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# **FAOPS**

## **NEWSLETTER**

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## **Editorial**

Welcome to the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of FAOPS Newsletter. In this issue I have asked Prof. Chumpol Pholpramool, the President of FAOPS, to give the history of FAOPS and he gracefully accepted my invitation. In his article he has tried to provide an introduction to FAOPS, its achievements and the future of FAOPS. Recently the neuroscience history committee of the International Brain Research Organization (IBRO) had an interview with Prof. Masao Ito the founder and the first President of the FAOPS. The interview would be interesting to all physiologists especially the young ones. One of the main activities of FAOPS is the organization of a congress every four years in one of its member countries. This year, this magnificent event is taking place in Seoul, South Korea. Prof K.W. Kim, the secretary general of the 6<sup>th</sup> FAOPS Congress has accepted my invitation to introduce the Korean Physiological Society to the members of FAOPS. He has invited you all to participate in this great gathering of physiologists which will take place in October 2006. In addition, in this issue, the Pakistan Physiological Society (PPS) which is an associate member of FAOPS, is being introduced by Dr Arif Siddiqui, the general secretary of the PPS. I hope our members will keep up a lively involvement in this newsletter by making relevant news and articles.

**Fereshteh Motamedi (Ph.D)**

**The Editor**

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## **President's Message**

*Professor C. Pholpramool*

I would like to thank Prof. Fereshteh Motamedi for inviting me to write this message. It has been over twenty years when the idea of forming a regional international society for physiology was initiated by the Physiological

Society of Thailand. At that time I was the Secretary General of the society. We have organized the first regional Congress of Physiological Science partly supported by the IUPS in November 1986 in Bangkok. The meeting was highly successful both scientifically and socially. There were many eminent physiologists at the meeting such as the late Sir John Eccles, Erwin Neher, the late John Hubbard, Masao Ito, the late John Young and many others. The idea to establish the Federation of the Asian and Oceanian Physiological Societies was brought up and well accepted. This meeting was later recognized as the First Congress of FAOPS,

although it was not until 1990 when FAOPS was officially formed.

**What have FAOPS achieved?**

The main goal of FAOPS is to promote physiological sciences in Asia and Oceania by bringing the regional physiological scientists together so as to help each other. This task is not indeed easy. We are, therefore, grateful to Prof. Masao Ito, who was the first President and have made solid foundation for FAOPS. Much recognition has been received worldwide such that other regional meetings were later formed in Europe and Africa.

**Table 1. National Society Members of FAOPS as of 2006**

Country	Name of the Society
<b>Regular members</b>	
Australia	Australian Physiological Society
China	Chinese Association for Physiological Sciences
China (Taipei)	Physiological Society located in Taipei, China
India	Federation of the Indian Physiological Societies
Iran	Iranian Physiology and Pharmacology Society
Israel	Israel Society of Physiology and Pharmacology
Japan	Japanese Physiological Society
Korea	Korean Physiological Society
Malaysia	Malaysian Society of Physiology and Pharmacology
New Zealand	Physiological Society of New Zealand
Thailand	The Physiological Society of Thailand
United Arab Emirate	Physiology Association of United Arab Emirate
<b>Associate members</b>	
Indonesia	Indonesian Physiological Society
Myanmar	Physiology & Biochemistry Subsection Myanmar Medical Association
Pakistan	Pakistan Physiological Society
The Philippines	Physiological Society of the Philippines
Sri Lanka	Physiology Society of Sri Lanka
Vietnam	Physiological Society of Vietnam

Masao Ito and, more recently, Prof. Akimichi Kaneko have been elected as the President of IUPS. In the early years, the main activities are FAOPS congresses every four years and the publication of FAOPS Newsletter in which news from the adhering bodies and short review articles were published. This publication is discontinued for some time. However, with the great enthusiasm and devotion of the present Editor, FAOPS Newsletter is revitalized. Other activities such as Special Interest Groups (SIG) and specialized regional meetings/workshops have been initiated by the following Council. Unfortunately, however, SIG did not receive much attraction from the members. Nevertheless, two regional workshops were supported during 2002-2004. New memberships have been recruited with some success. At present, FAOPS has 12 regular and 6 associate members (Table1). According to the cited number of physiologists in the adhering societies, the overall individual members are approximately ten thousands. Currently, negotiations with private companies to join as supporting members are ongoing.

