



ASIO NEWSLETTER

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Let's get together @ the

ASIO Reception

*On
Monday, March 24,
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
At the
Deer Valley room,
Sheraton Hotel.*

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello,

Hope you are having a great start to the New Year! I wish you all the very best for 2014 and beyond.

As you are getting ready for Phoenix, AZ, I invite you to attend the annual ASIO Reception on Monday. Based on the popular demand, **Lunch 'n Learn** and **Coffee Hour** mentorship programs are back again this year. I encourage students and postdocs to participate in them. This newsletter has ALL the information you need to NETWORK with fellow-Indians at SOT.

I am extremely delighted to share the fast-paced progress made by every ASIO committee through this newsletter (Pg. 6). I would like to convey my sincere thanks to all committee members and volunteers for their hard work as well as to the unrelenting Board of Directors for keeping the organization vibrant and energetic.

While we are going strong, there is always room for improvement. So feel free to send your feedback to me on current activities and/ or ideas for new activities. I strongly encourage members to volunteer for ASIO activities. The more, the merrier!

Together Everyone Achieves More
(TEAM)
Satheesh S. Anand



*We invite you to attend the 53rd SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY ANNUAL MEETING & TOX EXPO
held between Mar 23- 27, 2014 at the Phoenix Convention Center, Phoenix, AZ.*

- ASIO President and the Newsletter Committee

ASIO-SOT Events Details

ASIO ANNUAL RECEPTION

Monday March 24, 2014, 7.00-9.00 pm.

Deer Valley room- Sheraton Hotel



We are thrilled to invite you to join us at the ASIO Annual Reception! Come and meet your fellow ASIO members, ASIO 2014 award recipients, ASIO Sponsors and Endowment fund donors! Followed by fun filled networking, entertainment and food.

Coffee Hour

RSVP Roshni Rao (roshialive@gmail.com)

By February 28th, 2014

Let's chat over coffee!!

Meet one-on-one with mentors and experts in the area of your choice- be it Academia or Industry or Government and get guidance to mould your career!

Today you will learn and tomorrow you shall guide!!



Lunch 'n Learn

Tuesday March 25, 2014, 12.00pm to 1.30pm

Camelback room, Sheraton Hotel

In this casual, small group setting, 'invited experts' answer all your queries related to career paths in Toxicology as well as in Job Search in an interactive Q & A session. Please send us a couple of questions along with your RSVP to help us plan the event. Also, please RSVP to Sainath Babu at biosainath@gmail.com with subject line 'ASIO LNL' along with your meal preference (Veg/ Non Veg) by **February 28th, 2014**.

Lunch and knowledge are free! Participation is limited to the first 35 students/Post docs!

Our 2014 LNL Expert Panel includes:

Academia: Dr. Vishal Vaidya, Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School.

Industry: Dr. Ravi Dugyala, Senior Scientist, Novartis Institute for Biomedical Research.

Government: Dr. Urmila Kodavanti, Research Biologist, US EPA.

Yes... It's all about networking here at the

ASIO-SOT Events 2014

SOT 2014

Presentations of ASIO members

| Chair person/ Presenter | Date | Time | Topic |
|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Vishal S. Vaidya | Tuesday March 25 | 8:00 AM to 8:50 AM | Leading edge in basic science Award lecture |
| Virunya Bhat | Saturday, March 22 | 8:30 AM to 4:15 PM | Lotions are not Potions: Toxicology and Product Safety |
| Chandramallika (Molly) Ghosh | Sunday, March 23 | 7:00 AM to 7:45 AM | Regulatory Overview of Preclinical Assessment of Combination Products |
| B. Bhaskar Gollapudi | Sunday, March 23 | 8:15 AM to 12:00 Noon | Quantitative Assessment of Dose-Response in Genetic Toxicology Studies |
| Vivek Kadambi | Sunday, March 23 | 8:15 AM to 12:00 Noon | Nonclinical to Clinical Translational Safety Database Initiative. |
| Rakesh Dixit | Sunday, March 23 | 8:15 AM to 12:00 Noon | What Constitutes a Relative Animal Model in Translational Medicine? |
| Saber Hussain | Sunday, March 23 | 1:15 PM to 5:00 PM | Nanotoxicology: Past Achievements, Future Challenges, and Potential Solutions: New Science and Perspectives Surrounding Environmental and Occupational Exposures |
| Urmila Kodavanti | Sunday, March 23 | 1:15 PM to 5:00 PM | Innovations in Methodologies for Inhalation Exposure and Interpretations of In Vivo Toxicity |
| Vishal S. Vaidya | Sunday, March 23 | 1:15 PM to 5:00 PM | Translational Biomarkers in the Assessment of Health and Disease: Advancing Clinical and Translational Toxicology and Application of Biomarkers |
| Imran Shah | Monday, March 24 | 2:00 PM to 4:45 PM | Interactive Computational AOP Reconstruction from Data. |
| Srikanth S. Nadadur | Wednesday, March 26 | 9:00 AM to 11:45 AM | Three Dimensions of Nanomaterial Pulmonary Toxicity: Innate Immunity, TLRs, and Inflammasomes |
| Urmila P. Kodavanti | Wednesday, March 26 | 1:30 PM to 4:15 PM | Emerging Evidence of Ozone's Metabolic Effects and Potential Mechanisms |

