

ISSUE

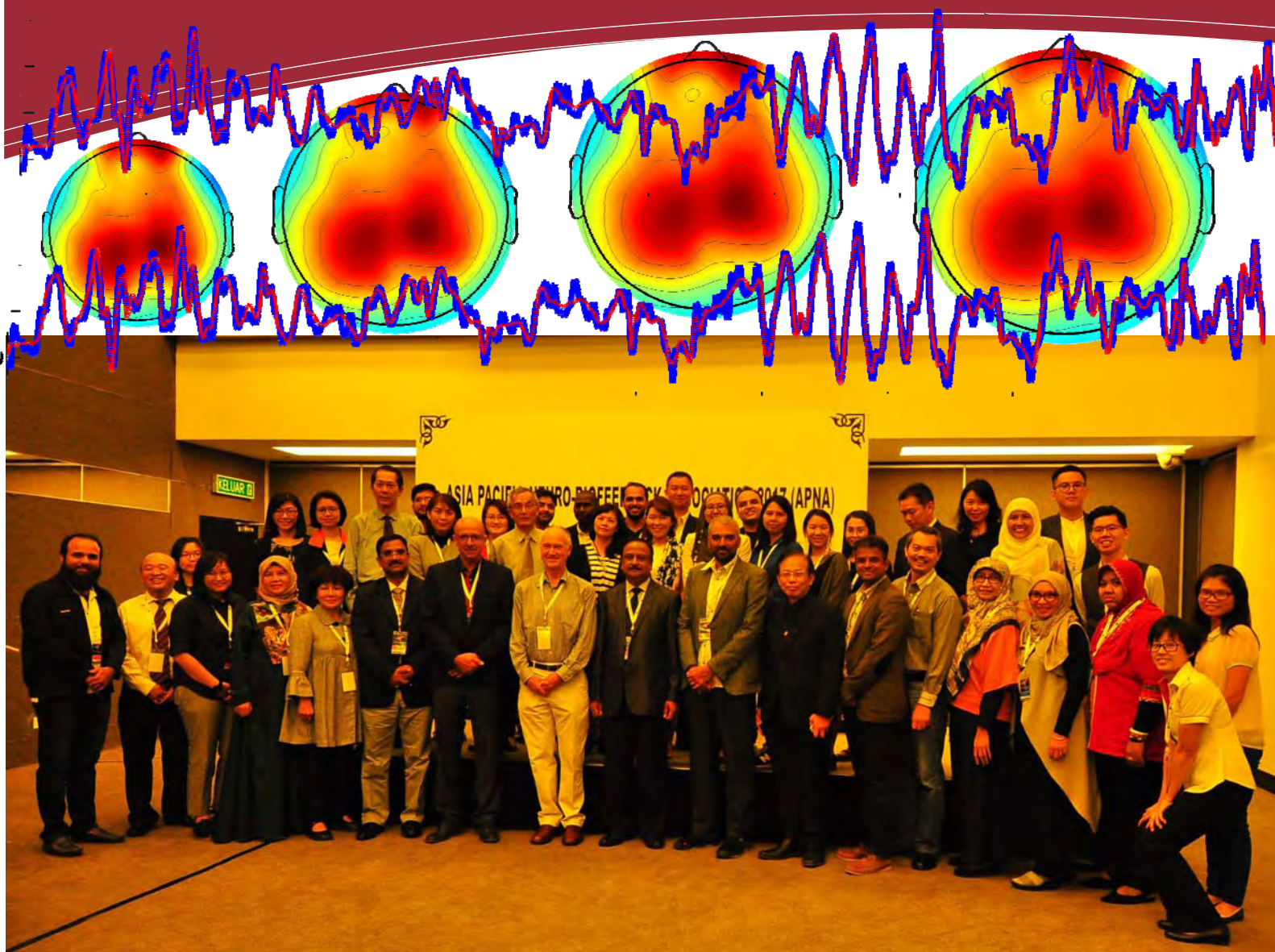
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Neuro-Eastern

BI-ANNUAL Neurofeedback Newsletter



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**"Asia-Pacific
Neurofeedback/biofeed
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20th-21st October 2017,
Kuala Lumpur"**

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Neuro-Eastern

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF'S NOTE

Assoc. Prof. Dr Ibrahima Faye

The Editor-in-Chief, NEURO-EASTERN

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Centre for Intelligent Signal and Imaging Research (CISIR) of Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS. The present issue of NeuroEastern contains a report of the conference, prepared by Dr Hafeezullah.

