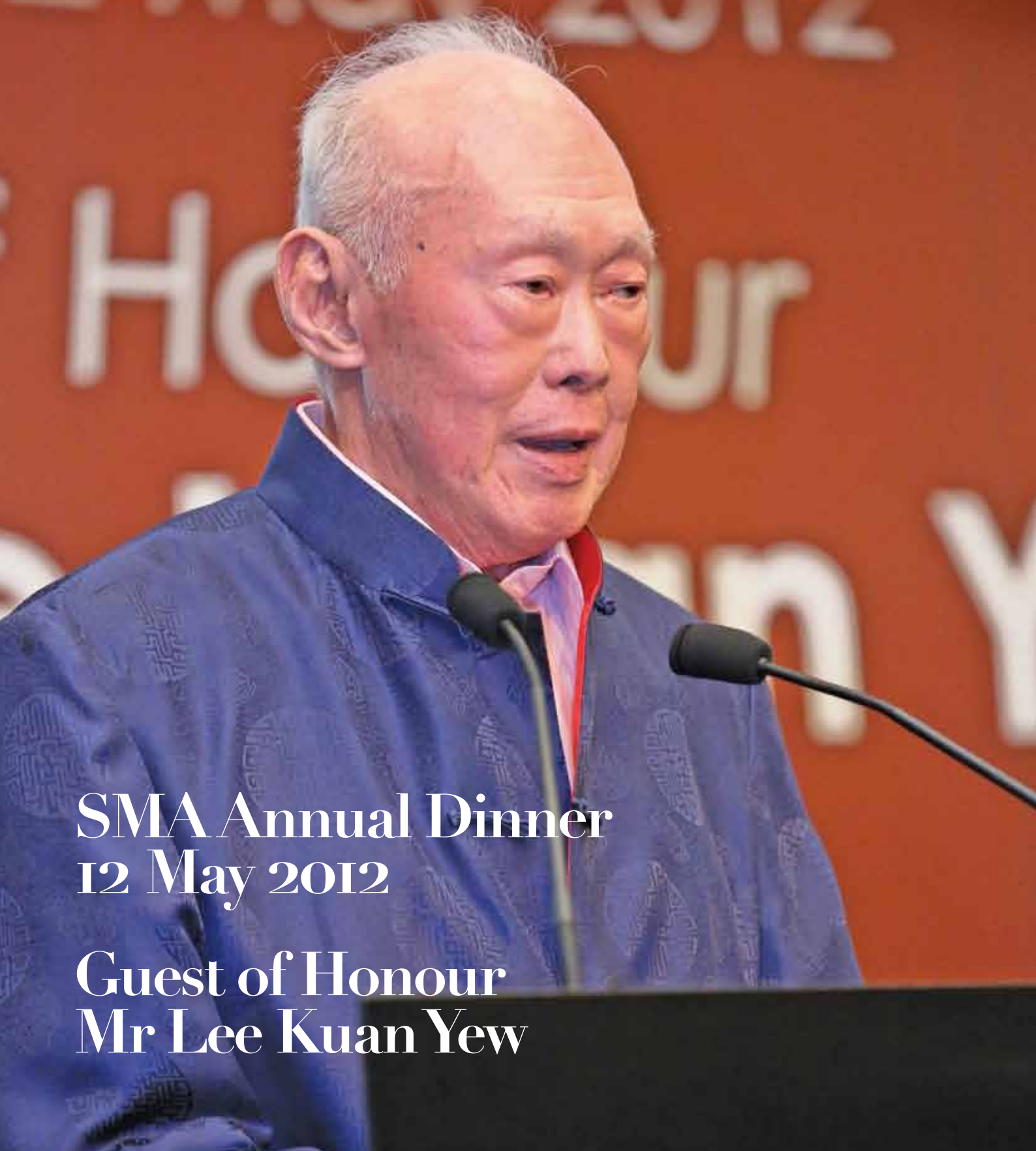


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**SMA Annual Dinner
12 May 2012**

**Guest of Honour
Mr Lee Kuan Yew**

SMA Annual Dinner 2012

By Denise Yuen



A/Prof Chin Jing Jih (left) presenting the scroll to Mr Lee Kuan Yew

The 53rd SMA Annual Dinner was held on 12 May 2012 at the Roselle Main Ballroom at Marina Bay Sands. Mr Lee Kuan Yew graced the evening as the Guest of Honour. Minister for Health Mr Gan Kim Yong was also in attendance. 530 guests turned up for the event, making this the grandest SMA Annual Dinner in recent memory.

The highlight of the dinner was the conferment of the SMA Honorary Membership on Mr Lee Kuan Yew. Mr Lee's citation was delivered by SMA President A/Prof Chin Jing Jih (see page 13 of this issue).

The SMA Honorary Membership was first instituted in 1982, and is the highest honour that SMA can bestow on persons who are distinguished in public life or who have rendered meritorious service to SMA or the medical profession.

