



# Association of Scientists of Indian Origin

## February 2013 Newsletter

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### President's Message



Dear ASIO members:

The 52nd Annual SOT National Meeting at San Antonio, Texas is round the corner (10-14 March 2013) and will be an opportunity for ASIO members to meet again. Let us take a moment to recognize the achievements of numerous ASIO members who are selected by SOT to lead various sessions or to receive awards for their contributions to toxicology. ASIO will continue its tradition to award and recognize several students, post-docs as well senior scientists and sponsors at the ASIO reception that will be on Monday, March 11 from 7:00 -9:00 pm at the Grand Hyatt Lone Star Ballroom, Salon F. On behalf of ASIO, I would like to take this opportunity to personally invite you to the reception and other activities planned during SOT Annual meeting. More detailed information is in this newsletter regarding the reception, Lunch n Learn and the Coffee Hour with the Expert events sponsored by the ASIO.

I am glad to highlight some of our key achievements this year. We consistently produced newsletter every quarter that has kept our members informed of the ongoing ASIO activities and various opportunities to participate. We have increased the number of awards in an effort to provide recognition to more of exceptionally talented members. We successfully supported nomination of our senior member, Dr. Sidhartha Ray, who is selected to receive 2013 Undergraduate Educator Award at the SOT meeting. We received generous commitment from Dr. Dharam Singh to pay for 2013 ASIO dues for new members. Please take this opportunity to become a member. I would also like to thank our sponsors who are big part of making the ASIO activities a reality. We are one of the most vibrant SIGs within SOT and the credit goes to our endowment sponsors, Dr. Laxman Desai (Toxikon), Dr. Harihara Mehendale and Dr. Dharam Singh, and the yearly corporate sponsors, IIBAT, Advinus, INTOX, Vanta, Vivo Bio, Syngene, and CiToxLab.

Finally, I would like to thank all our unrelenting and hard working volunteers in various committees – Membership, Newsletter, Annual Reception, Sponsorship, Awards, LNL, and Coffee Hour with Expert. I encourage all of you to be part of ASIO by joining any of these committees and develop your network. Please contact anyone on the current board of directors listed in this newsletter for more information. I look forward to seeing you all at San Antonio.

Namaste,

Saryu Goel  
President

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# Congratulations!!

**Dr Sidhartha D. Ray**

**Recipient of the 2013 SOT  
Undergraduate Educator award**



ASIO is proud to announce Dr. Siddhartha Ray, winner of the 2013 SOT Undergraduate Educator award.

Dr. Ray, Professor and Chair, *Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Manchester University College of Pharmacy, Fort Wayne, Indiana* is known for his outstanding and internationally renowned career achievements in both academia and scholarship. A didactic teacher, leader and researcher, Dr. Ray continues to train both undergraduate and graduate students in the areas of toxicology, biomedical sciences and pharmacotherapeutics and inculcates strategies of how to be “Lifelong Learners”!

Dr. Ray has significantly contributed to the field of toxicology through his research on apoptosis in the toxicity of several drugs, which has influenced the development of safety measures for a number of drugs and chemicals. Noteworthy amongst these is his research on acetaminophen toxicity, which focuses on understanding fundamental mechanisms of apoptosis at the cellular, sub cellular and genomic levels. He is nationally recognized as a leader in the scientific community and was the first to organize continuing education courses on the role of apoptosis in health and disease at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Toxicology in 1996 in Los Angeles, CA and again in 2002 at Nashville, TN. He is also one of the first to guest edit a special issue “Comments on Toxicology series in 1996” dedicated to ‘Apoptosis in Health and Disease’, and contribute a book chapter on ‘Apoptosis and Cell Death’ the well regarded text book series ‘General and Applied Toxicology’. Dr. Ray has received several prestigious awards. These include the Abraham Krasnoff Memorial Award for Lifetime Scholarly Achievement, the David Newton Award for Excellence in Teaching Pharmacy, and the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology Research Award. He currently serves on the NIH–NLM–Toxlearn Project and SOT Undergraduate Task Force Subcommittee, and has previously served on the SOT Education Committee.

Dr. Ray chairs programs of education, research and service in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and is a member of the Dean’s Management Council. Prior to joining Manchester University, Dr. Ray served as Professor of Toxicology at the Arnold & Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences of Long Island University, New York, where he taught several courses in toxicology, medical microbiology and immunology for nearly two decades.

