

ASIA-PACIFIC ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY



The First Twenty-Five Years
1960 — 1985

Dr Arthur Lim Siew Ming

ASIA-PACIFIC ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

**THE FIRST 25 YEARS
1960 — 1985**

by

Dr Arthur Lim Siew Ming
**Written at the request of the Council of the
APAO**

P G Publishing
Singapore • Hongkong • New Delhi

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Published by:

PG PUBLISHING PTE LTD, 304 ORCHARD ROAD
#04-21/04-22 LUCKY PLAZA, SINGAPORE 0923

ISBN 9971 973 82 0

Printed in Singapore by Continental Press

PREFACE

Numerous excellent ophthalmic surgeons in the Asia-Pacific area are presently so immersed in their vast clinical responsibilities that they have little time to research and to record their observations. It is hoped that the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology will act as a catalyst in the development of ophthalmology. We may then look forward to witnessing more significant contributions to ophthalmology from our area.

Despite centuries of civilization, most countries in the Asia-Pacific have not been blessed with the skilled manpower, political stability and technology essential for progress in the 20th century. In ophthalmology, modern techniques such as the operating microscopes, lasers, ultrasounds, vitrectomies and intraocular lens implantations probably reach less than 2 percent of Asia's population. In many of the poorer Asian countries, keratomalacia still blinds thousands of children each year. Cataract remains the major cause of blindness affecting over 10 million patients.

On the other hand, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore have outperformed all other nations in economic growth. South-East Asia, with a population of a quarter billion, has been cited as potentially the world's fastest economic growth area. Rising affluence in Asia will lead to higher expectations and, with it, a greater demand for ophthalmic technology. Ophthalmology which has remained dormant for centuries, will likewise be awakened.

This short review of the first 25 years of activity of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology will, I hope, serve as a reference to what has been done so far. We hope that the next quarter of a century will bring even greater developments in ophthalmology and, consequently the control of preventable blindness in the Asia-Pacific area.

ARTHUR LIM SIEW MING

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the following people, without whose contributions this publication would not have been possible:

Prof. S.M. Akmam, Prof. L.P. Agarwal, Dr. C.P. Baucepala, Dr. R.P. Dhana, (Baron) Prof. Jules Francois, Dr. G. Fenwick, Prof. W.J. Holmes, Dr. R. Husain, Dr. W. Leung, Dr. M. Mohan, Prof. R. Mumtaz, Dr. H.B. Nam, Prof. T.N. Nguyen, Dr. G. de Ocampo, Prof. J.C. Parr, Dr. P. Prachakvej, Prof. K. Prommindaroj, Dr. I.F. Robertson, Dr. C. Ring, Dr. P.S. Reddy, Prof. R. Ali Syed, Prof. K. Tamin-Radjamin, Dr. J.H. Wania and Dr. P.A. Wirashinha

Special thanks go to Prof. A. Nakajima and Dr. R.F. Lowe who were particularly helpful in the supplying of materials for this publication.

Thanks also to the editorial team and to my secretaries, Julie Goh and Clara Cheng for typing the drafts and redrafts of the manuscript.

Finally, a word of thanks to our publishers, P.G. Publishing Pte. Ltd. and Continental Press for the publishing and printing of this souvenir programme.

ARTHUR LIM SIEW MING

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SECTION I

HISTORY OF THE APAO

Background to its Formation

The formation of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology was suggested by Dr. William John Holmes at the Eighteenth International Congress of Ophthalmology in Brussels in 1958. Dr. Holmes of Hawaii organised a tour of some Asian countries to gather support for its formation. He promoted this tour in the American Journal of Ophthalmology (AJO). On reading about it in the AJO, I thought it would be an ideal way to visit India and other Asian countries. Hence I wrote to John Holmes asking if my wife and I could join the party in New Delhi.

At that time, Hawaii was not a state of the U.S.A. so Holmes considered that he was not bound by his membership in the Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology and could have a place in both groups.

My wife and I met the touring party in New Delhi in September 1958. The tour consisted of a mixture of general sightseeing with visits to hospitals, clinics and meetings with local ophthalmologists, mostly by way of lecture programmes and social occasions. We rejoined the touring party in Manila on October 4. In October 1958, following a dinner at the Manila Hotel, Holmes, Ocampo, Tamesis, Angelo and Lowe discussed various constitutional points about the new Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology and its prospective first meeting in Manila in 1960.

The Goodwill tour was reported by Holmes in the American Journal of Ophthalmology.

Ronald Lowe

Formation of the APAO

The Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology was formed during the Eighteenth International Congress of Ophthalmology in Brussels on September 11, 1958, with the encouragement and blessings of the International Council of Ophthalmology. The principal objective is to foster closer relations among ophthalmologists and ophthalmological societies in the Asia-Pacific area. The geographical and regional boundaries were mapped out by the International Council of Ophthalmology, and

were similar to those of the Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology and the European Association of Ophthalmology.

In a message to the First APAO Congress in Manila in 1960, Sir Stewart Duke-Elder, the President of the International Council of Ophthalmology, said:

“I know of no greater stimulus for the progress of ophthalmology in the vast area which the Asia-Pacific Academy represents than the institution of a body such as yours.”

Objectives of the APAO

The Academy was formed with the aim of fulfilling the mission for a regional organisation against blinding diseases. It also serves as a medium for instruction and an instrument for service and research in ophthalmology among the Asia-Pacific countries. Other objectives of the APAO are to encourage the free exchange of ophthalmological knowledge in these countries as well as other regions of the world, to improve the teaching and practice of ophthalmology and to fight the great scourge of blindness in many under-developed countries in the Asia-Pacific area. More important, the APAO is entrusted with forming a family of ophthalmological societies and a brotherhood of ophthalmologists for the welfare of mankind in this part of the world.

In his presidential address at the First Congress, Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo said:

“This ties that bind us are our preoccupation and dedication to ophthalmology. Ophthalmology is giving meaning to our lives and geographical proximity is making us realize that we are neighbours. Beyond the barriers of race, creed, religion, nationality and school of thought, we are forging strong bonds of that sense of belonging to a single organisation.

Strangers in other aspects of life, we are companions in a common pursuit and interest, that is, obsession with the preservation of God's precious gift of sight and the relief of blindness.

The motives of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology are noble, its objectives clear, yet its course will be beset with many difficulties. Although we have a singleness of purpose, we shall have differences of opinion in what seem to us the best means of attaining our goals. We shall be open-minded in our methods. We shall not scramble for credit in the leadership and management of the Academy.

We shall accept in good faith and willingness whatever is of general agreement, so that each can contribute his bit in this collective undertaking.”

The Setting

The atmosphere that binds the Academy is one of a collective pooling of individual experiences, observations, ideas and concepts. In opening the First Congress, which was to establish the spirit of the Academy and set the tone for future Congresses, Dr. de Ocampo noted:

“No country, people or region, however great or advance, has a monopoly of ophthalmologic knowledge, and no nation is too small or so young that it cannot contribute something to ophthalmology. We shall discuss more and argue less. We shall not bother so much about what is right, but value more what seems nearest the truth.”

The APAO will promote interest and support for the World Health Organisation's programme for the Prevention of Blindness. It will also develop a working liaison with the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness and the International Federation of Ophthalmological Societies. At present, the country members of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology are Australia, Bangladesh, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.

SECTION II

THE ASIA-PACIFIC ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY CONGRESSES

	No. of Delegates	No. of Countries	No. of Papers
First Congress Manila, 1960	128	12	39
Second Congress Melbourne, 1964	217	15	39
Third Congress Singapore, 1968	222	23	55
Fourth Congress Auckland, 1972	227	19	45
Fifth Congress Colombo, 1974	120	14	29
Sixth Congress Bali, 1976	398	22	52
Seventh Congress Karachi, 1979	251	22	52
Eighth Congress Bangkok, 1981	420	32	158
Ninth Congress Hong Kong, 1983	373	30	149

First Congress: Manila, 1960

Academy President	: G. de Ocampo
Congress President	: G. de Ocampo
Academy Vice-Presidents	: V.K. Chitnia
	: I. Mann
Secretary-General	: W.J. Holmes
Treasurer	: R. Ching

The first Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology Congress took place in Manila in October 1960. The four-day Congress was held at the Philippine General Hospital. There were 128 delegates from 12 countries, and a total of 39 papers were presented.

Guest lecturers included Drs. Barraquer of Spain, Sugar of the U.S.A., Ocampo of the Philippines, Nakajima of Japan, Hamilton of Australia and McLaren of Africa. In addition, a flower offering was also made to Dr. Jose Rizal, the National Hero of the Philippines and the first Filipino-known ophthalmologist. The awarding of the APAO Jose Rizal Medal was subsequently started at the Third APAO Congress in Singapore in 1968.

In a message to the First APAO Congress, Sir Stewart Duke-Elder, the President of the Councilum Universale, said:

“I am with you in spirit, and I know that the meeting will be not only successful in itself, but the predecessor of many equally so, both for the progress of our specialty and the good of humanity.”



First APAO Congress in Manila (1960). Delegates to the First Congress included Prof. P.S. Reddy, Prof. A. Nakajima and the late Dr. J.C. Chang.



Seen here are Dr. W.J. Holmes, Dr. R.F. Lowe and the late Dame Ida Mann among others.



Left to Right: Dr. K. Daeng, Mrs. R. F. Lowe, Dr. R.F. Lowe, Prof. K. Prommindaroj, Mrs. K. Daeng and Mrs. K. Prommindaroj.



