

ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTISTS OF INDIAN ORIGIN

MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER

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Editors

Rahul Kumar
Sadiya Shaikh

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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**Sudin Bhattacharya,
PhD**

ASIO President, 2024–2025

Dear ASIO members,

I am writing to you on the cusp of an exciting SOT Annual Meeting at Orlando, Mar 16–20, 2025. In view of the current turmoil in public funding of science in the United States, the meeting this year is even more important for public dissemination of our research, and for community building among fellow scientists. ASIO as always will have an active presence at SOT 2025 through multiple events.

I am excited to welcome and meet many of you at the ASIO-SIG Annual Reception and Business Meeting on Monday, March 17, 6:30PM–8:00 PM at Regency Ballroom V, Hyatt Regency Orlando. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending to enjoy refreshments while networking with your peers. At the reception, we will be declaring the ASIO award winners and ballot results, and hope that you will attend to celebrate the accomplishments of your fellow scientists. ASIO also has an exciting roster of speakers at this year's annual 'Talk with Toxpeers' event, to be held immediately prior to the ASIO reception, on Monday, March 17, 5:15 PM–6:15 PM, also at Regency Ballroom V. This year's theme for the event is "Unlocking New Opportunities in Toxicology," featuring three successful scientists from industry and academia. This event provides an excellent opportunity for students and early-career toxicologists to interact with established experts, seek guidance, and expand their professional network. Additionally, we hope you will attend the various scientific sessions and events at the meeting featuring ASIO members.

This being my last newsletter as ASIO President, I gratefully acknowledge the excellent work of the ASIO Executive Committee over the past year. Special thanks to Postdoctoral Representative Dr. Sadiya Shaikh and Graduate Representative Rahul Kumar for helping organize a joint webinar with the MSBSS Specialty Section: "Multimodal AI/ML for Predictive and Precision Medicine," by Dr. Zeeshan Ahmed from the Rutgers Institute for Health, Healthcare Policy, and Aging Research. I am grateful to Past President Dr. Ashwini Phadnis for her invaluable guidance to the Executive Committee throughout the past year. Many thanks to councilors Drs. Adi Joshi and Prajakta Shimpi for leading the complex task of reviewing and selecting annual ASIO Awardees. I would like to particularly thank Dr. Shama Ahmad, who as Treasurer helped us oversee the ASIO budget, take meeting minutes, and help with many other action items. Thanks are also due to our amazing SOT liaison Ms. Ilycia Silver for helping with numerous tasks and membership emails. Thanks in particular to her and SOT for helping launch our revamped ASIO website.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you for the generous support from you: our individual, corporate, and endowment sponsors. Without your help, we would not be able to organize our many exciting events. We hope we can continue to count on your help in these challenging times.

It has been my pleasure and honor to serve you as ASIO President for the 2024–2025 term. I look forward to continuing to be a part of this wonderful organization as it thrives and prospers in the coming years.

Sincerely,
Sudin Bhattacharya, PhD
ASIO-SIG President (2024–2025)

ASIO ANNUAL RECEPTION

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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 sponsors and donors, meet the ASIO committee members and volunteers, and enjoy delicious food!

When: March 17, 2025

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

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

Where:

Regency Ballroom V
Hyatt Regency Orlando

TALK WITH TOXPERTS

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TALK WITH TOXPERTS

“Unlocking New Opportunities in Toxicology”

Our Toxperts



Yogesh Saini

**Professor of Immunology &
Toxicology,
North Carolina
State University**



Sanket Gadhia

**Staff Toxicologist,
Tesla**



Logeswari Ponnusamy

**Senior Principal Scientist &
Group Leader, Toxicology,
Zoetis**



March 17, 2025



5:15 PM-6:15 PM



**Hyatt Regency
Orlando
Ballroom V**

You are not required to register for this event but prepare yourself for the delightful refreshments.

WEBINAR HOSTED BY ASIO

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Title: Multimodal AI/ML for Predictive and Precision Medicine



Dr. Zeeshan Ahmad

Assistant Professor of Medicine –
Tenure Track and Core Member
Institute for Health, Health Care
Policy and Aging Research.
Department of Medicine, Rutgers
Robert Wood Johnson Medical
School.
Rutgers Biomedical and Health
Sciences.
Rutgers, The State University of New
Jersey

The Association of Scientists of Indian Origin (ASIO) and the Molecular and Systems Biology Specialty Section (MSBSS) successfully hosted an insightful webinar on Multimodal AI/ML for Predictive and Precision Medicine.

Date: 12/09/2024

This event explored how artificial intelligence and machine learning are transforming predictive healthcare and driving advancements in precision medicine.

