ANZAHPE Presidency

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to update you on a change that will be taking place within the ANZAHPE Committee of Management. After two and a half years as ANZAHPE President, I have decided that it is time to step down from my role. Many of you would understand the nature of greatly increased demands on academic time this year. Within this context, I have been working with the ANZAHPE committee to firstly respond to the many challenges of this year before contemplating a change in leadership. I am pleased that we have now been able to stabilise our position, and have found an excellent solution to ensure continued strong leadership for ANZAHPE: Ben Canny, the immediate past Vice President of ANZAHPE, has graciously offered to step in as needed. I am delighted to inform you that he has been unanimously elected by the ANZAHPE committee to take over as ANZAHPE President for the balance of my term, from the 10th November 2020 to July 2021. We are very fortunate indeed to have a senior colleague with such vast experience to accept the role at this time. I congratulate Ben on his election and welcome him to the role.

I will continue to serve on the ANZAHPE committee for the remainder of my elected term, till July 2022. It will be a pleasure to continue to work with this wonderful committee and the new president. In my role on the committee, I will continue to lead current initiatives around external collaborations. We have built on our strong relationships with international associations such as AMEE and IAMSE and we will continue to find ways to enhance benefits to ANZAHPE members.

Colleagues, it has been an honour and a privilege to serve ANZAHPE in various capacities over the last 15 years. The most recent two and half years will of course be the most memorable. I thank you and the committee for the trust that you placed in me by electing me as president in 2018, and by re-electing me to the role in 2020. I reflect on this period with great pride, as we saw ANZAHPE enter a phase of unprecedented growth. I am deeply conscious that this was a result of not only current efforts, but previous efforts by successive committees. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to past presidents and committees who strengthened our foundations. The wonderful contributions of the current committee are gratefully acknowledged.

I have drawn great strength from you, our dedicated members, during an amazing period of growth, and more recently during an amazing period of change. I look forward to continuing to work closely with you over the coming years.

Wishing you the very best!

Chinthaka

Chinthaka Balasooriya *MBBS PhD FANZAHPE*

ANZAHPE President

[c.balasooriya@unsw.edu.au](mailto:c.balasooriya@unsw.edu.au)

