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MALAYSIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

SARAWAK BRANCH

Newsletter vol. 1, 2007

Dear Colleagues

May 2007

The medical profession is passing through a challenging phase. It used to be a noble profession but increasingly it is under siege by the press, the public and the law. No other profession in the country is more regulated than the medical profession, yet more new regulations are appearing.

At the same time, by 2015, the Ministry Of Health Malaysia will not be guaranteeing a place for all the new medical graduates. Unemployment for the doctors? Wait till the WTO's agreement kicks in, we will indeed no longer be "exclusive" in numbers let alone be a noble profession.

The practice of medicine will continue to change at an unprecedented rate. The line between private and public will be less clear. It poses both an opportunity as well as a threat. In Sarawak, we have the best healthcare facilities, comparable to many of the western world yet we still have a small but substantial population in the outback that we are yet to reach. To reach this last "frontier", we will need enormous resources in terms of manpower and finances.

In this newsletter, I have asked MMA Sarawak Branch secretary, Ms Dorothy, to list all the EXCO's and the Branches' email contacts in line with the era of ICT. We would like to hear the problems, the solutions, the innovative ideas, and all issues of concern from the medical profession covering the various vested interests within the state. Given the common "threat" to our profession, some of which are mentioned above, we will need everyone to be active, NOT just to be more active but to be prepared to walk the extra miles in pursuit of our shared interest, to realize our common vision and to achieve our mission. It is time to be roughly woken up from our complacency, to start worrying about our inactive participation and to stop our individualistic excuses of "What's for me?", "I am unable to contribute", "It's not my business", "NATO – No Action, Title Only", for if you love your medical profession, and if you love your country, Malaysia, now is the time that you need to actively participate so that we have the power to strive ahead as one force!

Together with the EXCO, we will travel to all the major towns during our term in 2006-2007, to garner your participation and involvement, to hear your concerns, your issues, views, and ideas on how MMA can help prepare and serve our profession well in the uncertain times ahead. See you soon.

Ta & G'days

Dr SIM Kui Hian
Chair, Malaysia Medical Association Sarawak Branch.

MMA Sarawak Branch

The 36th Annual General Meeting of the Malaysian Medical Association (Sarawak Branch) was held on 18th March 2007, Sunday from 4.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. at the Kenyalang Room, Hilton Kuching Hotel. There were about 30 members who turned up for the AGM. The following were elected to the MMA Sarawak Branch Committee for 2007/2008 :

Chairman	Prof Dr Sim Kui-Hian	sim.kui.hian@health.gov.my
Vice-Chairman	Dr Soon Su Yang	soonsuyang@yahoo.com
Secretary	Dr Mahadhir Alhady Sulaiman	smalhady@fmhs.unimas.my
Treasurer	Dr Kamarudin Kana	kkamarudin@fmhs.unimas.my
Comm. Members	Dr Lam Chin Chyou (Immediate Past Chairman)	lamcc@tm.net.my
	Dr John Chew Chee Ming (PPSMMA Chairman)	johnchew23@gmail.com
	Dr Alan Fong Yean Yip (SCHOMOS Chairman)	fong.yean.yip@health.gov.my
	Dr Wong Jin Shyan	gangrenes@yahoo.com
	Dr Liew Huong Bang	liew.houng.bang@health.gov.my
	Dr Noor Baizura Jamali	nano_silverstone@yahoo.com

PPSMMA

President	Dr John Chew Chee Ming	johnchew23@gmail.com
Secretary	Dr Tok Mang Sze	mangsze29@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Dr Kon Ka Hin	Klinik_Dr_Kon@yahoo.com
Comm. Members	Dr Chiew Toh Hing	jhchiew@hotmail.com
	Dr Lim Khwang Thong	ouisk@streamyx.com
	Dr Lim Joo Kiong	limeu@pc.jaring.my

