HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT 2019 - 2020

It is my pleasure, as Honorary Secretary, to share a recap of the year's highlights. As I look back at last two years' annual reports, I summed up 2017/18 with the word 'transition' and 2018/19 'progression'. It is a great challenge to find a single word that is fitting to sum up this turbulent year during which Hong Kong braved social unrest and COVID-19 pandemic, yet 'resilience' comes to mind. This year, the College has dedicated substantial time and effort to formulate contingency plans and special arrangement for conducting Council and committee meetings, examinations, scientific activities and training courses, etc., so that we are able to operate 'business as usual' under stress, many a times with the help of various on-line tools.

I am delighted to report that our College membership continues to grow as we now have 602 Fellows. Radiology remains as the largest specialty, consisting of 410 Fellows, followed by 169 Fellows in Clinical Oncology and 23 Fellows in Nuclear Medicine. In addition, there are 142 Members, 63 Trainee Members and 6 Associate Members.

The 2019 Autumn sitting of the Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) and Hong Kong College of Radiologists (HKCR) Joint Examination for the Fellowship Clinical Radiology was smoothly delivered. The number of candidates participating in the RCR and HKCR Joint Final Examination for the Fellowship Clinical Radiology - Part B was maintained at 45, including 29 overseas candidates. The Education Committee and College Secretariat spent much effort and time in supporting the examiners and candidates in the midst of various uncertainties with transportation and accommodation during the time. The 8th Joint Scientific Meeting of RCR & HKCR and 27th Annual Scientific Meeting of HKCR was a tremendous success with 699 registrants. This year's focus topics were artificial intelligence, genitourinary malignancies, and paediatric radiology. The multidisciplinary symposium on carcinoma of rectum was equally educational. The 19th Joint Ceremonies for Admission of New Fellows, RCR and HKCR were well attended and there were over 12 tables at the Dinner of the Colleges. The College maintained collaboration with the Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology (AOSR). In 2019, the Asian Oceanian School of Radiology (AOSOR) Youth Club 2019 was held in Nagoya. Each year AOSOR Youth Club gathers both young and seasoned radiologists with the aims of fostering inter-society collaboration, enhancing leadership skills and steering the future direction of Radiology, this year Dr. Lilian Leong and Dr. Alta Lai represented HKCR as tutors and led a workshop on risk management. Dr. Danny Cho continues to serve on the AOSR Executive Committee and myself in AOSOR as Assistant Secretary.

In the past year, much effort was made by the Education Committee to complete an interim review of training guidelines and regulations for all three specialties. New initiatives include e-Portfolio system development, the Mobile App Development for HKCR Clinical Referral Guidelines and the HKCR Position Statement of Steroid Premedication are on going. Even as I write now, there are continual discussions between HKCR an RCR on the change in format of the upcoming RCR and HKCR Joint Final Examination for the Fellowship in Clinical Radiology and Clinical Oncology due to COVID-19. At the same time, Scientific Subcommittee is also deliberating on the possibility of moving ASM to an on-line platform. Several scientific events, such as the 2020 American Institute for Radiologic Pathology (AIRP) Course and 2021 Asian Society of Cardiovascular Imaging (ASCI) in Hong Kong, have been postponed due to uncertainties from the pandemic.

This year has been an extraordinary tough one. Our sincere gratitude goes to members of the secretariat led by Ms. Karen Law and Ms. Phyllis Wong, their commitment and dedication deserves a big round of applause from each and every member of the College. We are sad to bid farewell to Ms. Carol Ma. Carol has been an invaluable member of the Secretariat team since 2016 and we wish her all the very best in her future endeavours.

Lastly but certainly not the least, I would like to thank Dr. CK Law, our College President, for his leadership and guidance. I am also appreciative to members of the College Council, Committees and Subcommittees for their contributions, including donation of surgical masks to our College secretariatat. We are also deeply grateful for the unfailing support of our Honorary Legal Advisor, Mrs. Mabel Lui and Honorary Auditor, Mr. Charles Chan.

At the time of writing, Hong Kong is bracing herself for a third wave of COVID-19. With a good dose of resilience, I look forward to another year serving the College. May the upcoming year be healthy and COVID-free!

Dr. Elaine Kan Honorary Secretary 18 July 2020