

Pacific Rim College of Psychiatrists

# Newsletter

October-November 2003

Philip Morris, Editor

Bruce Singh, President

## President's Report

**Professor Bruce Singh**

I am writing this report two years since our successful meeting in Melbourne. It is also the anniversary of the terrorist attack in Bali (12 October) in which 202 people were killed, including 88 Australians, leaving a terrible toll of distress. Both of these anniversaries remind us of the task of our College – to assist in mental health problems in our region through the collegial network offered by our organisation. The College continues to play a useful role in this part of the world.

Unfortunately, our biennial meeting has not occurred this year,

which means we have missed the opportunity to interact with our colleagues and friends. However, I know that Professor Helen Chiu and her team are working hard to produce a high quality program in Hong Kong for October next year. The College will have to turn its attention to the election of the next President-Elect, which will have to take place in Hong Kong. So far, our colleagues in Taiwan are the only group who have expressed an interest in hosting the 2006 meeting. I plan to have a meeting of the Board of Directors at the APA in New York in early May 2004, before handing over the Presidency to Professor Helen Chiu, at the biennial member's meeting in Hong Kong.

We are still seeking nominations for the Board of Directors, there is now one remaining position to fill. The nomination form is on the last page of the newsletter.

In regard to the May 2004 Board Meeting I have been approached

by Dr Roderigo Munoz, former President of the APA and a Fellow of our College, who has recently been appointed Chairman of the Council of Cultural and Global Psychiatry succeeding Dr H Eist. Dr Munoz is very keen to build links with the APA and its members through this Council. I will be writing to him formally to see how we can cast the interaction between ourselves and the APA.

Could I urge all of you to support the working groups on Education, Research and Service Development established by the College.

I particularly want to thank all of our Members and Fellows who have renewed their subscriptions. These have been invaluable in allowing our College to survive. I hope all of you have had a happy and prosperous year and I look forward to seeing many of you in Hong Kong next year.

### NEW DATES

## 11<sup>TH</sup> PRCP SCIENTIFIC MEETING

**28-31 OCTOBER 2004***"Innovations and development in mental health in the Pacific Rim"*

to be held at:

**Shangri-La, Kowloon Hotel, Hong Kong**

## Secretary-General's Report

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**Associate Professor Eng-Seong Tan**

At the meeting of the PRCP Board in San Francisco in May 2003, the decision was taken to postpone the 11th Biennial Congress scheduled for October 2003 in Hong Kong. This was predicated by the SARS outbreak that was current in East and Southeast Asia at that time. The 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Congress is now scheduled to be held in Hong Kong, 28-31 October 2004.

See the announcement in this Newsletter.

A decision was taken at the PRCP Board in May 2003 to write off outstanding dues of three years or longer, provided these members pay their dues for the year 2003. Those who are still in default for the year 2003 will have their membership of the PRCP cancelled. As of October 2003, there are 53 members in this category.

After many years of enthusiastic service to the PRCP, Dr Kyu Hang Lee of South Korea (Immediate Past President) has decided to resign his chairmanship of the Service Delivery Working Group. A replacement for him in this role is being sought and various members have been

approached about taking on this position.

Dr Robert Pasnau has completed his first draft of the History of the Pacific Rim College of Psychiatrists, and this is available on the PRCP website:

[www.prcp.org/publications.html](http://www.prcp.org/publications.html).

Dr Pasnau was the Foundation President and has therefore seen the growth of the PRCP right from its inception. He has been officially appointed College Historian. He feels that there might be some events in the PRCP he may have overlooked. He also would like to have photographs of past PRCP events. Those who have material which will add to the archives of the PRCP are requested to get in touch with Dr Pasnau via his e-mail: [rpasnau@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:rpasnau@mednet.ucla.edu)

## President-Elect's Report

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**Professor Helen Chiu**

I take great pleasure in sharing with you some of our College's new developments. The Board of Directors has recently approved the establishment of Research Awards and Travel Awards for Young Psychiatrists.