### **What is the future of FAOPS?**

In view of the great potential for economic growth in many Asian countries in the next decades, I envision that more scientists in Asia will play a leading role in the significant

advancement of physiological sciences. Yet, there still are many less privileged countries in the region that need assistants from their neighbors. FAOPS is an ideal mechanism by which such academic assistants and collaborations can be obtained from stronger countries. To accomplish this, more enthusiasm and co-operation in the activities of FAOPS are needed. Besides, relationships between regional international societies of closely related disciplines are essential for multi disciplinary collaborations so as to promote interdisciplinary research. In fact, the idea of having a joint meeting between FAOPS and FAONS (Federation of the Asian and Oceanic Neuroscience Societies) has been put forwarded for many years, but has not yet been achieved. Further attempts should be explored with other federations. In recent year, much discussion has been raised in the western countries concerning the existence of physiology since merging between departments has been made in several universities in the US and Canada. In addition, the course Physiology is now disappearing in many medical schools. Sooner or later such a move will occur in the East. Will the change be beneficial for us? Are we ready for the change? What preparations should we need? These questions have to be answered by each country since the situation is not the same in all. Nevertheless, discussion among members of FAOPS that have similar background may be useful. Perhaps, the arena for the discussion may be available at the FAOPS Congress in Seoul later this year.

## **Interview of distinguished Scientists**

*Professor Masao Ito*

*From the Neuroscience History Committee Website of the IBRO*



Masao Ito, Special Adviser to the RIKEN Brain Science Institute, Saitama, Japan. The first subject of this new series of interviews of distinguished neuroscientists in the Neuroscience History section of the IBRO web site is Professor Masao Ito, Special

Adviser to the RIKEN Brain Science Institute, Saitama, Japan. The IBRO History of Neuroscience Committee devised the following questions for Professor Ito:

### **1. Where were you born and raised?**

I was born in Nagoya City in 1928, Aichi Prefecture, Japan. I stayed in Nagoya until I moved to Tokyo in 1949.

**2. Where were you educated and which of your teachers had the greatest influence on you?**

Undergraduate in University of Tokyo Faculty of Medicine: Late Dr Masayasu Sato, taste physiologist, who was assistant professor at that time. Graduate training in Kumamoto University: Dr Masayasu Sato, who became a professor there. Postdoctoral course: Prof. John Eccles, Australian national University, Canberra.

**3. When did you start your career in scientific research and in what area?**

I started my graduate training in physiology in Kumamoto University (1955), shortly after I finished the medical course and internship.

**4. What do you consider to be your most important studies and contribution to biology or medicine?**

Discovery of unique fundamental processes underlying motor learning. It includes 1) inhibitory action of cerebellar Purkinje cells, 2) direct Purkinje cell inhibition of relay neurons of the vestibulo-ocular reflex, and 3) experimental verification of the cerebellar long-term depression (LTD).

**5. Have you invented any new techniques?**

In vivo intracellular recording from cat/rabbit Deiters neurons (in the 1960s, it was a new technology).

**6. What do you think about awards and for you, which have been the most truly emotive?**

To be given an award is heart-warming and encouraging. I felt deeply honored by the Japan Prize awarded in the presence of the Japanese Emperor and Empress.

**7. Can you sum up the attributes that you possess which have made you a successful scientist?**

Inclination to look for a simple logic behind complex phenomena. Patient in thinking. Broad Interest in science.

**8. What do you think about the use of the impact index to evaluate scientific performance? What do you think is the best way to evaluate a scientist?**

It is one of many measures for scientific evaluation. Impact factor depends on the size of the population of involved scientists. An extreme is mathematics. I wonder if such

interdisciplinary variations of the scientist population can be normalized. Even published in a high impact factor journal, the frequency of citation for individual papers is very variable. I trust the citation number for individual paper provides a more reliable index.

**9. What suggestions have you regarding the best ways to support scientific research and to safeguard its integrity?**

To have sufficient multiple resources including non-governmental (no mission-bound) funds. To maintain a barrier-free interdisciplinary and international atmosphere. Minimal interference by bureaucracy.

**10. What in your opinion makes a review of a submitted paper of most value to the author and journal?**

If reviewers are constructive and help authors to improve a manuscript.

**11. What are your views concerning the balance between applied and basic research that should be considered by funding agencies?**

Recently, the balance is too much toward application. 50/50 could be a good balance.

**12. What do you think are the neural substrates that make a human being human? In other words, what is special about the brain of humans and how does it differ from that of other species?**

The great expansion of the cerebral association cortex and parallel expansion of the cerebellum.

