

## Indian Academy of Neurosciences

### Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on October 27, 2012 at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar

The meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of Indian Academy of Neurosciences (IAN) was held on October 27, 2012 at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar. The meeting attended by following members was presided over by Dr. Mahender K Thakur.

1. A.K. Agrawal, Lucknow
2. BSS Rao, Bangaluru
3. S Bala Singh, New Delhi
4. S Sinha, Manesar
5. B.N. Dhawan, Lucknow
6. G.N. Pandey, USA
7. P.K. Seth, Lucknow
8. G Kaur, Amritsar
9. A Anand, Chandigarh
10. P Seth, Manesar
11. M.K. Thakur, Varanasi
12. V K Khanna, Lucknow
13. R.C. Srimal, New Delhi                      Special invitee
14. I.K. Patro, Gwalior                              Special Invitee

Dr. MK Thakur, President of the IAN formally welcomed the members and special invitees and thanked them for attending the meeting. The meeting proceeded as per agenda.

1. The minutes of the last EC meeting held at New Delhi on October 29, 2011 were confirmed. Prof GN Pandey proposed and Dr. Shashi Bala Singh, Prof Subrata Sinha and Dr. Pankaj Seth seconded.
- 2 and 3. The members agreed that point 2 and 3 as per agenda on the possibility of holding the regional CINP meeting in Lucknow in 2013 may be discussed together. In the absence of Dr. Rakesh Shukla who could not attend the EC meeting due to unforeseen reasons, Dr. P.K. Seth explained that a meeting with Gill Moore, CINP Executive Secretary was to be organized in Lucknow with Dr. Rakesh Shukla to discuss the modalities for organizing the event in July 2012. However, the meeting could not be materialized. He further said that the time to hold this regional meet in 2013 is now short. The members discussed the issue and it was resolved that possibility to hold such meeting in later years be explored if possible.

4. Dr. S. Sinha, Dean of IAN and Chairman of the Academic Committee informed that nomination of following four members were received for the election of Fellows of IAN,

Dr. T.R. Raju, NIMHANS, Bengaluru  
Dr. G. Palit, CDRI, Lucknow  
Dr. S.Cowsik Mahajan, JNU, New Delhi  
Dr K.D. Gill, PGIMER, Chandigarh

He further apprised the EC that the Academic Committee had recommended Dr. T.R. Raju, NIMHANS, Bengaluru and Dr. G. Palit, CDRI, Lucknow for the Fellowship and the recommendation was approved by the EC.

Proposal to elect Dr. Hitoshi Okamoto, Japan and Phil Robinson, Australia as Honorary Fellows was discussed and approved by the EC.

Dr. Sinha also proposed the recommendation of the Search Committee that Professor B.K. Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award of the IAN for 2013 be conferred on Dr (Ms). Shashi Wadhawa, AIIMS, New Delhi. The recommendation was considered and approved by the EC unanimously.

While discussing the nomination of Dr. Veerana for KT Shetty Memorial Oration 2013, the EC suggested to invite more nominations along with the nominations for the year 2014 and to select a suitable candidate later.

5. The composition of Search Committee for BK Bacchawat Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award and KT Shetty Memorial Oration and Academic Committee for electing fellows for the year 2013 and 2014 was discussed. The EC approved following committee,

**Academic Committee** (Ex officio members – Dean, President, General Secretary, Secretary HQ, Fellows – Dr (Ms). Shashi Bala Singh, New Delhi; Dr. P.K. Seth, Lucknow and Dr. Shashi Wadhwa, New Delhi).

**Search Committee for BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award and KT Shetty Memorial Oration** (Ex officio members – Dean, President, General Secretary, Secretary HQ, Editor, Fellows – Dr. P. N. Tandon, Manesar, Dr. B.N. Dhawan, Lucknow, Dr. U.S. Bhalla, Bengaluru)

6. The EC members were happy to note that a total of ten research papers were received for Jyotsnamoyee Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize for the year 2012. This was the highest number of submission for this award category. The recommendation of the Dean to appoint following panel for evaluating these papers to select the best paper for the award was approved by the EC,

Dr. HC Pant, USA

Dr. R. Vemuganti, USA  
Dr. Sarah A. Dunlop, Australia  
Dr. Y.S. Chan, Hong Kong  
Dr. R.C. Srimal, New Delhi  
Dr (Ms). Raj D. Mehra, New Delhi

It was further informed that scores received from the Reviewers were collated and the paper published in Journal of Neuroscience by Dr. Niranjana Kambi et al. was selected for Jyotsnamoyee Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize for the year 2012.

7. The following panel of judges for evaluating the awards for oral and poster presentations during the XXX annual meeting of Indian Academy of Neurosciences for the year 2012 was approved by the EC,

**Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award / D. M. Kar Prize**

Dr. R.C. Srimal, Lucknow.  
Dr. P.K. Seth, Lucknow.  
Dr. A. Jagota, Hyderabad.  
Dr. R. Sandhir, Chandigarh.

**S.S. Parmar Research Foundation (USA) Prize / Best Paper from the Organizers / IBRO – APRC Award**

Dr. A.B. Pant, Lucknow  
Dr. Aurnab Ghose, Pune  
Dr. Sunil C. Kaul, Japan  
Dr. Renu Wadhwa, Japan  
Dr. A.K. Agrawal, Lucknow  
Dr. A. Anand, Chandigarh  
Dr. Shiv Sharma, Manesar  
Dr. R.C. Srimal, New Delhi

Further, to encourage young students and post doctoral fellows presenting papers in Poster Session, the Dean proposed that 2 awards each in 8 categories be given. The EC approved the proposal and suggested the Dean to include more members in the panel in consultation with the Organizing Secretary if required.

