

ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTISTS OF INDIAN ORIGIN

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER



Editors

Manasi Kotulkar
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Inside this issue:

| | |
|-------------------------------|----|
| President's Message..... | 2 |
| ASIO Annual Reception..... | 3 |
| ASIO Sponsored Sessions..... | 4 |
| Talk with Toxperts..... | 5 |
| ASIO Webinars..... | 6 |
| ASIO Member Achievements..... | 7 |
| ASIO Sponsors..... | 10 |
| Call for Volunteers..... | 11 |

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

February 2024 NEWSLETTER



Ashwini Phadnis Moghe,
PhD, DABT
ASIO President, 2023-2024

Dear ASIO members,

I cannot believe that the 63rd SOT Annual meeting in Salt Lake City is less than 3 weeks away! It feels like yesterday we welcomed the new year – and since then, we have just been racing forward. I hope that you are gearing up for the meeting, polishing your posters, finalizing your presentations, and packing your skis! I look forward to welcoming you all at the ASIO SIG Annual Reception and Business meeting on Monday, March 11th from 6:30 PM–8:30 PM at the Hyatt Regency (Headquarter Hotel) - Salt Lake Ballroom D. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending to enjoy some refreshments while networking with your peers. At the reception, we will be announcing the ASIO awardees and the 2024-2025 ballot results, and hope that you all attend to celebrate the accomplishments of your fellow scientists.

The ASIO Executive Committee has been working hard to host enriching events throughout the year. We are excited to continue the tradition of bringing networking events to benefit the student/postdoc community and therefore, we will be hosting the “Talk with Toxperts” event this year as well. The event will feature a panel of Toxicology experts who have made successful career transitions. The “Talk with Toxperts” event will be held prior to the ASIO Reception on Monday, March 11, from 5:15 PM–6:15 PM at Hyatt Regency Hotel in Salt Lake Ballroom D. More information on this event is included in the newsletter. I would like to thank our Postdoctoral and Graduate Student Representatives, Gagandeep Kaur and Manasi Kotulkar, respectively, for spearheading this event. Networking events are pivotal to our mission, and I hope that the students and postdocs will make use of these in-person opportunities to network. In addition, there are several noteworthy CE, workshop, education career development, and symposium sessions at the Annual Meeting featuring ASIO members, which I hope you plan on attending.

As this is one of the concluding newsletters for my tenure as President, I also wanted to highlight the efforts taken by the current Executive Committee in 2023-2024. ASIO hosted three webinars on different scientific topics this year, which were spearheaded by Sudin Bhattacharya and Gagandeep Kaur. I commend their efforts, as the webinars take an incredible amount of coordination and proactive planning. You can read more about them in the newsletter and access the recordings on the ASIO website. In addition, I also appreciate that as one of the SIGs with the largest number of awards, ‘award application review’ is perhaps one of the most important activities undertaken in December and January. I would like to thank Satya Achanta (Sr. Councilor-Chair of the Awards Committee) and Aditya Joshi (Jr. Councilor- Co-Chair) for all their efforts this year. They dealt with an unprecedented number of award applications and the new SOT Apply system very well. A huge shout out to Shama Ahmad who, as Treasurer, kept us real with the budget, meeting minutes, and action items. Lastly, thanks to Saurabh Vispute, whose advice was valuable while planning the events. Our Annual Meeting reception, Toxperts events, and awards wouldn’t be possible without generous individual, corporate, and endowment sponsorship. These contributions to ASIO are vital to our functioning and our mission.

I would like to thank the entire ASIO membership for giving me an opportunity to serve as your President. Thanks to Ilycia Silver who has been a steadfast liaison and support, and the volunteer(s) who helped with the newsletters and in judging award applications. It has been a very fulfilling experience to lead ASIO this year, and it wouldn’t have been possible without a fantastic Executive Committee. Thank you all for your continued support and interest in ASIO.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Salt Lake City!

