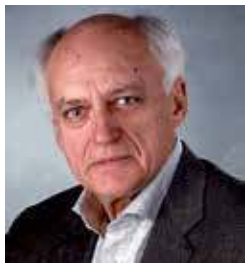
Alpha Omega Alpha elects honorary members

Individuals who have contributed substantially to medicine and fields related to medicine, but who are not eligible for membership in AΩA as graduates of a medical school with an AΩA chapter or as a faculty member of a medical school maintaining an active AΩA chapter, may be nominated for honorary membership by any active member of the society. In 2012 Alpha Omega Alpha's board of directors extended invitations to the following distinguished physicians and scientists.

Shotai Kobayashi, MD, PhD, MACP

Dr. Kobayashi is currently president of Shimane University. He received his MD from Keio University Medical School in 1972, and performed his residency in Internal Medicine at Kitasato University, followed by his neurology fellowship and PhD from Kitasato University in 1981. Dr. Kobayashi is an amazing educator who has developed a regional education system at Shimane University to meet the needs of the Shimane Prefecture, where the average age of the practitioners in this rural region is sixty years old. By having students trained in smaller towns, they are more encouraged to stay there. He has served as the Dean of Shimane University Medical School, and since 2012 has been the president of Shimane University. He is a Master of the American College of Physicians and has been an ACP governor representing Japan. Dr. Kobayashi has all the qualities of scholarship, commitment, and excellence that AΩA stands for.

Dr. Kobayashi writes: It is a great honor for me to be nominated for honorary membership in Alpha Omega Alpha. I am the Governor of the Japan Chapter of ACP, and President of Shimane University in Matsue city with ancient history. I am a general internist and neurologist. I was the director of Shimane University Hospital from 2005 to 2012. I graduated from the School of Medicine of Keio University in Tokyo in 1972, and completed an American style residency in Internal Medicine at Kitasato University Hospital. I launched the neurology division in Shimane University in 1980. I opened the first Brain Health Check-up Center using MRI in Japan in 1988 and also launched the first Japanese Stroke Databank in 2000. We established the Fellows Association of the Japanese Society of Internal Medicine, and joined the ACP. ACP approved the Japan chapter in 2003. Today, that chapter is one of the most active chapters in ACP, with more than 1000 members. It is now completely independent from the Japanese Society of Internal Medicine. We have created unique resident and student education with an emphasis on primary care in our annual meeting as does the ACP. We also started a resident exchange program with USLA. Many Japanese medical students are now interested in our program of annual meetings. I want to grow interest in young general internist more and more in Japan.



Mats Lundstöm, MD, PhD

Dr. Lundström is an ophthalmologist who thinks like a scientist, and has been quietly responsible for developing national clinical data registries, both within his home country of Sweden and, more recently, broadly across Europe. He graduated with an MD degree from the University of Gothenburg in 1970, specialized in ophthalmology and subsequently obtained his PhD, studying optic nerve fiber atrophy following optic chiasm injury, as well as postsurgical outcomes. He worked as a consultant ophthalmologist and later as ophthalmology department chairman at Blekinge Hospital in Karlskrona, Sweden. In the early 1990s, he led efforts to evaluate vision-related quality of life and clinical and surgical outcomes, beginning with cataract surgery wait times and outcomes, and evolving into what is now EyeNet Sweden—including comprehensive evaluation of cataract surgery, corneal transplant, macular degeneration, and retinopathy of prematurity. Continuing to pioneer improved outcome measures, EyeNet Sweden is expanding into assessment of patient-reported outcomes under Dr. Lundström's leadership.

Dr. Lundström has hundreds of abstracts and publications to his name, not including the many publications that his work on registries has facilitated. And, even beyond Sweden, he has been instrumental in the realization of a recent initiative for an ophthalmic registry across Europe (European Registry of Quality Outcomes for Cataract and Refractive Surgery, or EUREQUO). He has been chosen to lead the International Consortium for Health Outcomes Assessment (ICHOM) cataract working group, and has been advising the American Academy of Ophthalmology during current efforts to finally develop and implement a national clinical and surgical registry in the United States. His insights have been uniformly well-considered and valuable.

