



Association of Scientists of Indian Origin

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President's Message

I'm pleased to have the opportunity to lead the Association of Scientists of Indian Origin (ASIO), a Special Interest Group (SIG) of Society of Toxicology (SOT) for 2015-2016. ASIO in the past few years has emerged as one of the successful and active SIGs of SOT, as evidenced by number of awards, endowment funds, student activities (Lunch N Learn and Coffee Hour), newsletters, and sponsorships. ASIO is able to achieve this only with the help of the energy, enthusiasm, dedication, and continued support of our members. I'm very grateful to our founding fathers and past presidents/Board of Directors (BODs) of ASIO for building such a strong platform and making it easy for incoming officers. We recently concluded another successful 2015 ASIO Annual reception at SOT 2015 annual meeting in San Diego, CA. Congratulations to incoming 2015-2016 BODs! I am really looking forward to working closely with my team to build on the momentum set up by the predecessors.

While we can take pride in the success of the past years achievements, it is important that we focus on the future goals of ASIO. While we continue to carry on existing successful and popular ASIO activities such as webinars, Lunch N Learn, Coffee Hour etc., we are constantly in search of new activities that will cater to the interest of ASIO members. If you have any ideas for novel ASIO activities that you think will benefit the ASIO members or would like to volunteer for ASIO activities, please reach out to me or any of the existing ASIO BOD members. We have a great team of ASIO BOD to support me in leading the ASIO organization in to the future ahead. Please feel free to send your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions on any of activities present and future to me or any of the officers. Help us make the ASIO truly a product of the hopes and aspirations of our membership.

Dr. Sudheer Beedanagari
President, ASIO-SOT

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Dr. Sudheer Beedanagari

Past President's Message

Dear ASIO members:

Last year, this time around, I took charge as president of ASIO. 2014-15 is already behind us! It was a great year and a true pleasure to serve ASIO membership. I want to take this opportunity to thank ASIO membership for providing me an opportunity to serve as your president. Thanks to the zeal of founding members, past presidents, sponsors, and volunteers because of whom ASIO is in great shape today. My special thanks to our endowment sponsors (Drs. Harihara Mehendale, Laxman Desai, and Dharm Singh) and the annual reception sponsors (Advinus and Vivo Bio) because of whom we are able to give several awards to deserving students, post-docs, and scientists. Last year, I set an ambitious agenda for my team. We had almost one dozen committees. Since day one, I have been communicating all the progress and achievements with you via newsletter. We were able to accomplish so many things successfully because of the relentless support from my team. No words can express my gratitude towards my team. On behalf of ASIO, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you for your continuous support and guidance. There is always room for improvement. If you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer then please contact any one of us. I wish Dr. Sudheer Beedanagari and his team the best.



Sincerely,

Dr. Sachin Devi, Past-President, ASIO-SOT

2015-2016 ASIO Officers



Sudheer Beedanagari
President



Mamta Behl
Vice-President



Mayur Mitra
VP- Elect



Sachin Devi
Past President



Sainath Babu
Treasurer



Sachin Bhusari
Councilor #1



Saurabh Chatterjee
Councilor #2



Sridhar Jaligama
Post-Doc Rep



Pratap Kumar
Student Rep

ASIO LNL and Coffee Hour at SOT 2015, San Diego

Lunch N Learn: ASIO Lunch N Learn is organized for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to have career-related extended chat with toxicology experts from industry, academia and government sectors. More than 30 participants took advantage of the vast knowledge of the leading toxicologists: **Dr. Udayan Apte** (University of Kansas Medical Center), **Dr. Vijayapal Reddy** (Eli Lilly and Company) and **Dr. Mugimane Manjanatha** (USFDA-NCTR).



Coffee Hour: Originally initiated in 2012 at the 51st SOT meeting, the Coffee Hour with an expert was very well welcomed at this year's 54th SOT

annual meeting at San Diego. We received very good response from both the mentors and mentees making the event successful. This year, we had 10 mentors and 22 mentees to make the event successful. We would like to thank all the mentors for sharing their knowledge and mentees to participate in the event.



We are looking forward to meeting all of you again in 2016 at New Orleans.

ASIO Annual Reception at SOT 2015, San Diego



CONGRATULATIONS to ASIO 2015 Award Recipients



Senior Toxicologist Award
Dr. Firoze Khan



Senior Toxicologist Award
Dr. Sidhartha Ray



Young Investigator Award
Dr. Binu K. Philip



**Dr. Dharm Singh Postdoctoral
Fellow Award**
Dr. Amarendra Kumar Ajay



**Dr. Dharm Singh Postdoctoral
Fellow Award**
Dr. Ratanesh Kumar Seth



International Travel Award
Sabbir Khan



Harihara Mehendale
Graduate Student Award
Prajakta Shimpi



Harihara Mehendale
Graduate Student Award
Nikita Joshi



Laxman Desai
Graduate Student Award
Amruta Manke



Laxman Desai
Graduate Student Award
Pooja Naik



Graduate Student Award:
Finalist Certificates
Vivek Lawana

Graduate Student Award:
Finalist Certificates
Priti Prasad

CONGRATULATIONS to SOT 2015 High School Student Awardees



Sainath Uppu
Dutchtown High School
Geismer, CA



Mayur Krishna
Centennial High School
Ellicott City, MD



Arjun Keshava
Wake Early College of
Health and Sciences
Raleigh, NC

Trisha Dwivedi
The Harker Upper
School, CA

A BIG Thank you to our outgoing President Dr. Sachin Devi



Dr. Sachin Devi addressing the ASIO-SOT reception at SOT, San Diego. President Dr. Sudheer Beedanagari presenting a plaque to Past President Dr. Sachin Devi (Left)