A/Prof Chin also presented Mr Lee with a calligraphy scroll by local calligrapher Mr Kee Meng Cheng, which bears the Chinese characters "四海承風" (*si hai cheng feng*). These four characters were taken from *孔子家語* (*Kong Zi Jia Yu* or *The School Sayings of Confucius*), a book of sayings attributed to Confucius and his disciples, and translate literally as "four seas receiving the wind".

This phrase refers to the extensive effect one's words and conduct has. Confucius, while teaching his disciples the qualities of a wise and benevolent ruler or leader, described the legendary Chinese emperor Shun as one "whose policy was to cherish and affirm life and to abhor unnecessary violence. He appointed men of talent and abilities to replace those of none. His wisdom and virtue are vast as the sky and earth, pure and unblemished. His governance is like the four seasons, which nurtures and brings about the growth of all living things. And thus, his influence is like the wind that reaches across the four seas." Therefore, the idiom "四海承風" is now often used as an appreciation of statesmen who have significant local and international influence as leaders, and was hence chosen as it was felt to best describe Mr Lee's influence as an international statesman.

Mr Lee said that while there are currently 10,000 doctors in Singapore, with an ageing population, more will be needed. When the upcoming Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine opens, Singapore will produce a total of 500 doctors annually. However, Mr Lee commented that this "will not be enough so we will have to keep on recruiting, from the many students who have not got into our medical schools, and have gone abroad ... (and) other able people who can be easily assimilated, like Malaysians, who may want to be close to their families, and we need those who have gone abroad – to Australia, to New Zealand and elsewhere, who have graduated and have the right of residence there and stayed there".

He also noted that Singapore is a medical centre par excellence in this part of the world, as we have hygienic conditions to enable a safe recovery. He encouraged those in the medical field to keep enhancing themselves so that Singapore can become the medical centre in Asia.

These were the other highlights of the evening:

SMA Merit Awards

The SMA Merit Awards were presented to four individuals for their contributions to SMA.

The first SMA Merit Award was awarded to A/Prof Lim Swee Han, current Chairman of the SMA-SNA (Singapore Nurses Association) CPR Training Programme Committee and a senior consultant at the Department of Emergency Medicine at Singapore General Hospital. As A/Prof Lim was away in the US for a medical conference, Mr Ng Chuen Ser accepted the award on his behalf.

The second award went to Ms Mak Wei Munn, a partner in Litigation & Dispute Resolution at Allen & Gledhill. She has a special interest in professional negligence with a focus on medical negligence and has acted for hospitals, clinics and doctors in a variety of cases involving civil claims, disciplinary proceedings and Coroner's inquiries. She also advises on regulatory and ethical issues in clinical practice and medical research.

The next award was presented to Ms Nalini Naidu, Group Managing Director of IMSG. She has provided SMA with much valuable advice and support over the years with regard to events such as the annual national medical conventions, as well as assisted SMA in handling press queries and in engaging the media. Through her efforts, SMA has built up a visible public face.

The final award went to Dr Teoh Ming Keng, Head of Medical Services (Asia) at Medical Protection Society (MPS) in the UK. Dr Teoh has been instrumental in fostering collaborative ties between SMA and MPS and through working together, SMA has been able to bring to our members numerous workshops and seminars, such as the highly popular Mastering Your Risk educational series and Training Course for Medical Experts.

SMJ Best Research Paper Awards 2011

The SMJ Best Research Paper Awards 2011 were presented for the three best original research papers published in SMJ from January to December 2011. The awards were launched in 2004 to encourage publication of high quality local and international research papers in SMJ, and to promote and recognise local and regional researchers for their achievements. A call for contribution of original papers, sponsored by Abbott Nutrition R&D, was placed in the 12 issues of SMJ published in 2011.

The third prize went to Dr Mohamad Ikram Ilias, Prof Quah Ban Seng, A/Prof Dr Noraida Ramli, Dr Stanislaus Djokomuljanto, Mr Faris Irfan Che Yusoff and Prof Hans Amin van Rostenberghe for their paper "A randomised controlled trial of glutamine-enriched neonatal parenteral nutrition in Malaysia". The award included \$2,000 cash sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline Pte Ltd, a commemorative trophy sponsored by SMA, and a certificate. Dr Mohamad Ikram Ilias received the award on behalf of his team.

The second prize was awarded to Dr Vanlal Darlong, Dr Dilip Shende, Dr Mandeep Singh, Dr Rakesh Garg, Dr Ravindra Pandey and Dr Jyotsna Punj for their paper "Low-

versus high-dose combination of midazolam-ketamine for oral premedication in children for ophthalmologic surgeries". The award included \$3,000 cash by Novartis Asia Pacific Pharmaceutical Pte Ltd, a commemorative trophy sponsored by SMA, and a certificate. Dr Vanlal Darlong and Dr Rakesh Garg received the award on behalf of their team.

