

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I hope you are all healthy and well. Since our last annual conference in Korea, I would like to update you all with some of the current development at AAFT in this fourth issue of our newsletter.

Regrettably, I would like to remind everyone once again that our 8th Annual Conference that was originally scheduled to be held in October 2022 had to be postponed to October 27-29, 2023. As the theme of the conference is “Reconnecting Families and Family Therapy”, we truly hope that we will be able to reconnect next year and finally have a chance to meet in the real world, not just behind the monitor through cyberspace, but meeting each other in person so we can celebrate coming out of the pandemic together.

As I'm sure you already know, our Founding President, Dr. Wai-Yung Lee had completed her term of Presidency in October 2021. She had gracefully agreed to continue to offer consultation and support for our further operation. Thank you, Wai-Yung for the wonderful work you have done and a warm welcome to Dr. Takeshi Tamura, our new President. I look forward to working with you closely over the course of the next three years. I am also very honored to be appointed as Executive Director of AAFT. I hope to contribute my energy to working with our international community of family therapists in promoting family therapy in our different regions. I would also like to welcome Dr. Dickson Chow from Hong Kong in joining us as Vice-Presidential Committee. Dr. Hsiung Ping-Chuan from Taiwan has also replaced Dr. Hao-Wei Wang, another Founding Member, in joining the Vice-Presidential Committee. A warm welcome to Dickson and Ping-Chuan!

During this time when most things have been affected by the pandemic, our Accreditation Committee has worked very closely to complete the revision of the accreditation standard for Fellow members. On top of professional criteria, the new revision will take into consideration the different cultural perspectives in the Asian region. It has already been finalized by the Accreditation and Presidential Committees. We are now working on organizing regional representatives to put it into action.

On behalf of our Membership Committee, I would like to urge you to renew your membership if you hadn't done so already. Your membership means a lot to the survival of our organization.

I hope you had read the interesting articles submitted by our Asian colleagues to the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Family Therapy. There was an issue hosting our wonderful articles under a special editorial conducted by Takeshi. I would also like to remind you that the next issue of the AAFT newsletter will be produced at the end of the year. As Chief Editor of the newsletter, I would like to elicit your support by submitting your work. I look forward to your sharing.

Finally, I hope we are finally getting out of the pandemic era and to connect with you again at our next newsletter!

Viviana Cheng, Psy.D.
Chief Editor
AAFT Editorial board