2014-15 ASIO-SOT Committee Updates during ASIO-SOT Reception



Dr. Mamta Behl, VP ASIO-SOT Awards Committee



Dr. Udayan Apte Awards Committee

Awards Committee: Total 9 awards were given during SOT 2015. ASIO is proud to be the Special Interest group that sponsors highest number of awards including international travel and high school student awards



Dr. Sachin Bhusari Membership Committee

Membership Committee: Total 202 members including 18 international members. Special interest group with second highest number of members.



Dr. Mayur Mitra, VP-Elect ASIO-SOT Sponsorship Committee

Sponsorship Committee: Four major endowment funds including Dr. Harihara Mehendale ASIO student award fund, Dr. Laxman S. Desai ASIO student award fund, Dr. Dharm V. Singh ASIO postdoctoral fellow award fund and Toxikon: a preclinical toxicology organization and Dr. Dharm V. Singh ASIO award fund.



Dr. Aditya Joshi Newsletter Committee

Newsletter Committee: ASIO newsletter is published quarterly on ASIO-SOT website. It provides information about activities planned by ASIO, showcases awards and achievements by ASIO members as well as promotes networking among ASIO members.



Pratap Kumar

LNL and Coffee hour Committee



Dr. Arjun Basavarajappa

Annual Reception Committee

LNL and Coffee Hour Committee: Organizes Lunch and Learn and Coffee Hour. Strives to bring in experts from different fields for career guidance.

Annual Reception Committee: Planning and organization of ASIO annual reception at SOT meeting.



Vijay Kale

Webinar Committee

Webinar Committee: Organizes webinars by experts in the field. Last webinar conducted in September 2014 was attended by more than 100 participants from seven different countries.

A very special thanks to our Endowment Donors & Sponsors



On left current ASIO president Dr. Beedanagari presenting plaque to **Dr. Venugopal Rao** from Advinus, a GRAND sponsor of ASIO reception. Dr. Beedanagari appreciating a very generous endowment set up by **Toxikon** (Tim Fisher from Toxikon, center) and **Dr. Dharm V. Singh** (right). This new endowment will be providing awards to support Indian origin Students & Postdocs outside USA to attend SOT meetings.

We would also like to mention special thanks to our Gold Sponsors **SOT CRAD committee** and **Vivo Biotech Ltd** as well as our endowment sponsors: **Dr. Dharm V. Singh, Dr. Harihara Mehendale, Dr. Laxman Desai and Toxikon** for their generous support to ASIO.

ASIO Membership and Volunteer Opportunities

Join ASIO...

Over last three decades ASIO has evolved into a leading Special Interest Group of the SOT, connecting toxicologists of Indian origin across the world. As an ASIO member you get to involve and participate in ASIO activities throughout the year and get to network with fellow Indian origin toxicologists around the globe. Please encourage your friends and colleagues to join ASIO and be a part of the growing ASIO community. To become an ASIO member today and enjoy numerous member benefits log on: www.toxicology.org/groups/membership/joinSOT.asp

Get involved with ASIO activities...

ASIO constantly looks out and encourages its members to improve their leadership skills by actively volunteering and contributing to our yearly activities. We look forward to welcome our fellow budding scientists to share, lead, and develop ASIO programs.

- **ASIO Reception committee:** Planning and organization of the ASIO annual reception with coordination and cooperation from other committees.
- **ASIO Proposal Review Committee:** It reviews scientific session proposals including symposia, workshops, roundtable discussions, informational sessions, career-development sessions submitted to ASIO
- **ASIO Sponsorship committee:** Develop and implement strategies to attract sponsorship/ endowment funds for ASIO activities.
- **ASIO Awards committee:** Manages nominations, and selects candidates for multiple ASIO awards annually.
- **ASIO Outreach committee:** Improves the awareness about ASIO membership-benefits, strengthen collaborations amongst other SIGs and Toxicologist Associations in India. and conduct webinars on diverse topics by distinguished scientists to benefit the scientific community and increase the visibility of ASIO in the field of toxicology
- **ASIO Newsletter committee:** The voice of ASIO - A vibrant committee publishing quarterly updates about ASIO activities and its members achievements
- **ASIO LNL / Coffee hour committee:** Strives to bring in experts from diverse toxicology disciplines and organizations to share their experiences and guide graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in exploring diverse career paths
- **ASIO Website committee:** Maintains and updates the ASIO website periodically to keep the members informed about its activities.

If you interested in volunteering and contributing towards the ASIO team or if you have any suggestions, please send your names and preference of committee to ASIO Student representative **Pratap Kumar (drprathapk@gmail.com)**.

ASIO 2015-2016 SPONSORS

ASIO GRAND SPONSOR



GOLD SPONSORS



Career Resource and
Development Committee



ENDOWMENT SPONSORS



Dr. Dharm Singh



Dr. Harihara Mehendale



Dr. Laxman Desai



Thank you so much for your generous contribution!