Chairman’s Report

I have great pleasure to report the following activities accomplished by the Council in the year 2007 - 2008:

Sichuan Earthquake Relief Work

The Society went to work almost immediately after the devastating news of the earthquake reached us on 12 May, 2008.

From Day 1, we worked in close collaboration with the Sichuan Society of Nephrology Chairlady (Dr. Wang Li, who was an ISN Fellow at Prince of Wales Hospital earlier in the year), the Chinese Society of Nephrology, the International Society of Nephrology ‘Renal Disaster Relief Task Force’ Chairman (Professor Ray Vanholder, who hosted such a meeting at APCN in Kuala Lumpur in early May – which I fortuitously attended), the Medecins Sans Frontières (MSF), the Hospital Authority, and the Hong Kong Kidney Foundation.

Partly representing the Society, Professor Philip Li was already on site in Sichuan on Day 4. Over the following 48 hours, he reported on the scale of the disaster and the estimate of the number of patients with Acute Kidney Injury, gave advice and training to the local staff on the management of Renal Disaster and Crush Injury, and assessed the scope of the damage to the various dialysis centres in the areas. His timely first-hand report formed the basis of the subsequent relief work.

Support from our members was also overwhelming, and I received many personal calls from our nephrologists and nurses offering to go to Sichuan to help. One of them, Ms Sandy Hui of United Christian Hospital, actually overcame various administrative obstacles to have herself all prepared for the trip, but it was only cancelled at the last minute when it was apparent that Sichuan was not short of renal personnel by the end of the first week.

At the end, the Society donated $249,402 worth of essential CRRT equipment delivered to the disaster area within the first 2 weeks, and we received donations of $84,500 to the Society for this purpose (we were rather restrained in calling for donations in public). Messages of thanks were received from our Chinese colleagues in Sichuan and Beijing, ISN, and MSF. Professor Philip Li also presented his earthquake relief work at one of our inter-hospital meeting on 21 May 2008.

The work obviously does not stop here, the Society will strive to continue to work towards helping our Sichuan colleagues in rebuilding their dialysis services.
World Kidney Day

This is a joint initiative of the International Society of Nephrology and the International Federation of Kidney Foundation. The purpose of the World Kidney Day is to raise public awareness about the importance of our kidneys and to spread the message that kidney disease is common, harmful and treatable.

This year, our major promotion activity was held in the Kowloon Hospital Football Ground on 16/3/2008 in conjunction with the Hong Kong Kidney Foundation, and the Hospital Authority. More than 1,000 staff, patients and their families participated in the game booths, the penalty shoot-out competition, a Line Dance by all participants, and a charity soccer match between the organizers invitation team and the All Stars Football Team. Guests of honour included Dr. York Chow, the Secretary of Food and Health; Dr. C H Leong, Member of the Executive Council; Mr Tang King Shing, the Commissioner of Police; and Mr Anthony Wu, the Hospital Authority Chairman.

Academic Meetings

Inter-hospital Meetings

- 8 meetings were held this year at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and coordinated by Dr. K S Choi.

- All the Hospital Authority renal units participated regularly with guests presentations from the Macau Society of Nephrology and the Hong Kong Paediatric Nephrology Society.

- The Society is also working on the possibility of ‘tele-conferencing’ such meetings with the Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital.

List of other Academic Meetings

- 12 December 2007
  'Conversion from CNI to mTOR in Renal Transplant Patients: The Australian Experience'
  Professor Bruce A. Pussell

- 8 January 2008
  'Lanthanum Carbonate: a new treatment option'
  Professor Marc De Broe
- **16 January 2008**
  'Strategy for CAN in Kidney Transplant Recipients'
  Professor Philip F. Halloran
  Co-organized with the Hong Kong Society of Transplantation

- **27 January 2008**
  'HA Commissioned Training: Improving Bone & Cardiovascular Outcomes in Chronic Dialysis'
  Professor Carmine Zoccali, Dr. William Goodman and Local Speakers
  Co-organized with the Hospital Authority and the Hong Kong Kidney Foundation

- **15 February 2008**
  'Outcome of Nocturnal Home Haemodialysis: The Toronto Experience'
  Dr. Christopher T Chan

- **6 March 2008**
  'PD Management in the increasing trend of diabetes'
  Dr. Graham Woodrow

- **8 March 2008**
  'Symposium on Management of Glomerular Diseases'
  Professors L S Li, H Y Wang, X Q Yu, T Takeuchi and C C Szeto

- **12 March 2008**
  'Plasma Cell Dyscrasia and Renal Diseases – An Update'
  Dr. Nelson Leung

- **26 May 2008**
  'In search of the Perfect Membrane'
  Dr. O Tuominen
  'HDF-Brisbane Experience'
  Dr. C Hawley

- **11 June 2008**
  'New Strategy in managing Kidney Transplant Recipients'
  Professor J Fung
  Co-organized with the Hong Kong Society of Transplantation
- 10 September 2008
  'What's new in IgA Nephropathy'
  Professor J Feehally

- 27 September 2008
  'Professional Training Program on Organ Donation and Procurement'
  Dr. Marti Manyalich, Dr. Vincent Nieuwenhuijs, Ms Danielle Nijkamp and Local Speakers
  Co-organized with the Hospital Authority and the Hong Kong Society of Transplantation.

