



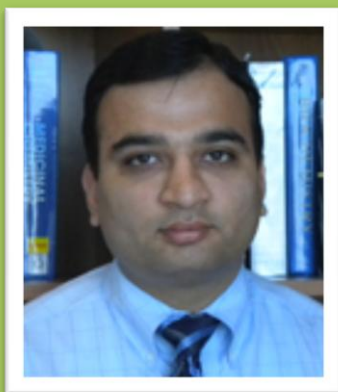
ASIO NEWSLETTER JUNE 2014

Editors:

Prasad Krishnan, Aditya Joshi, Shirisha Chittiboyina, Priya Venkatakrisnan, Mamta Behl, Pranav Shah, Vivek Dadhania & Sachin Bhusari

Inside This Issue

New President's message	1
Outgoing President's message	2
Meet new ASIO-BOD	3
ASIO 2014 reception at a glance	4
ASIO award winners of 2013-'14	6
LnL and Coffee Hour	7
Membership Drive	8
Sponsors	9



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is a special honor and a privilege to begin my term as president of ASIO.

Satheesh deserves an enormous thank you from all of us- for guiding the association so ably and for making us feel that we really are a part of ASIO. He has been a terrific role model, and his shoes will be impossible to fill. Luckily, for all of us, Satheesh will continue to serve in the role of past-president. I am especially grateful that I will be able to rely on his wise counsel during my term.

Thanks to the vision, commitment, and zeal of past presidents, committee members, and numerous volunteers - Today ASIO is in very good shape. Just because the ASIO is doing well doesn't mean that we can't do even better. Today, ASIO is very successful Special Interest Group. We have a lot going for us: number of awards, endowment funds, student activities (Lunch N Learn and coffee hour), outstanding newsletters, special webinars, sponsorships, and a healthy bank account! This gives the foundation to move forward in improving services to our members and our community at large.

In my view, the most important step we can take is utilization of technology to bring us together often to discuss, debate and share the wealth of knowledge and gift of friendship. Our webinar committee is working towards this goal. Another important task is to appoint task-oriented committees to increase involvement of the members. My list of areas to undertake includes: Membership, Newsletter, Outreach, Sponsored Award(s), K-12 Outreach, Webinar, Endowment, Annual reception and Website

If you are interested in any of the above activities or if you have ideas or suggestions then please let us know. I am excited about the opportunity to work with a talented group of individuals on the Board. I know that we will make ASIO an organization that will strive to attract new members and one that will make the current members proud to be a part of. I hope to bring the energy and enthusiasm to the position that the ASIO members deserve.

Sachin Devi

OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow ASIO members

It is hard to believe the 2013-2014 year is behind us already. The time flies when you enjoy what you do! It was truly a gratifying and humbling experience. Thanks to the membership for the opportunity to serve as your President. First, I want to acknowledge the support and advice of senior members, past presidents of ASIO, and the well-wishers. Special thanks to our Endowment Sponsors (Drs. Harihara Mehendele, Laxman Desai, and Dharm Singh) and the annual reception sponsors (Advinus, Syngene, Vivo Bio, and INTOX) for making the awards and student/post doc-focused events possible. No words to describe my appreciation/gratitude to my team and the volunteers. Nothing would have been possible without their time and efforts, hats off to them.

We are coming off of another successful annual meeting at Phoenix, AZ. The reception committee has done a fantastic job in organizing the reception and arranging all the activities. It was a great team effort. Kudos to the team as they carried extra load in the absence of many Board of Directors (BODs) including me. It was the most attended ASIO annual meeting of all time. The annual meeting activities with pictures are covered in this newsletter, happy reading! We got positive and constructive feedback on the events from our membership. We pride ourselves in reviewing and when possible acting on all suggestions and recommendations, so please keep them coming!

A year ago, I set an ambitious agenda for my team - organize webinars, foster collaboration with toxicology community in India, increase membership, increase student/post doc participation in committees, explore the possibility of enticing high school students into the ASIO, and establish a new endowment fund for International Student Award. I am proud to report we have accomplished most of them – a webinar was organized with the funding from SOT, we have liaisons for two toxicology organizations in India, Association of Toxicology (AoT) and Society of Toxicology (STOX), to jointly organize activities, a symposium proposal from ASIO members for the 2014 annual STOX meeting has been accepted with partial financial support from STOX and SOT, we have received verbal commitment from two donors for significant amount to establish endowment fund for International Student Award (stay tuned for more details), and our membership reached 300-mark for the first time. There are some things that were not accomplished last year and I am confident that the new team will take care of them and initiate new activities. While we are going strong, there is always room for improvement. So feel free to send your feedback on current activities and/ or ideas for new activities. I strongly encourage members to volunteer for ASIO activities. The more, the merrier!

