



NEWSLETTER 2017



**Professor
Philip WY CHIU**
MD, FRCSEd



**Professor
Hong-Jin KIM**
M.D., Ph.D., FACS

Message from the Editor

Dear friends and colleagues,

It is my honor to serve as the Editor-in-Chief for ELSA. Recently there has been significant development in minimally invasive surgery, as we embrace the importance of innovative technology which has become one of the main driving forces to further advancement in Minimally Invasive Surgery. Moreover, there has been important breakthroughs in therapeutic endoscopy especially on development of submucosal endoscopy, POEM as well as robotic endoscopy. I hope to keep members of ELSA on the updates of recent ELSA activities, as well as latest advances in minimally invasive surgery.

Message from the President of ELSA

Dear friends and colleagues,

It is my great honor and privilege to write to you as President of Endoscopic and Laparoscopic Surgeons of Asia (ELSA). Having served as President for about a year and a half now, I am acutely aware of both the responsibilities and the challenges that await both the society and the entire membership of ELSA.

But let me first express how excited I am about our upcoming 13th annual meeting of the Endoscopic and Laparoscopic Surgeons of Asia to be held in Cebu, Philippines on November 16-18, 2017. I am sure that a rich and exciting program addressing diverse topics is under preparation, and hope that all members will promote ELSA 2017 Cebu to colleagues in their countries and encourage them to participate in the meeting by submitting abstracts and registering.

I feel an ever-increasing sense of responsibility as President as I proceed in my term considering our internal and external circumstances. For the future of our society, especially our junior fellows, ELSA will make every effort to secure outstanding professionals and leaders in our field with practical and relevant educational programs, convivial and collaborative exchanges, and an active cooperation with related societies such as SAGES, EAES, and IFSES.

Once again, I thank you for all your effort so far during the year, and look forward to your continued cooperation and encouragement. Please feel free to contact me or any other member of the Executive Committee at any time with your ideas, thoughts, and projects.

Thank you very much.

Yours sincerely,



**Report from
Professor Davide LOMANTO**
MD, PhD, FAMS (Surg),
Secretary General of ELSA

The ELSA Outreach Programme 2017

The programme is celebrating 5 years of educational activities this year. The successful story includes today 12 Countries, in which Surgical MIS Programmes are currently active with a total of 16 Workshops organized from April 2016 to March 2017 and more than 35 ELSA Expert Instructors involved to train more than 400 participants. Laos was the latest Country to join the programme, the Workshop in Vientiane under the local leadership of Prof. Phouveng (Pic. 3) included not only lecture and hands-on but a day long live surgery sessions with a great variety of cases in which demo and proctoring was performed (Fig 2-4). The experience was an open eye on the potential growth that Laos can achieve and to be at the same level of other Asian countries. We have the privilege to witness the founding of the Lao Society of Endoscopic Surgery (LSES) (pict. 1)

The Board of the OP just started a discussion to implement a strategic plan for the next 5 years; the growing number of activities; the increased number of Countries, the variety of educational programme provided; the request for more proctoring and tele-broadcasting activities will requires a different approach in term of expertise, financial support and organization. The Committee is planning to announce the new plan in Cebu during our Annual Congress which will implement also the development of an ELSA OP Country Team for local educational programme.