*Please encourage the next generation of Indian-American Toxicologists by visiting
High School Poster Exposition on Tuesday, March 25th, 2014*

SOT 2014

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| Urmila P. Kodavanti | Wednesday, March 26 | 1:30 PM to 4:15 PM | Emerging Evidence of Ozone's Metabolic Effects and Potential Mechanisms |
| Moiz Mumtaz | Tuesday, March 25 | 1:30 PM to 4:15 PM | Developmental Toxicity from Chemical Mixtures: Research to Application in Susceptible Populations |
| Virunya S. Bhat | Wednesday, March 26 | 9:00 AM to 11:45 AM | Toxicogenomic Technologies Can Improve the Assessment of Xenobiotic-Induced Liver Injury and Inform Human Relevance |
| Prathibha Rao | Wednesday, March 26. | 4:30 PM to 5:50 PM | Leadership in Science: Skills and Styles |
| Brinda Mahadevan | Wednesday, March 26. | 4:30 PM to 5:50 PM | Leadership in Science: Skills and Styles |

2014 Past Presidents' 5K Fun Run/Walk

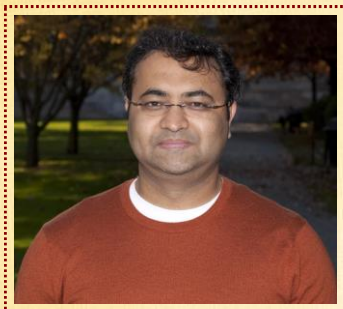
Lace up your favorite running or walking shoes and join your fellow Toxicologists! This 3rd annual Past Presidents 5K Fun Run/Walk special event presents a unique opportunity to meet your old friends and make new friends in a casual fun setting. This year's focus is on camaraderie: mutual trust and friendship among people who spend a lot of time together.

Please join the 2014 Past Presidents 5K Fun Run/Walk in a beautiful subtropical climate of Phoenix in the Land of Enchantment. Stay tuned to hear more about this via ASIO emails!!

Fellow Indian scientists!! Let's spread the awareness of Physical Activity!

Join us for 5K Run/ Walk at 6.30 am on Tuesday, March 25, 2014 at Steele Indian School Park

Meet our Prestigious SOT Award Winners 2014



Dr. Vishal Vaidya Leading Edge in Basic Science Award-2014

'Innovative translational research, teaching and mentoring the next generation of scientists- all these motivate me to outperform constantly' - Vishal Vaidya, PhD

Vishal S. Vaidya is an Assistant Professor of Medicine and Environmental Health at Harvard Medical School and Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Vaidya received his Bachelor's degree in Pharmacy from Poona College of Pharmacy in 1998 and subsequently joined Dr. Hari Mehendale's laboratory at the University of Louisiana, Monroe for his graduate studies. He pursued his postdoctoral work at Harvard Medical School in the laboratory of Dr. Joseph Bonventre.

Dr. Vaidya's work over the past ten years has challenged the fundamental mechanisms of kidney toxicity with respect to injury assessment. He has published extensively, authoring more than 55 peer-reviewed publications with more than 3500 citations and an h-index of 32. Dr. Vaidya has also served as a guest editor of a special issue of "Biomarkers of Toxicity" for the journal *Toxicology* [2008; 245(3): 163-224]. Dr. Vaidya served as a primary editor for the book "Biomarkers in Medicine, Drug Discovery and Environmental health", published by John Wiley and Sons, NY in 2010. Dr. Vaidya was one of six North American scientists to receive the Innovation in Regulatory Science Award by Burroughs Wellcome Fund (BWF). The Society of Toxicology (SOT) has awarded Dr. Vaidya a number of awards for his pioneering research, including the Comparative and Veterinary Specialty Section Award (2002), the Risk Assessment Specialty Section Best Abstract Award (2005) and the ASIO Young Investigator Award (2012).