Members who attended the First Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology Congress held in Manila, October 1960.

Second Congress: Melbourne, 1964

Academy President	: H.D. Dastoor
Congress President	: Sir Norman Gregg
Academy Vice-Presidents	: R.F. Lowe
	: A. Nakajima
	: R.C.K. Loh
Secretary-General	: W.J. Holmes
Treasurer	: R. Ching

The Second APAO Congress was held at the Southern Cross Hotel, Melbourne, in 1964. There were 217 delegates from 15 countries and 39 papers were presented.

The Second Congress was officially opened by His Excellency, the Right Honourable Viscount De L'Isle, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Commonwealth of Australia. The Guest Speaker was the Chairman of the Australian Broadcasting Commission, Dr. J.R. Darling.

The two major symposia were on the Prevention of Blindness and Viral Diseases of the Eye. There was also a course in Ophthalmic Basic Science.

The Symposium on the Prevention of Blindness included Blindness in India (P.S. Reddy), Prevention of Blindness through Eye Camps in India (R. Ebenezer), Prevalence of Glaucoma among Japanese (A. Nakajima), Prevention of Blindness in Thailand (S. Wangspa), Keratomalacia in Singapore (R.C.K. Loh), Clinical Cataract Extraction (J. Chang), Amblyopia ex Anopsia in Victorian School Children (W. Gillies) and Prevention of Blindness in Singapore (A.S.M. Lim).

The Symposium on Viral Diseases of the Eye included Culture of Trachoma Virus (N. Fujiyama), Trachoma in Taiwan (R.L. Woobridge), Laboratory Isolation of TRIC Agents (W. Howarth), Herpes-Simplex Kerato-Uveitis (P. Thygeson), Chemotherapy of Virus Diseases (J. Brosnan) and Double Blind Trial of IDU (D. Hart).

The Basic Ophthalmic Science Course included Pathology (C.H. Green), Physiology (P. Bishop) and Genetics (A. Nakajima).

The late Dame Ida Mann delivered the Second Norman McAlister Gregg Lecture on 'The Causes of Developmental Anomalies'. She was presented with the Gregg Medal.

At the Council Meeting, G. Ocampo retired as the President after his four-year term and H.D. Dastoor was elected to replace him.

The Melbourne Congress of the APAO firmly established the Academy and set a pattern for future meetings.



Second APAO Congress in Melbourne (1964). Left to Right: Dr. W.J. Holmes, Dr. G. de Ocampo, Mrs. R.F. Lowe, Mrs. G. de Ocampo, Dr. R.W. Perritt, the late Dame Ida Mann, Sir Norman Gregg and Dr. R.F. Lowe.



Delegates being taught to throw a boomerang by an aborigine.

Third Congress: Singapore, 1968

Academy President	: R.F. Lowe
Congress President	: R.C.K. Loh
Academy Vice-President	: A. Nakajima
	: P. Sivasubramaniam
	: G. Fenwick
Secretary-General	: W.J. Holmes
Treasurer	: W.J. Holmes
Councillors	: I. Salim
	: S. Wangspa
	: R.P. Dhanda
	: T.H. Kirmani
	: J.C. Chang

The Third Congress of the APAO took place in Singapore in 1968. There were more than 200 delegates from 23 countries. The opening ceremony on August 5, 1968, was performed by the Minister for Health, Mr. Chua Sian Chin. The Congress was also honoured by the presence of the President of the Republic of Singapore.

The main topic of the Congress was the Prevention of Blindness in the Asia-Pacific area. Minor themes included symposia on recent advances in ocular surgery and development of Regional Eye Banks. Special guest speakers were the late Dame Ida Mann, Dr. Phillip Thygeson, Dr. Charles Kelman, Dr. Crowell Beard and Professor D.S. McLaren from W.H.O.

In addition to scientific and academic sessions, participants of the Third APAO Congress attended several social functions including the special Congress dinner presided over by Dr. Toh Chin Chye, the Minister for Science and Technology, and the reception at the Istana given by the Minister of Health, Mr. Chua Sian Chin. Participants were also invited to attend the National Day Parade held on the last day of the Congress which, incidentally, happened to fall on Singapore's National Day.



Group photograph of the delegates to the Third APAO Congress.

Fourth Congress: Auckland, 1972

Academy President	: A. Nakajima
Congress President	: G. Fenwick
Academy Vice-Presidents	: P. Sivasubramaniam
	: I. Salim
	: G. Crock
Secretary-General	: W.J. Holmes
Treasurer	: W.J. Holmes
Regional Secretaries	: I.F. Robertson
	: B.D. Telang
	: K.H. Lim
	: J.C. Chang
Councillors	: T.H. Kirmani
	: B.T. Maskati
	: V.E.S. Ooi
	: R.S. Salceda
	: S. Wangspa

The Fourth APAO Congress was held in Auckland in 1972. There were 227 delegates from 19 countries and 45 papers were presented. The Congress was officially opened by Sir Arthur Porritt, now Lord Porritt, then Governor-General of New Zealand.

There was no special theme for this Congress. Instead, the papers covered all areas of ophthalmology and included contributions from Shaffer, Lowe and Sugar on glaucoma, Ocampo on medical research, Mann and Holmes on geographic ophthalmology, Prommindaroj, Jones, Devoe and Maskati on corneal infection, and Nakajima on artificial eye among others. Guest speakers included Professor Barrie Jones of Moorfields Eye Hospital, London.

At the Fourth APAO Congress, the late Dame Ida Mann was presented the Jose Rizal Medal by Dr. G. Ocampo. At the conclusion of the conference, it was found that donations and registration fees had resulted in a cash surplus. The money was invested and used for Academy purposes such as the purchase of the Jose Rizal Medal.



Fourth APAO Congress in Auckland (1972). Seen here are Dr George Fenwick, Dr Ronald Lowe and Professor Barrie Jones, the Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology at the University of London.



Participants of the Ladies's Program at the Fourth Congress.

Fifth Congress: Colombo, 1974

Academy President	: A. Nakajima
Congress President	: P. Sivasubramaniam
Academy Vice-Presidents	: I. Salim
	: G. Crock
Secretary-General	: W.J. Holmes
Treasurer	: W.J. Holmes
Regional Secretaries	: I.F. Robertson
	: J. Wania
	: R. Pararajasegaram
	: P.S. Reddy
	: K.H. Lim
	: R.B. Espiritu
Councillors	: T.H. Kirmani
	: B.T. Maskati
	: V.E.S. Ooi
	: R.S. Salceda
	: S. Wangspa

The Fifth Congress of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology took place in Colombo in 1974. An address of welcome was given by the President of the Ophthalmological Society of Ceylon, Dr. P.A. Wirasinha, and the Fifth APAO Congress was officially opened by the Congress President, Dr. P. Sivasubramaniam. The Patron-of-honour at this Congress was Mrs. S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka. The Jose Rizal Medal was awarded to Dr. P. Sivasubramaniam by Mrs. Bandaranaike.



Fifth APAO Congress in Ceylon (1974). Prime Minister Mrs. Bandaranaike being introduced to Council members of the APAO.



The Academy President, Prof. A. Nakajima, leading officials and delegates to the Opening Ceremony.



The Congress President, Dr. P. Sivasubramaniam, and the President of the Ophthalmological Society of Ceylon, Dr. P.A. Wirasinha, lighting the oil lamp prior to the Opening Ceremony.



Professor A. Nakajima, the Academy President, addressing the First Session of the Fifth APAO Congress. Beside him is Dr. P. Sivasubramaniam, the Congress President.

Sixth Congress: Bali, 1976

Academy President	: W.J. Holmes
Congress President	: I. Salim
Academy Vice-Presidents	: R.B. Espiritu
	: K. Prommindaroj
	: P.S. Reddy
Secretary-General	: A. Nakajima
Treasurer	: J.C. Chang
Regional Secretaries	: D.B. Chandra
	: R.B. Espiritu
	: K.H. Lim
	: R. Pararajasegaram
	: I.F. Robertson
	: J. Wania
Councillors	: C. Ring
	: D. Sarwono
	: K. Singh
	: I. Tsukahara
	: S. Wangspa

The Sixth Congress of the APAO took place in Bali, Indonesia, in August 1976. There were 396 delegates from 21 countries and 100 papers were presented. A total of six scientific films was also shown.

The Sixth APAO Congress was officially declared open by the Vice-President of the Republic of Indonesia, Sultan Hamengkubuwono the Ninth. Welcome Speeches were also given by the Minister for Health, Professor G.A. Siwabessy, and Professor A. Nakajima, and an Opening Speech was by Professor Isak Salim. The Vice-President of the Republic of Indonesia also presented the Jose Rizal Medal to Professor Salim.

Guest lectures were on Surgical Horizons (J. Hetherington), Examination of the Retinal Nerve Fiber Layer in Incipient Optic Neuropathy (William F. Hoyt), Viro-Epidemiologic Studies of a New Type of Conjunctivitis (Reisaku Kono) and Retinal Vascular Diseases (G.W. Crock).

The major topics of the Sixth Congress focused on retinal disorders of vascular origin, surgery and management of glaucomas, optic neuropathy, cause and management of corneal ulcers, reconstructive surgery of the eyelid, congenital cataract and pseudophakia.