Warm Regards,
Ashwini Phadnis Moghe, PhD, DABT
ASIO-SIG President (2023-2024)

ASIO ANNUAL RECEPTION

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER



We cordially invite you to our Annual ASIO Reception

An evening to network and bond with fellow toxicologists/students/postdocs

Please join us to congratulate the awardees, acknowledge the support of our donors and sponsors, meet the ASIO committee members and volunteers, and enjoy delicious food!

When: March 11, 2024

5:15 PM–6:15 PM: ASIO Talk with Toxperts

6:30 PM–8:30 PM: ASIO Annual Reception

Where:

Hyatt Regency

Salt Lake Ballroom D

ASIO ENDORSED SESSIONS

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Education-Career Development Session:

Decoding the Role of a Project Toxicologist in the
(Bio)Pharmaceutical Industry

**Monday, March 11,
4:45 PM to 6:05 PM,
Grand Ballroom B**

Chair(s):

Vijay Kale, Bristol Myers Squibb;

Satheesh Anand, Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Inc

Workshop Session:

Reducing Use of Nonhuman Primates in
Oncology Drug Development: A 3R-Based IQ
DruSafe/Industry/US FDA Perspective

**Tuesday, March 12,
3:00 PM to 4:30 PM,
Grand Ballroom J**

Chair(s):

Kaushik Datta, Bristol Myers Squibb;

Smita Salian-Mehta, Gilead Sciences Inc.

Workshop Session:

Update on the Development of Medical
Countermeasures and Biomarkers against
Pulmonary Chemical Threat Agents

**Wednesday, March 13,
1:30 PM to 4:15 PM,
Room 251 D**

Chair(s):

Satya Achanta, Duke University School of Medicine

TALK WITH TOXPERTS

February 2024 NEWSLETTER

“Navigating career transitions in toxicology”

Our Toxperts



Souvarish Sarkar

University of Rochester
Medical Center



Mansi Krishan

Meta Reality Labs



Sachin Bhusari

The Coca-Cola Company



March 11, 2024



5:15 PM–6:15 PM



Hyatt Regency
Salt Lake Ballroom D

You are not required to register for this event, but prepare yourself for delightful refreshments!

WEBINARS HOSTED BY ASIO

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

ASIO hosted three webinars in 2023-2024 that were a huge success and received great participation:



Title: Epidemiology Should Guide Toxicology of the Exposome

Speaker: Dr. Vrinda Kalia

Date: April 14, 2023



Title: Path of my exposure to toxicology and research on toxic chemical exposures

Speaker: Dr. Neera Tewari-Singh

Date: December 11, 2023



Title: What's in your make up- Product Safety Evaluation of Cosmetics

Speaker: Dr. Prajakta Shimpi

Date: January 26, 2024

The recordings of these webinars are available [here](#)

Have suggestions on future webinar topics? Please contact [ASIO officers](#)

ASIO MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

| ASIO Member | Accomplishments |
|--|---|
| <p>Brinda Mahadevan Brincor Associates LLC</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-821261-5.00007-6 |
| <p>Dinesh Babu University of Alberta, Canada</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded Alberta Innovates Postdoctoral Fellowship in Health Innovation 2+1 Program (PFHI 2+1) • Joined as a postdoctoral fellow at the Li Ka Shing Applied Virology Institute under the supervision of Nobel Laureate Sir Michael Houghton • Completed the Lab2Market Discover certification program from Mitacs Canada • Publication: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rbc.2023.100013 |
| <p>Dweet Chhaya The Jackson Laboratory</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defended thesis • Presented poster at SOT Annual Meeting • Joined as Research Assistant 2 in the Rare Disease Translational Center at The Jackson Laboratory |
| <p>Hemraj B. Dodiya, MS, PhD, DABT Neurocrine Biosciences Inc.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earned DABT certification |
| <p>Prof. Ghadevaru Sarathchandra TANUVAS</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superannuated from TANUVAS • Joined the Executive Committee, STOX India |
| <p>Mahesh Rachamalla PhD student</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earned DABT certification • Graduate service fellowship from University of Saskatchewan • Best Poster Award in GSA research conference in December, 2023 at University of Saskatchewan • Publications - PMID: 37672889, PMID: 37164085, PMID: 38267778 |
| <p>Mayukh Banerjee University of Louisville</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented three posters • Awarded Discovery Boost Grant from the American Cancer Society |

