



# ASIO-SIG Newsletter



**Editors: Saryu Goel, Vinayak Srinivasan, Prasad Krishnan & Vikrant Vijay**

## Message from Outgoing President

**Fall Issue, 2010**

Dear ASIO members:



As the outgoing President of ASIO it has been a great pleasure for me to work with all of you as I held different positions on the ASIO Board of Directors (BOD) over last several years. The year 2009-2010 for ASIO started in a very well organized way. Because of the hard work of the past Presidents like Gopala and Madhu as well as the past BOD members we already had a solid infrastructure in place and we needed to

build upon it. In addition to continuing with different activities initiated by the past ASIO Board, our main goal was to increase participation of students and post-doctoral fellows in ASIO activities. With the support of our very capable postdoctoral representative, Sudheer Reddy, and student representative, Prasad Krishnan, we increased student and postdoctoral involvement significantly. Additionally, we wanted to create a platform at our annual meeting reception for companies who are doing business in India or are interested in doing business in India. In an effort to do that during the last SOT Meeting in Salt Lake City, ASIO tried a new format for the annual meeting reception. Instead of going to dinner together to an Indian Restaurant and then have a (or two) guest speaker(s) talk to us we invited the speakers and representatives from interested companies talk to us at an evening reception at the main meeting venue. We were also able to provide finger foods at this reception because of generous donation from various sponsor companies. Our outgoing Secretary/Treasurer Satheesh Anand deserves a big 'thank you' for his tremendous effort on getting this done on a very limited budget. This was a very successful event with more than 100 people in attendance. BOD has received many encouraging and constructive comments from many of you.

I am very happy to be part of this growing organization with a wonderful and very dedicated group of people. I want to sincerely thank each and every member of this organization and the officers who have contributed in making ASIO one of the largest and most successful SIGs of SOT. I look forward to working with the new BOD under the leadership of Binu Philip. I plan on continuing to contribute to ASIO by volunteering for different activities as needed.

Best regards,

Sanjay Chanda, Outgoing President  
Association of Scientists of Indian Origin

### Inside this issue:

Message from outgoing president	1
Message from incoming president	2
ASIO Team 2010-11	
Reception Photo 2010	3
Awards-Leadership, Senior Member, Student & Post Doc	4
Guest Speakers 2010	5
LNL at ASIO 2010	7

### Special points of interest:

- Membership renewal
- Request for Sponsorship ASIO-SIG reception
- Call for session topics for SOT 2012
- ASIO senior member award nominations requested
- Seeking suggestions for 2011 SOT
- ASIO reception
- ASIOA National Meeting & call for Abstract

## Message from Incoming President



Dear ASIO Members:

It is my privilege to serve as the president of ASIO for the year 2010-2011. I know it is a colossal task and a lot is expected of me. With an excellent team of board of directors (BODs), I am confident that I will match the standards set by people who preceded me and will strive to take the organization to next level. I started my association with ASIO as a post doctoral representative and over the years I've witnessed the growth of ASIO as one of the leading special interest groups (SIG) of SOT. ASIO could not have achieved this status without the resolute efforts of several members who have volunteered their time and energy. I'm very grateful to the past presidents and BODs for building a strong platform. We had a very successful annual meeting at Salt Lake City this year. We recently conducted a survey and received very positive feedbacks from our members for the new annual meeting format. We will be implementing several new programs in the future to promote collaboration and networking among members.

We should not restrict our activities to just annual SOT meetings. We are planning to start webinars to increase collaboration among members. Please remember that, ASIO is not about the 5 or 10 people who serve in the BOD, rather it represents a vast body of successful scientists of Indian origin. If you think, you can make a difference to the way we function, I invite you to come and be part of it. Together, we can take this association to the next level. SOT is celebrating its 50th anniversary next year and it's time for us to start thinking about ways to make this occasion a memorable one for ASIO. Please feel free to contact me with your comments and inputs. We are always in need of more people to serve on various committees. I look forward to work with you all and contribute significantly to the growth of our organization.

Best regards,

Binu K. Philip, President  
Association of Scientists of Indian Origin  
Special Interest Group of the Society of Toxicology

### ***ASIO TEAM for 2010-2011***

President: Binu Philip  
Past President: Sanjay Chanda  
Vice President: Vinayak Srinivasan  
Vice President-Elect-: Saryu Goel  
Secretary-Treasurer: Sachin S. Devi  
Councilors: Beby Jayaram, Anumantha G.Kanthalasamy, Vikrant Vijay  
Post-doctoral Representative: Prasad Krishnan  
Student Representative: Senthilkumar Perumal Kuppasamy

## ASIO RECEPTION PHOTO GALLERY



Board of Directors and Guest speakers at the Annual ASIO reception, which featured student awards, recognition of senior members and endowment donors as well as noted guest speakers and sponsors



Our past President, **Dr. Sanjay Chanda**, was honored with an award for his excellence in Leadership and service to ASIO



