



**Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE) Annual General Meeting**  
**Saturday, 1 May 2021 | 6.25pm – 7.25pm**  
**ZOOM – Virtual Meeting**

**Present:**

**ASPIRE Executive Board 2018 - 2021**

Prof. Budi Wiweko	President
Prof. Tin-Chiu Li	President-Elect
Dr. Clare Boothroyd	Vice President
Dr. Ho Manh Tuong	Vice President
Prof. Chii-Ruey Tzeng	Immediate Past-President
Prof. PC Wong	Secretary General
Dr. Virgilio Novero	Treasurer
Prof. Gab Kovacs	Editor-In-Chief
Prof. Atsushi Tanaka	Board Member
Dr. Haroon Latif	Board Member
Prof. Rashida Begum	Board Member
Prof. Jaideep Malhotra	Board Member
Prof. Nares Sukcharoen	Co-opted Board Member
Ms. Hoa Jing Qi	ASPIRE Association Manager
Ms. Wu Yanny	ASPIRE Association Executive

**ASPIRE Country representatives (2021 – 2023, not indicated above)**

Assoc. Prof. Louise Hull	Country Representative, Australia
Dr. Nusrat Mahmud	Country Representative, Bangladesh
Prof. Maruf Siddiqui	Country Representative, Bangladesh
Prof. Junhao Yan	Country Representative, China
Dr. Jacqueline Chung	Country Representative, Hong Kong
Dr. Kedar Ganla	Country Representative, India
Dr. Ameet Patki	Country Representative, India
Dr. Binarwan Halim	Country Representative, Indonesia
Dr. Ita Fauzia Hanoum	Country Representative, Indonesia
Prof. Kyu-Sup Lee	Country Representative, Korea
Dr. Surinder Singh	Country Representative, Malaysia
Dr. Sabina Shrestha	Country Representative, Nepal
Prof. Neil Johnson	Country Representative, New Zealand
Dr. Rohina Gul	Country Representative, Pakistan
Dr. Angela G. Sison-Aguilar	Country Representative, Philippines
Dr. Rajesh Hemashree	Country Representative, Singapore
Dr. Athula Kaluarachchi	Country Representative, Sri Lanka
Prof. Gwo-Jang Wu	Country Representative, Taiwan
Prof. Suphakde Julavijitphong	Country Representative, Thailand
Dr. Linh K Nguyen	Country Representative, Vietnam

**ASPIRE Special Interest Groups Chairs/Co-chairs (2021 – 2023, not indicated above)**

Prof. Chi Ling	Embryology SIG Chairperson
Prof. Arthur Chang	Embryology SIG Co-Chairperson
Dr. Keshav Malhotra	Embryology SIG Co-Chairperson
Prof. Yutaka Osuga	Endometriosis SIG Co-Chairperson
Prof. Luk Rombauts	Endometriosis SIG Co-Chairperson
Dr. Keiji Kuroda	Endometrium and Implantation SIG Co-Chairperson
Dr. Madhuri Patil	Reproductive Endocrinology, Chairperson
Dr. Thi Ngoc Lan Vuong	Reproductive Endocrinology SIG Co-Chairperson

**ASPIRE Members (2021)**

Akwasi Amoako (Australia, 1461), Rob Norman (Australia, 115), Caihong Li (China, 1489), Mario Festin (United Kingdom, 1478), Yudha, Sudewo (Indonesia, 659), Young Min Choi (Korea, 170), Wen Hao Wong (Malaysia, 1608), Marinella Agnes Abat (Philippines, 274), Ma. Lourdes Abeleda (Philippines, 655), Diana Rose Amodia (Philippines, 449), Cynthia Balil (Philippines, 320), Panares Belle Marie (Philippines, 450), Emma Caringal (Philippines, 315), Marcela Dianalyn Carlos (Philippines, 472), Maria Delina De Chavez-Nueva (Philippines, 1560), Sonia Desquitado (Philippines, 326), Heidy Dy-Fernandez (Philippines, 548), Joan Garcia (Philippines, 117), Eileen Manalo (Philippines, 565), Gia Pastorfide (Philippines, 72), Vaneza Valentina Penolio (Philippines, 745), Patria Punsalan (Philippines, 550), Victoria Rowena Sese (Philippines, 448), Debby Songco (Philippines, 573), Ann Marie Tan (Philippines, 644), Ma. Pamela Tecson (Philippines, 327), Romerico Torres (Philippines, 267), Irene Uy (Philippines, 123), Maris Yap-Garcia (Philippines, 981), Wen-Jui Yang (Taiwan, 769), Vinh Dang Q (Vietnam, 89)

