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ASIO Newsletter

February 2011

Editors: Saryu Goel, Mamta Behl, Prasad Krishnan, Vinayak Srinivasan, & Vikrant Vijay

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear ASIO member:

We are only a few days away from the Annual meeting. We will be having our Annual reception on **March 7, Monday from 6:00 -7:30 pm at Salon H of the Convention Center**. On behalf of ASIO, I would like to take this opportunity to personally invite you to the reception. I strongly encourage you to browse through this newsletter to read about some of the events we have planned this year. This year onwards, we have doubled the number of student and post doc awards. So we will have a total of 6 awards, in addition to an International travel award. This year we had a record number of applicants for the student/post doc awards. We had a very aggressive membership campaign this year and as a result of which our membership increased considerably. We are still covering only 50% of SOT members of Indian origin and our target is to cover 95% of these members by 2015. ASIO have come a long way from a national branch of ASIOA to one of the leading special interest group of SOT. As part of this transition, we are in the process of aligning our by laws and guidelines with that of SOT. One of the major things that we are focusing is to maintain transparency in procedures, be it election or award nomination. I promise you that you will see a lot of changes in years to come. I've the opportunity to serve in collaboration council of SOT and I found that several SIGs are finding it hard to even have their reception at SOT. As you all know, it costs a lot of money to have a reception at SOT meeting. But thanks to several members, who serve in the sponsorship committee, financially we are in good shape. We will be providing light refreshments during the annual reception. Being perfect is near to impossible and I believe we have our own share of shortcomings. I would appreciate, if you let me know your feedbacks by emailing me at binu.philip@bms.com or any of the BODs. As always, we welcome anyone who is interested in facing challenges and ready to work without expectations. Looking forward to meet you all at Washington DC.

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ASIO PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP

ASIO members are requested to assist with fund raising by contacting Binu Philip, ASIO President (bkphilip2010@gmail.com) with names of potential donor(s) so that official ASIO sponsorship letters could be sent with your support. All suggestions are greatly appreciated by ASIO Executive committee.

ASIO ANNUAL RECEPTION

When: Monday, 7 March 2011, 6:00—7:30 PM

Where: Salon H, Washington Convention Center

Guest Speaker: Dr. Natwar M. Gandhi, CFO, District of Columbia

Join us for the grand evening filled with inspirational talk and entertainment!

2011 ASIO AWARD LIST

ASIO will be presenting NINE awards, a record high, made possible thanks to generous donations from our sponsors

- **Dr. Laxman Desai Graduate Student Best Abstract Award (2 awards)**
- **Dr. Harihara Mehendale Graduate Student Best Abstract Award (2 awards)**
- **Dr. Dharm Singh Postdoctoral Fellow Best Abstract Award (2 awards)**
- **International Travel Award (1 award)**
- **Achievement Award for Contribution to the Field of Toxicology**
Award Recipient: Dr. Moiz Mumtaz
- **Senior Member Award for Contribution to ASIO**
Award Recipient: Dr. Gopala Krishna

All remaining award recipients will be announced at the ASIO reception

LUNCH N LEARN (LNL) at SOT 2011

When: Tuesday, March 8, 2011 Time: 12- 1.30 PM

Where: Room # 141, Walter E. Washington Convention Center

Experts: **Dr. William Slikker**, Director of NCTR and current Vice president-Elect for SOT council
Mr. Terry Leyden, President, The Leyden Group, leading Toxicology recruiter

Purpose of LNL: ASIO-LNL 2011 program committee invites all students and post-doc's of Indian origin, that are at different stages of their careers to attend this program and bring a diverse and challenging set of questions to the speakers to avail the speakers enormous expertise. This would certainly be a unique opportunity for students and post-doctoral students to interact and ask questions to experts carefully chosen with different expertise in the field of Toxicology. It would be an enriching experience and good networking opportunity for all the participants.

Due to an overwhelming response, RSVPs are closed at this time.

If you would like to learn more about the LNL program, please feel free to drop an e-mail to Vikrant Vijay at vikrantvijay.tox@gmail.com.

