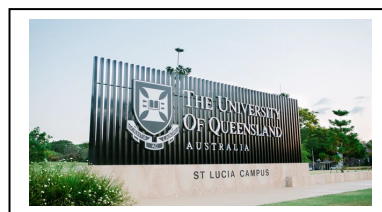


Message from the Founder President of the Asia-Pacific EPR/ESR Society



Dear Colleagues,

This is my honor and privilege to address the participants of the third joint conference of the Asia-Pacific EPR/ESR Society and the International EPR (ESR) Society (IES) Symposium. At this meeting we celebrate within our EMR/EPR/ESR community from all corners of the globe the 20th+ anniversary of establishment of the APES. The APES came into being during the First Asia-Pacific EPR/ESR Symposium (APES'97) held at the City University of Hong Kong in January 1997. Under the APES auspices the series of ten Asia-Pacific EPR/ESR Symposia have been successfully organized so far. This joint conference is our 11th APES Symposium. This event is a superb testimony to the present strength and good shape of the APES. As you could see here in Brisbane, the APES is 'alive and kicking', and suits well the regional as well as the international needs of the EPR/ESR community. The milestones in the APES history have been outlined in an article to be published in the next EPR/ESR Newsletter, which is also included in the Book of Abstracts.

As the Founder President of the Asia-Pacific EPR/ESR Society it is a great personal satisfaction to me, which I do hope is shared by whole EMR/EPR/ESR community, to witness the growth of the two initiatives originated at the City University of Hong Kong in 1997. This success would not have been possible without the members of successive APES Councils as well as the members of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) and the International Organizing Committee (IOC) for the successive Symposia, who have diligently worked in the last 20 plus years. We all appreciate very much the hard voluntary work and organizational efforts of many colleagues in various Asian countries who made the milestones in the APES history possible. Creating the first APES website by Y. Y. Yeung and continuing revamping and updating by the late Graeme R. Hanson and recently by Sergey Veber is much appreciated. Thanks are also due to our colleagues who attended subsequent Asia-Pacific EPR/ESR Symposia, in spite of facing sometimes financial difficulties.

I would like to pay my sincere tribute to all who helped bring to fruition the initial ideas envisioned in mid-1996, namely,

- establishment of the Asia-Pacific EPR/ESR Society and
- initiation of the series of the Asia-Pacific EPR/ESR Society Symposia.

and then keeping these ideas alive over the past 20+ years.

Notably, it is worth mentioning at this conference the fact that since the inception of the APES, the Asia-Pacific region gave the IES several Presidents, who had also been involved in the Asia-Pacific EPR/ESR Society activities: John Pilbrow (1999-2002), the late Yuri Tsvetkov (2002-2005) and Seigo Yamauchi (2012-2013), Hitoshi Ohta (October, 2012 - June, 2013 & 2015-17). In addition to the IES Vice Presidents for Americas and Europe, since 2002 the following researchers served as the IES Vice Presidents for Asia-Pacific: Takeji Takui (2002-2005), Shozu Tero-Kubota (2005-2008), Michael Davies (2008-2011), Hitoshi Ohta (2012-2014), Graeme Hanson (2015), Hiroshi Hirata (since 2017). This shows the significant input from the Asia-Pacific EPR/ESR community to the international one.

As a closing remark, may I wish both the Asia-Pacific and international EMR/EPR/ESR community to grow in strength and achieve profound discoveries based on application of EMR/EPR/ESR techniques both in basic science and important technological advances.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'C. Rudowicz'.

Czesław Rudowicz
Founder President
Asia-Pacific EPR/ESR Society

Poznań, August 2018