SCHOMOS

Chairman	Dr Alan Fong Yean Yip	fong.yean.yip@health.gov.my
Secretary	Dr Loh Weng Khean	lohengkhean@yahoo.com
Asst Secretary	Dr Yap Siao Ling	hlingyap@gmail.com
Comm. Members	Dr Wong Jin Shyan	gangrenes@yahoo.com
	Dr Chan Hiang Chuan	hcc2000us@yahoo.com
	Dr Kalwinder Singh Khaira	khaira111@yahoo.com
	Dr Julian Tagal	tagaljm@hotmail.com
	Dr Hasnur Syareena	syareena@gmail.com
	Dr Doreen Chan	dinodoreen@yahoo.com
	Dr Ong Lik Han	likhan@yahoo.com
	Dr Adeline Kueh	lynkueh@yahoo.com
	Dr Aisah Munira	-
	Dr Teng Ay Jiuan	ayjiuan@yahoo.com

MMA, SIBU SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman	Dr Robert Hu Chang Hock	chhu@pc.jaring.my
Secretary	Dr Sharon Siaw	-
Asst Secretary	Dr Betty Kong Ming Khian	bettyk@tm.net.my
Treasurer	Dr Wong Soon Ting	wonghowe@tm.net.my
Comm. Members	Dr Wong Sii Chang	-
	Dr Wong Jyi Lin (SCHOMOS)	sgrejang@yahoo.com
	Dr Wong Ging Yeen (Auditor)	cmmwong@pd.jaring.my

MMA, MIRI SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman	Dr Roland D Mattu	matturd@pc.jaring.my
Secretary	Dr Loh Yunn Hua	-
Treasurer	Dr Mohd Arif Bin Abdullah	matani@tm.net.my
Comm. Members	Dr Roy Wong Mee Tuang	roywong@pc.jaring.my
	Dr Matthew Kho H. W.	hwkho@tm.net.my
	Dr Subramanian	-

MMA, BINTULU SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman	Dr Yek Hock King	-
Chairman-Elect	Dr Lau Ka Chiong	-
Secretary	Dr Lau Ka Chiong	-
Treasurer	Dr Kueh Nie Hui	drkueh@tm.net.my
Comm. Members	Dr Ling King Chuong	kcling.dr@gmail.com
	Dr Karen Gau	k_gau@hotmail.com
	Dr Un Chuan Hock	kimj38@gmail.com
	Dr Tiong King Hong	ckemena@streamyx.com

IMPORTANT BRANCH FUNCTIONS FOR 2007

1. 47TH NATIONAL MMA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2007 7th - 10th June 2007, Swiss Garden Resort & Spa, Damai Laut, Lumut, Perak.

For enquiries, please call MMA Perak Secretariat, Ms Malar at :

Tel / Fax : 05 - 2436543 / 012 - 543 5151
Email : mmapmps_pk@yahoo.com
Homepage : www.mmaperak.org.my

We are bidding to host the 48th National MMA AGM next year. We need you to come to VOTE (or tell your friends to vote for Sarawak). Do bring your family as there are programmes for spouses and children too.

2. 35TH MMA SARAWAK BRANCH ANNUAL INSTALLATION DINNER 2007

This year's auspicious occasion will be graced by TYT Yang Di-Pertua Negeri Tun Datuk Patinggi Abang Haji Muhammad Salahuddin and YABhg Toh Puan, the President of MMA, YBhg Dato Dr Khoo Kah Lin on **Friday, 17th August 2007** at the **Grand Ballroom, Hilton Kuching Hotel**.

We call upon all members to come and attend this 'once a year affair' and show your support for the association, the medical profession! There is a neurology update on 18th - 19th August 2007 so that members from outstation and the government hospitals/clinics can attend the dinner, making it truly a Sarawak affair. We look forward to this gathering, acknowledging our members, recognizing our best UNIMAS students, Kenyalang Medical Foundation's traveling scholarships (Australia & Malaysia), making new acquaintances (students to emeritus members) and renewing the old fraternity and friendship.