Achievement Award for Contribution to the Field of Toxicology**Award Recipient: Dr. Moiz Mumtaz**

Dr. Moiz Mumtaz is Science Advisor at Computational Toxicology and Methods Development Laboratory, Division of Toxicology and Environmental Medicine, ATSDR, Atlanta, GA. In 1987, Dr. Mumtaz joined the Office of Research and Development, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency where his research interests continued and included chemical mixtures found at hazardous waste sites. He has served on several national and international workgroups and committees including the NIOSH Mixed Exposures Work Group, National Occupational Research Agenda, Research Working Group of Military and Veterans Health Coordinating Board, the Health Impact of Chemical Exposures during the Gulf War, Interagency Air Assessment Team on Kuwaiti Crude Oil Fires, the CDC's Cigarette Ingredients Toxicology Analysis Working Group and EPA Guidelines Work Group for the Health Risk Assessment of Chemical Mixtures. Dr. Mumtaz is author/co-author of about 80 publications including peer-reviewed articles and/or book chapters. He has been a member of the SOT since 1992 and has served the SOT in the following capacities: President of Mixtures Specialty Section, member of the Anti-terrorism Task Force and the Scientific Liaison Task Force.

Senior Member Award for Contribution to ASIO**Award Recipient: Dr. Gopala Krishna**

Dr. Gopala Krishna is Senior Director & Head of Preclinical R & D at Supernus Pharmaceuticals, Rockville, MD. He received a PhD in Genetic Toxicology & Developmental Biology from West Virginia University in 1984 and was an NAS/NRC postdoctoral fellow at National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (WV) and Oak Ridge National Laboratories (TN) from 1984-1986 studying molecular mechanisms of drug-induced toxicity. In 1986, Dr. Krishna joined Pfizer where his research continued in drug discovery, development and regulatory toxicology resulting in marketed drugs such as: Lipitor, Neurontin, Lyrica, Rezulin and Nipent. In the last 10 years, he has worked for Abbott Labs, MGI Pharma, Enzon Pharma and is currently at Supernus. He served as Adjunct Professor of Toxicology in the School of Public Health at the University of Michigan. He has been an expert reviewer of grants for NIH and NIEHS. Dr. Krishna has published ~60 articles and 70 abstracts and has been on the editorial board and Guest Editor of Mutation Research. He has been an SOT member since 1987 and served as ASIO Secretary, Vice President, and President. Dr. Krishna has been credited for his untiring efforts in establishing 3 ASIO Endowment funds and an International Travel Award for the first time, in collaboration with ASIO-SOT leadership and the membership, at large.



2011 SOT ANNUAL MEETING AWARD RECIPIENTS

Saber Hussain AstraZeneca Traveling Lectureship Award

Vijay More Colgate-Palmolive Awards for Student Research Training in Alternative Methods

CHAIRPERSONS & PRESENTORS AT 2011 SOT ANNUAL MEETING

Continuing Education Session

Mayurranjan S. Mitra
Srikanth S. Nadadur
Manu M. Sebastian
Kannan Krishnan
Moiz Mumtaz
Sudin Bhattacharya
Srikanth S. Nadadur
B. Bhaskar Gollapudi
Hirdesh Uppal

Poster Session

Narendra Singh
Saurabh Chatterjee
Raj Krishnaraj
Vijay Kale
Rakesh Ranjan
Sidhartha Ray
Seema Somji
Neera Tewari-Singh
Bhagavatula Moorthy
Deepak Bhalla
Senthilkumar PK

Education-Career Development Session

Sneha Bhatia

Workshop Session

Saber Hussain
Anumantha Kanthasamy
Syed Ali
Moiz Mumtaz
Urmila Kodavanti

Historical Highlights Session

Brinda Mahadevan

Informational Session

Harihara Mehendale

Symposia Session

N. Sathiakumar
S. Biswal

Informational Session

Nandita Shangari
Dinesh Stanislaus

Platform Session

B. Bhaskar Gollapudi
Gunda Reddy

BOOK RELEASE

Biomarkers: In Medicine, Drug Discovery, and Environmental Health.