- 29 September 2008
  'Role of Incretin-Based Therapy in Patients with T2DM & Renal Impairment'
  Professor Juris Meier

HKSN Research Grants

This year, we are pleased to have Professor Carmine Zoccali and Dr. Nelson Leung as our external reviewers. Dr. K S Wong acts as our coordinator. The following applications are successful in obtaining the grants:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Principle Investigator</th>
<th>Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urinary Expression of Surfactant Protein-C, S100A8, S100A9 and B Cell Markers in Kidney Transplant Recipients: Investigation of the Prognostic Value</td>
<td>Professor C C Szeto</td>
<td>Prince of Wales Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surveillance for Liver Fibrosis / Cirrhosis in Patients with End Stage Renal Disease using Transient Elastography (Fibroscan)</td>
<td>Dr. B Kwan</td>
<td>Prince of Wales Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Pilot Study to Evaluate the Efficacy of Total Parathyroidectomy with Forearm Autografting in Retarding Vascular Calcification and Improving Arterial Stiffening and Bone Mineral Density in End-stage Renal Disease Patients</td>
<td>Dr. B Lang</td>
<td>Queen Mary Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact and efficacy of Everolimus Rescue Immunosuppression in the Treatment of Chronic Allograft Dysfunction in Renal Transplant Recipients</td>
<td>Dr. K M Chow</td>
<td>Prince of Wales Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prospective, randomized, open-label study of topical antibiotic prophylaxis at the catheter exit site in non-selected peritoneal dialysis patients: continuous daily gentamicin cream versus cyclical gentamicin cream and mupirocin 2% cream alternating on monthly basis.</td>
<td>Dr. G Tong</td>
<td>Kwong Wah Hospital</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The project proposed by Dr. B Lang has been judged as the best and awarded the HKSN/HKHF Award.
Richard Yu Endowment Fund

Richard Yu Endowment Fund was set up in 2006 with a generous donation from Professor Richard Yu to recognize high caliber clinicians and scientists to promote international experience sharing, and to support meaningful research in the field of renal medicine.

Richard Yu Endowment Fund Awardees:
2006  Professor K N Lai
       Lecture – “Somewhere over the Rainbow”

2007  Professor Philip Li
       Lecture – “The Science and Care in Nephrology: A Journey from Prevention to Peritoneal Dialysis”

2008  Professor T M Chan
       Lecture – “Lupus Nephritis – An Enriching Opus”

Patients Related Activities

Renal Patients’ Gateball Competition

The competition was held in the Kowloon Park Indoor Sports Centre on 8 June 2008. The event was jointly organized by the Hong Kong Gateball Association, the Leisure & Cultural Services Department and our Society. For the first time, the Hong Kong combined team has a friendly match with the guest Macau representatives, and it is to be hoped that this arrangement will become a more permanent fixture. Drs. David Yong and Y L Cheng were the organizers for the event.

The results of the Competition are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Open Division</th>
<th>Senior Division</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Champion</td>
<td>Queen Mary Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st runner-up</td>
<td>Tuen Mun Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd runner-up</td>
<td>Queen Elizabeth Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd runner-up</td>
<td>Kwong Wah Hospital</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
'Musical' for the Patients

'Musical' appreciation event '好戲獻腎友' was organized by the Society in collaboration with the Actors’ Family on 5 April 2008 at the Academy of Performing Arts. A total of about 400 staff, patients and their families from most renal centres attended a performance of ‘花 far 世界’ . The event was officiated by Dr. Cheung Wai Lun of the Hospital Authority, and coordinated by Professor Philip Li and Dr. T H Kwan.

The Society remains convinced that such cultural and sport activities would encourage our renal patients to participate more in such events for the benefits of their psychosocial rehabilitation.