**Total number of Attendees: 72**

No.	Agenda Item	Action
	The meeting was called to order by ASPIRE President at 6.25pm on Saturday, 1 May 2021.	
<b>1</b>	<b>Approval of last AGM Meeting Minutes</b>	
	There were no additional comments made to the minutes from the Virtual ASPIRE Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 6 August 2020.  The minutes was proposed to move by Virgilio Novero and seconded by Tin-Chiu Li and Neil Johnson.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Report of Executive Board</b>	
	Budi Wiweko (B Wiweko), the President of ASPIRE reported the following items:  <b>1. <u>ASPIRE Activities (2020 – 2021)</u></b> <b>A. Congress</b> B Wiweko shared that the initial plan was to hold ASPIRE 2020 (The 10 <sup>th</sup> Congress of the Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction) in Manila, Philippines. However, due to COVID-19, it was cancelled.  The 10 <sup>th</sup> Congress of the Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE 2021) will be held virtually from Friday-Sunday, 30 April – 2 May 2021 and Saturday-Sunday, 8 & 9 May 2021. Registration was already open and is free to everyone.	

## B. Masterclass

The most recent masterclass was the 8<sup>th</sup> Masterclass held in Tokyo, Japan on 31 Jan – 1 Feb 2020. The theme of the masterclass was Ovarian Stimulation & Poor Responders and it was attended by 126 delegates with 19 faculty members.

## C. Webinars

ASPIRE conducted a series of webinars since October 2020. These webinars were free to access and were all recorded and released for viewing on ASPIRE's website, YouTube channel and educational portal. ASPIRE also collaborated with Pharmaceutical companies on a few webinars.

Below table shows a summary of the webinars organized and the attendance.

Webinar (by ASPIRE)	Date/Time (GMT+8)	# of Attendees
2020		
1. Add-ons in the ART Lab: Part 1	Sat, 17 Oct @ 10am	82
2. Add-ons in the ART Lab: Part 2	Sat, 24 Oct @ 10am	101
3. Conversation with Experts: Laboratory Factors that Impact Embryo Culture Outcomes Education Grant Supporter: Fujifilm: Irvine Scientific	Sat, 31 Oct @ 5pm	105
4. PGT-A: Part 1	Sat, 7 Nov @ 3pm	75
5. PGT-A: Part 2	Sat, 14 Nov @ 3pm	79
6. Non-Invasive PGT-A: Part 3 Education Grant Supporter: Abbott	Sat, 21 Nov @ 3pm	70
7. Impact of COVID-19 in an ART Laboratory	Sat, 28 Nov @ 10am	35
8. The Thin Endometrium	Sat, 5 Dec @ 10am	61
2021		
9. The Role of Office Hysteroscopy in Infertility Management	Sun, 21 Feb @ 2pm	313

Webinar (Collaboration with Pharmaceutical companies)	Date/Time (GMT+8)	# of Attendees
2020		
1. Coping Strategies to Support Your Fertility Patients During COVID-19 [co-hosted with Ferring Pharmaceuticals]	Mon, 20 Apr @ 10am	532
2. Re-emergence After COVID-19 Shutdown – Key learnings from China IVF Center [co-hosted with Ferring Pharmaceuticals]	Wed, 20 May @ 3pm	680

2021

1. Influence of hCG during Ovarian Stimulation: An Overview [co-hosted with Ferring Pharmaceuticals]

Wed, 31 Mar @ 6.30pm

946

There are also some webinars in the pipeline (i.e.: Webinar by the Reproductive Endocrinology Special Interest Group. Tentative: July 2021. More details will be released later)

## 2. **ASPIRE Publications (2020 – 2021)**

### A. ASPIRE Quarterly Newsletters

ASPIRE publish quarterly e-newsletters which are released on the website and disseminated via emailer. Vol. 6 Issue 1 – January 2021 is ready for reading on the ASPIRE’s website.