It was an incredible year and I thank all the members, BOD, and volunteers for making this one of the most memorable experiences of my life. I am looking forward to the future accomplishments of our association. I wish Sachin Devi and his team all the very best!

Together, Everyone Achieves More (TEAM)

S. Satheesh Anand

ASIO OFFICERS 2014-15

Sachin Devi
President



Satheesh Anand
Past President



Sudheer Beedanagari
Vice President



Mamta Behl
VP - Elect



Priya Venkat
Treasurer



Sachin Bhusari
Councilor



Mayuranjan Mitra
Councilor



**Mallikarjuna
Basavarajappa**
Post Doc - Rep



Prathap Kumar
Student - Rep

ASIO RECEPTION 2014 HIGHLIGHTS

The annual reception of ASIO was held on March 24th at the SOT annual meeting. The reception witnessed an unprecedented participation of about 190 ASIO members and guests. The program was lead by Dr.Sudheer Beedanagari in the absence of the President Dr.Satheesh Anand. Dr Sainath and Shirish Chittiboyina were the Maters of Ceremony. Dr.Sudheer gave the initial address and informed the gathering about the progress made by ASIO in the last year. He congratulated the volunteers for supporting ASIO. Dr.Sudheer proudly shared the accomplishments of ASIO members in winning SOT awards.

The Chairs from Membership, Endowment, Newsletter, Lunch and Learn, and Coffee Hour Committees presented their achievements in the year 2013 and informed the audience about the new targets for 2014.

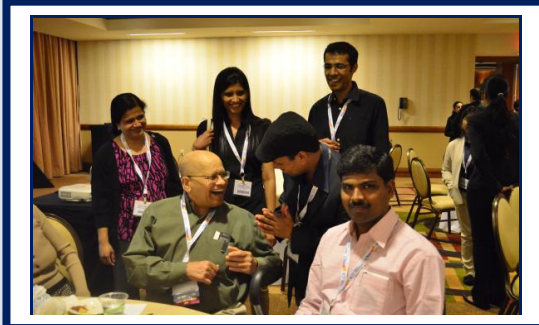
The year 2013 saw a tremendous response to the ASIO awards application. The Awards Committee selected the winners from many qualified applicants. This year 9 awards were given away by ASIO for graduate students, International student postdocs, young investigator and a senior member of ASIO. ASIO also felicitated our budding Toxicologists, Priya Krishna (D/O Dr.Gopala Krishna) and Sannihith N. Uppu (S/O Dr.Rao M.Uppu).

At the end, the new officers were introduced to the audience. Elections were held for 5 positions and we got 21 applications. The new officers will take charge from May 2014.

All these couldn't have been possible by the overwhelming support of our sponsors and endowment fund contributors. ASIO would like to thank Drs. Dharm Singh, Harihara Mehendale and Laxman Desai, our major contributor of endowment funds. ASIO extends our deep gratitude to our sponsors, Advinus (Grand Sponsor), Syngene, and Vivo Bio Tech Ltd. (Gold Sponsors), and Intox, and SOT Career Resource and Development Committee (Silver Sponsors).



ASIO RECEPTION AT A GLANCE!!



ASIO Congratulates Award Winners!!!

ASIO International Travel Award

Sapna Kushwaha

Dr.Mehendale Graduate Student Awards

Shirisha Chittiboyina & Siva Prasad Bitragunda

Dr.Desai Graduate Student Awards

Kevin K. Kumar & Neel Fofaria

Dr.Singh Graduate Student Awards

Gul Mustafa & Nagendar Panyala

Graduate Student Certificate Winners

Manasi Krishnan, Amruta Manke & Patel Saroor

ASIO "Budding" Toxicologists

Priya Krishna & Sannihith N. Uppu

ASIO Young Investigator Award

Dr.Midhun Korrapati

ASIO Senior Toxicologist Award

Dr.Bhaskar Gollapudi

❖ SOT AWARDS WON BY ASIO MEMBERS

- Dr.Vishal Vaidya: *Leading Edge in Basic Science Award*
- Dr.Bhaskar Gollapudi: *Arnold J.Lehman Award*
- Dr.Annie Lumen and Dr.Gul Mustafa: *Best Postdoctoral Publication Award*
- Dr.Gopabandhu Jena and Dr.Muneed U. Rehman: *SOT/AstraZeneca/SOT Endowment Fund/IUTOX Travel Awards*