Dr. Bhaskar Gollapudi Arnold J. Lehman Award-2014

Dr. Bhaskar Gollapudi is a Senior Managing Scientist in Center for Toxicology and Mechanistic Biology at Exponent, an international consulting firm. Dr. Gollapudi earned his B.Sc degree in chemistry and M.Sc in Radiation Genetics with Distinction from the Osmania University, India. Subsequently, he went on to Dalhousie University in Canada to pursue his Ph.D in chemical and radiation mutagenesis. After finishing his postdoctoral training at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, MD, he joined the toxicology laboratory at The Dow Chemical Company (1981) where he spent the next 31 years in various positions where he raised to become the Scientific Director.

Throughout his career, Dr. Gollapudi strived to be at the leading edge of the scientific field by enormous contribution in academia, government, and the industry. He has published more than 100 articles in scientific journals and he recently edited a book on the application of genomic technologies for safety and risk assessment. Dr. Gollapudi is an Associate Editor of *Toxicological Sciences* journal and a member of the Faculty 1000 Biology since 2006. He is currently serving on a number of committees, including the SOT's Scientific Program Committee, OECD Expert Committee for Genetic Toxicology Guidelines, and the Steering Team of the International Workshops for Genotoxicity Testing (IWGT).

'The credit goes to many talented and energetic post-docs, graduate and undergraduate students who worked in my lab' - Bhaskar Gollapudi PhD



ASIO proudly congratulates our winners!!

ASIO collaborates with AoT & STOX...

ASIO is proud to announce our collaborations with Toxicology Associations in India, Association of Toxicology (AoT) and Society of Toxicology, India (STOX).

AoT Liaison with ASIO:

Dr. M. R. Srinivasan, Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Chennai

STOX Liaisons with ASIO:

*Dr. Y.K Gupta, AIIMS, New Delhi &
Dr. A.B Pant, CSIR-IITR, Lucknow*

ASIO Liaison with AoT & STOX:

Dr. Sudheer Beedanagari, Bristol-Myers Squibb, USA

Next generation of Toxicologists at SOT

The K-12 event at SOT 2014 is something special to us. Yes, it is the "Can Do" attitude of young adults that makes the event special. Please encourage exceptionally talented high school students like Sanniith N. Uppu (Sunny) and Priya who will be there to present a poster at the 'High School Poster Exposition' session on Tuesday 25th March. So friends, let's not miss this opportunity to cheer them.

OUR PROGRESS

From the ASIO President

I am very happy to share the progress highlights of various ASIO committee activities:

Membership: We have touched 300-mark first time. Kudos to the membership team. BIG THANKS to Dr. Dharm Singh for sponsoring 60+ applicants from India.

Webinar: We had our first webinar in December, 2013, which was well received. Thanks to Sainath and his team. We intend to continue sponsoring webinars in the future.

Endowment: We are determined to create an endowment fund for International Student Award. Thanks to Mayur and his team for leading the effort. Stay tuned for more information. Please contact us if you are interested to contribute. Feel free to send ideas for this effort.

Elections: OMG, what an incredible response we got for 'call for applications'!!! We received 21 applications for 5 positions. We are growing and visible.

Outreach: We formed a formal collaboration with Association of Toxicology (AoT) and Society of Toxicology (STOX), India. We have liaisons from these organizations and hope to expand the collaboration in a mutually beneficial fashion.

Sponsorship: We have commitment from 3 sponsors already and waiting to hear from a few others. Thanks to Sudheer.

Awards: Based on the 3 endowment funds, membership, and sponsorship, we are fortunate to sponsor 14 awards this year. Thanks to Mamta and Sudheer for spearheading the effort.

Stay tuned to hear more in the next newsletter!

Mamta Behl, a contract toxicologist at the National Toxicology Program at NIEHS believes that after taking the examination, she has a better understanding of the breadth and scope of toxicology, and how different areas of toxicology interplay and relate to each other. Dr. Behl also adds "DABT has greatly helped me in my current job where there is a great need to cross-communicate and understand researchers in various disciplines of toxicology to move research forward". She encourages all toxicologists in early to mid-careers to take the examination since it demonstrates a candidate's ability in understanding scope of toxicology and also provide a competitive edge over someone without a board certification.



Vijaykumar Kale, a current graduate assistant at the Huck Institutes of the Life Sciences, Penn State University said 'Preparing for the exam (rather than the exam itself) immensely helps me with my current work on preclinical drug discovery' and I think in new dimensions'. He strongly feels that passing DABT will benefit him to advance his career as a toxicologist.