**13. Which are the three most important scientific questions that you would like to answer?**

1) How long and by what mechanisms does memory continue beyond synaptic plasticity?

2) How does neuronal circuitry encode information of cognitive and emotional nature (encoding of motor nature is more understandable)?

3) How does self-consciousness emerge in the brain after all?

**14. Do you think that there is life outside of our planet? If so, do you think that it is**

**possible that a sophisticated brain like that of human beings exists?**

It is a matter of probability. It is possible, but at an extremely low probability.

**15. Do you think that computers will some day be capable of simulating the human brain?**

Yes, I believe so. If we understand mechanisms of our brain completely, we should be able to reproduce it by artificial means, that is, computers. But this is a large gap, difficult to go across it. I understand that the final goal of neuroscience to bridge this gap is difficult but not impossible.

**16. Do you think that the development of neuroscience research and, in particular, the advances in our knowledge of the human brain will change the course of the history of humanity? In other words, do you think neuroscience will have a deep social, cultural and educational impact in the future?**

Yes, neuroscience will have a deep social, cultural and educational impact, because neuroscience will eventually reveal what we

humans are. Some people may feel too sad to accept an idea that humans are after all a machine that Nature made up through evolution. But I think we have to accept the idea. We have to find new values of being such humans.

**17. What factors in your general life influence you most? How have your family influenced in your scientific work?**

Scientists' life used to be abnormal (or even crazy). In my case, it was protected and saved by the normal family that I fortunately have.

**18. What are your hobbies?**

No special hobby. Traveling, reading books, writing an essay.

**19. What makes you feel most proud as a professor and scientist?**

To be able to tell young colleagues my own story sometimes.

**20. What is your advice to young researchers?**

To work fully during their 30s. To be unique. Choose a subject that only you, but no one else, may be able to achieve.

## Korean Physiological Society & FAOPS Congress 2006

*Professor K.W. Kim*

The year 2006 is very special for the Korean physiologists. In coming October, we host the 6th Congress of FAOPS in Seoul, the Capital City of Korea. First of all, I would like to welcome to all the guests, and I am very happy to have a chance to introduce the Korean Physiological Society (KPS) to the members of FAOPS.

Although the official written history of Korea starts from at least 5000 years ago, the cultural exchange between Korea and foreign countries has been confined to north-eastern part of Asia.



Unfortunately, the modern history and world news have referred Korea to rather non-wishful images like the Korean War, military tension with North Korea and radical demonstrations.

However, we are becoming more proud of ourselves about the changes made during the last two decades; construction of high-tech industries, achievement in democratic regime, the Seoul Summer Olympic Games in 1988, 2002 Korea-Japan World Cup, and flourishing artistic talents including the popular TV dramas.

What about the physiology? Dynamic and rapid changes have occurred not only in the modern industry but also in the physiology in Korea. Every year, state of art techniques is introduced to the field of physiological researches. Exchange of ideas as well as technologies with other fields of sciences are encouraged by the policy of the Ministry of Science & Technology. Although some people are skeptical about the

attitude of government promoting so-called fusion science, nobody can deny that more infiltration from molecular cell biology and bioinformatics would be the general tendency. I personally think that we Koreans are quite good at boldly mixing different things to make a new taste. One of the most popular foods in Korea is 'Bibimbap' which means a steamed rice with assorted mixtures of vegetable, minced beef, sesame oil and hot red pepper paste (You can taste it in the meal service of Korean Air Line). The Asian cuisine is generally characterized by strong and various spices. The hot red pepper is very common in Korean food including Kim-chi. I hope that all of the guests to FAOPS 2006 could feel the spirit and enthusiasm of Korean physiologist by tasting Korean food as well as by academic activities in the Congress. With the development of Korean Economy, the support from government also increased. Although the present government emphasized too much on application fields of science research, total sum of money on research is much increased. In general, number of scientists working for life science is increasing, especially in the area of molecular cell biology and bioinformatics including genomics and proteomics. The rate of expansion in Physiology is rather slower than that of other fields of life sciences. Around 400 physiologists attended the last annual meeting of KPS. Traditional main topics are ion channels, molecular physiology, system physiology and neurophysiology. The official scientific meeting

