PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

A New Chapter of AOHUPO

Greetings!

About 8 years ago, AOHUPO was created to promote and coordinate the efforts of the regional proteomics community by four co-founding members: the late Dr. Akira Tsugita (NEC, Japan), Richard Simpson (Australia), Kazuyuki Nakamura (Yamaguchi Univ., Japan) and Young-Ki Paik (Yonsei Univ., Korea). Since its establishment, the number of AOHUPO society members has been expanded to 14 national groups and currently more than 2000 proteomics scientists are actively engaged in various disciplines in the proteomics field. In this regard, I would like to thank all councilors and their society members. In particular, I want to give full credit to my predecessor, Richard Simpson who did an outstanding job as the inaugural president when AOHUPO was established. AOHUPO has been instrumental in enhancing proteomics research and is the premier professional home for proteomics scientists and related professionals in the field. Thanks again to the many colleagues who have voluntarily contributed their precious time to this organization over the past 8 years.

In the opening of a new chapter of AOHUPO, we, executive committee members, are also proud that our organization has been a role model for other regional and national societies in terms of organization and operation. In this regard, I would like to share with you a few thoughts on continuing our tradition. First, we have grown by having a biannual AOHUPO conference that has been hosted in rotation by different cities such as Seoul in 2002, Taipei in 2004, Singapore in 2006, and Cairns in 2008. We shall certainly keep this tradition of rotation and are looking for another great conference in Hyderabad in 2010. Second, we are very proud of the fact that MPI (director, Bill Jordan) has been successfully carried out by our participating members since it was launched in Seoul in 2005.

Bill has done an outstanding job in navigating this project by organizing a workshop almost every year in different cities and integrating several different datasets created by various proteomics platforms using rigorous bioinformatics tools. MPI is indeed quite suitable to the biologically more diverse interests of the countries in the AOHUPO region. Again, this MPI is a significant milestone of our society and serves as a role model for other regional groups. Lastly, AOHUPO has contributed to HUPO by hosting two successful HUPO congresses (Beijing, 2004; Seoul, 2007) and we are looking forward to another successful congress in Sydney next year. This congress will have a tremendous impact on the development and dissemination of proteomics techniques throughout the region.

AOHUPO continues to move forward into the future and occupies a central position in the education and training of future scientists in this region. I am sure that everyone in this society is united to support AOHUPO activity. Since AOHUPO needs to be more active in establishing efficient communication within this region, Hosseini has taken a job as editor of the AOHUPO Newsletter. I sincerely congratulate him on this inaugural issue of the newsletter, which keeps us connected and promotes international communication. I want to encourage the national societies and AOHUPO to grow together, synergistically, which is of course critical for the success of HUPO as well. In particular, I want to encourage you to participate in the HUPO Toronto congress, Sept 26-30. Despite the global economic crisis, the organizers have done an outstanding job in attracting many exhibitors, a great number of abstracts, as well as several social events. We all wish great success at this HUPO congress which, will be followed by our 5th AOHUPO conference in India (February 21st – 25th, 2010, Hyderabad, India, organizer: Ravi Sirdeshmukh).

I look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you!
The 5th AOHUPO Membrane Proteomics Initiative

The 5th AOHUPO Membrane Proteomics Initiative (MPI) Workshop was recently held at Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan (June 19-20, 2009), in conjunction with the 2009 TPS International Proteomics Conference organized by Taiwan Proteomics Society (TPS). Together, the 2-days event attracted over 300 participants, with 19 invited lectures from both foreign and local scientists, including two by the current HUPO and AOHUPO President, Young-Ki Paik. In addition to workshop presentations by AOHUPO MPI investigators, presided over by the Director, Bill Jordan, who also discussed the progress, impact and future prospects of MPI, scientists from US, Canada, and Germany joined their Asian colleagues in presenting exciting technical advances and bioinformatics solutions for increasing the overall coverage, precision and speed in quantitative and targeted proteomics, encompassing both the membrane and phosphoproteomics, with applications in clinical diagnosis and biomarker discovery.

The newly elected TPS President, Yu-Ju Chen, also gave an account of her own research, as well as the local proteomic scene during her welcoming address. The international meeting further provided opportunities for local student and young participants to present their work through poster communications and the AOHUPO to hold its annual council meeting.