Lunch N Learn 2014

ASIO Lunch N Learn and Coffee hour are designed to provide an informal platform for students and postdocs to chat with experts in toxicology. This year much awaited LNL was held on March 25, 2014 ASIO at the 53rd SOT meeting in Phoenix, AZ. More than 25 students and postdocs attended and pitched in to help make the LNL event a success story. Leading toxicologists; Dr. Urmila Kodavanti, from USEPA, Dr. Vishal Vaidya from Harvard University and Dr. Ravi Dugyala, from Novartis formed the expert panel this year. The three panelists shared their energy and excitement with attendees on different aspects of careers in toxicology. Diverse set of questions from trainees, addressed issues ranging from when and how to make a career path choice to how to present for an interview. The panelists were excited to advice and share their own experiences with trainees. The Lunch 'N' Learn event concluded on a very positive and enthusiastic note with students and post docs looking forward to their next career steps. We received positive comments from attendees and the panelists which serve as our motivation to plan it with much more effectiveness in the coming years. We look forward to meeting all of you again in 2015, with issues pertaining toxicology career related challenges and opportunities

Coffee Hour 2014

The Coffee Hour with an expert 2014 event was held at the 53rd Annual SOT meeting in Phoenix Arizona for the second consecutive year. We have received very good response from both mentors and mentees making the collaboration a success. We hope that this unique interaction will continue to enable students and post-docs alike to seek the help of ASIO expertise in future meetings.



Our Expert panel (Left to right) Dr. Ravi Dugyala, Dr. Vishal Vaidya and Dr. Urmila Kodavanti with the Lunch N Learn attendees

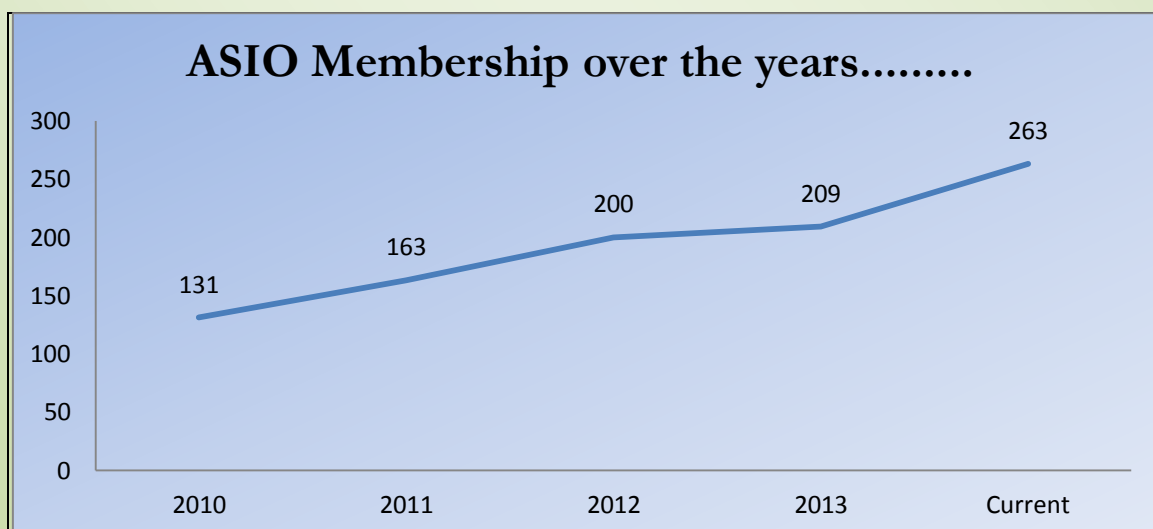
*- Sainath Babu, Shirisha Chittiboyina and Roshni Rao
(LNL and Coffee hour committee)*

ASIO Membership Drive

ASIO is celebrating 30th year of connecting Toxicologists of Indian origin across the world. This organization was the brain child of a few toxicologists who are still our guiding lights. We have grown to become one of the most significant Special Interest Group of the SOT.

There are several reasons to be proud of ASIO membership:

1. WE ARE THE SIG WITH SECOND HIGHEST NUMBER OF MEMBERS : ~ 270
2. WE ARE THE SIG WITH HIGHEST NUMBER OF ENDOWMENT FUNDS : 3
3. WE ARE THE SIG THAT SPONSORS HIGHEST NUMBER OF AWARDS: 9
4. WE ARE THE **ONLY SIG** THAT SPONSORS INTERNATIONAL STUDENT/POSTDOC AWARDS
5. THIS YEAR WE BECAME THE SIG WINNING MOST SOT AWARDS: 6



Since this is our 30th anniversary of ASIO let's determine to take our membership to 300. We hope you will spread the word and help us meet this challenge. To join, please tell your friends to simply e-mail sothq@toxicology.org and they will receive information to assist them to become a member of ASIO.

*-Prasad Krishnan
(Membership Committee)*

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR 2014-2015 ASIO SPONSORS!

ASIO RECEPTION GRAND SPONSOR



GOLD SPONSORS



SILVER SPONSORS



CRAD COMMITTEE



ENDOWMENT SPONSORS



Dr. Dharm V. Singh



Dr. Harihara Mehendale



Dr. Laxman Desai

MANY THANKS TO OUR ENDOWMENT SPONSORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT
OVER MANY YEARS.