of KPS is held twice a year, in October and in May. The spring meeting is a part of the comprehensive congress of basic medical sciences including anatomy, biochemistry, pharmacology etc. The autumn meeting is the main ceremony for KPS, and this year it will be replaced by FAOPS in Seoul. The KPS was founded in November 30, 1945, just after the Second World War. Actually the regular education courses and the departments of physiology were present in the medical schools after 1918, i.e. during the colonization period by Japan. The first generation of Korean physiologists were trained during this period in Kyung-sung medical college (former Seoul National University Medical School), Severance medical school (former Yonsei University), Daegu Medical School (former Kyungbuk National University). The research environment and financial support for physiology was very poor until 1990, and while the situation is getting better, it is still not a popular area for the ministry of science and technology in Korean governments. In such hard period, the KPS owes a lot to the help from the developed countries. I believe that KPS and its members should be more active in the scientific exchange with all the members of FAOPS. The number of PhD students visiting from various Asian countries is increasing recently. I wish that such exchanges of experience and knowledge would get fruitful results and the coming FAOPS would be a boosting chance for us.

### *Introducing of Member Societies:* **Pakistan Physiological Society**

#### **Background and History:**



It was Prof. Otto Hutter, Head, Department of Physiology, University of Glasgow, Glasgow and member, International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS) who in 1986 questioned me, then a PhD student in the department whether a Physiological Society exists in Pakistan. Listening nothing in affirmation led Prof. Hutter to suggest that I on

return after PhD must gather a like minded group and launch Pakistan Physiological Society (PPS). Moreover, as of Head of the department he suggested that I must send an abstract for the 30<sup>th</sup> IUPS Congress scheduled to be held in Vancouver, Canada, later during the year. Attending a physiology congress of such a huge magnitude was my first exposure. More revealing was the fact that more than 80 countries were represented and only from India and Iran only there were 52 and 43 participants respectively,

whereas, there was none from Pakistan. It was a reason convincing enough for me to take the venture seriously. On joining the Aga Khan University, in Dec. 1986 I explored views of my colleagues. I was excited to learn that Dr. H. R. Ahmed and Dr. Rao Sohail Khan have already been working on a proforma to seek consent from physiologists working in other Pakistani institutions. We got together and discussed at broader level with colleagues such as Col. M. Amjad Hameed, Maj. Dr. M. Aslam from Army Medical College, Rawalpindi, Prof. Hilal A Shaikh and Prof. Masood A. Qureshi from University of Karachi. An official request for PPS registration was approved by Societies Registration Act, Government of Pakistan giving life to Pakistan Physiological Society (PPS) on Feb. 22, 1987.

April, 15-16, 1987 is marked by the inaugural convention of PPS when 35 physiologists summated at the Department of Physiology, Aga Khan University, Karachi. Prof. Shahanshah H. Zaidi from Ayub Medical College delivered the historical keynote lecture entitled 'Human Physiology, its legacy and horizon'. Col. M. Amjad Hameed and Maj. M. Aslam were assigned to draft constitution / bylaws of the society. Prof. Mahmood Ahmed, Department of Physiology, University of Karachi, became first president of the PPS. Eminent physiologists of the time including, Prof. Rose Madan, Prof. Muhammad Nawaz, Prof. H. R. Ahmed, Prof. Shahnaz Javed Khan, Prof. Nusrat Waqar, Prof. Masood A. Qureshi, Prof. M. H. Qazi, Prof. Din M. Shaikh, Prof. M. Hanif Qureshi, and Prof. M. Ayub were the leading figures of the society during the first 10 years.

### **What are some objectives of the PPS?**

The Society is composed of Physiologists and scientists in the broad area of biological and biomedical sciences of goodwill and high standing who are dedicated to the following goals:

1. To promote the advancement of Physiology by observational experimental or clinical studies.
2. To foster a comprehensive and innovative program to promote continuing education for Biomedical professionals.

3. To organize scientific meetings, workshops or training programs for physiologist.
4. To inspire young students to understand the role and contributions of Basic Medical Sciences to high quality health care.
5. To arrange for the Publication of scientific communications presented at the Society meetings, whenever appropriate and explore the possibility to publish "The Pakistan Journal of Physiology".
6. To supervise elections of the office bearers of the Society at General Body Meeting to delegate responsibilities in conformity with the regulations.
7. To maintain an organizational structure as a Professional Society meant to enable the effective implementation of the defined goals.

### **Administration**

The PPS is administered through the General Body Meeting (GBM) and Executive Council.