The 5th AOHUPO Congress

14th ADNAT Convention & 1st PSI Conference

New Perspectives in Proteome Research

(Feb 21-25, 2010)

Hyderabad, India Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB)

The Asian Oceanian Human Proteome Organization (AOHUPO)) is dedicated to fostering proteomic initiatives and efforts in the Asian Oceanic (AO) region. AOHUPO biannual Proteomics Conferences are now well known. Association for the Promotion of DNA Fingerprinting and other DNA Technologies (ADNAT) is an organization with members including scientists from various biology disciplines, clinicians and science thinkers. It is well known for its Annual Conventions on Contemporary Topics in Biology; Proteomics being chosen as the theme for its 2010 Meeting. Proteomics Society – India (PSI) is a recently formed unit of the Indian Proteomics community that has fast grown to a critical size in recent years. Its mandate is promotion of education and research in Proteomics in India through educational workshops, discussions and collaborative interactions.

The scientific Program: The Education Day will focus on Basic issues in Proteomic Approaches and Experimental Design. Symposia will feature speakers representing experience as well as young promise. An Open Discussion on “Proteomics in Biology & Bio Medicine - Challenges and Prospects” is also being planned.

The joint event is expected to exhibit one the biggest Proteomics events in India and the AO region.

Contact : Organizing Committee
The AOHUPO Membrane Proteomics Initiative

The AOHUPO Membrane Proteomics Initiative (MPI) was established to provide an integrated focus for research among groups from the fifteen countries in the Asia-Oceania region. Membrane proteins were chosen as this AOHUPO research theme because of the importance of these proteins widely in biology and for a number of proteomics projects in the region. The concept was launched in April 2005 at the First MPI Workshop during the KHUPO 5th International Proteomics Conference in Seoul. Successive MPI workshops were in Singapore (2006), Hong Kong (2007), Cairns (2008) and Taipei (2009) at the times of local Proteomics Society meetings. A report of the 4th (Cairns) workshop was published in Proteomics 2008, 8: 3920-3923 and a News Article “AOHUPO takes on Membrane Proteomics” featured in the Journal of Proteome Research in March 2009. MPI Workshops have included a range of presentations on various aspects of animal, plant and microbial membrane proteomics with a major emphasis on analysis of the AOHUPO Membrane Proteomics Standard. Additionally, MPI posters and oral presentations have been given at a variety of national and international conferences, including as scheduled reviews during the upcoming HUPO 8th Annual World Congress in Toronto September 2009. Several manuscripts are being prepared for submission to journals in 2009 and 2010. Seventeen laboratories from the AOHUPO region have participated in analysis of a mouse liver membrane preparation that was distributed as the AOHUPO Membrane Proteome Standard (MPS). Some of the groups have collaborated further with other groups from academia and industry during the project. The MPS was enriched for membrane proteins by stripping off cytoplasmic and cytoskeletal contaminant proteins. Bioinformatic mining is underway for the combined data set representing over 200 Gb of raw mass spec files from analysis of the MPS using a wide range of workflows and mass spectrometry platforms. The preliminary conclusions include that similar membrane protein sets are detected using different technologies such as shotgun analysis of proteolytic peptides with separation of peptides by HPLC or IEF, or using protein separation by column chromatography prior to digestion and analysis of peptides. The product of this work is expected to be the most complete description of membrane proteomes and membrane proteomics based on multi-laboratory analysis of a single sample. With completion of this first phase of the MPI, AOHUPO is now turning to applications of the technologies. Stem Cell Membrane Proteomics is a proposed resulting theme for AOHUPO over the next three years.

For further information, contact Bill Jordan at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand: bill.jordan@vuw.ac.nz

2nd Iranian Proteomics Society Conference, Tehran, Iran - April, 22-24

The second conference of Iranian Proteomics Society (IPS) took place on April 22-24, 2009, at Royan Institute in Tehran, Iran. About 350 participants from all over the country attended the meeting. The educational day of conference was held on April 22 with a good overview of proteomics technologies. During two days conference (April 23-24) twenty-three lectures were presented by Iranian scientists as well as invited speakers including Young-Ki Paik, Pier Giorgio Righetti, Setsuko Komatsu, Max C.M. Chung, and Hans-Peter Mock. Lectures and posters covered many different fields of proteomics including cancer, infectious disease, embryonic stem cell, plant, and membrane proteomics as well as new advances in technologies. The current status of Human Proteome Project was also presented by president of HUPO.
**7th JHUPO Annual Meeting, Tokyo, July 27-28, 2009**