### B. SARS-CoV-2 and Assisted Reproductive Technology Practice: An Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE) Position Paper

The position paper provides ASPIRE’s viewpoint on better managing infertile patients seeking ART during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is published in Fertility & Reproduction Vol 2 Issue 4 and can be access on ASPIRE’s website under “Publications”.

### C. [in progress] Fertility Patient Experience Report

This research paper currently in progress is being developed by ASPIRE with support from Merck. The report highlights the impact of COVID-19 on fertility treatment decisions across the APAC region and patients can be supported.

B Wiweko shared that items 2 and 3 were also being presented as part of ASPIRE 2021 Virtual Congress scientific programme.

## 3. **ASPIRE Membership Growth**

B Wiweko shared that ASPIRE have held 3 membership drives so far. Currently we have 1371 active ASPIRE members. The membership drive was conducted to allow more access to fellow HCPs into the ASPIRE community.

The ASPIRE third membership drive is extended to 10 May 2021 and the rates are priced at SGD 20 for 1 year, SGD 40 for 2 years, SGD 60 for 3 years, SGD 80 for 4 years and SGD 100 for 5 years.

## 4. **ASPIRE Corporate Member**

ASPIRE have 2 corporate members for 2021 namely Ferring and Merck. ASPIRE is open for industry companies who are keen to work closely with ASPIRE to subscribe as an ASPIRE Corporate member.

B Wiweko ended his presentation on Report of Executive Board and there were no comments from the audience.

