

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

\$8 million to facilitate our extensive Population Development Association project.

In this 21st century we are living with many new Public Health challenges, such as:

1. Population problems i) an aging population, and ii) a refugee population.
2. Emerging new epidemic diseases and new chronic diseases much as H1N1A flu, plague, and HIV etc.
3. Drug addiction and mental illnesses, and 4. An array of environmental problems, and an inadequate budget to combat these challenges.

Ladies and gentlemen while trying to solve all the above Public Health problems with the best medical and public health knowledge, compassion, appropriate technologies, alternative medicines etc., in order to achieve the goal of sustainable health development before the end of the 21st century, I strongly hope that all of you take good care of your health and also the health of your loved ones.

Exercise regularly and refrain from drinking alcohol and smoking. I also recommend that you meditate to calm your mind and body. I meditate for 10 minutes every day and it yields excellent results. Lastly, I wish you all success and happiness in all of your personal and professional endeavors.

Symposium 2 - Health and Green University

SY2-01

Education for Sustainability = Healthy Universities *Ian Thomas*

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Universities play a critical role in shaping the professionals and decision-makers of the future. The education students receive, plus the physical and social situations in which they receive education at universities, guide their future practice. So we need to ensure that students gain an education that helps them to maintain their own health, and to contribute to public health, both directly and through the health of ecosystems. Such issues are not confined to the class-room, but are evident in the students' interactions with others, and with their interactions with their physical surroundings. Irrespective of their faculty or discipline, Education for Sustainability (EfS) provides a framework for making connections between the students' curriculum, the place where they study, their profession, and the community in which they live. Through EfS students are involved in educational approaches that develop a range of skills that enable students to analyse the effects that their decisions can have on the physical environment and ecosystems, on social issues (including public and their own health), and on economics. Development of these skills is assisted by use of the university campus as a 'living laboratory' where projects and internships are used to build sustainability into campus operations, and can be used to support the health of ecosystems, the human community and individuals. These skills are then

available when students graduates and make work-related decisions that can affect ecosystem health, public health, and their own health.

EfS is an important base upon which healthy universities can be established. To provide direction for implementation of EfS the presentation will identify the skills that are associated with this area of education, and examine the role of Problem Based Learning in development of skills.

SY2-02

Chemical Management System in Academic Activities- Experiences in Kyoto University on Chemicals Registration and Asbestos Control *Shin-ichi Sakai*

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Various kinds of chemical substances are used through research and education activities at universities. Appropriate management of the chemicals is essential for protecting students' and staffs' health and from the viewpoint of environmental pollution control. Management system in Kyoto University for many chemicals used in our daily academic life is reported together with the management of the past used asbestos. The amount of chemicals used at Kyoto University in 2006 was; Chloroform: 17tons/ Dichloromethane: 10 tons/ Toluene: 4 tons and Benzene: 0.8 tons. We try to use as little amount of chemicals as possible and have introduced a system, KUCRS (Kyoto University Chemicals Registration System), for the purpose of appropriate management of substances which are in use. This is a uniform management system using web to grasp the status of chemical substances by registering them. It enables us to calculate the transfer amount of chemicals into the air, water and wastes from the data on inventory quantity and usage of chemicals. Results obtained are reported to the PRTR (Pollutant Release and Transfer Register) system.

Health damages by asbestos are now a nationwide concern in Japan. The number of deaths due to malignant mesothelioma, mainly caused by exposure to asbestos, amounted to around 1000 person per year. The main causes of fliable asbestos, which led to its exposure to human, has shifted to the process of renovation, dismantle, rebuilding, and disposal of building from the previous manufacturing, processing and using. At universities, we still have buildings that contain asbestos, and have been trying to take measures to remove them. It is important to prevent exposure of human to asbestos and its emission into the environment during removal.