32nd Annual Academic Congress 2016

32nd Annual Academic Congress was very successfully held on the 29th, 30th & 31st January, with a very large internationally reputed faculty of speakers. The meeting also had the largest number of participants with the inauguration ceremony being attended by over 500 and the banquet being fully attended.

Congratulations!

Dr. Mithraje Premaratne became the 1st ERC course director in Sri Lanka. It is with pleasure that we congratulate him, and also commend him for his absolute commitment to develop this course in Sri Lanka.

We also would like to congratulate Dr Asoka Gunaratne, Dr Dimuthu Gunaseena & Dr Malin Gunawardhena who became full instructors of ERC, making the total number of full instructors to eight.

We are proud to announce that we are now able to run ERC courses on our own though we plan to always have overseas contribution in order to maintain & upgrade standards.

Message from the President

Dear Sirs, Madams and Friends,

This is the web version of the first newsletter by the college and we would keep you informed by regular newsletters in future.

Nearly three months have passed since I assumed duties as President of the College and the new council took office.

I think it is opportune to appraise you of the activities we have initiated during these few weeks. This is done, so that we can request your maximum participation in these endeavours for greater success.

• Development of a National Strategy for Improvement in Outcome and safety

A committee was formed for this purpose and work has commenced. We have informed the membership of the work & progress of the committee so far.
• A data collection and research centre was established at the College. It will be managed by a committee comprising the President, Secretary, the two Editors, Secretary - Scientific affairs who shall be the coordinator, and a college member outside the council. Dr Bhagya Gunathilake was selected for this position. The functions of this unit would be to maintain data bases on outcome, critical events and other as decided by the committee and to advice on research proposals & audits, even by the trainees. A data base on research would also be maintained.

• A committee on obstetrics has been formed. This will look into all matters relating to obstetrics.

• Pain Fellowship - The Royal College of Anaesthetists has offered an annual one year pain fellowship with pay, in the UK. This is for consultants. We have already written to you on this.

• Offer of agreement for foreign training of post graduates at the North Middlesex Hospital UK- Following a chance encounter during my visit to Brussels for the ICU meeting, we have been able to develop this agreement, whereby the North Middlesex hospital will take two of our trainees directly from our college for their post graduate training with all the NHS -UK allocations, and the College has the obligation of sending two trainees every year to the North Middlesex.

• Endorsement of international conference by the College. Following on the links established with the Aesculap Academy at the 2016 sessions, the College has been invited to endorse the 8th Asia Pacific Fluid Therapy conference. The attendance certificates will have the College logo and the President’s signature.

• World Anaesthesia Day- For the first time, The College will celebrate this with a walk and a dinner in the evening on October 16th. The aim of this is to make an effort to emphasise the importance of the Anaesthetist and the Intensivist in the health care system of the country. And to make the public aware of the important and very often, life saving role played by us. It has to be emphasised that Ansaesthetists play a primary role in the care of patients.

• World Sepsis Day - Arrangements are being made to celebrate this, with an academic symposium.

• Medicare Exhibition- The College stall and its activities at the Medicare exhibition came into very high praise. I have pleasure in congratulating, Vinodini, Mithrajee, Thamasi and Haritha for their outstanding contributions.

• Acute pain Services - Programmes will be conducted by the Faculty of Pain Medicine, to train staff on Acute pain services and Essential pain management.

• The Faculty of Critical Care Medicine will have their annual sessions on the 2nd July. Several workshops will get underway soon.

• The college has many committees which play a very important role in improving facilities available for anaesthesia and critical care. I request you to volunteer to serve in these committees. They are- Equipment, Transfer, Drugs, Development of national strategy for improving outcome and safety, and obstetrics.
A long felt requirement to increase the efficacy of the office was fulfilled by the employment of an office manager. Mr. Dharmasiri Fernando commenced work from the 4th of April.

It has been an enthusiastic start, and I appeal to everybody to join in the various programmes.

Best Wishes
Kanishka

**Academic Activities**

- The regular programmes; CPR in NHSL, monthly ALS (2 per month), two ERC courses, Anaphylaxis Management for Doctors at Family Health Bureau & NHSL, 1 A & 1 B Preparatory Courses etc were held as scheduled.

- The 1st CME for the year was held on the important topic of Diabetes, with lectures being done by Dr. Lewan Kariyawasam (Consultant Anaesthetist) and Dr. Prasad Katulanda (Consultant Endocrinologist).

- The College President made a presentation at the seminar organised by the SLMA on “Gaps in Health Services”.

- Drs Ramya Amarasena, Buddhika Vidanagama and Vihara Dassanayake conducted a symposium on Sepsis which was the monthly meeting of SLMA held in collaboration with the college, and had a record number of participants in excess of 170.

- A workshop on 'Training in the UK - Had I known before' by Dr Gitanjali Jayathilake (Consultant Anaesthetist) & Dr M Sathialingam (UK) was held at the PGIM.

**Achievements**

Dr Anupa Herath, Senior Registrar in Anaesthesia received the WFSA grant to follow the AARS-WFSA-Xijing Fellowship Program in Shenzhen, China from 23rd to 27th August 2016 and to attend the World Congress in Anaesthesiology in Hong Kong from 28th August -2nd September 2016.

**Obituaries**

It is with deep regret that we record the demise of two of our beloved members.

1. **Dr. Neelika Karunaratne**- Formerly Consultant Anaesthetist, Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital, Past President of the College, Past President Sri Lankan Society of Emergency Medicine and Critical Care.

2. **Dr. Gamini Nanayakkara**- Formerly Consultant Anaesthetist, Police Hospital Sri Lanka.
Upcoming Events - visit websites for details

- CME - 30th April 2016 - 10:00 - 12:00 at Neurotrauma Auditorium - NHSL
  - Which IV fluid? Have we found one yet? - Dr Saliya Jayathilake - Consultant Anaesthetist
  - Sodium Abnormalities in ICU - Dr Manilka Sumanatilleke - Consultant Endocrinologist

- Education & Training Program on Acute Pain Management - 6/05/2016 - for Doctors & 7/05/2016 - for Nurses - Kegalle GH

- Annual Academic Sessions of Faculty of Critical Care Medicine - 2nd July 2016

Visit our websites

- www.anaesthesia.lk - College of Anaesthesiologists & Intensivists of Sri Lanka
- www.criticalcare.lk - Faculty of Critical Care Medicine
- www.resuslanka.org - Working Committee on Resuscitation