The main topic for discussion in this Congress was the Prevention of Blindness, and there were reports from Singapore, Philippines, Hong Kong, Thailand, Japan, West Java, New Zealand and India. In his address to the Sixth Congress, the Vice-

President said:

“I wish you the best success in your discussions which I am sure will render significant contributions to the further development and refinement of that wonderful part of science that each of you has chosen to dedicate himself to.”



Sixth APAO Congress in Bali (1976).



Members of the Scientific Committee.



Members of the Social Committee.

Seventh Congress: Karachi, 1979

Academy President	: W.J. Holmes
Congress President	: R. Mumtaz
Academy Vice-Presidents	: K. Prommindaroj
	: P.S. Reddy
Secretary-General	: A. Nakajima
Treasurer	: J.C. Chang
Regional Secretaries	: D.B. Chandra
	: R.B. Espiritu
	: K.H. Lim
	: R. Pararajasegaram
	: I.F. Robertson
	: J. Wania
Councillors	: C. Ring
	: D. Sarwono
	: K. Singh
	: T. Tsukahara
	: S. Wangspa

The Seventh APAO Congress was held in Karachi, Pakistan, in March 1979. The Inaugural Address was given by the President of Pakistan, General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq.

Another special guest at the Seventh APAO Congress was the late (Baron) Prof. Jules Francois, the President of the International Council of Ophthalmology. The late (Baron) Prof. Jules Francois presented a paper on 'The Congenital Glaucoma and its Inheritance'.

The major topics at this Congress included glaucoma, the use of intraocular lens implants, diabetic retinopathy and keratoplasty.

The first Microsurgical Teaching Workshop organised by the APAO was also started at Karachi as part of the APAO's programme for Continuing Education. The Workshop was conducted by Prof. Saiichi Mishima (Japan), Dr. Arthur S.M. Lim (Singapore), Prof. Ian Constable (Australia) and Dr. Ian Robertson (Australia).

The Jose Rizal Medal was presented to Professor Ramzan Ali Syed by President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq. The President reiterated his support for the APAO and said:

"I consider the profession of medicine a very noble profession like many other professions, but amongst the noblest of professions, the specialty of ophthalmology is the finest."



Seventh APAO Congress in Karachi (1979). President Zia-ul-Haq being introduced to Prof. R. Mumtaz (Congress President), Dr. W.J. Holmes (President, APAO), the late (Baron) Prof. Jules Francois, International Council of Ophthalmology (President), and Prof. A. Nakajima (Secretary-General, APAO) by Dr. J. Wania (Regional Secretary).



President Zia-ul-Haq viewing the First Scientific Exhibition held in Pakistan. Looking on are Dr. J. Wania and Prof. R. Mumtaz.



A delightful cultural show of Pakistani dances.

Eighth Congress: Bangkok, 1981

Academy President	: R. Pararajasegaram
Congress President	: K. Prommindaroj
Academy Vice-Presidents	: P.S. Reddy
	: J.C. Chang
	: I. Constable
	: A.S.M. Lim
	: K. Singh
	: S. Mishima
Secretary-General	: A. Nakajima
Treasurer	: P. Tong
Regional Secretaries	: D.B. Chandra
	: R.B. Espiritu
	: J. Wania
	: I.F. Robertson
	: S.K. Akmam
	: P. Prachakvij
	: K.H. Lim
Councillors	: C. Ring
	: J. Wania
	: M. Mohan
	: R.V. Fajardo
	: K. Tamin-Radjamin

The Eighth Congress of the APAO was held in Bangkok, Thailand, in 1981. There were 420 delegates from 32 countries and 158 papers were presented. The Congress was inaugurated by the representative of the Crown Prince, His Excellency Professor Sarya Dharmakdi.

Academic sessions began with addresses from selected guest lecturers and the topics of free papers ranged from public health ophthalmology of rural areas or refugee camps to the most sophisticated recent developments with laser and microsurgery. A Microsurgical Seminar and Teaching Course on the uses of the Laser was also held at this Congress.

Social functions included a reception at the Government House and a tour of the Royal Palace and the Temple of the Emerald Buddha. Participants were also entertained by performances of Thai dancing, Thai boxing, cockfighting and elephants at work.

At this Congress, Dr. R. Pararajasegaram was elected the next President of the Academy and Professor A. Nakajima was re-elected the Secretary-General. The Jose Rizal Medal for outstanding contributions was awarded to Professor Kobchai Prommindaroj.



Eighth APAO Congress in Bangkok (1981). Prof. Kobchai Prommindaroj, the Congress President, and Prof. Akira Nakajima, the Secretary-General could not resist showing their affection for each other.



The late (Baron) Prof. Jules Francois and Prof. Kobchai Prommindaroj flanked by two Thai beauties.



The late (Baron) Prof. Jules Francois, the President of the International Council of Ophthalmology, with Professor Kobchai Prommindaroj, Mrs. Prommindaroj and Dr. Prachak.



Dr. A.S.M. Lim (APAO Vice-President) being greeted at the Welcome Party Banquet by Prof. Prommindaroj and Dr. Prachak, the President and the Regional Secretary of the Congress, respectively.



Dr. Pararajasegaram, the Academy President, and Professor K. Prommindaroj, the Congress President, warmly shaking hands.



A scene at one of the Teaching Courses. The overwhelming crowd was indicative of the popularity of the APAO's continuing education programmes.

Ninth Congress: Hongkong, 1983

Academy President	: R. Pararajasegaram
Congress President	: J.C. Chang
Academy Vice-Presidents	: P.S. Reddy
	: I. Constable
	: A.S.M. Lim
	: K. Singh
	: S. Mishima
Secretary-General	: A. Nakajima
Treasurer	: P. Tong
Regional Secretaries	: D.B. Chandra
	: R.B. Espiritu
	: J. Wania
	: I.F. Robertson
	: S.K. Akmam
	: P. Prachakvij
	: K.H. Lim
Councillors	: C. Ring
	: J. Wania
	: M. Mohan
	: R.V. Fajardo
	: K. Tamin-Radjamin

The Ninth APAO Congress took place in Hong Kong in March 1983. One of the major activities at this Congress was the Seminar and Workshop on Microsurgery. Two special lectures, the Holmes and Ocampo lectures, were proposed by the Council.

The Ninth Congress was also attended by Korean and Taiwanese ophthalmologists. The enthusiasm displayed by both members and non-members of the APAO, especially at the Microsurgical Workshops, was a clear indication that the APAO Congresses are fast gaining international recognition and support.

At the Opening Ceremony, Dr. Arthur S.M. Lim received the Jose Rizal Medal after a citation was made by Datuk Dr. Keshmahinder Singh, APAO Vice-President.



Ninth APAO Congress in Hong Kong (1983). The organisers

Back Row (left to right): Drs. E. So, L. Leung, P. Tong, K.Y. Poon, M.W. Ling, W. Leung, A. Mok, W. Li and V. Woo.

Front Row (left to right): Drs. W.K. Chan, Timothy K.C. Liu, Mrs. J.C. Chang, the late J.C. Chang, C.C. Foo, Y. Wong and Mrs E. So.



The crowd at the Opening Ceremony.



The officials of the APAO and the Hong Kong Organising Committee at the Opening Ceremony. Datuk Dr. Keshmahinder Singh reading the citation on Dr Arthur Lim prior to the presentation of the Jose Rizal Medal.

Seated are the organising members of the Ninth Congress. The APAO officials are (from left): Datuk Dr. Keshmahinder Singh, Dr. Benjamin Sung, Dr. Timothy Liu, Prof. A Nakajima, Dr. R. Pararajasegaram, Dr. The Hon. K.L. Thong, the late Dr. John Chang, Dr. Patrick Tong, Dr. Victor Woo and Dr. Arthur Lim.

Tenth Congress: New Delhi, 1985

The Tenth Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology Congress is scheduled to meet from January 31 to February 5, 1985. Since its foundation, the APAO Congress has been growing in importance and has been deliberating on various ocular problems, particularly those present in this region. The countries composing the region are both developing and developed. This gives us a unique opportunity to learn from each other, to present most recent developments in ophthalmology and to get acquainted with the massive efforts that are being made in several countries to lessen the burden of avoidable blindness.

Of particular interest to us is the National Programme for Prevention of Visual Impairment and Control of Blindness which was drafted, prepared and approved by me from the Government of India in 1975. This provides for collaborative efforts between countries like Japan and Australia on the one side and India, Thailand, Bangladesh and Pakistan on the other. I hope we can develop and exchange programmes for the mutual benefit of the countries of the region.

It is my hope and desire that we utilise the facilities within the region for developing training and service centres to help each other.

I pray that the organisation grows more and more to fulfil the cherished desires of its founders.

Agarwal Lalit Prakash

SECTION III

THE APAO COUNCIL

The APAO Council Members (1981 — 1985)

President	: Dr. R. Pararajasegaram
Vice-Presidents	: Dr. J.C. Chang
	: Prof. I. Constable
	: Dr. A.S.M. Lim
	: Prof. S. Mishima
	: Dr. P.S. Reddy
	: Datuk Dr. K. Singh
Secretary-General	: Prof. A. Nakajima
Treasurer	: Dr. P. Tong
Regional Secretaries	: Prof. S.M. Akmam
	: Dr. D.B. Chandra
	: Dr. R.B. Espiritu
	: Dr. K.H. Lim
	: Dr. P. Prachakvij
	: Dr. I.F. Robertson
	: Dr. J. Wania
Councillors	: Dr. R.V. Fajardo
	: Dr. S. Wangspa
	: Dr. M. Mohan
	: Dr. C. Ring
	: Dr. K. Tamin-Radjamin



Prof. Akira Nakajima
Secretary-General, APAO

The development of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology has since its formation been largely determined by the efforts of the Secretary-General. The first Secretary-General was Dr. William John Holmes (1960-1976). Since 1976, Prof. Akira Nakajima has been the Secretary-General of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology. He was the Vice-President from 1964-1972 and the President from 1972-1976.