The details of the two categories of awards are as follow.

### 1. Research Awards

The purpose of these awards is to promote psychiatric research activities in the Asia-Pacific Region. There are three Research Awards that will be given biennially to the best original and unpublished research papers in the field of Psychiatry submitted to our panel of judges. The panel will consist of a number of international experts. Winners of the Research Awards will present their papers at the biennial congress of the Pacific Rim College of Psychiatrists.

We believe this will encourage researchers and recognise the quality of their work.

### 2. Travel Awards for Young Psychiatrists

We plan to set up 10 Travel Awards for each biennial conference of the Pacific Rim College of Psychiatrists. Each award amounts to US\$500.00 plus the registration fees of the conference. The candidates will be young psychiatrists and they will each present a paper at the conference.

We are now in the process of seeking funding for the above awards. If you have further suggestions on these awards, please contact me via my e-mail: [helenchiu@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:helenchiu@cuhk.edu.hk)

Thank you.

## Editor's Report



**Professor Philip Morris**

Dear colleagues, welcome to the third newsletter for 2003.

This newsletter is now increasingly being distributed in electronic form. This is an advantage to our College because costs are reduced and the time between the final preparation of the newsletter and getting it out to the members is substantially reduced. Despite all these advantages, I must admit to a desire to see and feel the newsletter in its hard copy form. I guess I must be a bit old fashioned! No doubt I will have to get used to this, and printing the newsletter from my computer will have to be the alternative. There is a revolution taking place in the dissemination of written material.

At many of the meetings and conferences I have attended recently, the proceedings and abstracts from the meeting are only available on CD or through the conference website. At a conference I ran recently in

Australia, the conference organiser told me that it was uneconomic to make a hard copy version of the proceedings available to all delegates. I was surprised but when I was shown the comparative costs it was clear that CD delivery of the conference proceedings was orders of magnitude less expensive than that of printed material. I guess this is a change we will all have to get used to!

At the time of writing this, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum is being held in Bangkok. At the current meeting the topics of discussion have expanded beyond the purely economic to include security and the fight against terrorism. If the range of issues continues to expand it is possible that the broader issues of health and mental health services may make their way onto the agenda. In thinking about APEC I was struck by the fact that the member countries of this forum overlap with the countries making up our Pacific Rim College of Psychiatrists. One idea worth considering is to see what possibilities there might be in linking our College with the growing importance of APEC. It might be possible to hold a psychiatric leader's meeting for Pacific Rim countries in collaboration with the APEC meeting on a regular basis.

In this newsletter we have a report

from one national correspondent, Professor Kyu Hang Lee, on 'The Sunshine Policy and Thereafter' in Korea. This report continues the initiative of having psychiatric correspondents report on topical psychiatric and mental health developments from our College's member countries. I hope to bring at least one correspondent's report to the each edition of the newsletter.

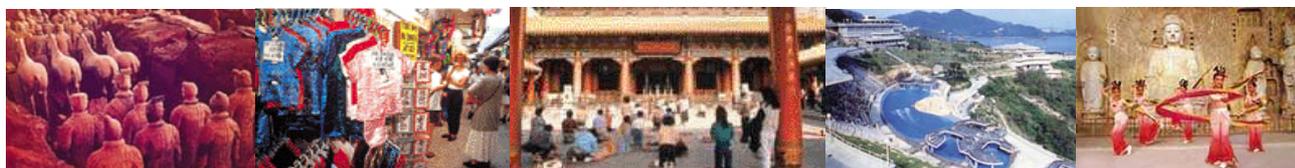
It is exciting to hear that the 11<sup>th</sup> Scientific Meeting of the PRCP, which was postponed due to the SARS outbreak earlier this year, is now going ahead in October 2004. Information about the congress is included in this newsletter.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter. If you would like to make a contribution of a short article or letter to the editor, please send it to the PRCP secretariat.