3	<b>ASPIRE Executive Board for 2021-2023</b>																										
	<p>B Wiweko introduced the new ASPIRE Executive Board for 2021 – 2023.</p> <p><b><u>ASPIRE Executive Board (2021 – 2023)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. Tin-Chiu Li                      President</li> <li>• Dr. Clare Boothroyd                President-Elect</li> <li>• Prof. Chii-Ruey Tzeng                Secretary General</li> <li>• Prof. Budi Wiweko                    Immediate Past-President</li> <li>• Prof. Rashida Begum                 Treasurer</li> <li>• Dr. Haroon Latif                        Vice President</li> <li>• Dr. Virgilio Novero                    Vice President</li> <li>• Prof. Atsushi Tanaka                 Board Member</li> <li>• Prof. Jaideep Malhotra                Board Member</li> <li>• Dr. Rong Li                              Board Member</li> <li>• Prof. Nares Sukcharoen              Board Member</li> <li>• Dr. Duru Shah                         Board Member</li> <li>• Prof. Gab Kovacs                      Editor-In-Chief</li> </ul> <p>B Wiweko ended his report on ASPIRE Executive Board for 2021-2023 and there were no comments from the audience.</p>																										
4	<b>SIG Chairmen and Country Representatives for 2021-2023</b>																										
	<p>B Wiweko introduced the 2021-2023 SIGs Chairmen and Country Representatives as follow:</p> <p><b>1. <u>ASPIRE Special Interest Groups (SIGs) (2021 – 2023)</u></b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="235 1008 1318 1795"> <thead> <tr> <th>SIG</th> <th>Chairperson</th> <th>Co-Chairperson(s)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Endometriosis</td> <td>Prof. Tzeng Chii-Ruey (Taiwan)</td> <td>1. Prof. Yutaka Osuga (Japan) 2. Professor Tasuru Harada (Japan) 3. Prof. Luk Rombauts (Australia)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Endometrium and Implantation</td> <td>Associate Prof. Louise Hull (Australia)</td> <td>1. Dr Rong Li (China) 2. Dr Keiji Kuroda (Japan)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Embryology</td> <td>Prof. Chi Ling (USA)</td> <td>1. Prof. Arthur Chang (USA) 2. Dr Keshav Malhotra (India)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Male Infertility</td> <td>Prof. Gwo-Jang Wu (Taiwan)</td> <td>Prof. Atsushi Tanaka (Japan)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reproductive Endocrinology</td> <td>Dr Madhuri Patil (India)</td> <td>1. Dr Clare Boothroyd (Australia) 2. Dr Thi Ngoc Lan Vuong (Vietnam)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reproductive Surgery</td> <td>Dr Herbert Situmorang (Indonesia)</td> <td>1. Prof. Maria Habana (Philippines) 2. Prof. Huang Xiaowu (China)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>2. <u>ASPIRE Country Representatives</u></b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="235 1879 1318 1961"> <thead> <tr> <th>Country</th> <th>Representative(s)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Australia</td> <td>Associate Prof. Louise Hull</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		SIG	Chairperson	Co-Chairperson(s)	Endometriosis	Prof. Tzeng Chii-Ruey (Taiwan)	1. Prof. Yutaka Osuga (Japan) 2. Professor Tasuru Harada (Japan) 3. Prof. Luk Rombauts (Australia)	Endometrium and Implantation	Associate Prof. Louise Hull (Australia)	1. Dr Rong Li (China) 2. Dr Keiji Kuroda (Japan)	Embryology	Prof. Chi Ling (USA)	1. Prof. Arthur Chang (USA) 2. Dr Keshav Malhotra (India)	Male Infertility	Prof. Gwo-Jang Wu (Taiwan)	Prof. Atsushi Tanaka (Japan)	Reproductive Endocrinology	Dr Madhuri Patil (India)	1. Dr Clare Boothroyd (Australia) 2. Dr Thi Ngoc Lan Vuong (Vietnam)	Reproductive Surgery	Dr Herbert Situmorang (Indonesia)	1. Prof. Maria Habana (Philippines) 2. Prof. Huang Xiaowu (China)	Country	Representative(s)	Australia	Associate Prof. Louise Hull
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<b>China</b>	Prof. Junhao Yan
<b>Hong Kong</b>	Prof. Jacqueline Chung
<b>India</b>	Dr. Ameet Patki and Dr. Kedar Ganla
<b>Indonesia</b>	Dr. Binarwan Halim and Dr. Ita Fauzia Hanoum
<b>Iran</b>	Dr. Maryam Salmani
<b>Japan</b>	Prof. Atsushi Tanaka
<b>Korea</b>	Prof. Kyu Sup Lee
<b>Malaysia</b>	Dr. Surinder Singh
<b>Nepal</b>	Dr. Sabina Shrestha
<b>New Zealand</b>	Prof. Neil Johnson
<b>Pakistan</b>	Dr. Rohina Gul
<b>Philippines</b>	Dr. Virgilio Novero and Dr. Angela Aguilar
<b>Russia</b>	Prof. Vladislav Korsak
<b>Singapore</b>	Dr. Rajesh Hemashree
<b>Sri Lanka</b>	Prof. Athula Kaluarachchi
<b>Taiwan</b>	Dr. Gwo-Jang Wu
<b>Thailand</b>	Assoc. Prof. Suphakde Julaviitphong
<b>Vietnam</b>	Dr. Linh K Nguyen and Dr. Quang Viet Nguyen

B Wiweko ended his report on SIG Chairmen and Country Representatives for 2021-2023 and there were no comments from the audience.

## **5 Financial Report and Accounts**

The financial report for financial year ending 2020 was presented by Virgilio Novero (V Novero), the treasurer of ASPIRE.

V Novero shared that 2019 was when ASPIRE held its last face to face congress in Hong Kong. As compared to the income of USD 1,405,310 in FY2019, ASPIRE earned much lesser income for FY2020, at only USD 211,250. He explained that income received was mainly through the ASPIRE masterclass (held in Tokyo, Japan), webinars sponsorship support and membership subscriptions.

He continued to present the expenses and shared that in 2020, we have more expenditure than income received. This was because not only did ASPIRE not earn any income from a congress, we had to incur the cancellation cost for ASPIRE 2020. PC Wong added that the large part of the cancellation cost was towards the PCO Management fees. This was because ASPIRE decide to cancel the physical congress in Manila, Philippines at a very late stage (just two months before the congress dates), therefore 90% of the work were already completed by the PCO. There were also mandatory expenses such as F&R Journal publication and staff remuneration.