Boris Malyugin, MD, PhD

Dr. Malyugin is head of the S. Fyodorov Eye Microsurgery State Institution—one of the largest eye institutes in Russia, with main headquarters in Moscow and centers across Russia. He has acquired an international reputation as an innovative clinician, master surgeon, skilled educator, and active researcher. Indeed, it is a rare ophthalmologist in the United States who is unfamiliar with the "Malyugin ring" for difficult cases in cataract surgery.

Dr. Malyugin blends expertise and humanism, and truly exemplifies the best of goals and aspirations in medicine—education, teaching, leadership, humanism, and service—tenets that form the cornerstone of the AΩA mission.

An internationally-renowned cataract and cornea surgeon, Dr. Malyugin is an educator and innovator who has developed and taught surgical techniques, including a pupil expansion ring (the "Malyugin ring") that has been adopted widely to improve cataract surgery safety. He is mentor to innumerable ophthalmologists, both in Russia and internationally. He is editor of several Russian ophthalmologic medical journals and an editorial board member of major international and U.S. journals, as well as a frequent speaker at international meetings—including the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, Academy of Ophthalmology, and European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery.

John H. Pearn, MD, PhD, MPhil

Dr. Pearn is member of The Order of Australia and The Order of St. John, Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics, School of Medicine, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia.

Dr. Pearn has worked and published on a broad spectrum of pediatric topics and completed a PhD in London on the Spinal Muscular Atrophies in Childhood. His "appraisal" of drawings of children is well-known in the pediatric literature through his publications.

Dr. Pearn's interest and willingness to help humankind did not stop at the shores of Australia. His medical pursuits took him to the Arctic, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Malaysia, etc. Either with the Australian Army or as a civilian, his primary goal was to make a difference in peoples' lives. His honors are truly too numerous to count, ranging from the Bancroft Medal of the Australian Medical Association, the "Father of the Year" Award, the Service Medal of the Order of St. John, and the Order of Australia (AO) in the General Division in the Queen's Birthday Award for service in medicine, "particularly in the areas of pediatrics and medical ethics, to medical history and to the community through injury prevention and first aid programs." Altogether, his life work includes more than 100 research publications, 60 book chapters, 15 books, numerous other professional writings, papers delivered to International Conferences, service as reviewer, referee, and assessor of grants, publications, books, etc.

Dr. Pearn is a giant in Australian and international medicine, a global historian, humanitarian, and an outstanding candidate for AΩA honorary membership. He truly he has spent a lifetime representing the AΩA ideal: "Be Worthy to Serve the Suffering."

Archie Prentice, MBChB (Glasgow)

As President of the Royal College of Pathologists (RCP) Dr. Archie Prentice leads a professional membership organization dedicated to promoting excellence in the coherent study, research and practice of pathology. The RCP is responsible for maintaining the highest standards through training, assessments, examinations, and professional development for the benefit of the public. Since its foundation the RCP has admitted non-medically trained scientists as fellows of equal standing with their medically trained colleagues. It was the first medical royal college to admit such scientists who also make major contributions to patient care. Under the leadership of Dr. Prentice this inclusiveness has extended to the specialties of embryology, veterinary pathology, and toxicology and also to other disciplines of clinical pathology. Dr. Prentice's leadership has led to continual improvement of examinations, assessment, and training. In addition, the RCP Professional Standards department led all colleges in adopting online portfolios for training and continuous professional development (CPD). Dr. Prentice and those in the Royal College of Pathologists generate approximately sixty-five percent of the data in a patient's chart in the United Kingdom. This is comparable to the contribution of data to patient charts in the United States by those in pathology and laboratory medicine. Dr. Prentice's expertise is in his leadership towards upgrading the examination certification process which affects thousands of trainees. Further information can be found at www.rcpath.org.