We are proud of Dr. Ray’s contributions to the field and wish him the very best in his continual endeavors and tireless enthusiasm in training our new generation of toxicologists.

# ASIO Events-SOT 2013

## ASIO Annual Reception

**When:** March 11, 2013 7:00pm -9:00pm

**Where:** Grand Hyatt Lone Star Ball room F

Join us for an evening filled with announcements of numerous ASIO sponsored awards, networking, entertainment and sponsor recognition. Look forward to our special icebreaker event!!

## Lunch N Learn (LNL)

Once again, ASIO is organizing their highly successful Lunch and Learn (LNL) Event with expert panelist from industry, government, and academic at the Annual Society of Toxicology (SOT) meeting, San Antonio, Texas.

**When:** Tuesday, March 12, 2013 12:00PM TO 1:30PM

**Where:** Grand Hyatt - San Antonio, TX

**Experts:**

- **Academia:** Mitzi Nagarkatti, Ph.D., Chair, Dept. of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology at University of South Carolina School of Medicine
- **Industry:** Dr. Sudheer Beedanagari, Ph.D., Research Investigator II, Bristol-Myers Squibb, NJ
- **Government:** TBD

Take advantage of this opportunity to interact with experts and fellow colleagues to get a different perspective of career paths and answers to your queries. Seating is limited to 30 seats only.

So only students/post-docs who are committed and interested are encouraged to RSVP for this event by Feb 20<sup>th</sup> 2013 via email to Sachin Bhusari at [sachin.bhusari@nih.gov](mailto:sachin.bhusari@nih.gov)

Also send us two questions along with the RSVP for this event. This would help us better cover topics of interest, and engage in discussion that would be of common relevance.

**Free catered lunch will be provided to all the participants. Kindly enter the meal preference(Veg/non-veg) in your RSVP for the event.**

## Coffee Hour

Don't miss the coffee hour with an expert!

This event is designed for more targeted conversations between motivated students/postdocs and generous and experienced toxicologists. We assure you this would be one of the best opportunities you would get to illuminate the career path ahead of you!!!

RSVP for this event by Feb 20<sup>th</sup> 2013 via email to Roshni Rao at [roshiasalive@gmail.com](mailto:roshiasalive@gmail.com)

## ASIO members' contribution to scientific programs at SOT 2013

The following are the scientific programs either sponsored or endorsed by ASIO and participated by ASIO members

Chair person	Date	Time	Location	Session Type	Topic
Saber M.Hussain	Sunday March 10, 2013	1:15-5:00pm	Henry B.Gonzalez convention center	CE course	Advances in Nanotoxicology-Challenges
Vishal S.Vaidya	Sunday March 10, 2013	1:15-5:00pm	GrandBall room C2	CE course	T4:Tools and Technologies in Translational Toxicology
Mayurranjan S.Mitra	Tuesday March 12, 2013	1:30-4:15pm	Room 217A&B	Symposium	Understanding Toxicities of Abnormal Lipid Metabolism;Alcoholic,Nonalcoholic, amd Toxicant induced Fatty liver disease
Madhu G.Soni	Tuesday March 12, 2013	9:00-11:45am	Room 214 A&B	Workshop	Health risks of Sodium(Salt) intake: Too much or Too little?
Gopala Krishna	Tuesday , March 12, 2013	1:30 - 4:15pm	Room 214 A&B	Workshop	Drug Safety Assessments and Regulatory Landscape in Emerging Markets
Mausumee Guha	Wednesday March 13, 2013	9:00-11:45am	Room 217 A&B	Workshop	Standard and Nonstandard Animal Models for Evaluation of Drug Abuse Potential for Pharmaceutical Compunds with Novel Mechanisms
Bhagavatula Moorthy	Wedneday March 13, 2013	1:30-4:15pm	Room 214 C&D	Symposium	Mechanistic role(s) of Cytochrome P450 in Oxidative stress and Inflammation:New Opportunities for Drug Discovery
Saber M.Hussain	Wednesday March 13, 2013	1:30-4:15pm	Room 214 A&B	Workshop	Nanotoxicology:Computational strategies, Advances, and challenges

# ASIO 2012 Diplomates of American Board of Toxicology

**Congratulations!!!** to Diplomates for their hard work and tremendous achievement.

Overall, 98 candidates passed DABT exam worldwide in 2012.