### **General Body Meeting**

The GBM is called at the proposal of the Executive Council or that of at least – members. The executive council is obliged to call a GBM at least every second year along with the PPS, Biennial Conference. Proposal to the GBM for discussion must be presented to the Executive Council at least 10 days prior to the GBM. The General Secretary is obliged to make necessary arrangements with the assistance of local organizing committee. The rights of the GBM are the following:

1. Presentation of Biennial Activity Report by General Secretary.
2. Determination of the amount of the membership.
3. Approval of the balance-sheet and dismissal of the Executive Council.
4. Election of the Executive Council members and Councilors
5. Approval of amendments in the constitution.
6. Acceptance of members, application for membership in international scientific associations/unions, exclusion of members.
7. Dissolution of the Society.
8. Decision to hold scientific events.

### **Executive Council**

PPS Executive Council is comprised of a President, a Vice President, a General Secretary, a Joint Secretary and a Treasurer. Five councilors, one each from a province and one from Federal Capital and Federally-Administered-Tribal-Areas are also elected at the GBM to help Executive Council to execute its programs.

### **Past Presidents**

2006-Now	Prof. Mumtaz A. Memon
2004-2006	Prof. Muhammad Ayub
2002-2004	Prof. Hamid J. Qureshi
1997-2000	Prof. Masood A. Qureshi
1995-1997	Prof. Sikandar A. Shaikh
1993-1995	Prof. Muhammad Ayub
1991-1993	Prof. Shahnaz J. Khan
1989-1991	Prof. M. Hanif Qureshi
1989-1991	Prof.(Brig.)M. Amjad Hameed
1987-1989	Prof. Mahmood Ahmad

### **Membership**

PPS members are professionals who have a minimum of MBBS or Master's degree in biological sciences with primary interest in physiology. At the first General Body Meetings in 1987, membership was 25; PPS currently has more than 300 members. The Society consists of life, regular, honorary, associate and student members. Life members are career physiologists and those who have paid life membership. Regular members are those who are career physiologist renew their membership regularly. Associate members are those who are primarily identified by disciplines other than physiology. Student members are those who are students and interested in physiology but not yet on the course of a career physiologist.

### **Annual Subscription**

The subscription for life, regular, associate and student members shall be determined by the Executive Council and shall be paid.

### **Publication**

In the year 2004, the Executive Council realized that the Society is stable and the membership is academically sound so it decided to publish its own journal 'Pakistan Journal of Physiology'. Consequently first issue was launched with Maj. Gen. Prof. M. Aslam as Chief Editor and Prof. Ahmed Badar as Managing Editor. First issue was launched at the GBM held on April 6, 2006 in conjunction with the 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of Physiology.

### **International Affiliations and Collaboration**

Pakistan Physiological Society is a national non-profit and professional organization committed to the advancement of physiology. Founded in 1987 at the Aga Khan University, Karachi, the Society provides a forum for leadership and exchange of information to stimulate discussion and collaboration among physiologists and professionals of other related disciplines. Through the relentless efforts of Dr. Arif Siddiqui, PPS has become Adhering Body of IUPS in 1993 and FAOPS in 1997, respectively. Moreover, a Memorandum of Understanding was also signed with Iranian Society of Physiology and Pharmacology in 1999 leading to facilitate bilateral promotion of conference participation and scientific exchange visits by undergraduate students. A landmark event organized by the PPS (in collaboration IUPS) was the international workshop on Teaching Physiology in 1999 at the Aga Khan University, Karachi. Dr Arif Siddiqui was the principal organizer of the event. The workshop brought together many national and international participants from South Asia, Middle East and Central Asia. It turned out a huge success. Programmes comprised many contemporary issues of physiology teaching pertaining to these countries.

