Warm greetings to all our Fellows.

We gather once again this year for our 53rd Annual Convention at the EDSA ShangriLa Plaza Hotel to rub elbows and renew friendships with one another, and at the same time focus on and sharpen our knowledge and expertise on the Larynx and its various areas of nuances, and the other subspecialties as well. I commend and congratulate the 2009 Organizing Committee headed by Dr. William Lim for working tirelessly and silently in its preparation, and for surmounting innumerable odds that faced them early this year.

Our midyear convention at Tagbilaran, Bohol last April was a phenomenal success, well attended and generated the highest revenue so far among all our midyears, all due to our full participation, generous sponsors and the wholehearted support of our pharmaceutical friends. Most of all, our thanks to the very enthusiastic group of Dr. Eduardo Arcenas of the Central-Eastern Visayas chapter.

It is truly a tough act to follow. And Tagaytay, breezy and ever verdant, beacons as our next summer getaway next year, and the BOT has been repeatedly assured that all things have been ironed out as early as now. How exhilarating!

And we are now in the thick of preparation for our 2010 Annual Convention on October 2010, which coincides with the IFHNOS World Tour on Head and Neck Surgery Course. We pray for the Lord’s guidance and support to make it as resounding successful as our previous ones. We hold high expectations because of its international caliber, its line up of world renowned head and neck experts from all over the world, as well as its local counterparts who will serve as local experts in head and neck surgery. Dr. Alfredo Pontejos and his working committees deserve our much needed help and encouragement in the light of the unexpected financial turnabout that has struck the drug industry which has been solidly partnering with us in our activities. Difficult times lie ahead of us but let us not be daunted and keep our sights on our goals.

Our society has had a steadfast track record for the past years. We have repeatedly shone and our resilience has been demonstrated time and again in various times of want, disasters and calamities. From our rank and file to the leadership, we are blessed to have people who have continually stood up to face problems head on and squarely.

This year and the next will be no different from the others with the Lord’s help, and we are confident that from our society will emerge more of us Fellows with commitment, grit and determination that will make us PUSH on and achieve our objectives.

Mabuhay and God bless us all.

JACOB S. MATUBIS, MD, FPSO-HNS
President, PSOHNS