

Award for Lifetime Distinguished Service to HKIA 2018

Dr. Jane Chan

Dr Jane Chan's medical career can be summarized by a few "2's" and a "3".

She went through medical training in both the US system and the UK system. In the formative years, she went to medical school at the University of Chicago Pritzker of Medicine, where she obtained her Doctor of Medicine degree. That was followed by the usual 3 years of residency in medicine and 3 years of advanced training in Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine at Stanford University.

Dr Chan joined the University Medical Unit at Queen Mary Hospital as Clinical Lecturer in 1985. In this environment of rich bedside teaching and heavy clinical load, Dr Chan quickly picked up the skills of a physician required of a U.K. system. This makes the first "2" for her, being dually trained in the US and UK systems. Another "2" for her is her dual specialty certification in Respiratory Medicine and Critical Care Medicine, both in the US as well as in Hong Kong.

Her medical career in Hong Kong, which started in 1985, has gone through 3 different phases each taking up a decade. In the first decade, she was, like most other junior doctors at the UMU, absorbing bedside medicine like all those who went through the Shao Lin Temple. The speed of learning was at least 3 times as fast as the US learning given the workload was 3 times heavier. During this phase, she worked herself up from a medical officer grade to physician grade.

During the second decade of her career in HK, Dr Chan, in response to the fragmented care given to critically ill patients in the ICU, devoted herself to the development of the specialty of Critical Care Medicine in the Adult ICU of QMH. She organized proper training syllabus for MOs rotating through the ICU, spearheaded the organization of acute critical care, including the CPR team, for patients in the general wards, and also masterminded the formulation of the Do-Not-Resuscitate Policy HA-wide.

In 2003, during the SARS battle, Dr Chan was the Director of the SARS ICU at QMH, fighting for the lives of SARS victims while ensuring the safety of SARS ICU workers. Following SARS, she was made Consultant in Medical Development at the HA Head Office, where she organized HA-wide care programme for post-SARS victims, and where she worked meticulously on the SARS database so as to enable the publication of SARS scientific monograph comprising 30-odd chapters from over 70 local SARS experts. The book was

launched in 2005, and that was when she left public hospital life and started her third decade of medical career as a private practitioner.

Dr. Chan's association with the Hong Kong Institute of Allergy began when Dr Helen Chan approached her on the idea of the formation of this institute while Jane was Director of the ICU at QMH. As Jane saw the need for the development of allergy in Hong Kong, she accepted the invitation from Dr Helen Chan without any second thoughts. Dr Jane Chan is hence a founding council member of the HKIA, and has been with the HKIA for the past ... years, from its humble beginnings of a handful of members to its current massive membership.

In addition to being a loyal member of the council throughout the years, Dr Chan was instrumental in the preparation of the Hong Kong Allergy Convention which has been held every other year for the past ... years. Given her meticulousness, she has all along been working on the publication aspect of the Convention. Over the past 3 years, Dr Chan has picked up the role of the Chief Editorship of the e-newsletter of the HKIA, leading a group of subeditors in writing up the latest developments and thoughts in allergy, with the production of the semi-annual e-newsletter which has been full of interesting studies and new findings. After having worked hard on 6 issues in total, she finally passed the baton to her successor Dr Jaime Sou Da Rosa Duque this year.

To summarize Dr Jane Chan's contribution to the HKIA, the following phrases come to mind:

Loyalty and faith in the importance of the HKIA as a leader in Allergy development in HK

Meticulous work on publications

Leadership in organizing and setting the standard for the HKIA e-newsletter