**PRCP Secretariat**  
**Department of Psychiatry**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Charles Connibere Building**  
**Royal Melbourne Hospital**  
**Victoria, Australia 3050**  
**e-mail: [info@prcp.org](mailto:info@prcp.org)**

Contributions are very welcome and will be published.

As our next edition of the newsletter will not be until early 2004, I will take this opportunity to wish you all the best for the holiday season and the New Year.



## Note on the 11<sup>th</sup> Scientific Meeting of PRCP

On behalf of the Organising Committee, we take great pleasure in informing you that the 11<sup>th</sup> Scientific Meeting of the Pacific Rim College of Psychiatrists is taking place at the Kowloon Shangri-La Hotel in Hong Kong, 28-31 October, 2004.

Internationally renowned psychiatrists and other mental health professionals will participate and share their experience and knowledge in this regional conference.

The theme of the conference is "Innovation and Development in Mental Health in the Pacific Rim". The meeting will be a forum for a

lively exchange of views and experience.

We had to postpone this conference in 2003 due to the unfortunate outbreak of SARS in Hong Kong. We are very pleased at the strong support we have received from our speakers and our Fellows and Members. Nearly all the keynote and plenary speakers have confirmed their presentation in the meeting, and the symposia will be held as scheduled. We are also receiving proposals for other symposia.

The scientific content is extremely rich and the meeting promises to be an exciting one.

With your support, this international meeting will be a memorable and fruitful event!

If you require any further information or would like to share any comments, please do not hesitate to contact us at our Meeting Planners Secretariat:

(Tel) 852 2509 3430  
(Fax) 852 2667 6927  
E-mail: [prcp@mphk.com](mailto:prcp@mphk.com).

Information is also available on the PRCP website: [www.prcp.org](http://www.prcp.org) simply click on the icon for the 11<sup>th</sup> Scientific Meeting.

**By Professor Helen Chiu,  
President-Elect**

## Financial Summary

### Expenditure & Income Statement

National Australia Bank Account, AUD\$.

Balance as of 20/06/03	\$61,143.43
Income from subscriptions between 20/06/03 and 20/10/03	\$2,436.02

### Expenditure

Further registration with WPA	\$211.94
Website	\$330.00
Printing	\$1678.16
Bank charges	\$237.30
Salaries	\$5461.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,918.73</b>

**Balance as of 20/10/03**

**\$55,660.72**

**PLEASE NOTE** the below list of PRCP members cannot be contacted by the secretariat as their addresses have changed and we have not been notified. If anyone knows the current contact details for any of the people listed below, the secretariat would greatly appreciate it if you could forward the details to us.

**E-mail:** [info@prcp.org](mailto:info@prcp.org) **Fax:** +61 3 9347 3457  
**Post:** PRCP, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Charles Connibere Bldg, Royal Melbourne Hospital, Victoria, Australia 3050.

1. Dr Masahiko YAGIHASHI (Japan)
2. Dr Richard J. FORDE (USA)
3. Dr Duane Q. HAGEN (USA)
4. Dr Koock Elan JUNG (USA)
5. Dr Won Sum HAHN (Korea)
6. Dr Choong Koung LEE (Korea)
7. Kyung Joon MIN (Korea)
8. Dr Dong-Yul OH (Korea)
9. Dr Kang-Kyu PARK (Korea)
10. Sang Kyung SUNG (Korea)
11. Dr Kae Joon YOO (Korea)

## Psychotherapy Interest Group

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The practice of psychotherapy in Pacific Rim countries has many interesting features due to the diversity of cultures, religions and ethnic factors. These also influence teaching of psychotherapy skills.

The Psychotherapy Interest Group of the PRCP has been created as a focal point through which PRCP members can discuss the practice and teaching of psychotherapy in our different centers.

I encourage you to begin this discussion by contacting me through the PRCP office e-mail: [info@prcp.org](mailto:info@prcp.org) with any comments you may have.

**By Professor Judith Gold**

## Report from Newsletter Correspondent Dr Kyu Hang Lee, Korea

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### The Sunshine Policy and Thereafter

Up until the late 1940s, South and North Korea remained as one country and had done so for a thousand years through the Korea and the Chosun Dynasty well into the period of Japan's colonization.