In summary, as compared to FY2019 where ASPIRE earned USD 362,141, ASPIRE lost USD 283,447 in FY2020. Therefore, ASPIRE's accumulated fund is reduced from USD 1,310,195 to USD 1,026,748.

Rob Norman asked the board if ASPIRE purchased any event insurance to cover congress cancellation. PC Wong explained that the board did explore insurance for cancellation of congress, however, the premium for cancellation is very high. Therefore, the board felt that

it was not worthwhile to pay for an event insurance. Now that there is COVID-19, no insurance companies want to insure cancellation due to pandemic for congress.

Neil Johnson asked if ASPIRE congress will return to Manila and if any expenses for ASPIRE 2020 can be used to invest in future congress. PC Wong shared that the congress venue (PICC) deposit that was paid by ASPIRE can be kept with the venue to help ASPIRE secure the same venue rates as 2020 for future congress instead of facing an inflation.

V Novero ended his report on Financial Report and Accounts and there were no further comments from the audience.

**6 Report on ASPIRE 2021 Virtual Congress**

The Report on ASPIRE 2021 Virtual Congress was presented by Chii-Ruey Tzeng (CR Tzeng), Scientific chairman of ASPIRE 2021.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Congress of Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE 2021) will be held over 5 days from Friday-Sunday, 30 April 2021 – 2 May 2021 and 8 – 9 May 2021. Registration is free to everyone. CR Tzeng thanked the scientific committee and ASPIRE board for their support in making the congress successful. He shared that in current time, the congress has received over 6700 registrations.

CR Tzeng presented the following:

**1. Programme Overview**

Session Types	No. of sessions
Bruno Lunenfeld Honorary Lecture	1
Keynote Lectures	7
Concurrent Sessions	25
How-To Sessions	3
Presidential Debate	1
Company Symposia	6
Meet the Experts Sessions (Sponsored)	3
Free Communications	12
Affiliated Session – ASRM Session	1

There are a total of 73 oral presentations and 87 poster presentations. Due to the delay of the congress, the overall abstracts to be presented for the congress was reduced.

**2. Keynote Speakers**

There are 7 Keynote Speakers and 1 Bruno Lunenfeld lecture speaker.

<b>Bruno Lunenfeld Lecture Speaker</b>	Catherine Racowsky (USA)
<b>Keynote Lecture Speakers</b>	1. Mario Festin (Philippines) 2. Jacques Donnez (Belgium) 3. Ie-Ming Shih (USA) 4. Thi Ngoc Lan Vuong 5. Craig Niederberger (USA) 6. Carlos Simon (Spain) 7. Paul Hofman (New Zealand)

### 3. Invited Faculty

Category	No.
Faculty	74
Session Chairpersons	29
Affiliated Session Speakers	3
Company Symposium Speakers	20

### 4. Registration Summary (as of 30 Apr 2021)

Registrants	6,579
Invited Faculty	126
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,705</b>

#### A. Registration Country Breakdown - ASIA PACIFIC (as of 30 Apr)

Country	No.	Country	No.
Australia	169	Myanmar	11
Bangladesh	319	Nepal	16
China	377	New Zealand	15
Hong Kong	124	Pakistan	624
India	829	Panama	4
Indonesia	720	Philippines	820
Iran	12	Singapore	180
Iraq	23	South Korea	36
Japan	91	Sri Lanka	13
Macau	2	Taiwan	229
Malaysia	367	Thailand	428
Mongolia	6	Vietnam	327

The TOP 10 countries are from India, Philippines, Indonesia, Pakistan, Thailand, China, Malaysia, Vietnam, Bangladesh and Taiwan.