ASIO Senior Member Award to **Dr. Madhusudan**

**CONGRATULATIONS: STUDENT AND POST-DOCTORAL AWARD WINNERS**



**Arunkumar Asaithambi**, ASIO-SIG Dr. Laxman Desai Graduate Student Best Abstract Award winner



**Indira Devi Jutooru**, ASIO-SIG Dr. Harihara Mehendale Graduate Student Best Abstract Award winner



**Mayurranjan S. Mitra**, ASIO-SIG Dr. Dharm Singh Postdoctoral Fellow/ Young Investigator Best Abstract Award winner



**Durga Nand Tripathi**, ASIO-SIG Young Investigator International Travel Award winner

## GUEST SPEAKERS AT RECEPTION



**Dr. Debapriya Dutta, Counselor (S&T)**  
Indian Embassy, DC



**Shaheen Majeed, Marketing Director**  
Sabinsa Corporation

## SPONSORS OF THE ASIO RECEPTION



**Dr. Nimesh Vachharajani, Advinus, India**



**Assad Aslam, LAB Research, Canada**



**Dr. A. Sankaranarayanan, Vivo Bio Tech Ltd., India**

- Advinus – [www.advinus.com](http://www.advinus.com)
- GVK Biosciences - [www.GVKbio.com](http://www.GVKbio.com)
- LAB Research - [www.labresearch.com](http://www.labresearch.com)
- Vivo Bio Tech Ltd - [www.vivobio.com](http://www.vivobio.com)

## 2010 ASIO RECEPTION PHOTOS



Visit us online @ <http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/asio>

## **ASIO's LNL at SOT '10 was a well attended success!**

**Submitted by - Dr. Vinayak Srinivasan and Dr. Sudheer Beedanagari**

The Lunch and Learn (LNL) program, sponsored by ASIO was held successfully for a second year in a row at SOT 2010, in Salt Lake City, UT. LNL program was aimed to mentor the graduate students and postdoctoral researchers of Indian origin, by addressing participant's queries spanning a wide range of topics such as; network building, resume preparation, interviewing skills, how to determine and choose the best career path that fits their interests within the field of toxicology. Like last year, the LNL program this year too was well attended by students and post-docs of Indian origin, who are at different stages of their careers. They brought a diverse and challenging set of questions to panel members. LNL program was organized and moderated by Sudheer Reddy, with the help of five expert panel members: Drs. Vinayak Srinivasan (Cosmetic Industry), Sushmita Chanda (Pharma Industry), Gunda Reddy (Govt./Federal), Chellu Chetty (Academia), and A. Sankaranarayanan (CRO). This was certainly a unique opportunity for students and post-doctoral students to interact and ask questions to a panel of experts chosen from different career paths in the field of Toxicology.

It was an enriching experience and good networking opportunity for all the participants. We will continue to build and expand this program, based on excellent feedback received from the participants for the last two years. There was a good exchange of questions and answers. Everyone was keen on continuing to keep in touch to have further discussions and be available to network.

We are in the process of inviting couple of Human Resource personnel from Industry, as part of LNL at SOT 2011 to mentor on resume building and interviewing skills. We will keep you posted with more concrete plans for our LNL 2011 program, as we come closer to SOT 2011 at Washington, DC. If you are interested in learning more or would like to volunteer as a mentor with the LNL program please feel free to drop an e-mail to Sudheer Beedanagari at [sbeedanagari@lexpharma.com](mailto:sbeedanagari@lexpharma.com).



**Mentors and Participants at the Lunch N 'Learn Session**

## Membership Renewal

We would like to remind all our members to renew their memberships while registering for the SOT annual meeting. You can do this online through the SOT website. The online membership renewal is available at all times. Students and Postdocs receive their first SIG membership free of charge. So we encourage all our student/postdoc community to take advantage of this opportunity and be a part of ASIO. Please contact the committee members if you need further information or visit:

<http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/asio/membership.asp>

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## Soliciting nomination for ASIO Senior Member/Science Achievement Award

We are requesting nominations from members in order to recognize senior ASIO members who have led the way and shown us the path forward. We are asking you to bring to our attention those individuals who have not only contributed to help our group get the recognition and status we are receiving within SOT but have also made significant contributions in the field of toxicology and related disciplines.

Please nominate and submit one nomination letter and two support letters for the nominees with a detailed description of the Senior Member's scientific achievements and mentoring capacities.

The award committee will review the submitted nominations and will select the awardees (up to two), who will receive a plaque and recognition at the ASIO reception at the SOT meeting in Washington, DC. Please submit your nominations to Binu Philip, [bkphilip2010@gmail.com](mailto:bkphilip2010@gmail.com), by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

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## Call for session topics for 2012 SOT Annual Meeting

We are seeking topics from members interested in proposing a session that can be sponsored by ASIO at the 51st SOT Annual meeting to be held in 2012 at San Francisco, California. The deadline for submission to the SOT is April 30<sup>th</sup> 2011. Please contact Binu Philip by January 15<sup>th</sup> 2011, on session topics for further discussion/finalization at the SOT meeting in Washington, DC.