The division between north and south of the Korean peninsula was a strange byproduct of World War II. The division was completely against the wishes of Koreans, but it happened because of the geographical location of the Korean peninsula and its geo-political significance. There were no ideological, religious, racial or political reasons among the Korean people in the two Koreas that created this division.

After the Korean War in 1951, which caused millions of casualties on both sides and massive destruction, North and South Korea had hostile relations. Especially, South Koreans learned to hate communism, communists, and North Korea. Brothers became enemies. Minor military conflicts, thereafter have been routine in the demilitarized zone dividing North and South.

It was at the 8.15 declaration, that the North Korean and South Korean governments began to

recognize the destructiveness of this relationship and saw the need to end such hostility and restore the brotherhood by working towards unification in the future.

When President Kim Dae Jung took office, he established the so-called Sunshine Policy, which was an initiative to provide humanitarian support, such as food and fertilizers, in exchange for regular meetings of government officials, reunions of scattered families and the sight-seeing program of Mountain Keum-Kang (this is a river located in North Korea and this program provided substantial monetary support to the North Korean government).

The dilemma of this Sunshine Policy existed from the beginning. It was challenged by concerns that South Korea might end up supporting the dictatorship of the North Korean government rather than the people of the North. Unfortunately, these were realistic concerns and it turned out that some of it was true. As a matter of fact, the North Korean regime was never a government "of the people, by the people and for the people."

When Kim Jung Ill of the North Korean Government admitted and later announced that they were developing nuclear weapons,

suspicion and 'paranoia' became a reality.

Since then, the Sunshine Policy has been blocked by the 'nuclear cloud.' South Korean people and the government could no longer pursue the aggressive Sunshine Policy, or the humanitarian support.

This does not mean that the sun has disappeared forever, but the sun is covered with clouds. I strongly believe that some day when the nuclear cloud clears, sunshine will be even brighter and warmer. Nonetheless, the prerequisite for resuming the Sunshine Policy is that Kim Jung Ill must give up his nuclear ambitions and other weapons of mass destruction as well.

A number of neighboring countries including Japan, China, USA, and Russia share our concerns and views. Sooner or later, the clear message will either persuade or force the North Korean government to follow the international demand. Then they will feel the warmer and brighter sunshine not only from South Korea but also from all over the world.

**By Dr Kyu Hang Lee,  
Past President**



**PRCP BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATION FORM**

Please complete and return to the PRCP Secretariat by fax: +61 3 9347 3457 or post: PRCP, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Charles Connibere Bldg, Royal Melbourne Hospital, Victoria, Australia 3050

I.....(Name in block letters) being a Member/ Fellow of the PRCP nominate .....who is a Fellow of the PRCP for election to the Board of Directors.

Signature ..... Date .....

Seconded by ..... Member/ Fellow of PRCP.

Signature ..... Date .....



PLACE  
PHOTO  
HERE

**APPLICATION FORM FOR  
MEMBERSHIP OF THE  
PACIFIC RIM COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS**

**Please return to:**  
University of Melbourne Department of Psychiatry, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Charles Connibere Building  
Royal Melbourne Hospital, Victoria, Australia 3050. Fax: (+61 03) 9347 3457

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_ SEX: \_\_\_\_\_

MEDICAL QUALIFICATION: \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR OF GRADUATION: \_\_\_\_\_

POST GRADUATE QUALIFICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT INTERESTS:

CLINICAL: \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHING: \_\_\_\_\_

TRANS-CULTURAL: \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ OFFICE PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE ATTACH COPY OF YOUR CURRICULUM VITAE (abbreviated version acceptable) AND ONE PASSPORT PHOTOGRAPH. We will also need two letters of recommendation from Members of the College

SIGNATURE X \_\_\_\_\_

Initiation Fee: AUD\$400.00 Annual Subscription: (Member) AUD\$150.00 (Fellow) AUD\$200.00