In conjunction with the Annual Installation Dinner, we will be publishing the Branch's 35th Annual Magazine. In order to make this publication an interesting issue for all, we need your contribution of articles e.g. short stories, travel documentations, jokes, academic interests, experiences, etc. Send or email your contributions to :

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2nd Floor Ultimate Professional Centre
No 16 Jalan Bukit Mata Kuching
93100 Kuching
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before **1st July 2007**

BRANCH ACTIVITIES FOR 2007

1. INTER-PROFESSIONAL GAMES

This bi-annual event will be held from mid August to end of September 2007. **Dr Robert Kho (Tel : 082-243519, rkho@pc.jaring.my)** has been appointed **Captain for the MMA Sarawak team**. The games to be played are **golf, badminton, table tennis, volleyball, bowling, tennis and darts**. MMA has been given the task to organize the tennis events. All athletes and sportsmen, here is your chance to show your prowess and not only make MMA proud but the medical profession not to be taken for granted (even the none "braining" activities). Please do call Dr Robert Kho and volunteer your much needed and appreciated participation.

2. SARAWAK-SABAH GAMES

Once again, it's our turn to host the Sarawak-Sabah Games! We invite all members to take this chance to pit your skills against our Sabah counterparts. Do come out in full force to support our **Captain, Dr Dennis Kong (Tel : 082-440055, dkong@tm.net.my)**. Give him a call and let him know what games you want to participate in. The games are usually held a day before the Annual Installation Dinner.

3. **HOUSEMEN WELCOMING CUM MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

There will be a Welcoming Cum Membership Drive for housemen and medical officers in November 2007. All new members that signed up as members will be invited to the **Informal Night Dinner** (together with the general practitioners dinner) the next evening. MMA members, please spread the news around and encourage as many as your colleagues to join and become one big MMA family. Unity is strength.

4. **INTER-DOCTORS GAMES & INFORMAL NIGHT**

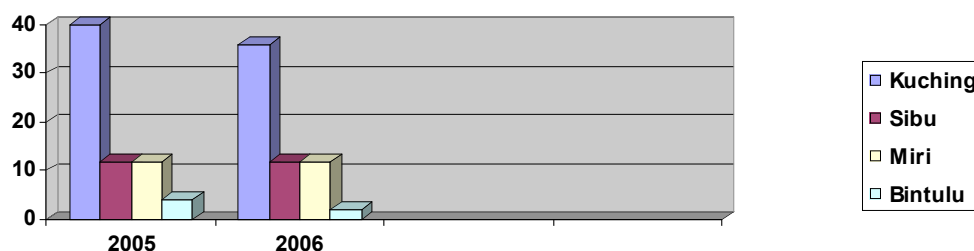
This yearly event of friendly games between the government doctors and private practitioners will be held in October/November and culminating at the Informal Night with a series of games. So make it a point to come and get to know each other. The line between private and the public will be even blurrer after the night. Enjoy the fun as the "**Champion of the Year**" is decided by the darts, beer drinking, arm wrestling, etc matches.

Good news for all karaoke enthusiasts!! As from 2006, we have introduced a karaoke singing competition. Should you be the winner, you will get to keep an attractive trophy donated by our immediate past chairman, Dr Lam Chin Chyou for the year. So, start practising now!

5. **UNIMAS STUDENTS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

MMA Sarawak Branch will organize a membership drive for UNIMAS students. The date and venue will be advised in due course.

6. **CPD/CME (CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT /CONTINUOUS MEDICAL EDUCATION) ACTIVITIES**



The above chart shows the CPD activities that were conducted in 2005 & 2006 with details as below :

LOCATIONS	2005	2006
Kuching	40	36
Sibu	12	12
Miri	12	12
Bintulu	4	2

We hope to have more CPD activities this year with smart partnership from the pharmaceutical industries. We would like to encourage all members to attend and take advantage of these CPD activities to update and widen your knowledge. Make it a habit before the compulsory CPD program coming into effect.

INFORMATION (available on request from Dorothy)

1. **MOH CIRCULAR ON REGISTRATION OF MEDICAL OFFICERS TO WORK AS LOCUM**

2. **MOH CIRCULAR ON IMPORTING OF DRUG NOT AVAILABLE IN MALAYSIA**