

## WELCOME MESSAGE



**Dr. Kenneth Fong**  
*President, MSO*

Dear MSO members,

Welcome to the 4<sup>th</sup> issue of the MSO Express. Firstly, I would like to thank the members for their confidence in electing me as the President of the society in the recent annual general meeting (AGM). The new committee will continue to work hard to organize meaningful activities to advance our profession and advocate for our patients.

Recently, we were informed about dubious eye drops, supplements, spectacle frames, and, certain eye therapies, that were being marketed online as cures for glaucoma, cataract and myopia. We organised a press conference on 20 May 2017 to educate the public and warn them about the dangers of such dubious eye treatments. Our press statement in three languages was also put up on our Facebook page. To our surprise, this attracted more than 50,000 views and more than 1,000 likes and shares. This goes to show the importance of social media in our current society. We must continue to engage and educate the public online about eye conditions and appropriate treatments.

Our recent annual scientific meeting was a resounding success with more than 300 delegates attending. The feedback was very positive and we will continue to ensure our meetings are of the highest quality. The Charity Eye Ball headlined by Harith Iskander raised more than RM20,000 for the Sivasanta Charity Clinic and this will go a long way towards helping the needy. Our next annual meeting will be from 16-18 March 2018 in the historical city of Melaka. Please block your diaries for what promises to be an exciting update on cataract and refractive surgery. It will also mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our society and we will launch a special photobook that highlights all our activities over the past 10 years.

I would also like to congratulate Dato' Dr. YC Lee for being conferred the Honoured Guest award at the recent American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons (ASCRS) annual meeting in Los Angeles. He is the first Asian Ophthalmologist to receive this prestigious award. Special mention also to Dr. Cheong Fook Meng who was awarded the best free paper award at the recent Asia-Pacific Association of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons (APACRS) Meeting in Hangzhou.

In this issue, we focus on diabetic macula edema, which remains a common problem among our patients. This issue also interviews Dr. Peter Kong from Sabah about his long-standing charity work in Myanmar and Dr. George Thomas, a senior Ophthalmologist, about his life and work.