It is again with great pleasure, in my capacity as the President of the International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS), to offer my heartfelt congratulations to Professor Ludmila Filaretova, who together with her staff at the Pavlov Institute of Physiology, Russian Academy of Sciences, has made the Russian Conference on “Integrative Physiology” held in the beautiful city of Saint Petersburg a memorial experience for all participants. I would also extend my personal gratitude to Professor Jayasree Sengupta, Chairperson of the Board of the General Assembly (BGA) of IUPS and Former Professor and Head, Department of Physiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India, for her incredible efforts in preparing this outstanding Report.

This Conference is dedicated to the 170 Anniversary of the birth of Academician Ivan P. Pavlov, the first physiologist awarded with Nobel Prize and the first laureate from Russia for his work in integrated and systems physiology. Over the past decades, talented scientists from the Pavlov Institute of Physiology continued to devote their research efforts on integrative physiology that contributed significantly to strengthening physiology as the basis for medicine. It is therefore most fitting that the Russian Conference on “Integrative Physiology” is hosted by this Institute.

IUPS is a collective of societies from the global physiological community. As denoted by our motto “Physiology without borders”, the mission of IUPS is to foster the study of physiology worldwide. I am therefore most appreciative that physiologists from around the globe have accepted the invitation to join their Russian colleagues to brainstorm on the future of “Integrative Physiology”. Human life in its fullest form represents a well-coordinated operational framework that integrates every level of functional execution, one that links genes, proteins, cells and organs to the whole body, a process we call physiology. My personal view is that this collective wisdom was amply represented by the contents of the lectures in this Conference.

Julie Y.H. Chan
President, IUPS