



## President's Message



March 2022

Dear Colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure and honour to become President of our Society. With Covid-19 still interrupting travels and in-person interactions here and there, I envisage that our activities at least during the first half of 2022 if not beyond, will be mainly web-based.

With a new term of office starting from the WCN/APCN held in Kuala Lumpur and online in the Spring of 2022, the Executive Committee is blessed with a fresh look with new faces for half of its composition, including Hyeong-Cheon Park (Korea) as Honorary Secretary, Muh Geot Wong (Australia) as Chair of the CME Committee, Yusuke Suzuki (Japan) as Editor-in-chief of our official journal *Nephrology*, Sunita Bavanandan (Malaysia) as co-opt committee member and Kornchanok Vareesangthip (Thailand) as Chair of the Young Nephrologists' Committee (YNC). I wish to bid farewell and extend a vote of thanks to all the outgoing Executive Committee members who have served the Society well and the Executive Committee will look up to their continued support and advice.

Under the leadership of my predecessor Masaomi Nangaku (Japan), the Society has continued to grow from strength to strength. Two fully virtual stand-alone APCNs hosted by the Hong Kong Society of Nephrology and the Nephrology Society of Thailand have been successfully held in 2020 and 2021, respectively, and both of them brought tremendous knowledge, wisdom and revenue to the Society. In addition, a new Diversity and Equity Committee has been established in late 2021 to promote inclusiveness and all the elements that come with the name of this committee, and it will be my task to oversee its growth and development during my term. I am pleased to announce that Motoko Yanagita (Japan) will serve as Chair of this important Committee.

Under the leadership of Muh Geot Wong (Australia), a series of CME activities for 2022 is already in the pipeline with the aim of promoting nephrology particularly among nephrology trainees across geographic regions to address country-specific needs and knowledge gaps. The YNC, while making plans for its own activities, will also be contributing to upcoming CME activities of the Society. I am pleased that the CME Committee composition has been expanded to reflect a balanced representation from our sponsoring societies and include contributions from our affiliated societies.

Our official journal, *Nephrology*, has achieved major milestones in recent years, having gone fully online in 2018 and seen a leap in its impact factor in 2020. In addition, two awards have



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been established during APCN 2021 to honour the Best Reviewer and the Most Cited Paper. An Editorial Board Meeting was held during the APCN/WCN 2022, and as the outgoing Editor-in-chief (2018 – 2022), I am grateful for all the constructive comments and suggestions gathered from our Associate and Subject Editors during the meeting. The incoming EIC Yusuke Suzuki (Japan) who assumes office on 7 Mar 2022 will take these on board to bring the journal to new heights.

The next APCN will be held in conjunction with the WCN 2023 in Bangkok from 30 March – 2 April and the Nephrology Society of Thailand as the host society is working with the ISN and APSN to line up what is to become a fascinating scientific program. I believe we can all look forward to the revival of an in-person WCN/APCN next year. A call for bidding to host the APCN 2024 will be announced shortly. Interested member societies of the APSN, please stay tuned!

Yours sincerely,

**Sydney Tang**  
President  
Asian Pacific Society of Nephrology