The conference last October was held just a few months after the passing of Dr Kenneth Kang, who has been the key founder and player in the Asian Neurofeedback community. We are very grateful to Mrs Kang who honored us with her presence during the conference. The current issue contains a tribute to Dr Kenneth Kang by Ms. Low Ting Min.

Lastly, I would like to express the warmest thanks of the APNA community to Dr. Aamir Saeed Malik, who has served as Editor in Chief for the past years. His diligence and creativity have contributed to establish the newsletter as a principal platform in Neurofeedback.

I will appreciate your comments about this issue and your suggestions for next issues.

Ibrahima Faye

Let me introduce myself. I am the new Editor in Chief of NeuroEastern, the newsletter of Asia Pacific Neuro-biofeedback Association (APNA). I am an academician with research interests in signal and image processing, Mathematics, Machine Learning and Education. I am an Associate Professor at the Department of Fundamental and Applied Sciences, and the Centre for Intelligent Signal and Imaging Research, at University Teknologi PETRONAS, Bandar Seri Iskandar, Malaysia.

I am delighted to present to you the 8th issue of NeuroEastern. This January 2018 issue covers the period from July to December 2017, since NeuroEastern is now a biannual newsletter. To start with, I would like to highlight that APNA consists of a mix of clinicians, researchers and people interested in Neurofeedback. This makes it a very rich community, spread across several countries in South East Asia. Neuro-Eastern is an excellent platform to share your research and/or clinical experience and your research projects with other researchers, or even just to describe your team, your expertise, the challenges you are facing, etc. Therefore, I would like to cordially invite all of you to prepare contributions to NeuroEastern by writing short articles that could be included in future issues. Having contributions from various fields and various countries will make this platform strong and lively.

In October 2017, we held the Asia Pacific Neurofeedback/Biofeedback conference in Kuala Lumpur. It was co-organized by APNA and the



Asia Pacific Neuro-biofeedback Association (APNA)

President's Message

Prof. Dato Dr. Susie CM See

It is my sincere pleasure to welcome you to join APNA.

APNA was established to provide an oversight of the field of neurofeedback and biofeedback, so as to promote and expand it, as well as to safeguard consumer interests.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the practitioners and researchers who have come together to help make the establishment of APNA possible. With that, I also want to extend my warmest invitation to anyone who is passionate about this field to come join us and grow this field, hand in hand, with the community for the benefit of mankind.

Brief Description

APNA is a non-profit organization for the purpose of joining the expertise of clinicians and researchers who are involved in health care research, and the clinical applications of neu-

rofeedback and biofeedback for serving society. There is a growing number of professional clinicians, and biomedical and computing engineers, who have expertise in medicine, psychology, therapy, engineering, and the development of new advanced computing solutions to biomedical problems.

These diverse experts started sharing their expertise, joint research collaborations, organizing joint events, and developing their professional networks, under the umbrella of APNA. These activities are at initial stages and expected to peak in the future, including all the countries in the Asia Pacific region. It is very encouraging that the growing network of these professionals is promoting the clinical use of neurofeedback and biofeedback interventions to the general public for maximum benefits. Consequently, it will help people consult certified practitioners of neurofeedback rather than non-certified consultants.

VISION

1. To deepen our understanding of Asian mindfulness and meditation techniques and its health benefits with rigorous science
2. To promote its application in society to improve health, performance and quality of life

MISSION

1. To promote research collaboration between researchers, clinicians and the community
2. To promote professional clinical use of neurofeedback and biofeedback in the AP region
3. To promote awareness of the benefits of neurofeedback and biofeedback to the general public



In Loving Memory of Dr Kenneth Kang (1963 – 2017)

By: Low Ting Min

The demise of Dr. Kenneth Kang was indeed a sad news to many of us and the Asian Neurofeedback community.

Many of us who have crossed paths with him knew him as a kind man, who was passionate, and a visionary in the field of Neurofeedback. In 1995, Dr. Kenneth Kang founded Spectrum Learning – the first Neurofeedback centre in Asia; while the name Neurofeedback was still unheard of in this region. Prior to establishing Spectrum Learning, Dr. Kenneth was teaching in a local school. He wondered why educators ignored the role of the brain in learning; instead, only focusing on pedagogical issues. Driven with his passion and vision, he started exploring brain training for learning.