Research

The Society has embarked on and funded an ambitious project on “Screening of Silent Kidney Disease in Relatives of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Patients in Hong Kong” coordinated by Professor Philip Li. It aims to determine the prevalence of risk factors for developing end stage renal disease, namely urinary abnormalities, renal impairment or hypertension among first degree relatives of Stage 1 to 5 CKD patients in Hong Kong. A total of 1,500 subjects will be recruited into the study (about 300 each from Stage 1 to Stage 5 CKD). The subjects are relatives of renal disease patients from 10 HA hospitals. The project was started in June 2008 and has now screened 300 subjects. We envisage more recruitment within the coming months, and meaningful analysis would be carried out soon afterwards.

Renal Nursing Course

The Society collaborated with the Institute of Advanced Nursing Studies and the Hong Kong Kidney Foundation to launch the Hong Kong Renal Nursing Course 2008. This year, the Hong Kong Association of Renal Nurses also served as a supporting organization with invaluable input. The course has two modules, one on PD/renal transplant and the other on HD. Fifty-one participants enrolled for Module I and 43 for Module II. In total, more than 100 hours of lectures were delivered by nurses, doctors and paramedical staff. This illustrates the vast extent of participation from our professional staff to make this course a successful one. Dr. T H Kwan is as our coordinator for the project.
Activities Focused on Transplantation
Apart from the academic meetings, the Society continues to be involved in all transplant related activities.

In support of the Hong Kong Society of Transplantation, we will collaborate in the 'The World's Biggest Walk' on 25 October 2008 in the Hong Kong Park to promote organ donations.

The Council has also resolved to endorse the 'Declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism'. This is the direct result of a Summit Meeting convened by the Transplantation Society and ISN in Turkey with Dr. K L Tong being the representative of Hong Kong.

Publications
- **Hong Kong Journal of Nephrology**
  Under the able leadership of Professor Alex Yu, the Journal continues to thrive both in terms of manuscripts received and advertising income. Two issues are being published every year. There were 26 submissions in last 12 months. Twelve of them are original articles and 7 case reports. Majority of them are from Hong Kong, followed by India, USA and China. Other countries of submission included Belgium, Germany, Iran, Ivory Coast, Saudi Arabia and Taiwan. Rejection rate was 8%.

- **Newsletters**
  Our Honorary Secretary, Dr. S L Lui, and Dr. Y W Ho have strived hard to publish 3 issues since the last Annual Scientific Meeting to keep our members informed of the activities of the Society.

- **Nephrology Journal**
  The Society has continued to subscribe for this international Journal for each of our members.

International Relationships

Members as officials of international organizations:
- **Asian Pacific Society of Nephrology**
  President: Professor T M Chan
  Treasurer: Dr. Sydney Tang
  Executive Council: Professor Alex Yu
  Council: Dr. Andrew Wong
- International Society of Nephrology
  Council: Professor Philip Li

- International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis
  Immediate Past President: Dr. W K Lo

- Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcome (KDIGO)
  Board of Director: Professor Philip Li

- World Transplant Games Federation
  Council: Dr. K F Chau

**ISHD 2nd Congress, Hong Kong  28 - 31 August 2009**
- The Society is the organizer of the event with Professor Alex Yu as the President of the Organising Committee.

- With your support, we are confident that we would emulate the past successes in holding such international meetings

**ISN Fellows**
- Under the auspices of ISN Fellowship, 3 Mainland nephrology fellows were seconded to Prince of Wales, Princess Margaret and Queen Mary/Tung Wah Hospitals for several months each during the period 2007 - 2008. They are Dr. Li Wang from Chengdu, Dr. Hong Xu from Beijing and Dr. Xiao-hong Sang from Xin Jiang.

**Public Education**
- Lions Kidney Education Centre “DM & your Kidney” Health Exhibition & Seminar
  Drs. Y L Cheng and Jonathan Yung represented the Society to deliver public lectures on the topic in April 2008.

- TV programs
  I appeared in the program '午間茶敘' to promote kidney health earlier in the year.

- Press Conference
  A press conference with a brief talk by me on “Diabetic monitoring in Diabetic Patient in End Stage Renal Failure” was held in September 2008.

**Society Home Page**
The Society home page www.hksn.org is regularly updated and maintained under the expertise of Drs. Y W Ho and C B Leung.
Scholarships and Sponsorships

The Society has awarded 2 Young Nephrology Investigators Scholarships, and 76 sponsorships for members to attend various overseas academic meetings. Dr. Sydney Tang processes such applications on behalf of the Society.

Membership

As of September 2008, the Society has 131 Full members and 616 Associate members.
Dr. Samuel Fung is in charge of membership affairs.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Council Members for their support and hard work. It has indeed been a privilege to work with such a group of selfless and dedicated professionals, whose primary interests are always for the advancement of nephrology and the well-being of the renal community in Hong Kong.

Dr. Andrew Wong
Chairman
Hong Kong Society of Nephrology