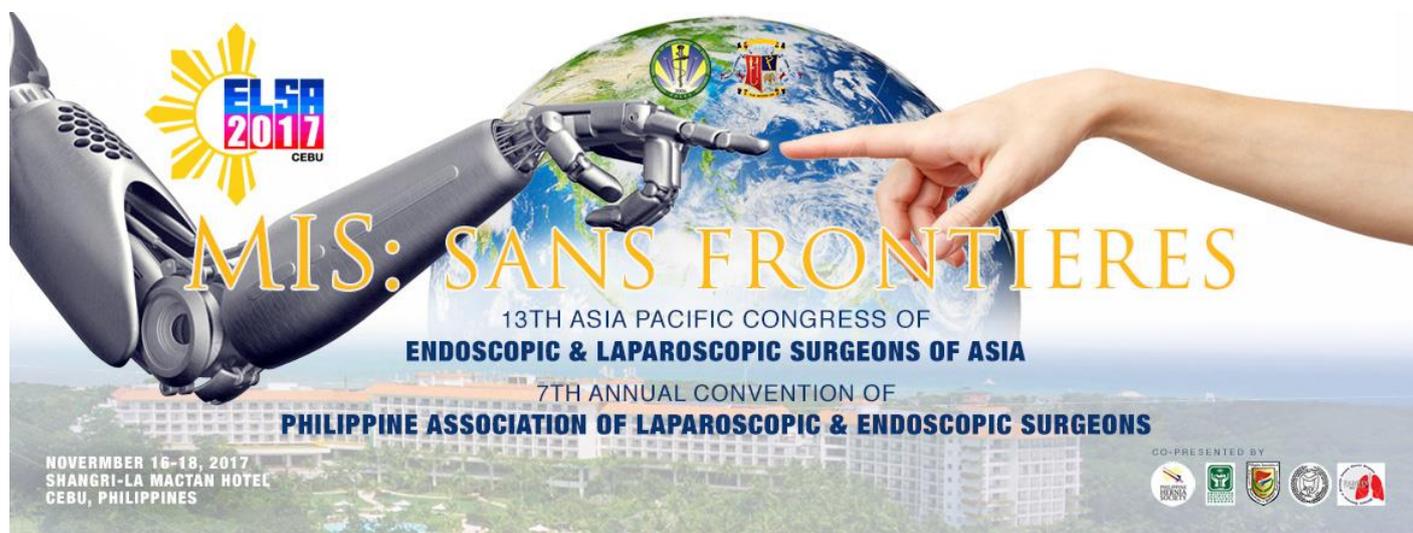
We would like to extend our gratitude to all the Trainers, the Administrative staff from Singapore and all the other Countries, the Companies who have supported the OP during this year: Olympus, Covidien, Storz and BBraun.

Stay tuned with our Facebook ELSA Outreach Programme page with our coming activities.





Upcoming ELSA Activities – ELSA Cebu 2017



Dear Colleagues and Friends:

On behalf of the **ELSA 2017 Congress Committee** and the **Philippine Association of Laparoscopic and Endoscopic Surgeons (PALES)**, we earnestly invite everyone to be part of the **13th Asia-Pacific Congress** to be held in the “**Queen City of the South**”, **Cebu, Philippines** on **November 16 - 18, 2017**.

Unique in this year's congress, as the title “*MIS Sans Frontieres*” implies, the organizers aim to showcase the many facets of 21st century Minimally Invasive Surgical Practice. From general surgeons to specialty surgeons, from university-based (academic) practice to private practitioners; from oncologic surgeons to MIS general surgeons, this meeting hopes to define overlapping roles, cross specialty surgical practice, standard of care practice vs pioneering and innovative procedures in MIS. To address these issues, we hope to employ more interactive sessions in the form of panel discussions, debate style formats and participant - directed interactive discussions via congress Apps.

As a first in ELSA Congresses, a special plenary lecture in honour of one of its founding fathers, Professor Serafin C. Hilvano, will be delivered by an esteemed colleague, friend, and pioneer of laparoscopic surgery, Professor Barry Salky (USA).

Top level pre-congress workshops will be held in two venues: University of Cebu Medical Center (UCMed) and Shangri-La's Mactan Hotel to be expertly conducted by prominent Asia-Pacific Surgeons in bariatric, hernia, upper and lower GI surgery and endoscopy and choledochoscopy.

Finally may we enjoin one and all to come and discover the enchanting island of Cebu Philippines, and realize why it has become a top tourist destination in this part of the world.

Mabuhay!

Maraming Salamat Po!



A/Prof. Crisostomo E Arcilla Jr., MD, FPCS, FACS
Congress President
ELSA 2017



The 13th Asia-Pacific Congress of Endoscopic and Laparoscopic Surgery will be held on November 16 – 18, 2017 at the Shangri-La's Mactan Resort and Spa at Punta Engaño Road, Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu, 6015 Philippines

<http://www.elsa2017.com>

Organized by:

Endoscopic and Laparoscopic Surgeons of Asia (ELSA)

Hosted by:

Philippine Association of Laparoscopic & Endoscopic Surgeons, Inc. (PALES)

ELSA Outreach Program

October 5-6: Yangon, Myanmar. Workshop on Hernia Surgery

October 20-21: Colombo, Sri Lanka. Workshop on Digestive Surgery

November 2-3: Nga Trahn, Vietnam. Workshop on Hepato-Biliary Surgery

November 9-10: Campasak, Laos. Workshop on Basic Lap Surgery and Suturing

November 23: Pnohm Pehn, Cambodia. Workshop on Digestive Surgery

November 25-26. Sorong, Indonesia. Workshop on Digestive Surgery & Hernia.