The first prize went to Dr Chiu Chee-Kidd, Dr Low Tze-Hau, Dr Tey Yee-Sin, A/Prof Dr Vivek Ajit Singh and A/Prof Dato Dr Shong Hing-Kock for their paper "The efficacy and safety of intramuscular injections of methylcobalamin in patients with chronic nonspecific low back pain: a randomised controlled trial". The award included \$5,000 cash sponsored by Pfizer Pte Ltd, a commemorative trophy sponsored by SMA, and a certificate. Dr Chiu Chee-Kidd received the award on behalf of his team.

SMA Long Service Awards

The SMA Long Service Awards were given to 13 individuals for their service in various SMA committees.

The first Long Service Award was awarded to Dr Khoo Chong Yew, for 20 years of service. Dr Khoo is currently Chairman of the SMA Trust Fund. He is also an ophthalmologist in private practice, and a visiting consultant at the Singapore National Eye Centre and National University Hospital.

The second Long Service Award went to Dr Lim Teck Beng, for 20 years of service. Dr Lim is currently a member of the SMA Complaints Committee, and has also served as the 1st and 2nd Vice President and also Treasurer on the SMA Council at various times. He is an obstetrician and gynaecologist in private practice.

The third Long Service Award was given to Dr Tan Yew Ghee, for 20 years of service. Dr Tan previously served as Chairman for the SMA Sports & Games Committee and Secretary for the SMA Trust Fund. He was also involved on the SMA Council in various capacities. Dr Tan is an obstetrician and gynaecologist in private practice.

The fourth Long Service Award was given to A/Prof Chin Jing Jih, for ten years of service. A/Prof Chin has sat on the SMA Council in various capacities and is currently the President of SMA. He is Chairman of the Integrative and Community Care Division, and a senior consultant geriatrician in the Department of Continuing and Community Care at Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH).

The fifth Long Service Award went to Dr Soh Wah Ngee, for ten years of service. He is currently a member of the SMA Complaints Committee and a GP in private practice.

The sixth Long Service Award went to Dr Toh Han Chong, for ten years of service. Dr Toh is presently a member of the SMA Council, SMA News Editor, and member of the SMA Ethics Committee. He is Head of the Department of Medical Oncology, and a senior consultant at the National Cancer Centre Singapore.

The seventh Long Service Award went to Prof Wong Tien Yin, for ten years of service. He is currently a member of the

SMA Council, and Director of the Singapore Eye Research Institute.

The eighth Long Service Award was given to Ms Angeline Teoh, for 15 years of service at the SMA Secretariat. She is currently in charge of finance and payroll.

The ninth Long Service Award was given to Ms Loy Li Li, for five years of service at the SMA Secretariat. She is currently involved with sales and business development.

The four remaining awardees were unable to attend the dinner. They are Dr Lee Pheng Soon (20 years of service), Dr Chan Yiong Huak (ten years of service), Dr Chuah Khoo Leng (ten years of service), and A/Prof T Thirumoorthy (ten years of service).

Dr Lee Pheng Soon is currently a member of the SMA Council and Medical Regional Director, Asia Pacific at Mead Johnson Nutrition.

Both Dr Chan Yiong Huak and Dr Chuah Khoo Leong are currently members of the SMJ Editorial Board. Dr Chan is Head of the Biostatistics Unit at the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, while Dr Chuah is Pathology Program Director and a senior consultant in the Department of Pathology at TTSH.

A/Prof T Thirumoorthy is currently the Executive Director for the SMA Centre for Medical Ethics & Professionalism and member of the SMA Ethics Committee. He is an associate professor at Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School.

Results of the lucky draw

Finally, it was the moment all the guests had been waiting for – the lucky draw! An air of anticipation filled the ballroom as Dr Lee Yik Voon picked three lucky winners, who walked away with three fantastic prizes.

Mr Larry Yap won a Zeppelin Air Wireless AirPlay Speaker Dock from Bowers & Wilkins, Dr Rajesh Garg won five complimentary room nights' stay at any of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World represented properties worldwide, and Dr Wonchat Subhachaturas won a pair of return business class tickets to Europe on Qatar Airways.

Throughout the dinner, guests mingled, catching up with old friends and making new ones. The sumptuous eight-course dinner was the icing on the cake. Good friends, good conversation and good food – what more could anyone want? It was a fabulous night, and we hope to see you again next year.

SMA thanks sponsors GlaxoSmithKline Pte Ltd, Novartis Asia Pacific Pharmaceutical Pte Ltd, Pfizer Pte Ltd, Qatar Airways, Small Luxury Hotels of the World, and The Expert Group Pte Ltd (marketing agent for Bowers & Wilkins), for their generous contributions to the SMA Annual Dinner. SMA would also like to thank exhibitors Camp Simba, Central Equity Ltd, Prime Travel & Tour Pte Ltd, Qatar Airways, The Expert Group Pte Ltd, and Transurban Properties Pte Ltd. The 53rd SMA Council would also like to express their gratitude to all guests who attended the dinner and contributed to its success. **SMA**