Prof. Akira Nakajima is one of the most distinguished ophthalmologist from the Asia-Pacific region.

Born on 14 July 1923 Prof. Nakajima graduated from the University of Tokyo in 1945. In 1953 he attained the Doctorate in Medical Science from the same University. He started his ophthalmic career in 1945 as Assistant in Ophthalmology at the University of Tokyo. In 1949 he was Head of the Eye Clinic in Hanaoka Hospital in Japan and in 1954 he was Assistant Professor at the Department of Ophthalmology, Juntendo University, School of Medicine. From 1960 till now he has been the appointed Professor and Chairman of this department. He spent two years from 1956 to 1958 working at the Royal College of Surgeons, England, and the Royal Eye Hospital, London.

Prof. Nakajima holds numerous Ministry of Health appointments. He has been a member of the Central Pharmaceutical Affairs Council since 1969 and a member of the Medical Affairs Bureau. Since 1970, he was a member of the Council for National Medical Licence Examination, since 1971 the Council for National Examination for Orthoptists and since 1973, the Council for Physicians' Residency Training. He is also a member of the Advisory Council on the Welfare of physically handicapped people since 1970.

At the international level his activities are extensive. He is probably the most active ophthalmologist in the Asia-Pacific area.

Societies

Member of the International Council of Ophthalmology (1974-present) (The President, 23rd International Congress of Ophthalmology, Kyoto, May 1978)

International Contact Lens Council of Ophthalmology (President 1974-present)

Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (Vice-President 1964-1972, President 1972-1976, Secretary-General 1976-present)

Afro-Asian Congress of Ophthalmology (Member of the Permanent Committee 1972-present)

International Society for Clinical Electroretinography (Vice-President 1974-present)

International Society of Geographic Ophthalmology (Member of the Executive Committee 1973-present)

Society of Eye Surgeons

Societe Francaise d'Ophthalmologie

International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness

International Society for Eye Research (Member of By-law Committee)

World Federation of Neurology

International Society on Metabolic Eye Disease

Contact Lens Association of Ophthalmologists

Japanese Ophthalmological Society (Member of the Executive Committee 1967-1975, Councillor 1961-present)

Japan Contact Lens Society (President 1964-1970, Member of the Executive Committee 1960-present)

Member, Permanent Committee of the International Congress of Human Genetics (1962-1972)

Member of the Committee, Societas Ergophthalmologica Internationalis

Japan Society for Ophthalmic Optics (Member of the Executive Committee 1964-present)

Japanese Society of Human Genetics (Executive Secretary 1959-1969, Member of the Executive Committee 1969-1973, 1975-present)

Japanese Association of Strabismus and Amblyopia (Member of the Executive Committee 1972-present)

Prof Nakajima is also on many Editorial Boards and they include:

Oriental Archives of Ophthalmology 1963-1972

Eastern Archives of Ophthalmology 1973-present

Annals of Ophthalmology 1969-present

Clinical Evaluation (Japanese) 1972-present

Japanese Journal of Ophthalmology 1976-present

The Japanese Journal of Human Genetics 1959-present

Congenital Anomalies (Japanese) 1961-present

Modern Medicine of Japan 1972-1973

His research interests vary from refraction to genetics and prevention of blindness. They include:

Refraction, Human genetics, Medical electronics and optics, Public health ophthalmology, Ocular pharmacology, Blindness prevention and rehabilitation.

The Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology is fortunate to have as its Secretary-General an outstanding ophthalmologist of immense drive and ability. Under his distinguished leadership for the past ten years, the APAO has grown from strength to strength.



APAO Council Meeting at the Dusit Thani Hotel in Bangkok. Seen here are the late (Baron) Prof. Jules Francois, Dr. R. Pararajasegaram Dr. Ronald Lowe, Dr. Ian Roberston, Dr. Kenneth Howsam and Datuk Dr. Keshmahinder Singh.



Council members supporting Congress in Hong Kong

The late Dr. J.C. Chang, the President of the Ninth APAO Congress, and representatives from the Tourist Board assembling officials in Bangkok to ensure support for the Hong Kong Congress. Present here are Prof. A. Nakajima (Secretary-General, APAO), Dr. Arthur S.M. Lim (Vice-President, APAO), Prof. R. Mumtaz (Congress President, Pakistan), the late Dr. J.C. Chang (Congress President, Hong Kong), Prof. Kobchai Prommindaroj (Congress President, Thailand) and Dr. J. Wania (Regional Secretary).

Previous Councils

Table 1

OFFICERS OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY SINCE FOUNDATION

	1960	1964	1968	1972	1974	1976	1979	1981
Academy President Congress President	G. Ocampo G. Ocampo	H.D. Dastoor Sir Norman Gregg	R.F. Lowe R.C.K. Loh	A. Nakajima G. Fenwick	A. Nakajima P. Sivasubramaniam	W.J. Holmes I. Salim	W.J. Holmes R. Mumtaz	R. Pararajasegaram Kobchai Prommindaroj
Academy Vice-Presidents	V.K. Chinnis Ida Mann	R.F. Lowe A. Nakajima R.C.K. Loh	A. Nakajima P. Sivasubramaniam G. Fenwick	P. Sivasubramaniam I. Salim G. Crock	I. Salim G. Crock	R. Mumtaz Kobchai Prommindaroj P. Siva Reddy	Kobchai Prommindaroj P. Siva Reddy	P. Siva Reddy J.C. Chang I. Constable Arthur S.M. Lim Keshmahinder Singh Saiichi Mishima
Secretary- General	W.J. Holmes	W.J. Holmes	W.J. Holmes	W.J. Holmes	W.J. Holmes	A. Nakajima	A. Nakajima	A. Nakajima
Treasurer	R. Ching	W.J. Holmes	W.J. Holmes	W.J. Holmes	W.J. Holmes	J.C. Chang	J.C. Chang	Patrick Tong
Regional Secretaries				I.F. Robertson B.D. Telang K.H. Lim J.C. Chang	I.F. Robertson J. Wania R. Pararajasegaram P. Siva Reddy K.H. Lim R. B. Espirtu	D.B. Chandra R.B. Espirtu K.H. Lim R. Pararajasegaram I.F. Robertson J. Wania	D.B. Chandra R.B. Espirtu K.H. Lim R. Pararajasegaram I.F. Robertson J. Wania	D.B. Chandra R.B. Espirtu J. Wania I.F. Robertson S.K. Akman Prachak Prachakvij K.H. Lim
Councillors			I. Salim S. Wangspa R.P. Dhanda T.H. Kirmani J. C. Chang	T.H. Kirmani B.T. Maskati V.E.S. Ooi R.S. Salceda S. Wangspa	T.H. Kirmani B.T. Maskati V.E.S. Ooi R.S. Salceda S. Wangspa	Calvin Ring Djoko Sarwono Keshmahinder Singh I. Tsukahara S. Wangspa	Calvin Ring Djoko Sarwono Keshmahinder Singh I. Tsukahara S. Wangspa	Calvin Ring J. Wania Madan Mohan Romeo V. Fajardo K. Tamin-Radjamin
Past Presidents Academy		G. Ocampo	G. Ocampo H.D. Dastoor	G. Ocampo H.D. Dastoor R.F. Lowe	G. Ocampo H.D. Dastoor R.F. Lowe	G. Ocampo H.D. Dastoor R.F. Lowe A. Nakajima	G. Ocampo H.D. Dastoor R.F. Lowe A. Nakajima	G. Ocampo H.D. Dastoor R.F. Lowe A. Nakajima W.J. Holmes*
Congress		G. Ocampo	G. Ocampo	G. Ocampo R.C.K. Loh	G. Ocampo R.C.K. Loh G. Fenwick	G. Ocampo R.C.K. Loh G. Fenwick P. Sivasubramaniam	G. Ocampo R.C.K. Loh G. Fenwick P. Sivasubramaniam I. Salim	G. Ocampo R.C.K. Loh G. Fenwick P. Sivasubramaniam I. Salim R. Mumtaz*
Advisors	Sir Stewart-Duke- Elder G.B. Bietti P. Thygeson A. Franceschetti	Sir Stewart-Duke- Elder P. Thygeson A. Franceschetti Ida Mann J. Barraquer	Sir Stewart-Duke- Elder Ida Mann J. Barraquer P. Thygeson J. Francois	Sir Stewart-Duke- Elder Barrie R. Jones J. Barraquer A.E. Maumenee J. Francois	Barrie R. Jones J. Barraquer A.E. Maumenee J. Francois	Sir Stewart-Duke- Elder Barrie R. Jones A.E. Maumenee J. Francois B. Nizetic	Sir Stewart-Duke- Elder Barrie R. Jones A.E. Maumenee J. Francois B. Nizetic	Barrie R. Jones A.E. Maumenee J. Francois B. Nizetic B. Thylefors
Site of Congress	Manila	Melbourne	Singapore	Auckland	Colombo	Bali	Karachi	Bangkok

*Council Member

The APAO Congress

The main function of the Council is to ensure that a Congress is held every two to four years. The main purpose of the Congress is not only to bring ophthalmologists in the Asia-Pacific region together, but also to promote recent advancements in ophthalmology. Since 1960, nine APAO Congresses have been held. Congresses have thus become an important part of the APAO's activities.

