

AFES 2009: Triumphant in Thailand



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Queen Sirikit National Convention Center welcomed 1,600 delegates from 33 countries as Thailand hosted the 15th Congress of the ASEAN Federation of Endocrine Society (AFES) last November 28 to December 1, 2009. The tourist friendly city of Bangkok successfully unveiled AFES 2009 with the theme “*The Art and Science of Endocrinology: From Evidence to Practice*”, which was participated in by a significant number of delegates from the Philippines. It goes without saying that the 15th Congress was a success not just because of the number of attendees but more so because of the up-to-date and informative scientific sessions. Internationally recognized personalities from the region as well as from the USA— Profs William Young, Michael Bush, Rebecca Bahn, James Garrity , and Europe— Prof. Andrew Krentz (UK), Malcolm Natrass (UK), Peter Jans Lansberg, Louis Gooren (Netherlands), and Prof. F. Casanueva (Spain) among others, delivered the engaging sessions . Not to be out done, the Philippines was well represented in the scientific program since most of the past presidents of the Philippine Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism (PSEM) and current board of directors participated in either as speakers or chairpersons. The following gave lectures in the convention proper:

- Inspiration for the set up of the ASEAN Diabetes Educator Association
Speaker: **Prof. Augusto D. Litonjua**
- Traditional Filipino Foods and Diabetes
Speaker: **Ms. Nieves C. Serra**
- Male Osteoporosis
Speaker: **Prof. Mary Anne Lim-Abrahan**
- Testosterone Therapy In Aging Male: When Is It Justified?
Speaker: **Assoc. Prof. Joselynna Añel-Quimpo**
- *Target the Defects, Treat the disease with Thiazolidinediones*
Speaker: **Dr. Jorge A. Sison**
- Turner’s Syndrome
Speaker: **Prof. Lorna Abad**





The delegates were treated to a healthy serving of varied scientific lectures covering the whole spectrum of endocrinology and metabolism. Day 3 of the convention on the other hand showed the talents of the region's endocrinologists since the congress banquet included a variety show presentation from the participating countries. True to form, the PSEM showed its wares by presenting a heart-tugging rendition of Josh Groban's "You Raise Me Up" featuring a video collage of the wrath of typhoon Ondoy. This was followed by the energetic dance number "Insomnia" by David Craig and "Nobody" by the Wonder Girls... The PSEM number was truly a show stopper that wowed the audience. Our members became instant celebrities that night which again strengthened the bond between the AFES members. It was indeed a fun-filled night that capped a truly entertaining fact-filled congress in Bangkok. Bottom-line, AFES 2009 was triumphant in Thailand. Come November next year... see you in Ho Chi Min City in Vietnam for AFES 2010.