"DABT enabled me to think in new dimensions"

- Vijaykumar Kale

| Name of Diplomat | Institute/Organization |
|---------------------------|--|
| Deepa V | International Institute of Biotechnology and Toxicology, India |
| Dattaprasad Bakre | Johnson and Johnson, India |
| Tarun Balani | Vivo Biotech Ltd., India |
| Krishna Kumar R. Mishra | Ranbaxy, India |
| Sabyasachi Chakraborty | Evalueserve, India |
| Ramya Rajagopal | DuPont India Pvt. Ltd., India |
| Ankushreddy S. Patil | Johnson and Johnson, India |
| Sathya T.N. | International Institute of Biotechnology and Toxicology, India |
| Vijaykumar P. Kale | Penn State University, USA |
| Senthilkumar P. Kuppusamy | US EPA, USA |
| Pandiri Arun Kumar Reddy | NTP/NIEHS, USA |
| Bibek Sharma | FMC Corporation, USA |
| Raghu K. Tadagavadi | Penn State University, USA |
| Sheetal A. Thakur | NTP/NIEHS, USA |
| Gaurav Tyagi | Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, USA |
| Mamta Behl | NTP/NIEHS, USA |
| Prajakta Palkar Albrecht | Indigo Biosciences, USA |

DABTs 2013

Do I need DABT Certification?

Interview by: Aditya D. Joshi

Congratulations to all the new diplomats!! Out of the 101 DABTs, 17 diplomats are of Indian origin!! 'Why DABT and how is it helping you?'- We asked this question to some of the new diplomats. Here is what they say:



Dr. Senthilkumar thinks "Being a Toxicologist with DABT certification allows me to stay abreast with the latest developments

He also added "This certification also enhances credibility with our peers not only in U.S but also worldwide. To me, DABT is a new avenue to learn about public health".



Dr. Senthilkumar PK, Toxicologist, Risk Assessment Fellow at the US EPA, Cincinnati.

Congratulations to all Diplomats!!

Words of Wisdom

From

Dr. Saryu Goel

Past ASIO President & Ex. Director, Supernus Pharmaceuticals

Interview by: Priya Venkatakrisnan

1. How to get the first job in the industry?

Contrary to the popular belief of most graduates that one needs experience and training to get hired by Industry, a person willing to take up a challenge in the face of uncertainty and learn on the job often excels. The biggest challenge is to get that first job. The best means to get the first job is to proactively seek out and get noticed by the hiring manager, and articulate your interest, and show readiness to quickly learn. In a real life example, a pizza delivery person was talking to a secretary within our company. He had a choice, that is, to deliver the pizza, collect the money and leave or as he did, to, utilize this opportunity to actively seek out, by talking to the secretary and following up by sending her his resume to be forwarded on to hiring manager. The lesson here is that *sometimes opportunities are created just by asking and following through.*

2. After landing in to the first job in industry, what preparations will help an individual towards career advancement in the current market scenario?

Success of a company depends on the staffs who work towards a common goal. This requires that people work in harmony (easier said than done) and resolve challenges in a timely manner. Hence, *communication, team skills, and maintaining a positive attitude* are of utmost importance. Additionally, seizing the opportunity in new areas will help accelerate your career, as often times there is no one else willing to take up such a challenge when a company decides to expand a specific group.

3. What adaptation to change is expected from a scientist after getting into a company and what is needed for a scientist towards individual growth?

Although we hear that change is inevitable, *one often expends energy in fighting the change.* Instead, one should *champion the effort to bring about the change.* Often, such people get ahead of their peers and are then recognized to lead programs.

4. In what aspect of career growth, young scientists in industry spend their energy and time that, in your opinion, become a futile effort?

Scientists focus too much time to continue improving their skill-set in areas in which they are already experts, and *neglect to take up responsibilities outside their comfort zones.* For example, a toxicologist may not want to take up a QA or clinical job function, feeling that they do not know enough and thus missing a crucial opportunity to learn and grow.

5. Are there any platforms available in our pharma/biotech industry to prepare an individual to think outside the box?

There are plenty of training programs offered throughout the US for a fee, but many of these only provide a high level overview, which is often not adequate when handling real life job needs. Hence, the best training options are *job shadowing or volunteering to assist an expert in your new field of interest.* These often entail an investment of time, not money. The best resources for such training are your peers or referrals.

And one last question...

6. As somebody who has a lot of experience working in industry, what do you think are the norms of office discussions?

If it is positive, speak up loud!

If you can, absolutely avoid saying anything negative, even to a “dead tree”!

Thank You so much for sharing your thoughts, Dr Goel!!

Our Sponsors

Thank you so much for your kind contribution

Diamond Sponsors



The Syngene logo consists of the word 'Syngene' in a blue, sans-serif font, positioned to the right of a white rectangular box.

Gold Sponsors

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

Endowment Sponsors:

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



Thank you Sponsors!!

Wish you all a very Happy New Year 2014