

## REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It was three years ago when Dr. Peter C.Y. Lee, then President of the Hong Kong Medical Association, first brought up the question of setting up a Hong Kong College of General Practitioners while the late Dr. M.O. Kent-Hughes, then President of WONCA, (World Organization of National Colleges, Academies and Academic Associations of General Practitioners/Family Physicians) was visiting Hong Kong. Since that time, Dr. Lee has been doing much ground work for setting up of the College. Early in 1974, the Hong Kong Medical Association started to make connections with various Colleges in the world seeking for their co-operation. Exactly two years ago, the Hong Kong Medical Association set up a committee to study the feasibility of establishing such a College in Hong Kong. Dr. Wong Chiu Lung headed this committee as Chairman. In July last year, Dr. Wong himself made a visit to Australia to visit the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and their Family Medicine Programme which proved very successful, culminating in the delegation from the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners comprising Dr. David A. Game (President), Dr. F.M. Farrar (Secretary General) and Dr. R. Harbison (Chairman of Family Medicine Programme) to visit Hong Kong in December, 1975. Before the arrival of the delegation, a working party was set up to establish the facilities for setting up the Hong Kong College of General Practitioners of which I was the Chairman. I am indebted to Dr. Peter C.Y. Wong, Dr. Peter C.Y. Lee, Sister Mary Aquinas, Dr. K.C. Poon, Dr. K.H. Lee, Dr. Wong Chiu Lung, Dr. Emmanuel Chang and Professor M.J. Colbourne for their kind assistance. In November 1975, after much hard work of the committee as well as a visit of Sister Mary Aquinas and Dr. Poon Kwong Chiu to Australia, the working party recommended that an interim council be formed to incorporate the Hong Kong College of General Practitioners. Members of this interim council consisted of a cross-section of all practitioners in Hong Kong that are interested in the formation of this College. They consisted of, besides myself, Sister Mary Aquinas (Honorary Secretary), Dr. Emmanuel Chang (Honorary Treasurer), Dr. Peter C.Y. Lee, Dr. K.C. Poon, Dr. Leung Gon Fun, Professor M.J. Colbourne, Professor Cecil Lewis, Dr. Mak Hing Kwok, Dr. John Wedderburn, Dr. F.C.T. Lee, Dr. Tam Sai Kit, Dr. Chiu Hin Kwong, Dr. Doo Ching Hoi and Dr. Henry C.L. Lee. We held the first interim council meeting with the distinguished delegation from the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, that is, Dr. David A. Game, Dr. F.M. Farrar and Dr. R. Harbison, after which there were altogether six council meetings before the Memorandum and Articles of Association were finalised and submitted to the Registrar General for incorporation. In January 1976, Dr. Emmanuel Chang and Miss Y.M. Chow, Administrative Secretary of the Hong Kong Medical Association, travelled to Australia and gathered much more information and teaching material for the College. Besides extending my thanks to all the above people mentioned, thanks are also due to our legal advisor, Mr. Philip Yuen, who has been very patient with us in drafting the Memorandum and Articles of Association. It must also be mentioned that without the help of the Hong Kong Medical Association and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and their exchange of delegations, this College would never have been established. Appreciation is also due to all Colleges of General Practitioners in the world which have helped us during the past years, especially the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners. Last but not the least, we are indebted to the entire secretarial staff of the Hong Kong Medical Association who has helped us so much during the whole period.

Looking ahead, besides seeking co-operation from WONCA and the Colleges of General Practitioners and Family Physicians around the world, locally we should seek for closer relationship with the two University Medical Faculties and Government Medical Services.

Henry F.K. Li  
Chairman  
Interim Council  
Hong Kong College of General Practitioners