From the Editor in Chief
Allan Tasman, MD

One of the important responsibilities of our publication is to honor and recognize colleagues who believed in and have made valuable and essential contributions to the important transition of psychiatry from a nationally focused discipline to one which is enhanced through international collaboration. The Pacific Rim College of Psychiatrists was founded by those who believed in the transformative benefits of international educational, clinical, and scholarly collaboration, and in this issue we recognize, honor, and memorialize the contributions of two of the shining stars in leadership of the PRCP who have recently passed away. Professor Eng-Kung Yeh, MD, PhD was one of the founders of the PRCP, and Professor, Fumitaka Noda, MD, PhD, a PRCP leader in the 2000’s. They are remembered here by colleagues who knew them well. Memories of them will live on in us and in future generations in whom a part of them resides as a result of their teachings and leadership.

THEN PLACE YEH OBITUARY FOLLOWED BY NODA OBITUARY

Please include the name of the person or persons who wrote each one following the specific obituary, meaning Shen after Yeh and Akiyama and NG after Noda

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Obituary (with a new photo) of Yeh EK_APPSY_Shen_Final Submitted Version_1-29-2019_2-1-19

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800 words

1 photo

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Eng-Kung Yeh, M.D., Ph.D., 1924 - 2018
Eng-Kung Yeh passed away on December 28, 2018, just three days short of his 94th birthday. He is survived by Shin-Shin, his wife; daughters Gin-Ru and Yu-Ru, daughter; sons Chi-Ping and Show-Ping, son, 8 grandchildren, and 5 great grandchildren.

Eng-Kung Yeh received his M.D. degree from the College of Medicine, National Taiwan University (NTU) in 1949, and doctor of medical science degree from the College of Medicine, Hokkaido University in Sapporo, Japan in 1961. For professional development, he
had attended also and graduated from the University of Louisville, and later Duke University, McGill University, Maudsley Hospital, the Mapperley Hospital, University of Edinburgh, and University of Hawaii (Social Science Research Institute and the East-Western Center), during the period of 1954 and 1962.

In 1966, Yeh left National Taiwan University to be the founding superintendent of Taipei City Psychiatric Center, as a pioneering superintendent of a new psychiatric hospital for the city of Taipei. His efforts made it a world renowned psychiatric institute for research and service as well as having developed an esteemed community care programme known as the Taipei model.

After his retirement from civil service at his age of 65 years in 1989, Eng-Kung Yeh became a fulltime chair professor of Taipei Medical University and service chief of psychiatry at TMU Hospital. There, he led the chair’s case conference twice a month for patients seen in the consultation service at Wan Fang Medical Center, another TMU-affiliated hospital. These teaching case conferences were attended by psychiatric attendings, psychiatric residents, interns, and clerks, as well as students and trainees from all other mental health professional disciplines. At the conferences, he repeatedly stressed the core values of humanity, professionalism, focusing first on the here and now, holistic care, and the critically important role of a respectful and collaborative patient-doctor alliance. He also tirelessly emphasized that excellent clinicians must distinguish “knowledge” vs. “wisdom” and “evidence-based” vs. “problem-solving” approaches in health education. For his special expertise, he was sought to teach at other medical centers including Shin Kong Wo Ho Su Memorial Hospital and Linko Chang-Gung Memorial Hospital.

To recognition of his outstanding contributions in education in psychiatry, TMU established the Eng-Kung Yeh Lecture in 2000. From 2001 till 2017, the annual Eng-Kung Yeh Lecture speakers included such internationally known experts as Joe Yamamoto (USA), Milton H. Miller (USA), Masahisa Nishizono (Japan), and 15 Taiwanese and international
scholars. Yeh was generous in sharing with his colleagues the expertise of his three above-named life-long personal friends to all Taiwanese psychiatrists and mental health professional staff. They were and have been for many decades important to the education and training for Taiwanese psychiatrists and mental health paraprofessional staff in USA and in Japan.

Prof. Yeh’s research topics covered the areas of psychosomatic symptoms, transcultural psychiatry, cross-cultural adaptations, population-based psychiatric epidemiology, family dynamics, and psychiatric aspects of kidney transplantation. In his most cited 1996 *JAMA* article (Weissman et al., 1996) cited 2,696 times counted as of January 2019, E. K. Yeh, H. G. Hwu and other 15 co-investigators from 10 countries found that striking similarities exist in rates and patterns of major depression and bipolar disorder based on 38,000 community cases in cross-national epidemiologic surveys with same interview schedule and designs, but also suggest that cultural differences may affect the expression of major depression. Based on the findings in the Science Citation Institute, Philadelphia, Professor Yeh was one of the most cited scientists in Taiwan during the 1990’s.

