

### ASAD 2017 invitation by Prof Vorapun Senanarong

It is such an honour to welcome you to attend and participate in the up-coming 11th Asian Society Against Dementia (ASAD) Joint Conference with the theme of “Fighting Against Dementia 2017” on August 2-4, 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand. We strongly believe that the conference will be an important stepping stone for ASAD members and all participants to confront the challenges of this devastating condition.

Dementia is one of the major causes of disability and dependency worldwide. It is overwhelming not only for the people who have it, but also for their caregivers and families with regards to healthcare and socioeconomic security. In terms of prevention, treatment that can modify the disease and care, knowledge and innovative development as well as effective resource management have been developing but results are not as yet definitive.

This conference will provide up to date information and knowledge, as well as a great opportunity for strengthening collaboration and experience sharing with renowned speakers from all over the world. We are proud to convene one of the best ever scientific and social programs in this conference. We hope it can initiate promising dementia research and comprehensive plans for tackling dementia in clinical practice.

\*Kindly visit [www.jcfad-asad.com](http://www.jcfad-asad.com) for registration and further information



Opening Ceremony

### ASAD 2016 report by Prof Huali Wang

The 10<sup>th</sup> Asian Society Against Dementia (ASAD) Conference was held successfully in Hangzhou, China from October 20 to 23, 2016, with the theme of “Innovations and Collaborations for Cognitive Health”. More than 500 clinicians and researchers from all over the world attended the conference which was co-organized by ASAD and Alzheimer’s Disease Chinese (ADC) societies.



Dr. Raj Long, Senior Advisor for Integrated Development at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, gave the keynote lecture, entitled “Global action against dementia: finding a path forward and the World Dementia Council”. The Plenary Speakers were

Professor Bruno Dubois from University Salpêtrière Hospital in Paris; Professor Serge Gauthier from McGill University, Canada; Professor Phillip CY Wong from John Hopkins University, USA; Professor Nicola Lautenschlager from Melbourne University, Australia; and Professor Madhav Thambisetty from National Institute of Health, USA. They shared advances the frontiers of dementia research, covering the topics of diagnostic criteria, novel drug discoveries, Amyloid- $\beta$ , tau and TDP-43, life style interventions, risks, mechanisms and biomarkers of Alzheimer's Disease.



Moreover, experts from Singapore, Korea, Japan, Philippines, Thailand, Hong Kong SAR, Chinese Taipei, and mainland China organized 16 symposia, 2 free communications, 4 young investigator presentations and over 30 poster presentations. From aspects of clinical diagnosis and therapy, neurobiology, mental health service and translational medical research, the participants engaged in wide

and thoughtful communications and discussions.



Two pre-conference workshops were also organized. One focused on conducting clinical trials on neurocognitive disorders, was hosted by Professor Serge Gauthier and Professor Huali Wang. 30 junior researchers were well trained in clinical trial design, standardized samples collection across multiple centers, standardized cognitive evaluation, recruitment and follow-up. The other was on the Guide to Building Alzheimer's Disease Chinese for the Future, supported by ADC and the Alzheimer's Disease International Asia-Pacific Regional Office. The committees shared knowledge and information so as to improve collaboration.

This conference was an academic feast to share knowledge and skills on the management of dementia including diagnosis, treatment and care with the participants. Clinicians and researchers from all over the world, especially Asia, through scientific innovation and academic cooperation, greatly promoted research on dementia-related cognitive disorders in Asia, as well as improvements in the quality of clinical services.



Organized by Professor Manabu Ikeda (Japan) and Professor Ming-Chyi Pai (Taiwan), ASAD contributed a symposium to the IPA meeting held on 10 December 2016, Taipei, Taiwan.

The following speakers spoke on topics related to FTD in Asia : Manabu Ikeda (Japan): Therapeutic strategies of FTLD in Asia; Guk-Hee Suh (South Korea): Obsession and compulsion as early-symptoms of frontotemporal dementia; Huali Wang (China): Neuroimaging features of FTLD; Sheng-Yu Fan (Taiwan): The need and burden of caregivers of FTLD in Taiwan.

The talks were well received and attracted a large audience. Subsequently, interactions and responses were active and successful.

It is hoped that ASAD will continue to contribute to regional and international meetings.