Prevention of Blindness in the Asia-Pacific

The "Prevention of Blindness" has been and will continue to be one of the primary aims of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology. Since the Academy was set up as a force against blindness in the Asia-Pacific region, it has become inherent in almost every APAO Congress to have a report or discussion on the prevention of blindness in every member country.

From the very first Congress of the APAO held in Manila in 1960, the Academy has set out to achieve its aim.

At the Second APAO Congress in Melbourne, 1964, a symposium on the Prevention of Blindness was held. The papers in the Symposium included Blindness in India (P.S. Reddy), Prevention of Blindness through Eye Camps in India (K. Ebenezer), Prevention of Blindness in Thailand (S. Wangspa) and Prevention of Blindness in Singapore (Arthur S.M. Lim).

The major theme at the Third Congress in Singapore in 1968 was the Prevention of Blindness in the Asia-Pacific area. The special Symposium on the Prevention of Blindness was on Trachoma and Malnutrition.

The Prevention of Blindness was again a major concern at the Sixth Congress held in Bali in 1976. Reports delivered were from the Philippines, Hong Kong, Thailand, Japan, West Java, New Zealand, India and Singapore. The papers were: Prevention of Blindness in Japan (Yasuo Uemura); Prevention of Blindness Activities of Eye Health Care in West-Java (Sugara Tjakrasudjatma); Prevention of Blindness in India (Siva Reddy); Prevention of Blindness in Hong Kong (J.C. Chang); Prevention of Blindness in New Zealand, 1976 (C.C. Riley).

The APAO's emphasis on the prevention of blindness in its members countries was again reiterated at the Eighth Congress in Bangkok in 1981. Papers on the prevention of blindness included a Report on Prevention of Blindness in Hong Kong (J.C. Chang), Blindness and its Prevention — The Singapore Experience (Arthur S.M. Lim, Ang Beng Chong and Khoo Chong Yew), Prevention of Blindness in Thailand (K. Konyama), The HMG/WHO Project on Prevention and Control of Blindness in Nepal (Ram P. Pokhrel), Prevention of Blindness through Community Participation in Pakistan (T.H. Kirmani) and the National Programme for the Control of Blindness in India (Madan Mohan).

Formation of the Committee on Continuing Education

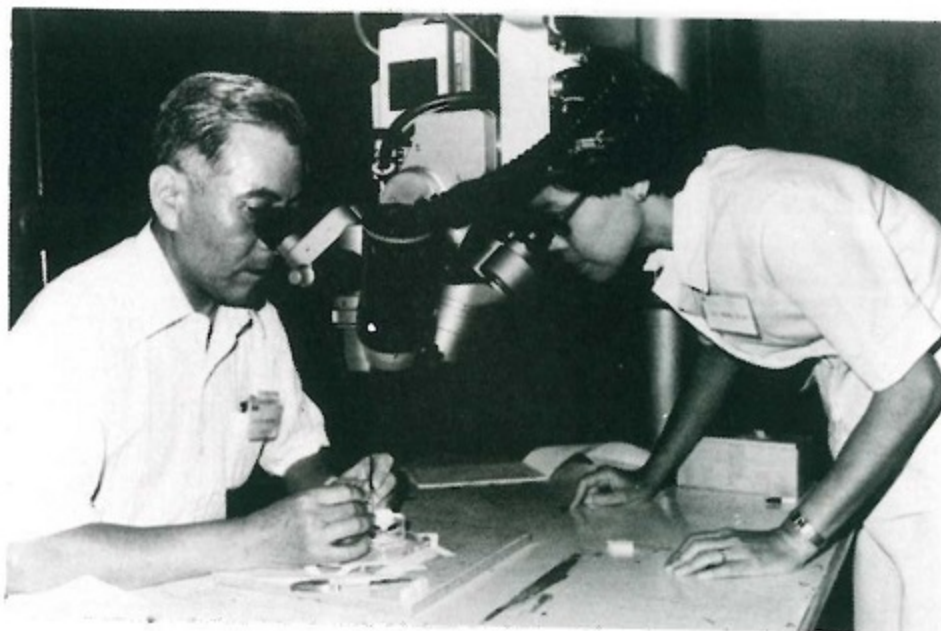
The formation of a Continuing Education Committee on March 13, 1983, was a further step towards achieving the APAO's objective of promoting ophthalmological knowledge among member countries. Dr Arthur Lim was elected the Convenor, and the rest of the Committee on Continuing Education includes Drs. R. Pararajasegaram, I. Constable, Saiichi Mishima, D.B. Chandra, Romeo B. Espiritu and Jamshed Wania.

Newsletters, Journals and Others

The APAO also hopes to produce newsletters or a journal containing useful information and illustrations.

Workshops and Teaching Courses

The APAO Council through the Congress coordinates the continuing education programme by holding teaching courses before, during or after actual Congresses. Microsurgical Workshops and teaching sessions have thus taken place at the Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Congresses in Karachi, Bangkok and Hong Kong respectively. Courses on retinal diseases have also become an important aspect of the Continuing Education programme.



Prof. S. Mishima (Vice-President, APAO,) demonstrating at one of the microsurgical workshops.



Ophthalmologists at a microsurgical workshop watching techniques transmitted through video monitors.



Ophthalmologists learn microsurgery by practising on animal's eyes.

Special Lectures

Two special lectures, the Holmes and Ocampo Lectures (named after two founders of the APAO) were created to enable leading ophthalmologists to inform their colleagues of their work and research.

Some Past Activities, Actual and Proposed

The following are some of the past activities, both, those which were carried out and those which were proposed but not completed because of a lack of manpower, resources and finance. The latter is a recurrent problem with many international professional organisations.

1. A series of joint conferences with ophthalmological societies in Pakistan, India, Ceylon, Thailand, Hong Kong and the Philippines was sponsored by the APAO.
2. A group of Australian ophthalmologists led by Dr. Ronald Lowe met with ophthalmologic groups in Thailand, Japan and Hong Kong, under the auspices of the Academy.
3. Upon the request of the Hong Kong Ophthalmological Society, the Academy contacted editors of Hong Kong newspapers and the Director-General of the Hong Kong Medical Department, and urged the adoption of an ordinance to stop the practices of all unqualified practitioners (quacks). This ordinance was later enacted into law.
4. In exchange for ophthalmological knowledge, the Academy was to have conducted a medical and surgical eye clinic in Vietnam over a three-month period. Three surgeons were to have operated on several hundred blind and needy patients and treated hundreds of others. It had also hoped to arrange for 6 ophthalmologists to work in Indonesia.
5. The APAO made arrangements for Asian and Australian ophthalmologists to visit clinics in the United States and Europe, and for American ophthalmologists to visit clinics in Asia. Among those included in this program were Professor Franceschetti of Geneva, Switzerland, Drs. Dohrmann Pischel and Vernon Leech of the United States, Dr. B.W. Kong of Seoul, Korea, Dr. Deva Aditya of Ceylon, and Drs. Esme Anderson, Ida Mann, John Colvin and C.I. Hughes of Australia.
6. The APAO sent thousands of medical books and journals to the Rangoon General Hospital in Burma, the Hong Kong University Library, the University of Indonesia in Jakarta, the University of Seoul in Korea and the University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur.
7. The APAO arranged for the publication of a textbook on ophthalmology with 20 contributors from Asia, Australia and the Pacific Basin.
8. The APAO offered two prizes for original essays on the 'Prevention of Blindness in India'.
9. The Academy was to have conducted eye examinations on 120 blind refugees in Macao, and arranged for the "Meals for Millions Foundation" to send several tons of food supplies to Macao.
10. Upon the request of a Committee of Professors from the All-India

Ophthalmological Society, the APAO outlined 'minimum international standards' of ophthalmologic equipment for use in eye hospitals in India.

11. The APAO was to have arranged for a pictorial exhibit entitled 'The Battle Against Blindness in Asia'.

Some Long-term Goals of the APAO are:

1. Establishment of a Committee on Postgraduate Instruction.
2. Establishment of a Committee on Research. The Chairman and Committee Members are to be selected in consultation with the Ophthalmic Research Institute of Australia.
3. Carrying out of up-to-date surveys on the causes of blindness in the countries of Asia and the Pacific (with Prof. A. Nakajima serving as the Chairman).

25th Anniversary Souvenir Programme

To commemorate the success of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology since its inception in 1960, a souvenir programme entitled '25 YEARS OF ASIA-PACIFIC OPHTHALMOLOGY (1960-1985)' is to be produced. The book will contain precious memories of all the important events that have taken place between 1960 to 1985. Dr. Arthur S.M. Lim was elected the Editor for this book.

SECTION IV

NATIONAL OPHTHALMOLOGICAL SOCIETIES OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Australia

The Ophthalmological Society of Australia was founded in 1938 and, by the end of World War II, was holding annual scientific congresses and publishing papers in the Transactions of the Ophthalmological Society of Australia.

The Ophthalmological Society of Australia was governed by a Council which was assisted by various Standing Committees. However, as it was not an academic body, it therefore could not control the professional quality of its members. Hence most Australian ophthalmologists were certified overseas.