**Arif Siddiqui (Ph.D)**  
*General Secretary, PPS*

## Meeting Calendar

### *International Sports Science Conference 2006*

19 to 20 December 2006

Putrajaya, Malaysia

**Website:** <http://www.issc2006.com>

**Enquiries:** secretariat@issc2006.com

**Contact name:** Aminuddin Yusof

### *XVIII congress of the world association for sexual health*

15 to 19 April 2007

Sydney, Australia

**Website:** <http://www.sexo-sydney-2007.com>

**Enquiries:** Contact@sexo-sydney-2007.com

### *The 2nd World Congress on Gender-Specific Medicine and Aging: The Endocrine Impact*

8 to 11 March 2007

Rome, Italy

**Website:** <http://www.gendermedicine.com>

**Enquiries:** gender@gendermedicine.com

### *2nd International Congress of Biological Psychiatry*

17 to 21 April 2007

Santiago, Chile

**Website:** <http://www.wfsbp-santiago2007.com>

**Enquiries:** Global.headquarter@wfsbp.org

### *8th International Conference AD/PD 2007*

14 to 18 March 2007

Salzburg, Austria

**Website:** <http://www.kenes.com/adpd>

**Enquiries:** adpd@kenes.com

**Contact name:** Abraham Fisher

### *19th World Congress on Fertility & Sterility*

29 April to 3 May 2007

Durban, South Africa

**Website:** <http://www.iffs2007.org.za>

**Enquiries:** pdal@iafrica.com

**Contact name:** Paul Dalmeyer

### *9th Congress on Controversies in Obstetrics, Gynecology and Infertility (COGI)*

22 to 25 March 2007

Barcelona, Spain

**Website:** <http://comtecmed.com/cogi/cogi9>

**Contact name:** Ruthi Yahav

### *Lupus 2007*

16 to 20 May 2007

Shanghai, China

**Website:**

<http://www.chinamed.com.cn/lupus2007>

**Contact name:** Shunle Chen

### *First Egyptian International Conference on E-Medicine*

27 to 30 March 2007

Cairo, Egypt

**Website:**

<http://www.onlinediabetes.net/emedicine>

**Contact name:** Amr Ashraf

### *2nd International Congress on Neuropathic Pain*

7 to 10 June 2007

Berlin, Germany

**Website:** <http://www.kenes.com/neuropathic>

**Enquiries:** neuropathic@kenes.com

**Contact name:** Rolf-Detlef Treede

***The World Congress on Controversies in Cardiovascular Disease: Diagnosis, Treatment and Intervention (C-Care)***  
28 June to 1 July 2007  
Berlin, Germany  
**Website:** <http://www.comtecmed.com/ccare>

***IBRO World Congress of Neuroscience***  
12 to 17 July 2007  
Melbourne, Australia  
**Website:** <http://www.ibro2007.org>  
**Enquiries:** a.lawrence@hfi.unimelb.edu.au  
**Contact name:** Andrew J. Lawrence

***8th World Congress for Microcirculation***  
15 to 19 August 2007  
Wisconsin, USA  
**Website:** <http://www.microcirccongress.org>  
**Enquiries:** microcirc@mcw.edu

***18th Iranian Congress of Physiology and Pharmacology***  
26 to 30 August 2007  
Mashhad, Iran  
**Website:** <http://www.mums.ac.ir/ppc18> (available in September 2006)  
**Enquiries:** phyphacong18@mums.ac.ir

***World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences 2007***  
***67th International Congress of FIP***  
1 to 6 September 2007  
Beijing China  
**Website:** <http://www.fip.org/beijing2007>  
**Enquiries:** Congress@fio.org

***4th World Congress - World Institute of Pain WIP***  
25 to 28 September 2007  
Budapest, Hungary  
**Website:** <http://www.kenes.com/wip>  
**Enquiries:** wip@kenes.com

***International Doctors' Health Conference***  
25 to 27 October 2007  
Sydney, NSW, Australia  
**Website:** <http://www.doctorshealthsydney2007.org>  
**Contact name:** Doreen Kavic

***14th Congress of the ASEAN Federation of Endocrine Societies***  
29 November to 2 December 2007  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
**Website:** <http://www.afes2007.com>  
**Enquiries:** afes2007@console.com.my

***3rd Indian International Conference on Artificial Intelligence***  
17 to 19 December 2007  
Pune, India  
**Website:** <http://www.iiconference.org>  
**Enquiries:** bhanu.prasad@famu.edu

***35th European Symposium on Calcified Tissues***  
24 to 28 May 2008  
Barcelona, Spain  
**Website:** <http://www.ectsoc.org>  
**Enquiries:** ects2008@mci-group.com

***The 12th World Congress on Pain***  
17 to 22 August 2008  
Glasgow, United Kingdom  
**Website:** <http://www.iasp-pain.org>  
**Enquiries:** liz@iasp-pain.org  
**Contact name:** Elizabeth Twiss

***IUPS 36th World Congress***  
27 July to 1 August, 2009  
Kyoto, Japan  
**Website:** <http://www.iups.org>  
**Enquiries:** ykurachi@pharma2.med.osaka-u.ac.jp