The session featured Dr. Zeeshan Ahmad, Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Rutgers Institute for Health, Healthcare Policy, and Aging Research, as the distinguished speaker.

Dr. Ahmad provided a comprehensive overview of:

- The role of multimodal AI/ML in enhancing healthcare outcomes.
- Applications of AI/ML in predictive healthcare models and disease risk assessment.
- The integration of advanced data analytics to improve diagnostic accuracy and optimize treatment strategies.
- Real-world examples of AI-driven approaches in personalized medicine and patient-centered care.

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

ASIO MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

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ASIO Member	Accomplishments
Hinal Gajjar Long Island University	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Internship at Albert Einstein College of Medicine (Summer 2024)• Earned AAPC CPC-A certification• Serving as LSINJ board member
Saurabh Vispute Pfizer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Earned Regulatory Affairs Certification (RAC) - Drugs• Joined as member of Communication Committee, American College of Toxicology• Serving as a Mentor in NIH-funded TOXMSDT program• Co-authored a publication (PMID: 38851876)
Rahul Kumar Graduate Student North Carolina State University	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presented a poster at 2024 Annual Meeting of American College of Toxicology• Delivered a platform talk at 9th Annual Symposium, CHHE, NCSU• Awarded Graduate Student Travel Award and CTPVSS STP Student Award, SOT• Published a co-first author paper (PMID: 39700013)• Presenting a platform talk at 2025 SOT meeting
Itishree Dubey NIPER, Raebareli	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awarded SOT Graduate Student Travel Award and A Preclinical Toxicology Organizations International Travel Award

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ASIO Member	Accomplishments
Navatha Alugubelly Attentive Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Earned DABT certification
Ankit Laddha Postdoctoral Research Associate University of Connecticut	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presented a poster at NESOT regional meeting• Awarded postdoctoral poster award at NESOT regional meeting• Published a first author paper (PMID: 39717760)
Dhruthi Reddy Graduate Student Southern University	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awarded LBRB grant for graduate student• Awarded best oral presentation at Agricultural and Research Symposium
Bhaja Krushna Padhi Health Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awarded outstanding poster presentation at ASCCT 13th Annual Meeting, 2024• Earned DABT re-certification• Awarded 2024 Assistant Deputy Minister's Award for Excellence, Health Canada, Ottawa• Served as co-chair, poster judging committee, Health Canada Science Forum 2025
Rama Gullapalli University of New Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Published a co-author paper (PMID: 39901044)

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ASIO Member	Accomplishments
Mohd Salim Reshi Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University, Rajouri, India	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivered a talk and judged posters at AI-CIAS Conference 2024, Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, Shuhama, Srinagar, India• Delivered a talk and chaired session at ICMBA-2024, Department of Zoology, University of Kashmir, India• Invited as Expert/Judge, 39th M P Young Scientist Congress & Science Festival, MPCST Bhopal• Published four papers
Irfan Rahman University of Rochester	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Several poster and platform presentations, SOT and ATS 2025 conferences• Serving on SOT Endowment and Audit committee; Chair for Lung Aging Group, ATS• Awarded HIV COPD grant with Florida International University• Hosting workshop - Circadian Biology and Toxicology Symposium, SOT 2025• Presented as plenary speaker at Society of Free Radical Research, Mumbai 2024

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ASIO Member	Accomplishments
Krishna P. Maremanda The University Of Oklahoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Earned DABT certification
Sidhartha D. Ray Touro University College of Pharmacy, Manhattan, NY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Served as a judge for the Best Paper National Award (Ragus National Award of American Nutrition Association)• Published multiple publications in <i>Side Effects of Drugs</i> annual book series• Appointed as the Editor-in-Chief of the 17th edition of <i>Meyler's Side Effects of Drugs</i>
Sadiya Shaikh Postdoctoral Fellow University of Rochester	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presented poster and oral presentations at SOT and other conferences• Serving as Postdoc Representative, SOT Membership Committee• Awarded First Place for poster presentation at NIH-TRISTATE SENNET Conference 2024• Awarded American Thoracic Society 2025 Abstract scholarship award• Chairing, Transcriptomics in Respiratory Toxicology, SOT 2025• Published a co-first author paper (PMID: 39543686)

ASIO SPONSORS

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Endowment sponsors



Dr. Dharm Singh



Dr. Laxman Desai



Late Dr. Harihara
Mehendale



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 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 and become a volunteer



Membership

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

JOIN US

[ASIO MEMBERSHIP](#)



VOLUNTEERS

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

PLEASE REACH OUT

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