Editors. Vishal S. Vaidya and Joseph V. Bonventre, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Hoboken, NJ, 2010

ASIO member, Dr. Vishal S. Vaidya, an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, served as a primary editor on book titled Biomarkers: In Medicine, Drug Discovery, and Environmental Health. This book provides an introduction to the field of biomarkers, how they have been and can be used, and how different approaches can be used to identify, characterize, and monitor biomarkers. The book includes chapters on HIV, Cancer, Parkinson's, vascular injury, environmental exposure. A following section discusses the technologies (diagnostics and assays) to detect biomarkers and authors have emphasized the preclinical and clinical manifestation of the injury/disease process.

ASIO 2010 DIPLOMATES OF AMERICAN BOARD OF TOXICOLOGY

Congratulations !!! to Diplomates for their hard work and tremendous achievement. Overall, 102 candidates passed DABT exam worldwide in 2010, of this 30 (25%) were of Indian origin. We are also proud of high number (15) of certifications from India. The scientists of Indian origin is the single block achieving highest DABT certification.

S.No	Name	Company/Institute	Country
1	Girish B. Chandrashekaraiiah
2	Ashok Dua	University of Guelph	Canada
3	H. Krishnappa	Advinus Therapeutics Limited	India
4	R. Mathiyazhagan	Connexious	India
5	Milind Devidas Deore	Johnson & Johnson	India
6	Minakshi Singh	Lupin Limited	India
7	Moole Praveen Kumar Reddy	Biocon	India
8	Narendra S. Deshmukh	Intox	India
9	G.B. Pradeep Kumar	Advinus Therapeutics Limited	India
10	S.M. Prathap Kumar	Advinus Therapeutics Limited	India
11	Salim Ramjan Tamboli	Lupin Limited	India
12	C.R. Santhosh	Vimta Labs Limited	India
13	Shekar S. Chelur	Aurigene Discovery Tech.	India
14	P. Sivanesan	Panacea Biotech	India
15	Srinivasan M. Rajaram	Syngene International	India
16	Syed Manzoor Sulaiman	Advinus Therapeutics Limited	India
17	V. Chandrashekar	Ranbaxy Research Lab.	India
18	Bhanu Pratap Singh	Dupont	USA
19	Gondi N Kumar	Celgene	USA
20	Jaya Chilakapati	Alcon Research Ltd	USA
21	Karamjeet Pandher	Pfizer Inc	USA
22	Karuna Sachdeva	Toxikon	USA
23	Kavita George	Johnson & Johnson	USA
24	Mamidi N V S Rao	Johnson & Johnson	USA
25	Neelima Sanakkayala	Covance Laboratories Inc.	USA
26	Sachin Bhusari	University of Wisconsin	USA
27	Sharmilee Prabhakar Sawant	Kimberly Clark Corporation	USA
28	Sushmita Mukherjee Chanda	Alios BioPharma	USA
29	Virunya S. Bhat	NSF International	USA
30	Vivek Chander Mathrani	University of California	USA

Congratulations all!

MEMBERSHIP

Renew your membership today!!

How: Online through the SOT website.
<http://www.toxicology.org/membership.asp?page=dues>

Member Benefits: Free for Students and Postdocs (first SIG membership free).

Good way to be united and updates with your fellow-scientists

Learn more about awards and ASIO sponsored events

Opportunity to volunteer and contribute to the scientific community

For further information, contact any of the committee members

<http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/asio/index.asp>

**ASIO SPONSORS****Diamond Sponsor****Gold Sponsors**

Vanta Bioscience

**Silver Sponsor****Other Sponsors**

See you all in DC in March 2011

Looking to play an active role in advancing our organization?

We need members like you to come forward and serve on the executive board. All we need is your energy and enthusiasm! How can we serve better? Let us know by emailing Vinayak Srinivasan (vsrinivasan@re.us.lore.com).