Through all those years, Spectrum Learning's clientele grew to include a wide variety of special needs children, such as ADHD, autism, Learning Difficulties, epilepsy, as well as peak performance. Dr. Kenneth, then, embarked on developing training methodologies and

treatment protocols. All of us who knew Dr. Kenneth, know that his work has helped to improve the lives of many.

Dr. Kenneth created a Neurofeedback system. Initially, he used an overseas system, but was unhappy with the performance and flexibility. He took it upon himself to develop his own system to add flexibility in implementing the training protocols.

He worked tirelessly to improve the system to cater to clients' therapy needs.



NEXT

Dr. Kenneth advocated a multifaceted discipline. He upheld a holistic approach and incorporated the balancing of biochemistry (through supplements and proper diet), physical exercise and changing attitudes into his programs. He also pioneered a Brain Mapping technique using QEEG, which he called functional QEEG.

With the success of his Brain Trainer Neurofeedback system, Dr. Kenneth launched the first home training program in 2005. This allowed more people to embark on Neurofeedback. The home training program reached out to many overseas parents who were seeking neurofeedback treatment for their special needs children, but were not able to access the therapy as it was not available in their home countries. Many families across the globe have benefited from Neurofeedback through this program.

With his expertise and knowledge in this field, he also started to train practitioners. They include psychologists, psychiatrists, neurologists, medical doctors, nurses, counsellors, educators, psychotherapists, etc. Today, many have successfully integrated neurofeedback into their practice. He knew that only with more trained clinical practitioners coming on board, would the field be able to flourish, especially in our Asian community.

He never said no to conducting talks, workshops at school, community centers, hospitals and universities to promote Neurofeedback. Most of the time, he did it for free.

Dr. Kenneth championed the first Neurofeedback confer-

ence in Asia in 2015. This conference was a historical event, where almost all of the practitioners in the Asia Pacific region got together for the first time to learn from each other, to share experiences and build networks to support professional development in the field of Neurofeedback. At the end of the conference, all clinicians, researchers and public who are passionate in this field came together and formed APNA. Dr. Kang was elected as the first APNA president. That year also marked the 20th anniversary of Spectrum Learning.

Dr. Kenneth has donated many brain trainer systems. Some recipients include Lions Reach Penang, Lions Reach Segamat, Rajanagarindra Institute of Child Development (RICD) in Chiangmai, Suanprung Psychiatric Hospital in Chiangmai and Kiwanis centre for special needs children. He also provided continuous support in training the teachers and professionals in these centres.

Dr. Kenneth Kang lived a life of passion, driven with enthusiasm. His contribution to the development of neurofeedback in Asia will forever be cherished and remembered. Through his work, he became a friend to many of us. His positivity, kindness and heart of giving will be something we hold dear to. He was a man that will be dearly missed.

***A Legacy in not leaving something for people.
It's leaving something IN people ~ Peter Strople***

Thank you, Always!





Asia-Pacific Neurofeedback/biofeedback Conference 20th-21st October 2017, Kuala Lumpur

By: Hafeez Ullah Amin, PhD

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Last year in October, the 3rd Asia-Pacific Neurofeedback/biofeedback Conference was jointly organized by the Asia Pacific Neuro-biofeedback Association (APNA) and the Centre for Intelligent Signal and Imaging Research (CISIR), held at Maya Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This two day conference attracted plenty of clinicians and researchers of neurofeedback and biofeedback from Malaysia and other Asia Pacific countries, including Singapore, Thailand, India and Australia. The conference started with a welcoming speech by the President of APNA, Prof Dato Dr. Susie CM See, followed by her talk on clinical neurofeedback. Vice president Dr. Nidal Kamel from Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS spoke on brain connectivity based neurofeedback training. Key speakers talked on various topics of clinical and research issues of neurofeedback and biofeedback applications. The conference provided a good platform for researchers, clinicians, engineers and doctors to share their knowledge and expertise for better understanding and applications of neurofeedback and biofeedback. On the second day of the conference, the organizers presented a doc-

Jointly organized by Asia Pacific Neuro-biofeedback Association (APNA) and Centre for Intelligent Signal and Imaging Research (CISIR), Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS

umentary of emotions on Dr. Kang (Late), the pioneer of NFB and BFB practices in the Asia Pacific region, as well as the former president of APNA. There were two parallel workshops on the second day of the conference: 1) Neurofeedback Practice: Process and Protocols by SBCIA Neurofeedback, 2) Quantitative EEG for in-Depth Brain Analysis by the researchers of Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS. At the end of the conference, a meeting was scheduled for APNA and SBCIA to discuss current issues and future direction in NFB.