#### B. Registration Country Breakdown - OTHERS (as of 30 Apr)

Country	No.	Country	No.
Afghanistan	1	Kenya	4
Albania	2	Kuwait	5
Algeria	13	Kyrgyzstan	1
American Samoa	1	Latvia	2
Andorra	1	Lebanon	6
Angola	15	Libya	1
Argentina	24	Lithuania	2
Armenia	3	Macedonia	4
Austria	6	Mauritius	3
Azerbaijan	2	Mexico	31
Bahamas	1	Montenegro	3



Bahrain	5	Morocco	3
Belarus	1	Namibia	1
Belgium	11	Netherlands	5
Bolivia	1	Nicaragua	1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1	Nigeria	17
Brazil	50	Norway	5
Brunei Darussalam	1	Oman	6
Bulgaria	5	Panama	4
Cambodia	1	Paraguay	1
Canada	16	Peru	31
Chile	8	Poland	19
Colombia	13	Portugal	12
Croatia	4	Qatar	10
Czech Republic	8	Romania	14
Denmark	9	Russia	39
Ecuador	1	Saudi Arabia	33
Egypt	16	Serbia	16
El Salvador	1	Slovakia	3
Estonia	2	Slovenia	5
Ethiopia	1	South Africa	9
Finland	3	Spain	29
France	11	Sudan	2
Georgia	7	Sweden	25
Germany	58	Switzerland	12
Ghana	4	Tunisia	9
Greece	9	Turkey	32
Guatemala	2	Turkmenistan	1
Haiti	1	Uganda	3
Hungary	4	Ukraine	27
Ireland	6	United Arab Emirates	17
Israel	14	United Kingdom	55
Italy	28	United States	75
Jordan	3	Uzbekistan	1
Kazakhstan	3	Venezuela	4
		Yemen	2

CR Tzeng highlighted that the congress received a wide reach of registrants from all over the world including good numbers from Germany, Brazil, Argentina, US, UK, Russia and Mexico.

##### **5. Sponsors**

The support received from the industry was as follow:

**Platinum Sponsors** - Ferring Pharmaceuticals and Merck

**Gold Supporters** - Abbott and Vitrolife

**Silver Supporters** – Biflux, Bioregen, CooperSurgical, Esco Medical, Genea Biomedx, Fujifilm Irvine Scientific, Igenomix, IVFTech, PerkinElmer, Planer, MediTEX and ThermoFisher Scientific.

**Education Grant Supporter** - Bioregen

Neil Johnson commented that he assumes sponsors would not be keen to pledge strong financial support for a virtual meeting and asked the board for comment. PC Wong explained that fortunately, the two Platinum sponsors (Merck and Ferring) are strong supporters of ASPIRE. These two companies have previously committed and paid for ASPIRE 2020 which was to be held in Manila. Although ASPIRE 2020 was cancelled, they have both agreed to roll over their full sponsorship fund of USD 75,000 each to participate at ASPIRE 2021.

With that, ASPIRE have provided them with more entitlements such as an additional company symposium slot and Meet the Expert sessions to allow them more air time. The two companies seem to be satisfied with the arrangement. PC Wong shared that hopefully both companies will continue to provide ASPIRE the same support for next year.

CR Tzeng ended the Report on ASPIRE 2021 Virtual Congress and there were no further comments from the audience.

**6 Fertility & Reproduction (F&R)**

Gab Kovacs (G Kovacs), the Editor-in-Chief, reported that F&R have completed both Volumes 1 and 2 and currently at Volume 3. He presented the following status of the three volumes:

Vol.	Issues released	Submissions Statistics
<b>1</b>	Issue 1 - March 2019 Issue 2 – June 2019 Issue 3 – September 2019 Issue 4 – December 2019	<b>Received 52 submissions in 2019</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 31 manuscripts published</li> <li>• 15 manuscripts rejected</li> <li>• 2 manuscripts withdrawn (no response from author/error submission)</li> <li>• <i>4 manuscripts accepted for publication in F&amp;R Vol 2. (2020), Issue 1</i></li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	Issue 1 – March 2020 Issue 2 – June 2020 Issue 3 –September 2020 Issue 4 –December 2020	<b>Received 38 submissions in 2020</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22 manuscripts published</li> <li>• 13 manuscripts rejected</li> <li>• 2 manuscripts under review</li> <li>• 1 manuscript under revision</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	Issue 1 – March 2021 (manuscripts from 2020)  <b>UPCOMING ISSUES:</b> Issue 2 – June 2021 Issue 3 –September 2021 Issue 4 –December 2021	<b>Received 5 submissions in 2021 so far for Issue 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 manuscripts rejected</li> <li>• 2 manuscripts under review</li> <li>• 1 manuscript withdrawn</li> </ul>

G Kovacs shared that in the previous AGM, the issue of F&R not being in PubMed was brought up. The F&R team is working hard and hopefully by the next AGM, F&R will have a chance of re-application and if accepted, F&R will have equal opportunity to compete with other journals.

