MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Arthur FT MAK, Ph.D.

Dear Fellow Members:

The field of biomedical engineering continues to thrive with breakthroughs and opportunities on many different fronts - from molecular to organ bioengineering, and from smart prosthetics to brain imaging. I am proud that our WACBE members around the world in their different capacities are making contributions to this exciting development, bringing impacts to our global community at large.

Past developments in biomedical engineering have been fueled by the fast and momentous advances in biomedical and engineering sciences, and this will continue to be so in the future. Equally the developments in biomedical engineering will continue to fuel the development of biomedical and engineering sciences now and in the future. Biomedical engineering, as an established discipline, will continue to be a field most open to interdisciplinary collaborations on all fronts. Serving this exciting development, WACBE will continue as a world association of biomedical engineers and other professionals who share interests in the development and application of biomedical engineering for a better and healthier global community.

WACBE members work in different institutions and geographic locations. Upon the WACBE platform we come together with different personal strengths, career experiences, and cultural wisdom, complementing each other in various collaborations, so that we could achieve better and more significant goals in our endeavors. WACBE for many is a platform for such cross-stimulation and cross-fertilization. We have launched WACBE with such a vision in mind.

In our last Council Meeting, we went through considerable brain-storming and came up with a number of exciting initiatives for the benefits of our members. I am grateful that many of our Council members are willing to serve as coordinators of these initiatives. They include,

- Scientific Writing Clinic Services to Members (Coordinator: Dr. Fan Yubo)
- Instructional Courses Support Services (Coordinator: Dr. Long Mian)
- WACBE Travelling Fellowships (Coordinator: Dr. Arthur Mak)
- International Scientific Collaboration Referral Services (Coordinator: Dr. Kirk Shung)
- Industrial Support Referral Services (Coordinator: Dr. Cheng-Kung Cheng)
- Affiliated Journals (Coordinator: Dr. Hu Xiaoping)
- Inter-societal Relationships (Coordinator: Dr. Chan Kaiming)

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The 4th WACBE World Congress on Bioengineering was held in Hong Kong, China, on July 26-29, 2009. The congress covered all related areas in bioengineering and special symposiums of hot themes and offered a networking forum for bioengineers to keep abreast of the latest development in the field.

The Organizing Committee of WACBE 2009 consisted of Dr. Arthur Mak, Chairman, Dr. K.M. Chan, Vic-Chairman, Dr. Ming Zhang, Secretary-General, Dr. Ed X. Wu, Scientific Committee Chair, and Dr. Cheng Zhu, Scientific Committee Co-Chair among others.

WACBE World Congress on Bioengineering 2009 was a memorable event for colleagues and friends from all over the world. It was an occasion to establish friendship, to promote academic exchanges and to stimulate the interests of biomedical engineers. There were around 450 delegates from 25 countries and regions around the world. Prof. JM Ko, Vice President of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the host, gave a welcome speech; Prof. Arthur Mak, President of WACBE, gave the opening speech. Eight plenary lectures were given by Dr. Kerong Dai, Dr. Chien Ho, Dr. Yi LI, Dr. Roderic Pettigrow, Dr. Kirk Shung, Dr. KF So, Dr. Ning Wang, and Dr. Savio Woo.

The Congress received around 540 abstracts and 490 abstracts were printed in the final proceedings, including 8 plenary lectures, 2 workshop lectures, 1 banquet lecture, 41 keynote speeches and 214 other oral presentations and 224 poster presentations.

Five Young Investigator awards were given to:
- Li Zhongyu, HKUST, "Polyether polyol-platinate conjugate and its micelle as new antitumor nanomedicines"
- Hui Sai Kam, HKU, "Reduced CSF Contamination in DTI by Additional DWIs with Smaller B-value"
- Chen Kai, USA, "Relationship between equilibrium point control processes and electromyographic pattern in elbow joint movement"
- Martinez Ignacio, Spain, "upX73: Ubiquitous Platform for Personal Health Solutions Based on End-to-End Standard Design"
- Li Liu, China, "Flexibility, a possible dominant factor on the activity of antimicrobial peptides"

Ming Zhang, Congress Secretary-General
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

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The main task of the coordinator is to coordinate and plan for the implementation of the initiative under his care and to recruit additional members to form a task-force to support his initiative.

As you may appreciate, all these initiatives have our members in mind. Being a world association, it is important to partner with other international societies for mutually beneficial synergy building. Kaiming of the Chinese University of Hong Kong is keen to take us forward on that front. Being a learned society, we should consider adopting a few key and relevant journals as our affiliated journals. Xiaoping of Georgia Institute of Technology is willing to explore various possibilities for us.

To leverage on our extensive international network to benefit our members for their purposes of collaborative endeavors, we plan to provide some kinds of referral services for international scientific collaboration and for industrial support, to be coordinated respectively by Kirk of the University of Southern California and by Cheng-King of Yang Ming Medical University.

The first three initiatives have particularly our young members in mind. Many of them may appreciate helps from more seasoned members for their scientific writing. Yubo of Beihang University is willing to look into this for us. Biomedical engineering draws on a wide spectrum of knowledge from many different disciplines. Often time, such a wide spectrum of expertise is not all available in one particular institution. Thus, many of our graduate students and young investigators may appreciate the offers in their regions of advanced state-of-the-art instructional courses by the world experts or during our WACBE world congresses. Mian of the Chinese Academy of Science is willing to help organize our efforts to address this need. I myself am glad to explore the provision of some kind of WACBE fellowships for young investigators to support their travel to visit the major centers of excellence in their areas of biomedical engineering.