In 1969, the Ophthalmological Society of Australia was changed to the Australian College of Ophthalmologists which, in 1977, was renamed the Royal Australian College of Ophthalmologists (RACO). The new College instituted a training program and a two-part examination which has become the major qualification for Australian ophthalmologists. The RACO negotiates on behalf of, and has become recognised as the official voice of, Australian ophthalmologists.

The annual transactions of the Society (College) ceased publication in 1971, and the College founded the Australian Journal of Ophthalmology, presently consisting of four numbers per year. A fine ophthalmological library was developed in conjunction with the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital, Melbourne.

Australian ophthalmologists have given active support to APAO Congresses by regular attendance and the presentation of papers. Dr. Ronald Lowe was the Vice-President of the Academy from 1964 to 1968 and the President from 1968 to 1972. The APAO has played a significant part in fostering regional international relationships for Australian ophthalmologists.

Ronald Lowe

Bangladesh

The Bangladesh National Society for the Blind is a Voluntary Organisation established in 1973 with the objectives of prevention, cure and rehabilitation of the population. Since its inception, the Society has set up 7 base Eye Hospitals in different parts of the country with the help of international organisations. The base Eye Hospitals give round-the-year service through its in-patient and out-patient facilities.

The Society has, for the last few years, been conducting Mobil School Sight-Testing Programmes to screen out and treat defective-sighted school students. Through these programmes, 831 schools in rural and urban areas have been visited and 190 906 students have been screened out.

In winter, Mobil Eye Camps are set up in rural areas as 'outreach programmes'. Through 1036 Eye Camps, 930 739 patients have been treated and 146 026 operated on.

Since 1979, the Society has been conducting two Training Programmes, one for Doctors and the other for Paramedics. So far, 37 Doctors have been trained in Community Ophthalmology at the University of Chittagong. A total of 73 Paramedics have also been similarly trained in Ophthalmology.

The Eye Infirmary and Training Complex at Chittagong is a multi-disciplinary Institution commissioned in 1983. Besides incorporating a 110-bed modern Eye Hospital, the Complex has a Training Institute for the training of different ophthalmic surgeons. The complex also has a Nutrition Rehabilitation Centre and a Spectacle Manufacturing Workshop.

Rabiul Husain

Hong Kong

The Hong Kong Ophthalmological Society was formed in the early fifties and, to date, it has about 60 members. The objectives of the Society are to promote friendship among its members, as well as to promote and hold either individually or jointly with any other association, society or persons, meetings, conferences and discussions for the exchange of knowledge in medical discovery and invention, technical development and practical experience with special attention to the field of ophthalmology.

The Hong Kong Ophthalmological Society holds regular scientific meetings, seminars, workshops and social functions as well as participates actively in com-

munity services and projects. In March 1983, the Hong Kong Ophthalmological Society hosted the 9th Congress of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology with the late Dr. John Chang as the President of the Organising Committee. The Congress was attended by more than 300 delegates from 30 countries. In August 1985, the Royal Australian College of Ophthalmologists will hold their annual Scientific Meeting in Hong Kong with the Hong Kong Ophthalmological Society as co-host.

The Hong Kong Ophthalmological Society is a founder member of the Hong Kong Federation for the Prevention of Blindness and the Hong Kong Federation of Medical Societies. The Hong Kong Ophthalmological Society also works closely with the Medical and Health Department Ophthalmic Services and the Hong Kong Eye Bank and Research Foundation to promote the eye health care of Hong Kong.

William K.Y. Leung

India

The All-India Ophthalmic Society was started in 1932 and is the oldest medical society in India. Its present membership is 1500, and is nearly 50 percent of the estimated total number of 3000-4000 qualified ophthalmologists in India. Forty-two Annual Conferences have been held since its inception, and in 1982, the Golden Jubilee of the Society was celebrated.

The Society was formed with the primary purpose of getting together qualified eye surgeons under one roof at yearly meetings. This was necessary because a large country like India makes it difficult for professional colleagues to meet and exchange individual experiences. Thus, the holding of scientific sessions is an important activity of the Society and, on the average, 1000 Indian ophthalmologists get together every year. The All-India Ophthalmic Society also invites ophthalmologists from other countries in the East and West to participate in academic programmes. The All-India Ophthalmic Society was responsible for a number of international conferences such as the International Congress of Ophthalmology in Delhi 1962 and the Afro-Asian Conference of Ophthalmology in Madras in 1976. It is now preparing for the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology in Delhi in 1985.

Eye Camps, pioneered by Dr. Mathuradas and Col. Henry Holland, provide rural areas with eye care services. With assistance from other clubs and societies, the All-India Ophthalmic Society aims at extending eye relief programmes to children by organising school and nutrition programmes, developing Eye Banks and training more surgeons in corneal grafting.

R.P. Dhanda

Indonesia

The Indonesian Ophthalmological Association (PERDAMI) was founded in 1964, and Professor Isak Salim became the first Chairman of the Association. The primary aim of the Association is to promote the skills and knowledge of its members as well as assist the Indonesian Government in preventing blindness. Then, the Association had only 40 members who were qualified ophthalmologists.

In 1968, the First Congress of the Association took place in Jakarta and Dr. S.M. Akmam was appointed the new Chairman. At this Congress, Dr. Rizutti from New York introduced cryoextraction of cataracts and, since then, ophthalmic resident training centres have adopted cryo for cataract operations.

1968 was also the year the Indonesian Ophthalmological Association became a member of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology. Indonesia was the host country of the Sixth APAO Congress in 1976, and the meeting was held in Bali.

The Association also cooperates with the Eye Bank which is affiliated to the Indonesian Blindness Benevolent Association. In 1967, the first corneal transplant was performed by Professor I. Salim in Jakarta. Today, this operation can be performed in other branches of the Association such as Semarang, Yogyakarta, Bandung and Surabaya.

The Fourth Congress of the Association was held in Medan in 1980. Guest speakers included Professors Ian Constable from Australia, Bonnet from France, Oosterhuis from Holland and Dr. Arthur Lim from Singapore. At this Congress, Professor K. Tamin-Radjamin was re-elected President of the Association.

K. Tamin-Radjamin

Japan

The Japanese Ophthalmological Society was founded on February 27, 1897 in Tokyo. The number of members in December 1898 was recorded as 581. At that time, the total population of Japan was 44 million, and the blindness rate was estimated to be a little over 1 percent. The members grew to 1000 in 1915, to 2000 in 1957, over 3000 in 1966, and over 6000 in 1983. The total population of Japan in 1983 was 120 million, and the blindness rate was 0.2 percent.

The journal of the society, *Acta Societatis Ophthalmologicae Japonicae* (*Acta Soc. Ophthalmol. Jpn.*) has been published until vol. 88 no. 7 in July, 1984. Annual Congresses are held every year in spring for 3 days and are attended by over 3000 participants. Post-graduate qualifications in ophthalmology were started in 1984.

The Society joined the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology in 1971, although the members of the Society participated in the First Congress in Manila and all subsequent congresses. The number of participants has always been over ten and sometimes nearly one hundred. The Japanese Ophthalmological Society has yet to host the Congress of the Academy and may not have a chance to host it until 1991, after Kuala Lumpur in 1987 and Seoul in 1989. The Society organised the Fifth Afro-Asian Congress of Ophthalmology in 1972 in Tokyo, and the Twenty-third International Congress of Ophthalmology in May 1978 in Kyoto. Japanese ophthalmologists will continue to contribute to the activities of the Academy.

A. Nakajima

Korea

The Korean Ophthalmological Society has expanded from 73 members and a revenue of US\$5000 in 1960 to 472 members and US\$75 000 in 1983. By 1984, the Korean Ophthalmological Society was made up of 472 regular members or boardmen and 138 residents.

Until 1968, annual conventions were held every October and about 30 papers were presented. Thereafter, Spring meetings became symposiums where most of the papers are published in the Journal of the Korean Ophthalmological Society. The Journal was published quarterly until 1983 and, by 1984, it became a bi-monthly publication. For Autumn meetings, free papers in clinical and research fields, special lectures by nominations and guest lectures by prominent foreign ophthalmologists are presented.

A subsidiary committee called the 'Committee for Training and Examination' controls Board examinations for ophthalmologists. Written tests and oral examinations are held every January. The applicant has to complete 3 years of residency, of a standard set by the Committee, in a training hospital. Oral examinations of specialty fields are divided into external eye diseases, anterior segment (lens and glaucoma), posterior segment (vitreous, retina, uvea), strabismus and neuro-ophthalmology, optics and refraction, and ocular pathology. Every year, approximately 50 doctors pass the Board examination to become regular members of the Society.

Through continuing education, the Korean Ophthalmological Society maintains a high quality of ophthalmologists. All ophthalmologists are expected to get 15 credits (15 hours) of continuing education lectures which may be given at Spring or Autumn meetings.

Nam Ho Baek

New Zealand

New Zealand has 72 ophthalmologists who are all voluntary members of the Ophthalmological Society of New Zealand (OSNZ). Sixty active ophthalmologists give a ratio of one ophthalmologist per 52 000 people.

The OSNZ holds annual scientific conferences and, in 1972, the Fourth Congress of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology was held in Auckland. The Transactions of the Ophthalmological Society of New Zealand have been published since 1947.

Previously, New Zealand ophthalmologists went to the United Kingdom for post-graduate training. Now, they are trained within New Zealand and later have one or two years' experience overseas. In 1975, the formation of an Education and Qualification Committee made the OSNZ responsible for post-graduate training and continuing education for ophthalmologists. The recognised specialist qualification is the jointly examined FRACS or FRACO examinations which are held in New Zealand as well as Australia. Training programmes are accredited by the Education and Qualification Committee.