Of these 17 (17%) were of Indian origin.

Name	Company/Institute	Country
Senthilkumar Mariappan	Piramal LifeSciences Limited	India
Santanu Jana	Suven Life Sciences Ltd.	India
Kadthur C Jayachandra	IISC	India
Lakshmisha, K.V.	Advinus	India
T. S. Kumaravel	GLR labs	India
Arun Prasath Govindarajan	BBRC, Syngene International Ltd	India
Jaiprakash J. Bhelonde	Ranbaxy	India
Sanjay Bokan	Lupin	India
G. Sacravarty	Gujrat Agri university	India
Saurabh Chandra	Lupin	India
Sairam Bellum	Merck & co	USA
Neeraja Kondapi Erraguntla	-	USA
Gopakumar Gopalakrishnan	Hoffmann-La Roche	USA
Kazim Husain	Ponce School of Medicine	USA
Pallavi B. Limaye	XenoTech LLC	USA
Malar Pannirselvam	Vertex Pharmaceuticals	USA
Vimala Vemireddi	Huntingdon Life Sciences	USA



**Vinayak Srinivasan**  
**Assistant Vice President**  
**Safety Evaluation**  
**L'Oreal USA, Clark, New Jersey**

1. **What do you believe are the three most important personal attributes, which may help Indian student/postdocs to be successful in industry careers?**

A. Good interpersonal skills: The ability to interact with peers and experienced scientists that you would like to look up to as role models in your career. Seek mentors early in your career and work with them on gaining the necessary skill sets for your career ahead as well as learning from challenges and issues they faced.

B. Building your own network : Utilize forums like LinkedIn and SOT ToxChange by joining applicable groups, seek knowledge/information and ask questions as well as try to make contributions of your own. Customize your connections to include people with similar experience and background to have a successful career.

C. Volunteer for opportunities: Explore forums where you can learn as well as contribute. To become more visible, both within and outside your organization, show a willingness to learn and try to apply the leanings. Actively participate and connect with people in SOT task forces, Specialty Sections and Special Interest groups.

2. **What courses/exams are most valuable in order to gain skills necessary for success in the toxicology field?**

I would recommend obtaining DABT certification as it helps to enhance your credentials as a toxicologist. When interviewing for jobs, many employers consider having DABT "a plus". Also, focus on "emerging issues" and "hot topics" in your areas and try to stay ahead in your field by taking relevant courses/training, especially at National meetings like SOT, ACT, DIA, etc.

3. **Based on your successful experience in the personal care/cosmetics-industry, what advice would you give new toxicologists entering the field?**

L'oreal offered me a unique and exciting challenge of focusing on animal alternative approaches (*in silico*, *in vitro* and clinical studies) to ensure the safety of marketed cosmetic products. I am constantly dealing with a variety of innovative make-up, skin, fragrance and hair products promoted by models and celebrities. So, if the combination above is attractive to you, I don't have to say anything more!

4. **Can you give some perspective on what qualities do the employers seek from a potential job candidate?**

In addition to solid technical skills, "soft skills" are equally important in interviews and dealing with potential employers. Make an effort to be inquisitive, show energy and enthusiasm, actively listen and answer to the point without rambling, do your homework and become familiar with the company, its line of products as well any recent challenges it has faced or is currently facing, etc.

5. **What can you say about future needs and role of toxicologists in personal care/cosmetics industry?**

The European Union has banned all animal testing on cosmetic products starting in March this year. Other regulatory agencies worldwide are also looking at similar legislation and have started to phase in animal testing bans. We see this as a great opportunity to promote animal alternative models and safety assessments. So the future looks bright in this industry.....because everyone still needs personal care products and cosmetics, right?



# ASIO sponsors for 2012-13

## Diamond Sponsors



## Gold Sponsors



**Syngene**

## Silver Sponsors



Our sincere thanks to all our sponsors. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our endowment sponsors for their continued support over the years.

### Endowment Sponsors:

Dr.Laxman Desai- Toxikon  
Dr.Harihara Mehendale  
Dr.Dharm Singh

**Become a sponsor:** Contact ASIO team to learn more about how your sponsorship can help strengthen and contribute to the continued growth and success of ASIO.

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