Eng-Kung Yeh was instrumental in making psychiatric service as an essential hospital accreditation criterion for accredited medical centers in Taiwan. Due to his efforts, all expenses for the care of psychiatric patients are paid for by National Health Insurance in Taiwan. To honor Professor Yeh’s contribution in psychiatric service, Taiwan president Eng-Wen Tsai personally attended the farewell ceremony at his funeral in Taipei on January 19, 2019.

Prof. Yeh was also devoted to working for Taiwanese democracy, social justice, as well as his pursuits in academia, and for the benefits of globalization of psychiatry. Prof. Yeh’s proud two sons-in-law and one son have been well-accomplished academicians. Following his inspirational role in founding the Pacific Rim College of Psychiatry, many of his students and colleagues have devoted themselves to working to improve cross national collaboration in psychiatry. The hundreds of psychiatrists and thousands of other professional
mental health staff in Taiwan that he has inspired will assure his legacy will go on for
generations into the future. (An expanded version of this obituary is also published in
Taiwanese Journal of Psychiatry (www.e-tip.org), the official journal of Taiwanese
Psychiatric Society.

Professor Winston W. Shen

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Obituary

Fumitaka Noda M.D. Ph.D.

February 8, 1948 – January 3, 2019

A great star within the universe of psychiatry has fallen. Professor Fumitaka Noda, a leader in cross-cultural psychiatry, passed away at the age of 70 on the third day of 2019 in Japan. Fumitaka Noda had served as a past president of the Pacific Rim College of Psychiatrists (PRCP) from 2008 – 2010, and was a founding member of Japanese Society of Transcultural Psychiatry (JSTP) and World Association of Cultural Psychiatry (WACP).

He completed his medical degree at Chiba University in 1984 and received his clinical psychiatric training both in Japan and Canada. Within a decade, he was promoted to Professor of Psychiatry at Division of Human Welfare, Taisho University in 1999 as well as Adjunct Professor of Department of Psychiatry, University of British Columbia in 2000. He was also a visiting academic at National Ochanomizu Women College, National Kobe University and McGill University. He obtained his PhD (Medicine) from Kochi University, Japan in 2005.

Professor Noda was highly active in many professional psychiatry bodies internationally. He served as President of PRCP, President, JSTP, Co-chair, World Psychiatric Association (WPA), Transcultural Psychiatric Section and Board member of WACP. He was the Congress Chair of the very successful 13th Pacific Rim College of Psychiatrists Meeting in Tokyo. Twice, he was the Congress Chair of the JSTP, WPA Transcultural Psychiatric Section and WACP Joint Meeting in Kamakura (2007) and in Yokohama (2002).
He published widely and presented at numerous international conferences in the field of cross-cultural psychiatry, community mental health, psychiatric rehabilitation, and mental health of ethnic minorities and migrants. A major area of his research interest was in mental health help-seeking behavior of ethnic minorities.

Fumitaka Noda was a psychiatrist with a deep humanistic orientation and progressive attitude. Due to his appreciation of international perspectives he created various mental health services in Japan for migrant and minority populations. He also was deeply involved in an international psychiatric and social justice interchange in Cambodia in which he involved a number of leaders of PRCP. For his contribution to the development of mental health services for the Japanese Canadians in Vancouver he received an Award from the Japanese Consul General in Vancouver in 2000. He was passionate about the training of cultural psychiatry in Japan and worldwide, and promoted career development in transcultural psychiatry among psychiatrists internationally.

He had served as a consultant for the Japanese Organization for Employment of the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Japan. Further, he was an important contributor to the development of community mental health services in Japan, particularly for those suffering from chronic mental illness and those affected by natural disasters. In 2011, he substantially contributed to the development of mental health care for the communities affected by the Fukushima earthquake and tsunami.

His funeral on January 27, 2019 was attended by his family, many friends and colleagues. As a touching tribute, his daughter Yuko read “Today is a very good day to die,” a poem which he himself had selected for the funeral. His wife Masako said that although he had still wished to do...
so much more, he lived life to its fullest, always with vigor, energy and passion. Indeed, Fumitaka Noda left a wonderful legacy to psychiatry in Japan and the world.

Tsuyoshi Akiyama and Chee H. Ng (PRCP)