In 1965, members of the OSNZ were instrumental in forming the New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Blindness, which is complementary to the OSNZ in the fields of public information, prevention of industrial eye damage and support of research.

J.C. Parr

Pakistan

When Professor Raja Mumtaz received a letter from Dr. John Holmes, then President of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology, on July 10, 1957, he was inspired to set up the Ophthalmological Society of Pakistan. This dream became a reality on December 19, 1957.

The existence of Ophthalmological Society of Pakistan was further encouraged by the enthusiastic support of the President of Pakistan, General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq. The President declared an award in the name of Professor Ramzan Ali Syed to be given to a Pakistani ophthalmologist annually, and instituted a gold medal to be awarded to a brilliant ophthalmologist from the Afro-Asian countries every fourth year on the recommendation of the Executives of the Afro-Asian Congress of Ophthalmology. General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq also offered to sponsor the International Institute of Ophthalmology in Pakistan as 'part of his contribution towards humanity's crusade against blindness'.

The promotion of ophthalmology in Pakistan owes its success to the Patron-in-

Chief of the Ophthalmological Society of Pakistan, General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq. The seventh APAO Congress at Karachi was an added boost to the morale of the Ophthalmological Society of Pakistan as General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq announced certain concessions in favour of ophthalmologists.

Raja Mumtaz

Singapore

The Singapore Ophthalmological Society was inaugurated on 11th January 1968. Over the years it has hosted as well as participated in many regional and international ophthalmic congresses. In its effort to ensure that Singaporean ophthalmologists are kept abreast of recent developments, the Society holds Monthly Scientific Meetings and Continuing Education Sessions.

In addition, a talk by a Visiting Specialist or a short course on Recent Ophthalmic Advances such as those on retinal diseases, contact lenses, microsurgery and intraocular lens implantation is organised almost every month.

On the 1st February 1981, the First Joint Meeting between Malaysian and Singaporean ophthalmologists was held in Singapore. This was declared open by the Permanent Secretary for Health and Director of Medical Services. Since then, each year the Joint Meeting has been held alternately in Malaysia and Singapore and has proved to be a stimulating ophthalmic event. The First Proceedings of the Society was published in 1982.

Our members have been active in international ophthalmic organisations with Dr. Robert Loh as Vice-President of the APAO in 1964 and as the President of the Third Congress in Singapore. Dr. Lim Kuang Hui has been the Regional-Secretary since 1972 and Dr. Arthur S.M. Lim the Vice-President since 1981. Dr. Arthur Lim was also elected the Convenor for Continuing Education and the Editor of the 25th Anniversary Souvenir Programme.

Richard Fan

Vietnam

The Vietnamese Society of Ophthalmologists (SRVN) was formed in 1960. There are now approximately 800 ophthalmologists and assistant doctors who are official members of the SRVN. Since its inception, the SRVN has been working towards overcoming the conditions which cause blindness. Most of the conditions have now improved although the SRVN's efforts are impeded by constant warfare.

In 1960, the SRVN concentrated on the prevention and cure of trachoma and its complications. As a result, the incidence of active trachoma has been reduced from over 65 percent to under 30 percent at present. Trichiasis has been completely eradicated in 10 provinces.

Scientific conferences are held regularly every 2 to 3 years, and innovations created by specialists are reported. Modern foreign techniques in diagnosis, treatment and surgery are also shared. Teams of surgeons for cataract extraction are organised and sent to rural districts so that more people can be operated on.

Surgical innovations by the SRVN have been published in international journals, and the Society of Ophthalmologists has attained international recognition.

The SRVN has established cooperative scientific relationships with ophthalmologists all over the world and hopes to work towards greater achievements.

Nguyen Trong Nhan

SECTION V

APAO AWARDS

The Jose Rizal Medal



Every two to four years, the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology awards its most prestigious medal, the Jose Rizal Medal, to an outstanding ophthalmologist for excellence in ophthalmology in the Asia-Pacific area. The only criterion for being a recipient is that the person must be residing in the Asia-Pacific area. In the event that no suitable candidate is found, the award should not be made.

Rules for Selection of the Jose Rizal Medal Recipient:

1. To commemorate the memory of Dr. Jose Rizal, the Philippines Ophthalmological Society has instituted the Jose Rizal Medal to be awarded once every two years by the Council of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO).
2. The Council of the APAO shall appoint 3 members (one of whom shall be from the country hosting the meeting at which the presentation is made) to a nominating committee which shall submit to the Council one or two ophthalmologists of distinction for the award. The Council will make the final decision and only one candidate shall be eligible for the award.



Dr. Ocampo presenting the Medal to the late Dame Ida Mann.

Dame Ida Mann (1972)

The late Dame Ida Mann was the first and only female surgeon on the consultant staff of Moorfields Eye Hospital as well as the first and only Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Oxford. Dame Ida Mann was acknowledged for her invaluable contributions to the progress of ophthalmology when she was knighted Dame Ida Mann. She received the Jose Rizal Medal at the Fourth Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology Congress.

Dr. P. Sivasubramaniam (1974)

Dr. P. Sivasubramaniam was the President of the APAO Congress in Colombo and was elected the Vice-President of the APAO in 1968 and 1972. He is one of the best known ophthalmologists in Asia and has contributed significantly to ophthalmology in Sri Lanka. In recognition of his contributions, he was awarded the Jose Rizal Medal in 1974. The Medal was presented to him at the Congress in Colombo by Sri Lankan Prime Minister Mrs. Bandaranaike.

Recipients of the Jose Rizal Medal



Dr. Wong Poh Lam presenting the Medal to Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo, M.D.

Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo (1968)

Dr. de Ocampo was the first recipient of the Jose Rizal Medal in 1964. He is the Director and Founder of the de Ocampo Eye Hospital, the Founder and First Director of the Philippine Eye Research Institute as well as the Founder and First President of the Philippine Ophthalmological Society. Dr. de Ocampo has written 160 scientific articles in ophthalmology and 25 in otolaryngology in Philippine Island and U.S.A. A three-time recipient of the Presidential Awards Cultural Heritage Award, Dr. de Ocampo is known as the 'Father of Modern Philippine Ophthalmology, 1977'.



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Prof. Isak Salim (1976)

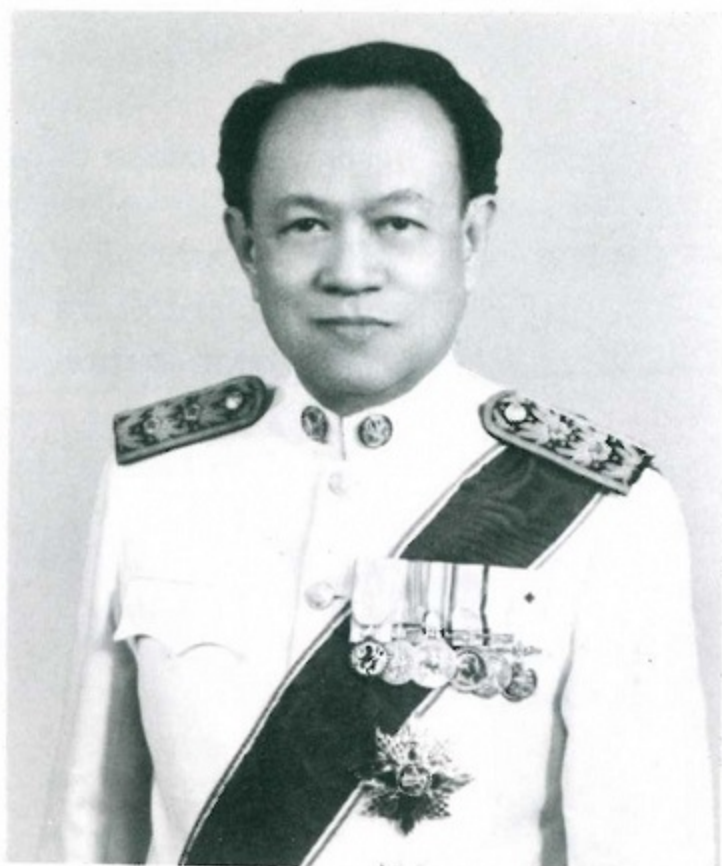
Prof. Isak Salim founded the Indonesian Ophthalmological Association (PERDAMI) in 1964. He was the Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Jakarta and President of the Congress in 1976 when it was held in Bali, Indonesia. Prof. Salim was also elected the APAO Vice-President in 1972. He was responsible for the recent development of ophthalmology in Indonesia. Because of his contributions he was awarded the Jose Rizal Medal in 1976.



Prof. Ali Syed with Prof. Mumtaz (President of the Seventh Congress in Karachi) holding the Medal.

Prof. Ramzan Ali Syed (1979)

Prof. Ramzan Ali Syed founded the Ophthalmological Society in Lahore in 1954 and was its first President. He was also a member of the medical delegation to the U.S.S.R. in 1952. In 1964, a private hospital planned by Prof. Ramzan Ali Syed was completed and named the 'Ali Hospital'. Prof. Ramzan Ali Syed was awarded the Jose Rizal Medal in 1979 by President Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq of Pakistan.



Kobchai Prommindaroj, M.D.

Prof. Kobchai Prommindaroj (1981)

Prof. Kobchai Prommindaroj is the Professor of Ophthalmology in Chulalongkorn University and Hospital in Bangkok, Thailand. He received the Jose Rizal Medal at the Eighth Congress of the APAO in 1981.



