expertise in an area of need (Oral Cancer, hospital management, etc.) and resources would partner with one or more universities usually in an economically less developed country (LDC) in mitigating the problem. Through demonstrated active partnerships, four such APACPH collaborating centers have been established: (i) Disaster Management and Injury Prevention (Lead University Taipei Medical University) (ii) Oral Health & Cancer Prevention (Lead University Kaohsiung Medical University) (iii) Rural / Island Health Research (Lead University University of Malaya Sabah) and Peace & Health (Lead University UHawaii; USC and Colombo Medical College). Another one on Humanitarian Assistance is being planned.

SY1-03

Island Health: Bridging Past and Present

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Objective: The Asia-Pacific region is a region that has small islands. In these islands, people face difficult challenges for the delivery of health care due to complex health, communication and development problems. The Ryukyu Islands have been known as longevity islands with historical successful primary health care stories of elimination of tropical diseases, such as malaria and lymphatic filariasis (LF). After the 2000 G8 Summit in Okinawa, the Global Fund was established in 2002 focusing on infectious diseases. It was also noted in the 4th Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting in 2006, that Okinawa's potential, as an island prefecture of Japan, can contribute further to the sustainable development of the Pacific region. Furthermore, APACPH was founded in 1984 and aimed at contributing towards enhancing public health in the Asia-Pacific region. The University of the Ryukyus joined in 1990. In order to make the

past to be instructive, an effort to bridge the past and present was tried by using a model case of a LF Elimination.

Methods and results: Literature search and review of LF elimination was carried out to clarify the factors of the successive elimination project in Okinawa. The suggested factors were task shifting to paraprofessionals and community participation. The current situation of LF control programme in endemic countries was analysed to point out major problems in each context. Each country is facing problem in service delivery, health work force, health information system, etc. Based on analysis of these problems, the lessons learnt from Okinawa experience will be applied in each context of different islands.

Conclusion: APACPH can learn from Okinawa's success in disease control and it can continue to develop island health through education, research and training of healthcare professionals. More needs to be met to develop island health both for the control of communicable and non-communicable diseases.

SY1-04

APACPH Achievements and New Public Health Challenges in the 21st Century

Pornpimol Kongtip

Mahidol University

After the propitious WHO meetings of the Association of the Schools of Public Health in the Middle East, Africa, S.E. Asia and the Western Pacific regions, senior public health experts met in Bangkok and established the Asia Pacific Consortium for Public Health for the Asia Pacific region. Dr. Debhanom Muangman, then Dean of the Faculty of Public Health, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand, was unanimously elected as the first President of APACPH and Dr. Jerrold Michael, Dean of the University of Hawaii, U.S.A., was elected treasurer. WHO and USAID gave some financial support from the beginning. 22 Public Health Institutions from the Asia Pacific region joined this consortium and so the constitution of APACPH was drafted and the dissemination of the quarterly published APACPH journal of Public Health also began.

Our international collegial collaborations were later expanded when many other well developed countries such as Australia, Japan, and China, also gave funding support.

At Mahidol alone, in 16 years, we have graduated over 19,000 Public Health workers, many of whom were active in subsequently establishing 17 more schools of Public Health in Thailand. Also, almost 900 students from foreign countries have returned to work in their countries after graduating from Mahidol. Our achievements have not gone un-noticed. Our global contribution has been acknowledged by both my receiving the Harvard School of Public Health Alumni Award of merit in 2003, and also our being the recipient of the 2009 Bill Gates foundation which kindly donated