

## **IFMBE Working Group on Asia Pacific Activities Report (2006-2009)**

**Prof James Goh  
Chair**

### I. Membership

1. The Working Group currently has the following members:
  - a. Prof R Kirsner (Australian Federation For Medical & Biological Engineering)
  - b. Prof DP Liu (Chinese Society For Biomedical Engineering)
  - c. Prof Kang Pin Lin (Biomedical Engineering Society, Taipei, China)
  - d. Prof Arthur Mak (Hong Kong Institution Of Engineers)
  - e. Prof I Sakajima (Japan Society Of Medical & Biological Engineering)
  - f. Prof Sun I Kim (Korean Society Of Medical & Biological Engineering)
  - g. Prof SL Toh (Biomedical Engineering Society (Singapore)).
  - h. Prof Wan Abu Bakar Wan Abbas (Malaysian Society Of Medical And Biological Engineering)

Note:

- a) Sadly, Prof K Tsujioka passed away in 2009
- b) Prof Yubo Fan was elected as President of Chinese Society for BME

### 2. Potential membership

- a. The Indonesian Society of Biomedical Engineering (under the leadership of Prof Soegijardjo Soegijoko) has submitted their membership application to IFMBE
- b. Thailand's Association for Medical Instrumentation is listed as an affiliated society of IFMBE, however we have not had any representative from the society for many years. It is believed that this society is no more in operation. There is however a number of biomedical engineering related societies in Thailand. Principally among them are the Thai Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society and the Biomedical Engineering Society of Thailand. Recently, these societies are in talks to form a national federation. It is believe that this new organization will apply for affiliation to IFMBE.
- c. A Vietnamese Association of Biomedical Engineering has been formed following the First International Conference on the Development of Biomedical Engineering in Vietnam held in Ho Chi Minh City in July 2005. The Second International Conference On The Development Of Biomedical Engineering In Vietnam will be held this July 25 - 28th, 2007 at the Hanoi University of Technology, No. 1 Dai Co Viet St., Hanoi, Vietnam. Prof J Nagel and Prof J Goh will be attending this meeting to share the work of IFMBE and the WGAPA.
- d. In our last meeting, we had also invited Prof Ahmed Al-Jumaiy from New Zealand to attend as an observer.

## II. WGAPA meetings

### 2005 IFMBE Working Group on Asia-Pacific Activities Meeting

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> April 2005

Time: 12pm to 3.30pm

Venue: Room 301, Tsukuba Convention Center, Tsukuba, Japan

### 2006 IFMBE Working Group for Asia Pacific Activities Meeting

Date: August 28, 2006

Time: 9:00am -12:00noon

Venue: COEX, Seoul, Korea

### 2008 IFMBE Working Group for Asia Pacific Activities Meeting

Date: April 22, 2008

Time: 19:30-21:30 pm

Place: Jiuhua Spa Resort, Beijing

## III. Asian Pacific Conference on Medical and Biological Engineering

### a. 7<sup>th</sup> APCMBE 2008

7<sup>th</sup> APCMBE was organized by the Chinese Biomedical Engineering Society at the Jiuhua Spa Resort, Beijing from April 21-25, 2008. The theme of the conference was “Biomedical Engineering -- Promoting Sustainable Development in Modern Medicine”. The chair of the conference was Prof DP Liu. It attracted a total of about 400 delegates from around the Asia Pacific region.

### b. Conference site for 8<sup>th</sup> APCMBE 2011

At the 2008 IFMBE Working Group for Asia Pacific Activities Meeting, the Malaysian Society Of Medical And Biological Engineering proposal's to host the 8<sup>th</sup> APCMBE in Kuala Lumpur was accepted.

### c. Conference site for 9<sup>th</sup> APCMBE 2013

The Biomedical Engineering Society, Taipei has registered its interest in hosting the 9<sup>th</sup> APCBME in 2013. The society will make an official bid and submit the proposal at the next meeting.

## IV. 1<sup>st</sup> Asia Pacific Traveling Fellows (APTF) 2006

- a. This is the first time such a fellowship was awarded. The aims of this fellowship were to develop strong long-term collaboration and cooperation among member countries in the Asia Pacific region, to identify and encourage greater participation of young Biomedical Engineers in IFMBE Asia-Pacific Working Group and also IFMBE at large, to mentor and train young Biomedical Engineers for leadership in IFMBE Asia-Pacific Working Group and also IFMBE at large and to ensure leadership

renewal program is in place

b. Altogether 5 Traveling Fellowships were awarded, they are as follows:

- Yong-Ping Zheng from Hong Kong
- Peter Lee from Singapore
- Chi Hyun Kim from South Korea
- Shiao-Wen Tsai from Taiwan
- Yasuyuki Shiraishi from Japan

The fellows traveled together and visited BME facilities and meet BME leaders in five countries. They ended up in Seoul and participated in the World Congress and presented the following scientific papers:

Presentations:

- “Development of an artificial myocardium using covalent-type shape memory alloy fibres”. Dr. Yasuyuki Shiraishi, Japan
- “Sonomyography (SMG): Quantitative Dynamic Assessment of Muscles using Ultrasound”. Dr Yong-Ping Zheng, Hong Kong
- “Tissue Level Compressive Principal Stresses/Strains Govern Early Trabecular Bone Response In Vivo”. Dr Chi Hyun Kim, Korea
- “Biosensors For Chemical And Biological Detection”. Dr Peter Lee, Singapore
- “Nanostructure of Type I Collagen Self-Assembled in the Presence of Polysaccharides”. Dr Shiao-Wen Tsai, Taiwan

c. Report by the Traveling Fellows

The fellows traveled together and visited various BME facilities and met BME leadership of the various societies. They were unanimous in declaring that the fellowship opens great opportunities of networking and breaking cultural barriers. They highly recommend continuing this type of program as it will foster collaboration and understanding between societies in the Asia Pacific region.

V. Asia Pacific Traveling Fellows (APTF) 2009

- a. The IFMBE AC approved the proposed Asia Pacific Traveling Fellowship 2009’s budget of US\$15,000. This will be the second time in which such an event is organized. The aims of this fellowship remained unchanged (see previous section).
- b. The participating societies are JSMBE, KOSOMBE, TBME, BES(S).
- c. The 4 fellows will travel together and to visit various BME facilities and met BME leadership in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and Singapore. They will then travel to Munich to participate in the World Congress.

VI. Creation of website to foster closer collaboration between BME societies in the Asian Pacific region

During the last WGAPA meeting in Seoul, the group approved the creation of a virtual grouping to enhance communication & cooperation in the Asia Pacific region. The membership of the virtual association is to open to all societies in the Asia Pacific region with interest in biomedical engineering, biological engineering, bioengineering, clinical engineering etc. These societies do not have to be affiliated to IFMBE. However, the IFMBE's WGAPA is probably the best platform and organization to host such a virtual grouping. It can play a pivotal role in helping to nurture and guiding societies to affiliation with IFMBE. The virtual group will be an information exchange hub, update and link to conferences held in the region and provide links to societies in the region and their newsletter. It can help to promote electronic journal and set up a forum page for communication. The WGAPA agreed on the website name: [www.asiapacificbme.org](http://www.asiapacificbme.org). The Biomedical Engineering Society (Singapore) was assigned to champion this task.

#### VI. Future topics of discussion within WGAPA

- a. Creation of IFMBE scholarships and Student exchange program in AP region
- b. Certification program for Clinical Engineers in AP region