Dr. Lim receiving the Medal from Dr. The Hon. K.L. Thong, the Director of Medical Services, Hong Kong.

Dr. Arthur Lim Siew Ming (1983)

Dr. Arthur S.M. Lim is a Visiting Consultant to the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Singapore. He is a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, the Royal Australasian College of Ophthalmologists and the Academy of Ophthalmology of America. Dr. Lim is one

of the best known authors in ophthalmology from Asia. He has published more than 120 scientific papers and has written 5 books on ophthalmology. He also sits on the Editorial Board of several international ophthalmic journals. He has organised numerous meetings on microsurgery, retinal diseases, lasers and intraocular lens implantation. Dr. Lim has lectured as an invited Guest Speaker extensively.

Recipients of the Gold Jose Rizal Medal



(Baron) Prof. Jules Francois (1978)

The late (Baron) Prof. Jules Francois, Honorary Life President, International Council of Ophthalmology.



Dr. William John Holmes (1982)

Dr William John Holmes, Founder Secretary-General of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology.

Ocampo and Holmes Lectures

At the 1983 Council Meeting held in Hong Kong, the Holmes and Ocampo Lectures were created and it was decided to have these two Lectures at the subsequent congresses. The selection of the Speakers should preferably be from the region, whenever possible. The topic of the Holmes Lecture should be related to preventive ophthalmology and the Ocampo Lecture on outstanding clinical or basic research. The creation of these two Lectures are in recognition of the dedication and work that Dr. John Holmes and Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo, both Founder Members of the APAO, have done.

Distinguished Service Award

In 1981 the following members were recipients of the Distinguished Service Award.

Australia	: I. Constable, G. Crock, R.F. Lowe, I.F. Robertson
Bangladesh	: M.A. Matin
Burma	: Myint Thein
China	: Eugene Chan, Chang Xiao Lou
Hong Kong	: J.C. Chang, Renald Ching
India	: L.P. Agarwal, M. Mohan, P.S. Reddy, D.B. Chandra
Indonesia	: S.M. Akmam, M. Marsetio, D. Sarwono, Soedarsono, K. Tamin-Radjamin
Japan	: K. Konyama, S. Mishima, I. Tsukahara
Korea	: Boon Sool Koo
Malaysia	: K. Singh
New Zealand	: G. Fenwick, Calvin Ring
Nepal	: R.P. Pokhrel
Pakistan	: T.H. Kirmani, R. Mumtaz, J. Wania
Philippines	: R. Espiritu, R.V. Fajardo, G. Lim, S. Salceda, R. Tan
Singapore	: A.S.M. Lim, K.H. Lim, Robert C.K. Loh
Sri Lanka	: R. Pararajasegaram
Taiwan	: Y.F. Yang
Thailand	: P. Prachak, R. Uthai, S. Wangspa, J. Kulvanich
Vietnam	: Dao Xuan Tra
Advisors	: J. Barraquer, B.R. Jones, A.G. Maumanee, B. Nizetic, M. Thangavelu, B. Thylefors, Sir John Wilson

SECTION VI

BY-LAWS OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

CONSTITUTION AND NAME

Article 1

The national eye or eye, ear, nose and throat societies of all the countries in Asia and the countries that border the Pacific Ocean shall constitute themselves into an association to be called the 'ASIA-PACIFIC ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY'. This Academy is to be affiliated with the other continental and regional ophthalmological associations in the membership of the International Federation of Ophthalmological Societies. The Academy will also promote interest and support for the World Health Organization Programme for Prevention of Blindness. It will also develop a working liaison with the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness and any relevant United Nations agencies.

OBJECTIVES

Article 2

The aims of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology shall be:

1. To foster the study and dissemination of knowledge of diseases of the eye, particularly in the regions of Asia and countries that border the Pacific Ocean.
2. To promote scientific exchange and help establish closer personal and professional contact among those interested and working in this field.
3. To organise and hold regional congresses every two years to promote and support such other activities as may be deemed necessary for the realization of the above aims.

MEMBERSHIP

Article 3

1. The ASIA-PACIFIC ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY shall be constituted by the national eye or eye, ear, nose and throat societies of Asia and the

countries that border the Pacific Ocean existing at the present time and which give their signature and accord to the present by-laws. National eye or eye, ear, nose and throat societies which may later be created can become members of the ASIA-PACIFIC ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY by formal application for admission to this society and upon approval by the Council. Every application for membership shall imply agreement with the by-laws in force.

2. Individual members of the various eye, ear, nose and throat societies which subscribe to the ASIA-PACIFIC ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY shall be ipso facto members of this regional society.
3. Ophthalmologists and scientists interested in ophthalmology from countries where no ophthalmological society exists shall pay entrance fees and periodic dues fixed by the Council.

Article 4

1. Each ophthalmological society shall remit to the Treasurer of the ASIA-PACIFIC ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY an annual subscription to be determined by the Council. The method of payment shall be arranged by the Treasurer and each ophthalmological society.
2. Members coming from nations where no ophthalmological society exists shall pay entrance fees and periodic dues fixed by the Council.

Article 5

Membership shall be lost on resignation or expulsion. Membership shall cease upon death or cancellation for moral reasons. An individual member who loses his membership in the ASIA-PACIFIC ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY loses at the same time all rights and privileges attached thereto.

Article 6

Resignation of members from the ASIA-PACIFIC ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY may be effected by sending word of their desire to the Council through simple correspondence. The resignation, however, shall take effect only at the beginning of the next meeting or congress.

ADMINISTRATION

Article 7

The administration of the Academy shall be entrusted to:

A ... The General Assembly

B ... The Council

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article 8

The General Assembly shall consist of two delegates for each member society and those who are ex-officio delegates.

Article 9

1. The General Assembly shall meet on the occasion of each regional congress of ophthalmology regardless of the number of delegations who take part in it.
2. The Assembly shall meet also in extraordinary session whenever the Council deems it advisable or at the written demand of one-third of the members.
3. In cases of emergency, however, the President shall be empowered to make all necessary decisions, provided that he has obtained the written approval of a majority of the Council.

Article 10

Meetings of the General Assembly shall be presided over by the President or, in his absence, by one of the Vice-Presidents.

Article 11

1. The General Assembly shall have supreme jurisdiction over the ASIA-PACIFIC ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY. It shall deal with questions not especially reserved for the Council.
2. It shall have the following specific functions:

- a) To express itself on the reports of the activity of the Council itself and on the accounts of the Society.
- b) To approve the by-laws.
- c) To proceed to statutory elections.
- d) To discuss every modification of the by-laws.
- e) To decide on the location of the next congress.
- f) To decide all questions presented to it on the agenda of the day.
- g) To decide on the dissolution and the liquidation of the Society.

Article 12

The General Assembly shall function legally no matter how many delegates are present.

Article 13

Except as otherwise provided for in these by-laws, a majority of the votes of the members present shall be sufficient for approval of a motion. Each delegation is entitled to one vote. In the event of a deadlock, the President shall have a casting vote.

THE COUNCIL

Article 14

1. The Council shall be elected by the General Assembly from delegates nominated by its National Societies.
2. The Council shall be composed of:
 - a) The Past Presidents of the Academy (ex-officio)
 - b) The Past Congress Presidents of the Academy (ex-officio)
 - c) The President of the Academy
 - d) The Vice-Presidents of the Academy
 - e) The Secretary-General
 - f) Treasurer

- g) The Regional Secretaries
- h) Five other members elected at General Assembly Meetings

The elected officers and members shall hold office for two Congresses and be eligible for re-election, except that the Academy President shall hold office until the termination of the next meeting of the Academy. The Academy Past Presidents and Congress Past Presidents shall be ex-officio members of the Council for three Congresses.

Article 15

1. The Council shall carry out the decisions of the General Assembly and assure the realization of the aims of the Society. It shall enjoy the powers of administration within the limits fixed by the by-laws and conforming to the directive given by the General Assembly.
2. The Council shall convoke the General Assembly meetings, prepare the agenda for these meetings, organise scientific meetings and decide on other activities in keeping with the general objectives of the society.
3. The Council shall render a detailed account of its activities to the General Assembly.
4. It shall have authority to make use of the Society and/or seek financial assistance to cover the necessary expenditures for its activities.

Article 16

1. The ASIA-PACIFIC ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY shall be represented generally by the Council, or by duly-appointed representatives of the Council.
2. The Society can be legally committed only by the collective signatures of the President or of one Vice-President and the Secretary-General.

FINANCES

Article 17

The Society shall control the monetary fund destined for its needs and for its programme of activities, a fund which shall be established through annual dues

of its component national societies, subsidies, gifts, legacies and any support made to the Society whether by its own member or by persons or institutions outside of the Society, the acceptance of which is approved by the Council.

AMENDMENTS OF BY-LAWS

Article 18

1. Proposals for changes in the by-laws shall be entertained by the General Assembly only after prior notice in writing to the entire membership of the Assembly has been made and the matter included in the agenda.
2. A two-third vote of the members of the General Assembly present shall be required for approval of any amendment to these by-laws.

DISSOLUTION AND LIQUIDATION

Article 19

1. The decision of dissolution shall be taken only on majority vote of at least two-third of the members.
2. In case of dissolution, the General Assembly shall decide on the disposition of the assets of the society and shall elect persons charged with carrying out the liquidation.