The 7th JHUPO Annual Meeting was recently held at Kitasato University Shirokane Campus, Minato-ku, Tokyo (July 27-28, 2009). The 2-day event attracted over 400 participants, with 8 symposia, 2 educational lectures, 83 posters, and 4 invited lectures from both foreign and local scientists, including Prof. Young-Ki Paik, the current HUPO and AOHUPO President, and Visith Thongboonkerd, the HUPO council member. Dr. Hiroo Imura, Kyoto University Emeritus Professor and a renowned endocrinologist, gave a special invited lecture of “Integrative Celerity Research and Expectation for Omics Studies”. His view from outside of proteomics attracted many participants. The theme of the meeting was “From Basic Proteomics to Their Applications in the Medical, Pharmacological and Agricultural Fields”. Lectures and posters covered many different fields of proteomics including new technologies, mass spectrometry, clinical proteomics, laboratory animal model proteomics, modifications, quantitative proteomics, structural proteomics, biomarker discovery, and agricultural proteomics. The newly elected JHUPO President, Hisashi Hirano, gave his vision of future JHUPO during his welcoming address.

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**CNHUPO 6th Annual Conference**

China Human Proteome Organisation (CNHUPO) has annually organized the national conferences since 2003. The CNHUPO 6th Annual Conference, held on August 28-31, 2009 in Taizhou City, Jiangsu Province, China, was an outstanding success with more than 600 participants in attendance. The conference was organized by Beijing Proteome Research Center (BPRC), Institutes of Biomedical Sciences Fudan University, Taizhou National Medical Hi-tech Development Zone and Yangtze River Pharmaceutical Group.

Under the theme “Proteomics: Decoding Genomes; Uncovering Biomarkers”, the conference aimed to promote the research and development of proteomics in China, show the up-to-date progress in proteome sciences and related disciplines and improve the global collaboration. The main body of the conference featured 19 plenary lectures, 72 parallel session lectures, 6 industrial workshops, proteomic technology education. It was a great honor for having the lectures from several international eminent scientists in proteomics, including Profs. Samir Hanash (Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, USA), Catherine Costello (Boston University School of Medicine, USA), Stephen Stein (National Institute of Standards and Technology, USA), Jose Mato (CIC-Biogune, Spain), Naoyuki Taniguchi (Osaka University, Japan), Fuchu He (BPRC, China), Zihe Rao (Nakai University, China), Hongyang Wang (the Second Military Medical University, China) and other 11 famous Chinese scientists in proteomics. Furthermore, Hong Kong Proteomics Society organized the delegation to participate in the conference with four scientists, Profs. Ning Li, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Terence C.W. Poon (Chinese University of Hong Kong), John Luk and Dr. Zhi Xu (University of Hong Kong).

The conference covered a wide range of exciting and cutting-edge topics in proteomics. Three Parallel Sessions were featured on the topics of “Functional proteomics”, “Disease proteomics” and “Proteomics related technologies”. Totally, 287 abstracts were received, including 113 posters presented. Also, it was worthily mentioned that the conference specially set up the six Young Investigator Presentation Awards and ten Poster Awards for Chinese young proteomics investigators.
In virtue of the vibrant conference, the Chinese scientists enjoyed a nationwide forum to summarize the newest achievement and also a valuable communication platform. Therefore, we strongly believed that the CNHUPO 6th Annual Conference had an active impact on further development of the proteomics in China and the team of CNHUPO.

Reporter: Xue Gao from Beijing Proteome Research Center

UPCOMING EVENTS

5th AOHUPO Congress
14th ADNAT Convention & 1st PSI Conference

February 2010
New Perspectives in Proteome Research
(Feb 21-25, 2010)
Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad, India

July 2010
Joint Conference of the 8th Japan Human Proteome Organization Conference (JHUPO) and the 6th Annual Meeting of Japan Society for Clinical Proteomics (JSCP)
New technologies of large-scale protein analysis
July 26 (Mon) – 27 (Tue), 2010
Tokyo Bay Hotel Tokyo (1-7 Maihama, Urayasu-shi, Chiba, Japan)

Any material submitted will be subject to approval by the AOHUPO Executive Committee and the Publications Committee

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