A major WACBE distinctive is our commitment and special attention to our young members. Issues which we always consider while we are planning our WACBE congresses include how our congress scientific programmes may benefit our graduate students and young investigators, and how we could make it more affordable for our graduate students and young investigators to join our congresses. We would like to see more participation of our young members not only in our congresses but also in our committees. As we want WACBE to be a major leader in our field in the next decade and beyond, and our young members would be key to that realization, we need to engage our graduate students and young investigators more actively now.

The WACBE World Congress on Bioengineering is certainly a biennial highlight among our members and many colleagues related to biomedical engineering. We had a very successful WACBE World Congress in Hong Kong last year with the dedicated support of Prof ZHANG Ming. We should be hearing more from Prof LIN Feng-Huei and his colleagues regarding the next WACBE World Congress in Taiwan in 2011. Please make your plan early to join this remarkable event.

WACBE is a young, energetic, and growing association. If you have colleagues who share our WACBE visions and missions but are not yet a WACBE member, please invite them to consider joining WACBE. Our arms are open.

I would like to thank Dr FU Bingmei for being our WACBE Newsletter Editor and for putting together this beautiful edition for us.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish all WACBE members and friends many successes in 2010 and a very prosperous year of the Tiger.

Arthur FT MAK
President, WACBE
Since its formation, the World Association for Chinese Biomedical Engineers (WACBE) has seen a steady growth of membership in the past few years. As of the end of year 2009, WACBE’s membership is 230, consisting of 21% Life Members, 55% Regular Members and 24% Student Members. The membership is distributed geographically all over the world: Mainland China (31%), USA (25%), Taiwan (22%), Hong Kong (11%), Singapore (8%), and other regions (UK, Australia, Japan and Canada, 3%). Certainly, there is great potential to expand our membership so please introduce WACBE to your colleagues and encourage them to join us as members. A membership application form is available at our WACBE website (www.wacbe.org; click on “membership” or “JOIN OR PAY DUES”).

Membership Renewal: We would like to remind you to renew your annual membership for year 2010. Of course, if you are a Life Member or have already paid your dues, we thank you. To renew your membership, please fill out the renewal form, which is also available at our WACBE website (www.wacbe.org; click “JOIN OR PAY DUES” at the top of the page). On the form, we provide an option for you to pay multi-year dues in case you are in arrears in payment and/or you would like to pay dues beyond 2010. You can view your payment/renewal history by logging into your membership profile by clicking “Login” on our website. If you need help with your USERNAME and PASSWORD, please let us know by e-mail to info@wacbe.org.

Call for Nominations – Deadline June 1, 2010: WACBE is issuing a Call for Nominations for the 2011 election of Council Members. Six (6) positions will be filled: President-Elect (2011-2013), Secretary-Elect (2011-2015), Treasurer-Elect (2011-2013), and three (3) Councillors (2011-2015). To allow sufficient time for election preparation, please submit your nominations by June 1, 2010, to Savio L-Y. Woo, PhD, DSc, WACBE Past President and Chair of Nominating Committee, University of Pittsburgh, 405 Center for Bioengineering, 300 Technology Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15219; Telephone: (412) 648-2000; Fax: (412) 648-2001; e-mail: ddecenzo@pitt.edu.

Best wishes to you all for great success in 2010!

Zong-Ming Li, Ph.D.
WACBE Secretary

5th WACBE World Congress on Bioengineering
18 - 21 August 2011, Tainan, Taiwan

The World Association for Chinese Biomedical Engineers (WACBE) organises biannual World Congresses. The first congress was held at Taipei in December 2002; the second was held at Beijing in September 2004; and the third was held at Bangkok in July 2007, and the fourth was held at Hong Kong in July 2009. All the four congresses brought together many biomedical engineers from all over the world to share their experiences and to exchange views on the future development of biomedical engineering. The 5th WACBE World Congress on Bioengineering 2011 in Tainan will continue to offer such a networking forum for bioengineers to keep abreast of the latest development of the field.

Topics to be presented in the Congress will cover all related areas in bioengineering. Special symposia will be arranged in the following tracks:

- Biomedical, Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine
- Biomedical Imaging, Signal Processing, and Health Informatics
- Biosensors, Bionanotechnology and Medical Devices
- Cellular, Genomic and Molecular Engineering
- Pharmaceutical Science & Biotechnology
- Rehabilitation, Sports Medicine and Clinical Engineering

Apart from the scientific programs including invited plenary and keynote speeches, special symposia, free paper presentations, and product exhibition, student activities and social programs are also available for attendees and their guests.

Participants at the congress will include young and experienced biomedical engineers, physicians and scientists working in research institutions, universities and hospitals, medical device manufacturers, as well as students in this field. The WACBE World Congress 2011 will be a memorable event for colleagues and friends from all over the world to establish friendship, to promote academic exchanges at an international level and to promote the interests of biomedical engineers.

Tentative Important Dates
Submission of abstract: 28th February, 2011
Notification of acceptance: 31st March, 2011
Early registration due: 30th June, 2011
Congress dates: August 18-21, 2011.

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