	<p>Neil Johnson asked what are key factors for F&amp;R to succeed in the PubMed re-application. G Kovacs highlighted that there were 3 main issues. 1) There was a number of papers where the English of the paper was not perfect. He explained that this was because a lot of papers were submitted from countries where English is a second language. To counter this, G Kovacs is doing copy-editing for all papers submitted now. 2) It was highlighted that not all papers have a conflict-of-interest statement. This has been rectified. 3) Reference tables were not properly labelled. G Kovacs will address this issue through his copy-editing of all submissions.</p> <p>Currently, F&amp;R is calling submissions for Volume 3 Issue 2. The submission deadline is on 11 June 2021. G Kovacs encouraged everyone to submit their paper to F&amp;R.</p> <p>Louise Hull raised up that there is a journal named “Reproduction and Fertility” and asked if this name will be an issue for the recognition of F&amp;R. G Kovacs shared that this journal is from Scotland and it is not the same as F&amp;R, although the name is confusing. He explained that it is just a play of name like how F&amp;R was derived from Fertility &amp; Sterility and Human Reproduction. As F&amp;R get better known, it will over shadow them.</p> <p>Eileen Manalo suggested that F&amp;R publish lectures that were delivered during the ASPIRE congress. G Kovacs agreed that it was a good suggestion and shared that F&amp;R Volume 1 published a few articles converted from lectures delivered at ASPIRE 2019 in Hong Kong. However, he shared that one problem is that a number of speakers who were asked to submit their lecture as paper to F&amp;R were either too busy or not inclined to do that. Nevertheless, he will be approaching speakers from ASPIRE 2021 to encourage submissions from them.</p> <p>G kovacs added that an arrangement was made with The Fertility Society of Australia &amp; New Zealand (FSA) where F&amp;R will publish their accepted abstracts into a supplementary F&amp;R issue. This arrangement was made to allow F&amp;R increase its presence in Oceania and get more submissions from there.</p> <p>G Kovacs ended his report on Fertility &amp; Reproduction (F&amp;R) and there were no further comments from the audience.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<b>ASPIRE 2022</b>	
	<p>B Wiweko announced that the 11<sup>th</sup> Congress of Asia Pacific initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE 2022) will be held as a Virtual Congress. This decision was made in consideration that COVID-19 is still unpredictable.</p> <p>More information will be provided by ASPIRE once finalized.</p> <p>There were no comments from the audience.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<b>AOB</b>	
	<p><b>1. <u>ASPIRE Registry and Real-World Data Generation</u></b></p> <p>TC Li shared that ASPIRE is currently working with Merck Serono to establish a regional registry. After a few rounds of negotiation, we have received financial support to start a feasibility study with 4 pilot centres from Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Australia. TC Li hope that after the feasibility study, there will be sufficient data from analysis on regional variation, time trend etc to prepare a publication. The purpose of the feasibility study is also to plan for an extension to a much bigger group where ASPIRE can build a database to understand regional practices and provide research opportunities. The feasibility study process is aimed to kick off by end of May. TC Li shared that he hopes to have updates by the next AGM.</p>	

	<p><b>2. <u>Board Members stepping down</u></b>  B Wiweko acknowledged and thanked the contribution by the board members who are stepping down from the ASPIRE Board - J Malhotra, HM Tuong and PC Wong (retiring from the role Secretary General).</p>	
	<p>The meeting was concluded at 7.25pm</p>	

Minutes prepared by:  
Hoa Jing Qi  
Association Manager  
Date: 05.05.2021

Minutes vetted by:  
PC Wong  
Secretary General  
Date: 17.05.2021