Chinese community around the world just celebrated a very important festival a few days ago, Mid-Autumn Festival, or Moon Festival. It is the happiest night that the whole family gets together to have dinner, eat moon-cakes, carry brightly lit lanterns, and watch the full moon, a symbol of harmony and unity. This year, although No.1 Typhoon signal was hoisted on the eve, full moon still shined big and bright without casted by clouds on the great day. Everywhere in the streets was crowded with families and friends enjoying its beauty.

Every year, around the time of Mid-Autumn Festival, people in the field of orthopaedics in Hong Kong, would instantly think of another important "festival", the Hong Kong Orthopaedic Association (HKOA) Annual Congress. We regard it as a "festival" though it is not a family oriented festival like the
Mid-Autumn Festival. But it comprises the fundamental elements of a "festival", including SHARING - we share our knowledge, joy, success, experience and even pitfalls, THANKSGIVING - we give thanks for our advancements and achievements, to those who taught, who enlightened, who shared, who accompanied us in the career path, and GATHERING - we meet old friends and make good friends.

Before the birth of the HKOA Annual Congress, there were some irregularly held clinical or academic meetings. Regular meetings were started in 1979, when the HKOA initiated quarterly inter-hospital meetings. The needs and enthusiasms quickly made this being a bi-monthly meeting in 1980. In 1981, when Dr Louis Hsu took up the presidency, it was decided that a new academic tradition should be developed. HKOA Annual Congress kicked off in Furama Hotel on Saturday and Sunday in November in 1981. Mr John Chalmers from Edinburgh and Prof Yamaguchi from Tokyo were invited as the first overseas speakers in the Congress. Professional rehabilitation colleagues also gathered with the orthopaedic surgeons and trainees. HKOA Annual Congress was then held in November each year. There was no specific theme of the Congress at the beginning. Theme was first made in 1984, which was "Cervical Spine Disorders". The second theme was made in 1993, "Foot Surgery", and a new theme was selected every year as follows:

1994 - Geriatrics Orthopaedics
1995 - Towards 2001
1996 - Spinal Disorders
1997 - Total Joint Replacement
1998 - Minimally Invasive Orthopaedic Surgery
1999 - Current Trends in Paediatric Orthopaedics
2000 - Cervical Spine Disorders
2001 - Shoulder Surgery
2002 - Hip
2003 - Foot and Ankle Disorders
2004 - Lumbar Spines Disorders - Operative, Minimally invasive, Conservative

2005 - Paediatric Orthopaedics - Meet the Challenge

2006 - Knee Surgery 2006 - In Pursuit of Excellence

2007 - Musculoskeletal Tumor - Current Concepts in Management

2008 - Minimal Invasive Orthopaedic Surgery

2009 - Fragility Fracture

2010 - Occupational Orthopaedics

2011 - Sports, Trauma, Paediatric and Forefoot Deformity

2012 - Hip and Knee Reconstruction - Challenges and Controversies

2013 - Defying the Ageing Spine - Our Mission Continues

It is now the 34th year of the HKOA Annual Congress. The theme of this year is "Sports Medicine - inside, outside and beyond the scope". I sincerely invite you to join this "festival" again in November, to share, thanks-give and gather. With the strong leadership of the two co-chairman, Dr Yau Wai-pan and Dr Yung Shu-hang Patrick, efforts of the organising committee and the support staffs, scientific contributions of the renowned local and international panels, the 34th Annual Congress will be an enjoyable and memorable "festival" that you should not miss out. Please go to http://hkoa.org/HKOA34/HKOA34/THEME.html to know more about this great event.

Finally, I'd like to thank Ms Terry Leung, the Congress Secretariat, for giving me the themes of the Congress throughout the years. And I surprisingly know that she has worked for the Congress for 11 years! Being the organising committee this year, I truly realise that her contribution and support to the Congress is valued and treasured, not even say 11 years.
Sponsorship to COA 2014

The 9th International Congress of Chinese Orthopaedic Association (COA 2014) is going to be held in Beijing on 20-23 November 2014.

Being one of the supporting organisation, we encourage you to join this annual event.

The deadline of free paper submission is 30 June 2014. The deadline of the advanced registration is 23 October 2014 via the official website.

The Hong Kong College of Orthopaedic Surgeon (HKCOS) and Hong Kong Orthopaedic Association (HKOA) jointly offer sponsorship to our fellows and members to attend the COA 2014 while sponsorship for associate members will be supported by HKOA. Successful candidates will be awarded of HKD4,000 and those have presentation will be awarded of HKD5,000. You may download the application form for traveling scholarship from our website. Please send the completed application form with your abstract of submitted paper, if any, to me on or before 31 August 2014. The result will be announced in early September 2014.

HKOA Dragon Boat Team
This year our team won the 2nd-runner up of HKMA Invitational Mini Dragon Boat Race cum David Fang Cup! Please contact dransonwoo@gmail.com for further info.

The 35th Annual Congress of the Hong Kong Orthopaedic Association
15-16 Nov 2014
Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

International Symposium on the Applications of 3-D Printing (Rapid Prototyping) in Orthopaedics
Date: September 20, 2014
Venue: Auditorium, Level 1, Main Clinical Block and Trauma Centre, Prince of Wales Hospital

Technical Pearls to Tackle Complication in Spinal Surgery and Haemostasis in Orthopaedic Surgery
Organizer: Hong Kong Minimal Invasive Spinal Surgery Society
Date: September 20th, 2014 (Saturday)
Venue: CUHK Jockey Club Minimally Invasive Surgical Skill Centre

AOTrauma Symposium in Fracture of Distal Radius–

The Combined Academic Conference of the 18th Biennial Congress of Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Association (APOA) and the 36th Annual Meeting of the Royal College of Orthopaedic Surgeons of Thailand (RCOST)
Date: October 23-25, 2014
Venue: Pattaya, Thailand

XXVI SICOT Triennial World Congress combined with 46th SBOT Annual Meeting
Date: Nov 19-22, 2014
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The 9th International Congress of Chinese Orthopaedic Association (COA 2014)
Date: Nov 20-23, 2014
Venue: Beijing, China

http://www.apoa2014.com

Please refer to the Association News column about HKOA sponsorship to COA 2014.
**Commemorating 200 years of Colles’ Fractures**  
October 18-19, 2014  
Overseas Speaker: Prof Jesse Jupiter, Prof Gregory Bain  
Venue: Cheung Kung Hai Conference Centre, G/F, William MW Mong Block, 21 Sassoon Road, Pokfulam, Hong Kong

**The 33rd HKOA Annual Congress Reloaded**

The tournament will be taken place at Yeung Ming Biu Indoor Sports Centre, CUHK, please contact dr.ansonwoo@gmail.com for further info.

**Result of HKOA Traveling Scholarship Jul to Dec 2014**

Click here

**Reports of HKOA Traveling Scholarship Jan to Jun 2014:**
- by Dr WL Chan on *First congress of Aisa Pacific Knee, Arthroscopy, and Sports Medicine Society*
- by Dr Philip Cheung on *43rd Annuail Meeting of the Japanese Society for Spine Surgery and Related Research*
- by Dr TM Wong on *Report of 2nd AOTrauma Asia Pacific Scientific Congress and TK Expert's Symposium, 16-17 May 2014*

More meetings information can be found in Orthopaedic Calendar from HKCOS: [http://www.hkcos.org.hk/calendar/index.aspx](http://www.hkcos.org.hk/calendar/index.aspx)

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