

Face to Face with the Master

Since the birth of the Academy of Medicine (AM) in 1957, many members have contributed to the postgraduate specialist training and championed the maintenance of high standards of competency and ethical integrity among medical and dental specialists in Singapore. While its relative focus has evolved over the years, AM remains the cardinal general professional body that unites specialists in both private and public sectors under one umbrella, and it continues to provide the platform where clinical practice guidelines are formulated. AM also plays an advisory role for the Ministry of Health, Singapore for medically related matters. To date, 15 Masters have helmed the Academy council and they have served with great distinction. All of them have played a significant role in training, education of specialists, and contributed to Singapore's healthcare landscape and successes.

Despite AM's illustrious history, the relevance of AM in our current healthcare system has been questioned by some who may not be familiar its role. To provide better insights into what AM stands for, it is essential that we bridge the historic gaps that may be lost in translation over the decades.

Annals will initiate a new section 'Face to face with the

Master', where we will publish excerpts of interviews with our past Masters. These interviews will cover first-hand accounts of historical events that helped shape AM, and our Masters' thoughts, philosophies and visions. We hope that these sessions can galvanise our younger specialists and inspire more to step forward to serve the Academy.

In this issue, we are delighted that to have Dr Chew Chin Hin share with us his pearls of wisdom. Do join Dr Chew in this nostalgic and exciting journey, and enjoy the reading.

Dr Eng King Tan
Editor