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## Seeking suggestions for a memorable SOT 2011 meeting-ASIO-SIG reception

We are making great strides in growing our organization and expanding its role within SOT. Thanks to your dedication and support that a number of constructive suggestions and activities have been discussed and implemented within the short term of attaining SOT-SIG status.

We are looking for additional suggestions on activities that would improve and increase the visibility of our organization and finalize an effective and enjoyable evening reception of the ASIO in Washington, DC. Please send your suggestions to Sachin Devi, [sdevi@lecom.edu](mailto:sdevi@lecom.edu), by December 15<sup>th</sup> 2010.



## Important ASIO-SOT-SIG deadlines:

**Nominations for Senior Member/Science Achievement Award**  
*December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010*

**Abstract submission for Student Travel Award**  
*January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011*

**Submission of session topics for abstract proposals, SOT 2012**  
*January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011*

**Suggestions for ASIO activities at the SIG reception, SOT 2011**  
*December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010*



ASIOA, the parent association of ASIO-SIG is conducting a National Meeting from Jan 15-17, 2011 at greater Atlanta- Suwanee, GA. Abstract deadline is October 31, 2010

### ***ABSTRACT DEADLINE OCTOBER 31, 2010***

#### **Highlights**

- **INAUGURAL SPEAKER (Jan 15):** *Dr. George Chandy*, Professor, Department of Physiology and Biophysics, School of Medicine, University of California, Irvine
- **NATIONAL MEETING ORATION (Jan 16):** *Dr. Muthu Periasamy*, Professor and Chair, Department of Physiol. and Cell Biol., Associate Director, Davis Heart & Lung Research Institute, Ohio State University, Ohio
- **JUNIOR RESEARCH SCIENTIST AWARD COMPETITION (Jan 16)**
- **AWARDS CEREMONY (Jan 17):** Post doctoral, graduate and undergraduate presentations
- **AT LEAST SIX TO SEVEN SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS (Jan 15-17):** Drug development, novel drug delivery systems, immunology, neuroscience, cancer and cardiovascular Biology chaired by eminent and established biomedical researchers

#### **Contacts:**

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Satya P. Kunapuli, PhD, Vice President of the meeting organizing committee, spk@temple.edu

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## **Sponsorship Request Letter**

The Board of Directors and members of the Association of Scientists of Indian Origin (ASIO) invite your organization to provide sponsorship and support to the ASIO - Society of Toxicology (SOT) Special Interest Group's (SIG) 2011 awards and activities. The SOT 2011 meeting will be held in Washington, DC, March 6-10<sup>th</sup>. Corporate sponsorships will enable us to initiate and continue activities and specific programs especially for Students of Indian Origin. We believe that an important part of our success is in providing the best possible opportunities to our membership and the greater scientific community at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Toxicology.

ASIO is a Special Interest Group of the Society of Toxicology, which is a nonprofit scientific and educational organization. It operates in compliance with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. ASIO promotes fellowship among scientists of Indian origin living in North America and extends such fellowship around the globe, especially the Indian subcontinent. ASIO's primary purpose is to enhance collegiality, fellowship, networking and professional development of all engaged in the active learning and practice of toxicology. ASIO's membership is diverse, and represents a cross-section of industrial, academic, governmental, and commercial organizations. Please visit our web site at <http://www.toxicology.org/isot/sig/asio> for more information about ASIO.

- Your organization's support of the 2011 ASIO-SOT-SIG events will help sustain ASIO's effort to promote scientific excellence in toxicology.
- Publicize your company's products and services by sponsoring any or all the three events during the ASIO-SOT annual conferences. Sponsorships are available at the following levels:
  - 1. ASIO Evening Reception & Dinner Sponsorship: \$1000 - Be acknowledged and recognized during the reception and in our Newsletters.
  - 2. Student & Postdoctoral Travel Awards: \$750 - Help a student of Indian Origin attend the 2011 SOT meeting – Be acknowledged and recognized in our Newsletters.
  - 3. Lunch & Learn Session, such as helping students and postdocs in choosing a career path, visa issues, CV writing, etc: \$500 – Be acknowledged and recognized in our Newsletters.

If you would like to sponsor any of these events of ASIO at the 2011 SOT meeting, please send your check payable to: 'Society of Toxicology Fund' for ASIO-SIG and mail to: Society of Toxicology Fund, 1821 Michael Faraday Drive, Suite 300, Reston, VA 20190. If you have any further questions or need clarification, please email your enquiries to Binu Philip (bkphilip2010@gmail.com)

Thank you for your consideration and support of the Association of Scientists of Indian Origin, a Special Interest Group of the Society of Toxicology, USA.

Sincerely,

ASIO Board of Directors