



# An opportunity to cherish at the joint conference of 8th Asia Pacific International Congress of Anatomists (8th APICA) and 68th Annual Meeting of Korean Association of Anatomists

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It took me a while to pinch myself, was it in my dream that I had been for 8th Asia Pacific International Congress of Anatomists (8th APICA) 2018, the 68th Annual Meeting of Korean Association of Anatomists (KAA) and the 4th Asian Association of Clinical Anatomists (AsACA) symposium. My joy knew no bounds of attending and enjoying the scientific feast on October 28–31, 2018 in the most beautiful city of Korea (Busan), about this city I came to know from my friends in India after having got an opportunity to visit Busan.

At every step, right from sending abstract for presentation to getting registered for the conference and hotel booking confirmation for visa, the organizers were so prompt in replying my queries as and when I faced. Neither I knew anyone in Korea nor could I understand the Korean language, as some emails were in both languages. Our senior Anatomy Professor Dr. Daisy Sahni madam from Post-graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, India gave me the reference of Dr. Chang-Seok Oh Secretary General of APICA 2018 who was kind enough to help through Ms. Jin Kyung Ahn from Plan B.

I was excited to reach the venue on first day for 4th

AsACA symposia and young scientist session (Fig. 1). The evening banquet at Hotel Haeundae Grand was lit up by the soulful flute recital by female anatomy faculty from Korea which was lauded by all and dinner with special Korean recipes. A total of 735 delegates represented 21 countries for 8th APICA. On second and third day, a total of 285 posters were on display by delegates. The four luncheon symposiums enriched us on topics like (1) age of artificial intelligence for molecular diagnostics assay development, (2) development of a cryo-electron microscope for simultaneous observation of scanning electron microscope and transmission image, (3) how innovative imaging and emerging technologies promotes philosophy of medical anatomy education for the Millennial's/ Generation Z, and (4) automation fast and flexible slide



Fig. 1. Participants and delegates at the 4th Asian Association of Clinical Anatomists (AsACA).

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Fig. 2. At the venue of 8th Asia Pacific International Congress of Anatomists (APICA).

scanner.

There were interesting, informative and insightful sessions on Gross anatomy, Brain and neuroscience, Stem cell and development, Physical anthropology, Immunology, Cell biology, Oncology, Cryo-EM technology, and Modern tech in microscopy and anatomy education (Fig. 2). On second day, special lecture by Dr. Richard L Drake “The anatomy educator: broadening horizons” did stimulate all to accept the changes in medical education (Fig. 3).

The KAA was established on October 20, 1947 at Seoul. On day 4, the 68th Annual Meeting of KAA was held. This association through its journal *Anatomy and Cell Biology* promotes research in anatomy from basic to applied aspects. At this congress all the anatomists had a great time together to



Fig. 3. With Dr. Richard L Drake.

share their scientific research and exchange innovative ideas and present their own work. It has been a great experience attending the APICA where I met many renowned and experienced international anatomists from 21 countries. I personally felt that it was a well organized and meticulously planned effort on behalf of the KAA which bore the fruits of success. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the organizers of 8th APICA, as I will always cherish my stay in Busan and looking forward to attend the 2020 APICA in Beijing China.