

MSO Express

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Dear MSO members,

Welcome to the opening issue of our newsletter for 2021. It has been a year since the world went into lockdown for the first time. After adapting to a full year of virtual events, we have become accustomed to doing this and to a certain extent enjoy attending events from the comfort of our homes. Off goes the travel chaos, in comes the IT glitches. We all have seen the many amusing videos of online seminars and meeting going awry. On the hindsight, with the removal of travel from the equation, we all benefitted by spending more time with family, managed to carve out the “me time” and managed to put to action the things we have always wanted to do. Many discovered their hidden talents like baking, dancing, singing, painting and even learned a new language.

However, no one can deny that we all do miss the face-to-face conferences where we get to mingle with our fellow colleagues and friends; and learn in person about the latest technologies available in our field. We all miss the human touch to bond, particularly important in establishing mentorships between enthusiastic young ophthalmologists and wise experts. With the availability of a multitude of vaccines, the once distant flicker of light at the end of the tunnel, now seems radiant and closer. Let's hope that the post pandemic world, allows us to amalgamate the ease of virtual connection with the ability to mingle and freely exchange ideas.

Back at home, this year saw our first fully virtual MSO Annual Scientific Meeting held from 25th-28th of March. We are very grateful to have received an overwhelming response from members for the meet this year, driven by the exciting agenda, professional moderating and engaging debates. For that, we thank you. Bravo to Dr. Shelina Oli Mohamed and her team for the impactful meet. In light of the overwhelming request from members, we would like to announce that the Annual Scientific Meeting 2021 microsite will be online and accessible to members till Sunday, 11th April 2021. MSO members will continue to enjoy access to the recorded sessions, e-posters and virtual exhibition booths during this period.

This year's Annual General Meeting was also efficiently conducted virtually and saw a record turnout. The newly elected committee has been announced on MSO Facebook (FB) page and members have been notified via email. The new committee will be helmed by Dr. Manoharan Shunmugam as the President. Congratulations to all the new committee members and a big thank you for their willingness to contribute more to our society by being in

the committee. On behalf of the new committee, I would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the outgoing President, Dr. Kenneth Fong and esteemed committee members Dr. Fang Seng Kheong, Dr. Shelina Oli Mohamed, Dr. Lee Ming Yueh and Associate Prof. Dr. Amir Samsudin for their invaluable contributions.

In this issue of the MSO Express, we take a sneak preview into the world of Oculoplastics with Dr. Radzlian Othman, a pioneer and trailblazer. He provides insight on his journey from University Sains Malaysia to the halls of fame of Oculoplastics. We follow that up with an exciting analysis on thyroid eye disease classifications, including a new method of classification based on phenotypes. Lastly, we take a time out to discuss an interesting subject that affects all of us as ophthalmologists as well as parents, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on myopia in children. The article outlines some preventive tips and hope this is helpful. I hope all of you enjoy the articles in this issue.

As the co-editor of the MSO Express for the past 2 years, I have had the great privilege of working alongside Dr. Manoharan Shunmugam and Ms. Clare. I am no journalist, but helping this position has definitely honed my writing skills and I am grateful for this opportunity. I will now be passing over the baton to Dr. Teh Wee Min and Dr. Chan Jan Bond who will be the new co-editors of MSO Express. With that I would like to bid my Adieu.

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