

From the Editor

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This is the first issue of the Sri Lanka Journal of Dermatology — the official publication of the Sri Lanka Association of Dermatologists. Though there was a long felt need it was only in 1985 that the association was inaugurated. It was mainly through the efforts of Dr W D H Perera, the present President of the Association, that a group of 10 dermatologists met on the 5th of October 1985, in the Council room of the Sri Lanka Medical Association. A draft constitution for the Association was prepared and presented at the inaugural general meeting held on the 19th October 1985. There were 13 founder members. The constitution was adapted and Dr Lakshman Ranasinghe was elected as the first president. Dr Guntur Schwenzer, a member of the German Dermatological Society and advisor to the Society of Dermatologic Surgery in Germany was an invited participant at this inaugural meeting. He represented Dr Enno Christophers, the President of the German Association of Dermatology and brought greetings and offers of co-operation from the German dermatologists.

The first anniversary academic sessions was held on the 5th and 6th of October 1986 and the German Dermatologic Society extended an active co-operation. Prof Enno Christophers, Dr Gunter Schwenzer and Prof Max Hundeiker participated as resource persons for these sessions.

The Association has in the past years been active in its aims of advancing knowledge and promoting research in dermatology and promoting postgraduate and continuing medical education. In 1995 through the efforts of the Association a board of study in dermatology has been set up in the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine of the University of Colombo. An ambitious programme of training for the MD in dermatology has now been approved.

This year we have the joint meeting of the Association with the Dowling Club with the participation of about 40 dermatologists from the United Kingdom.

The Journal we hope marks another forward step in the academic activities of the Association.

D N Atukorala

Editor