ASIO MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

| ASIO Member | Accomplishments |
|--|---|
| <p>Nandini Bidarimath Ph.D. candidate at Southern University and A&M College</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented poster at LBRN meeting Awarded LBRN Summer graduate student grant and CAHES grant |
| <p>Pavani Gonnabathula CDC</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defended thesis Publication https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-821261-5.00007-6 |
| <p>Rahul Kumar Graduate student North Carolina State University, Raleigh NC</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young Investigator Award at Annual STP Symposium Student Travel Award to attend Annual STP Symposium North American Graduate Fellowship at ACT Annual Meeting Publication - https://doi.org/10.3390/pathogens13020106 |
| <p>Dr. Rohan Kulkarni Barinthus Biotherapeutics</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joined Barinthus Biotherapeutics as the Global Head of Toxicology and Pharmacology |
| <p>Dr. Satya Achanta Duke University School of Medicine</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fmed.2024.1356769/full PMID: 38318664 PMID: 38050077 PMID: 37953022 In the news: Love spicy food? Hate it? Watch a hot wing's trip through your body. |
| <p>Dr. Shilpa Thota Louisiana State University</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defended thesis Awarded SOT Travel Award Received Honorable Mention Award in South East Regional IDeA Conference |

ASIO MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

| ASIO Member | Accomplishments |
|---|---|
| <p>Sidhartha D. Ray Touro University College of Pharmacy</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Professor of the Year- 2023 (Touro University College of Pharmacy)• American Nutrition Association's National Ragus Award• Served as one of the Editors of 'Encyclopedia of Toxicology- 4th edition; Editor-in-Chief: Side Effects of Drugs Annual for Best Publication• Provided a 3 hr. lecture on Immunotoxicology to U. Washington School of Pharmacy's graduate program.• Reviewed an international grant proposal on behalf of 'Mitacs' Canada• Publications - https://www.sciencedirect.com/bookseries/side-effects-of-drugs-annual/vol/45/suppl/C |
| <p>Sudin Bhattacharya Michigan State University</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promoted to Associate Professor (tenure)• Invited talk - Deep Generative Learning of Single Cell Gene Expression to predict Dose-Dependent Chemical Perturbations, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, India• Elected President-Elect, ASIO• Conducted "Introduction to Physiologically Based Toxicokinetic (PBTk) / Pharmacokinetic (PBPK) Modeling Workshop", Michigan State University• Visiting Faculty appointment, Biosciences and Bioengineering, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay• Publications - PMID: 3770779, PMID: 37602218 |
| <p>Suresh K. Nagumalli Staff fellow, National Center for Toxicological Research, Food and Drug Administration</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Publication https://doi.org/10.3390/analytica5010003 |
| <p>Tauqeerunnisa Syeda Corteva Agriscience</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Started new position as research toxicologist at Corteva Agriscience |

ASIO SPONSORS

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Mehendale**

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Dr. Anumantha Kanthasamy

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Thanks to all our sponsors for their generous donations!

Please Consider a Donation to ASIO

Your contribution will be primarily used for ASIO activities at the SOT Annual Meeting and the career advancement of our members. It will also be used to provide early career toxicologists an opportunity to enhance their training, and provide current members of the toxicology community a path to enrich their ongoing careers as toxicologists and promote diversity within the field of toxicology.

To donate, please visit- [SOT ASIO](#) | [Sponsors](#)

JOIN ASIO

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Student and Postdoctoral Representatives will be in attendance at the mixer on Sunday, March 10th. Please seek us out for any further inquiries



Membership

- Network with fellow Indian-origin toxicologists around the globe
- Get involved and participate in ASIO activities



VOLUNTEERS

- Volunteering opportunities for students, postdocs and professionals
- To explore the possibility of serving on an ASIO committee, please visit [ASIO Committees](#)

JOIN US

ASIO MEMBERSHIP



**FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE REACH OUT**

**ASIO
Executive
Committee**