

YOUNGER FELLOWS CHAPTER



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The career path of young surgeons can be wide and diverse. The different paths available can be difficult to navigate. With this in mind, the Younger Fellows Forum was organised as part of the Conjoint Scientific Congress 2022 with the theme: “Looking into the Future – Local and Overseas Opportunities”.

The theme proved to be overwhelmingly popular with the small room completely packed, and eager participants were standing for lack of seats.



The prestige of attaining professorship is attractive to many but the demands of balancing clinical, research and teaching commitments are also daunting. Hearing about ‘The Ups and Downs of Being an Academic Surgeon’ from Prof. Anthony YB TEOH of the Division of Upper Gastrointestinal and Metabolic Surgery of the CUHK shed light on the rich and rewarding life he leads, and the sacrifices and challenges he faced.

Private practice is something every surgeon will consider some time in their career but can be daunting to younger surgeons who do not know the ins and outs of the market. As an experienced clinician who has been in private practice for some time, Dr Canon KO CHAN spoke about his ‘Life as a Private Surgeon’. His wit and humour was a hit, and his talk was well received by attentive listeners.

There are many myths and misconceptions about medical practice in the mainland. Dr Joe KM FAN, who is the Assistant Hospital Chief Executive of the University of Hong Kong-Shenzhen Hospital, helped to dispel these rumours and provided insight with his talk on ‘Opportunities of the Greater Bay area’.

Dr Frank WF LEE trained and became a Fellow in General Surgery in 2014 whilst practising in Hong Kong. He started his residency in California in 2022 after taking the USMLE (The United States Medical Licensing Examination) and provided many tips with his talk entitled ‘Challenges of Starting a Surgical Career in the United States’. The weight of the USMLE, the stress of ‘the Match’ (between potential residents and employers) and the rigorous years of residency require both mental and physical preparation.

Dr Joseph HM WONG is a practising Locum Urology Consultant in Leeds, United Kingdom. He has worked in Hospital Authority for many years before moving to the UK with his family. His talk entitled ‘Challenges and Opportunities in the UK’ gave greater understanding to a different work-life balance and overcoming cultural differences. Would you understand if a patient said they felt ‘cream crackered’? (See below for the translations and other examples of British slang)

British slang	Meaning
Duck/ducky	Term of endearment
Cream crackered	Tired
Under the weather	Feeling unwell
A problem with my ticker	A problem with my heart
My farmer giles are sore	My piles are sore
Eating for two	Pregnant



Souvenir presentation to Prof. Anthony TEOH (second from left) and Dr Joe FAN (second from right) by co-chairpersons Prof. Enders NG (right) and Dr Shannon CHAN (left)