

YOUNGER FELLOWS CHAPTER

Younger Fellows Forum is an annual event organised by the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. It gathers younger fellows from different parts of Australia, New Zealand and Hong Kong to share views, hopes, and experiences as well as to make friends with each other. It also provides a channel for the voice of younger fellows to reach directly the College's core members. Younger Fellows Forum 2006 was held from 12-15 May 2006 at Rafferty's Resort on the banks of the stunning Lake Macquarie at the beautiful central coast of NSW.

This year we were privileged to have the presence of the President of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Mr Russell Stitz.

Other senior college councilors were also present during the forum which provided an ideal opportunity for delegates to hang out with the not-so-younger fellows.

On the first day of the Forum, delegates met in early morning at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour. Then we went to the Rafferty's Resort by bus. In this two-hour journey, we were asked to select a name tag other than our own and to know the corresponding younger fellows. This proved to be a winning idea that we knew each other quickly.

After checking in, we had a discussion about integrated surgical training for trainees. We looked at the ways outside the framework of the conventional surgical practice, including "What can the college do

for you?" "What can you do for the college?" and "What can you do for your surgical culture and country?". In the evening, we all went for a sunset cruise in Lake Macquarie and enjoyed a free chat with the Australian and New Zealand delegates.

Younger Fellows Forum 2006

Rafferty Resort, NSW



Rafferty's Resort and Lake Macquarie



We enjoyed some competitive games

On Saturday, the Forum brought us a day of games - psychological, physical and quizzical day. We had a discussion on hypothetical issues on surgical practice and also had a chance to meet with Dr Yvonne Sum, a clinical psychologist in analysing surgeons' career and personal life. In the afternoon, we had outdoor activities "Trial, Trivia and Rogaine Session" organised by the in-house training team. We were divided into

groups with some senior members including the President, who quickly showed how resourceful he could be in stopping water flow with nothing else but his tongue. Timed trial was a great exercise in both management and leadership, and more importantly, team work. We ended our Saturday schedule by having a Quiz night.

On Sunday, we tried to look at our world in a broader sense by having discussion on missionary work with Mr Peter Zellous from Medicine Sans Frontiers (MSF). We then put forward some recommendations to the College council from the Younger Fellows Forum. The next day we joined the Annual Scientific Congress organised by the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons.

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The weekend was thoroughly enjoyed by all and it was a very fruitful experience. Many names and numbers were exchanged with a strong feeling that some long-term links have been established. There was a sense that you were sitting among future leaders in different specialties of surgery, which left all a positive feeling for the future of surgery in Australia.

Frances CHEUNG & Jimmy LI



We had a good time with delegates from Australia and New Zealand



The younger fellows enjoying their time

"A survey on our career development is coming! Please support!"

To facilitate the communication between the YF and the College, we are going to conduct a survey to gather opinion of the YF on career development. The questionnaire will be distributed to you through the hospital coordinators in Jan 07. A group led by Dr Seto Sek is working hard on the project. Please show your support by completing the questionnaire!