A Report on the International Medical Physics Week (IMPW) celebration by AFOMP

The Asia-Oceania Federation of Organizations for Medical Physics (AFOMP) celebrated the International Medical Physics Week (IMPW) during 11th -15th May, 2020. IMPW provided the opportunity to showcase the contributions of medical physicists to healthcare globally and increase the visibility. Due to unprecedented situation created by COVID-19 pandemic, physical meetings/ conferences were not possible on this occasion and the International Organization of Medical Physicists (IOMP) also encouraged to organize virtual meetings. These kinds of web meetings are unique and shown growing interest among participants.

The scientific event plays a vital role in disseminating knowledge and discussing new avenues in



Medical Physics. Therefore, the AFOMP has decided to organize two webinars over a commercial virtual meeting platform to celebrate IMPW 2020. Prof. Arun Chougule, President AFOMP announced the IMPW celebration on website. An e-brochure was prepared with programme details of IMPW 2020 AFOMP webinar. This attractive ebrochure contains all the necessary unambiguous information and registration guidelines to participants in a simplified approach including web meeting dates, Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) for web meetings, registration link for web meetings with hyperlink wherever necessary, title of speakers and presentations, details of moderator with picture. This e-brochure was

circulated website and among the national member organizations (NMOs) in the AFOMP region. The registration was made mandatory for both webinars. After registration by the participant and registration approval by the web manager, the participant received a confirmation email containing information about joining the web meetings. A gentle reminder email for web meetings sent to all the registered participants around one hour prior to the scheduled time of web meetings.

The first webinar started on 11th May 2020 at 7 AM GMT with welcome presidential address by, President AFOMP. He emphasis the importance of research and academics in development of Medical Physics. He calls upon all the medical physics community to actively participate in celebration to increase the visibility of profession in world. His address also focused on need of improvement in curriculum quality of medical physics programs.



Prof. Arun Chougule



Prof. Tomas Kron

The first webinar titled "Medical Physicists and Clinical Trials: Evidence matters". The speaker was Prof. Tomas Kron. He is one of the eminent medical physicists in the region. The webinar was focused on the role of medical physicist in clinical trials. He mentioned how clinical trials are more relevant to medical physics profession in comparison to the traditional thought. This talk turned out to be very unique.

After the talk a very active participation of participants and speaker were observed in form of questions answers and discussion that was moderated very effectively by Prof. S.D Sharma .The whole webinar team was happy about the audience interaction and participation. For this meeting 142 participants registered for the webinar from all over AFOMP region countries including Japan, China, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Bangladesh, Australia, India and South Korea, Nepal. Some participants have also participated from countries and region like U.S, Saudi Arabia and South Africa.



Prof. S.D Sharma

The second webinar started on 14th May 2020 at 7 AM GMT with introduction of speaker and moderator by Prof Arun Chougule. The speaker of the day was Prof. Kwan Hoong Ng, Malaysia.



Prof. Kwan H. Ng



Prof. Eva Bezak

He is very renowned medical physicist and is one of the founding members of AFOMP. The title of the presentation was "Nurturing the next generation of medical physics leaders". He talked about the importance of mentoring in professional life to nurture future leaders. He elaborated why, when and how it should be done. He has also provided information about various programs available to cater this need of the hour. He encouraged young medical physicist to come forward and show active participation in these programs.

For this meeting 152 participants registered for the webinar from all over AFOMP region countries including Nepal, China, Malaysia, South Korea, Philippines, Bangladesh, Japan, Australia and India. Some participants have also participated from countries and region like U.S and Saudi Arabia. The participation was very active. Prof. Eva Bezak moderated the session very effectively. Discussion turns out to be very interesting as many participants spoke about the experience of mentoring programs they have attended.

The webinars was hosted and managed by Ms. Rajni Verma, Web Manager of AFOMP. At last she thanked all the participants for attending the sessions. All the participants gave their thanks to the speakers and whole organizing team. These webinars provided a perfect virtual forum to fulfill the objective and encouraged exchange of ideas and foster knowledge up-gradation with special emphasis was given to AFOMP region. The recordings of these webinars have been posted on AFOMP website to disseminate knowledge for the participant those who could not participated in the webinars live.

We gratefully acknowledge the active participation, cooperation and support of the organizations including IOMP, AFOMP, Speakers, Moderators, participants and all individuals involved in organization of webinars.

Prof. Arun Chougule President AFOMP Chair ETC, IOMP