

# Report on the 45<sup>th</sup> SMA Annual General Meeting, 10 April 2005, Alumni Auditorium

By Dr Yue Wai Mun, Honorary Secretary, 45<sup>th</sup> SMA Council &  
Dr Raymond Chua, Honorary Secretary, 46<sup>th</sup> SMA Council

## 1. 46<sup>th</sup> SMA COUNCIL (2005-2006)

We are pleased to announce the following as the new Council, effective immediately. They include those who were elected to the 46<sup>th</sup> SMA Council, and Dr Ivor Thevathasan who was co-opted by the Council upon accepting the resignation of Dr Tan Kok Leong. The Installation Ceremony was held on Thursday, 14 April 2005 at the SMA Conference Room.

President	Dr Lee Pheng Soon
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Dr Wong Chiang Yin
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Dr Tan See Leng
Honorary Secretary	Dr Raymond Chua Swee Boon
Honorary Asst Secretary	Dr Chong Yeh Woei
Honorary Treasurer	Dr Toh Choon Lai
Honorary Asst Treasurer	Dr Wong Tien Hua
Council Members	Dr John Chiam Yih Hsing Dr Chin Jing Jih Dr Oh Jen Jen Dr Soh Wah Ngee Dr Tan Sze Wee Dr Tham Tat Yean Dr Ivor Thevathasan* Dr Toh Han Chong Dr Yue Wai Mun

We also wish to express our appreciation to outgoing Council Members Dr Foo Chuan Kit and Dr Tan Kok Leong for their invaluable contributions to the SMA Council. Dr Foo, who has retired from the SMA Council, joined since January 2000, and was Honorary Assistant Secretary in the last two years. Dr Tan resigned regrettably because he felt unable to continue to serve in this capacity due to his increased responsibility at work.

\*With the resignation of Dr Tan Kok Leong, Council decided to co-opt Dr Ivor Thevathasan for the remaining term of 2005-2006, in accordance with SMA Constitution, Article X, Section 4. Dr Ivor has consented to serve accordingly.

A Warm Welcome to Our 2 New Council Members  
DR TAN SEE LENG

MBBS(S)(1988), MMed(Family Med), FCFPS, MBA (GSB-University of Chicago)

Dr Tan is the COO of Mount Elizabeth Hospital. In addition to serving on the SMA Private Practice Committee, he is also Chairman of Technical Committee on Home Glucose Monitor Standards, PSB; Member of Steering Committee for Primary Healthcare, MOH; Chairman of Jalan Senang Neighbourhood Committee under Aljunied-Kembangan GRC, just to name a few.

Mission as an SMA Council Member:

1. To work with the Council and spearhead a task force to tackle issues and problems facing general practitioners in their practice of today.
2. To coordinate the efforts made by SMA and CFPS to level up the training of general practitioners while ensuring that the economic viability of their practices is sustained.
3. To work with the Council's objectives of representing the wider interests of all Members including specialists.

DR OH JEN JEN

MBBS(S)(1999), MRCS(A&E)(Edin), MMed(Emergency Med)

Dr Oh is a Registrar in the A&E Department of Singapore General Hospital. She is currently also Editorial Board Member of *SMA News*, and Project Leader of Singhealth's "Doctors for the Community" project, which will assist a new Disability Medicine Clinic for the Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore.

Mission as an SMA Council Member:

1. To serve the Council to the best of her abilities.
2. To address issues pertinent to junior and women doctors.
3. To encourage feedback, participation and debate from members of the local medical community, especially the groups mentioned in (2), through active engagement on a more personal basis.
4. To nurture our doctors' affinity for charity work, and find ways to optimise conditions for it.
5. To ensure that the good image of our medical community is maintained and protected from unsavoury or irresponsible complainants.

## 2. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

As the quorum of at least 50 Members was met, the meeting proceeded to consider and vote on the proposed amendments to the SMA Constitution. The following is only a summary. The detailed report on the consideration and voting of the proposed constitutional amendments will be reported in the minutes of the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, which will be circulated to Members within a month. Constitution amendments which have been passed will be sent to the Registry of Societies for approval.

### i. PASSED

The following proposals to amend the Constitution were passed by the House:

#### \* Life Membership

*Article III (ii)(b)*

To increase the requirement for continuous Membership from 10 to 20 years, on payment of a sum equivalent to 10 years' annual subscription at Ordinary rate.

#### \* Suspension of Membership

*Article V (v)*

Ordinary Members and their accompanying Spouse Members who are temporarily absent from Singapore for an extended period of one year or more, can request for suspension of Membership and waiver of subscription.

#### \* Termination of Membership

*Article VII (4) \*new*

Any Member who has passed away will cease to be a Member.

#### \* Amendments to Constitution and Rules

*Article XII (1)*

Amendments to the Constitution and Rules can be made at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) or an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM). The proposed amendments shall be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least 30 days before the AGM or EGM, and circulated to all Members not less than 14 days before the AGM or EGM.

#### \* Permit Amendment of SMA Constitution at Extraordinary General Meetings

*Article XI (2)*

An EGM can be convened by the Council at any time for considering amendment to the Constitution or Rules of the Association and / or any special reason. Upon receipt of a requisition in writing from any 50 Ordinary Members stating the purpose for which they require an EGM to be convened, the Council shall convene it within 30 days. The notice shall be sent to all Members not less than 14 days before the EGM.

#### \* Quorum

*Article XI (3)*

The quorum at all General Meetings (AGM or EGM) shall be 50 Members. In the event of a lack of quorum after the stated time of commencement, the President shall postpone the meeting for 30 minutes, after which the

Members present (whatever their numbers) shall constitute a quorum for the meeting. Such a postponed AGM or EGM shall not be permitted to amend the Constitution or Rules.

### ii. DEFEATED

The following proposals to amend the Constitution were defeated:

#### \* Life Membership

*Article III (ii)(c)*

To be granted automatically to Ordinary Members who have been in continuous Membership for 40 years without any further payment of subscriptions.

(Note: It was suggested that this was redundant bearing in mind an existing Article that offers Life Membership following retirement, upon meeting certain conditions.)

#### \* Honorary Membership

*Article III (iii)*

May be conferred posthumously.

#### \* Annual Subscriptions

*Article V (ii)*

To increase annual subscription rates.

#### \* Management of the Association

*Article VIII 3(b)*

Procedure to promote universal voting of SMA Council Members through postal ballots.

*Article VIII (5)*

Additional criterion for presidential candidate.

## 3. SMA HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Members present unanimously supported the election of Dr Oon Chiew Seng and Prof Aline Wong to SMA Honorary Membership, in accordance with SMA Constitution, Article IV, Section (iv).

## 4. APPOINTMENT OF SMA TRUSTEES TO SMA PTE LTD

In accordance with SMA Constitution, Article XIII, Section 2, Members present unanimously ratified the decision of the 45<sup>th</sup> SMA Council to appoint the following as SMA Trust Fund Trustees for the 5-year term 2005 to 2010:

Prof Low Cheng Hock

Dr Tan Cheng Bock

Dr Yong Nen Khiong

The SMA Council wishes to express its appreciation to Dr Robert Loh Choon Kiat for his service as a SMA Trustee for the period 2000 to 2005. Dr Loh will step down as SMA Trustee after the SMA Pte Ltd's Annual General Meeting in June 2005. Prof Low's appointment will take effect thereafter.

## 5. APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AUDITORS

Members present unanimously agreed to re-appoint M/s Lo Hock Ling & Company as the Professional Auditors for the ensuing year as proposed by the 45<sup>th</sup> SMA Council. ■