8. Modalities for Organizing the FAONS Symposium as a part of annual meetings of IAN were discussed. The EC appreciated efforts for the initiative to start the FAONS Symposium from 2012 and approved that Rs.50,000/- from the corpus be provided to the Organizers of the XXX Annual Conference of Indian Academy of Neurosciences. It was suggested that rest of the amount be invested as FDR by the Treasurer.

Following guidelines were approved by the EC to be observed by the Organizers for the FAONS Symposium,

- i. A grant up to Rs. 40,000/- to Rs. 50,000/- depending on the interest from the corpus as FDR for the purpose and not exceeding Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty thousand only) will be provided by the Treasurer to the organizers of the annual conference on request to hold the FAONS Symposium.
  - ii. The theme of the symposium should be one of the neurological issues relevant to the Asian-Oceanian region.
  - iii. The Symposium should have 4-6 established as well as young speakers from Asian Oceanian region including India.
  - iv. The grant may be utilized to meet the partial expenses / organizational expenses including registration, domestic travel, lodging and hospitality of the speakers.
  - v. The Organizing Secretary will submit a report of the Symposium and statement of expenditure of the grant within three months after organizing the conference.
9. After intense discussions on the matter of amendments in the procedure of Awards / Prizes and specially Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award, DM Kar Prize, SS Parmar Research Foundation USA Prize and Jyotsnamoyee Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize, the EC approved following amendments to be made in the condition of the awards / prizes,
  - i. The condition that papers awarded Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award, DM Kar Prize and SS Parmar Research Foundation USA Prize shall be published in the official journal of the Academy Annals of Neuroscience be made optional. It was also approved that extended abstracts up to 2 pages may be asked by the Organizers / Secretary HQ to judge merit of the work to initially select and prioritize the papers for respective awards.
  - ii. In case of multi-authored publication, for Jyotsnamoyee Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize, the applicant should be the first author and member of the Academy.
10. The recommendation of the Neuroscience Task Force of the Department of Biotechnology, New Delhi to hold training workshops on writing research proposals and scientific communication for capacity building of young

neuroscientists with annual conference of IAN was appreciated and approved unanimously by the EC. It was further suggested that rather than a half day workshop, a full day pre- or post-conference workshop may be organized and Department of Biotechnology, New Delhi may be approached for funding.

11. Three proposals for forming new IAN local Chapters in Varanasi, Jaipur and Vellore were discussed during the EC meeting. The request from Varanasi was approved as they met the requirement of 10 or more active IAN members. It was suggested that Dr. Anurag Tomar be asked to send recent and complete CVs of Life Members of IAN in Jaipur. It was also resolved that approval to have the local branch at Jaipur be given incase CV of 10 Life Members are received. The request for the third chapter from Vellore was not approved as the minimum requirement of 10 Life Members was lacking as per IAN Rules and Bye-laws.

Further, to promote the neuroscience activities, the EC suggested that up to Rs 10,000/- (Rupees Ten thousand only) per year may be spared for activities at local chapters of the Academy. However, the Conveners of the local Chapters should send formal proposals to the Secretary HQ which will be evaluated by the EC before the grant is provided. It was also suggested that a format be prepared by the General Secretary and used appropriately for submitting the proposals by the concerned local branches.

12. Dr. Akshay Anand presented the Editor's report. The EC agreed in principal with Editor's request to approach the publishers for bringing out regular issues of Academy's official journal Annals of Neurosciences. Editor was however advised to get details of the terms and conditions of publishers and present/share it with President, General Secretary to evaluate the approach. It was also suggested that the balance sheet be presented in the next report in the EC and GB.
13. Dr. A. K. Agrawal, Treasurer of the Academy presented the audited annual account of the Academy. The Treasurer's report was appreciated for sustained and continued increase in flow of money due to increase in membership and approved unanimously by the members.
14. Proposal for organizing the XXXI Annual conference of the IAN in 2013 at the University of Allahabad, Allahabad received from Dr. Umesh C. Srivastava was discussed. Considering infrastructure facility, close association with The National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) and moreover the image of Allahabad as an academic city, the EC approved the proposal. It was further suggested that the meeting be organized in late October or early November to avoid overlap with other conferences and have good participation of neuroscientists from India and abroad. The other proposal received from Vellore by Dr. Zaved Khan could not be taken up as he was not present.

14. Based on the nominations received for various posts, the Executive Committee for 2012 – 2013 was proposed as mentioned in Annexure - I for the approval of the General Body.

Any other matter

15. With the permission of Chairperson, following items were also discussed –
  - a) The EC appreciated the efforts of the Organizing Committee of IAN – FAONS 2010 for raising the funds for the conference in Lucknow and approved that the savings may be transferred to IAN account so that corpus be created as discussed for the FANOS Symposium and providing travel grants to young researchers for attending the FAONS meeting. It was also approved that savings of earlier conferences if any with the Organizers may be transferred to the account of the IAN or to the respective local branch for running the activities.
  - b) A template of the programme for the annual meeting of IAN prepared by the Secretary HQ was approved by the EC. It was suggested that the template should be passed on to the Organizing Secretary in advance to develop the programme of the conference accordingly.
  - c) A request by Dr. A. Nath for modification in the name of the **R. Nath Travel Fellowship to Ravindra and Lalitha Nath Travel Fellowship** was discussed and approved by the members.
  - d) The matter to bid for hosting the 2019 meeting of IBRO in India was discussed at length and it was decided that the matter be explored further by the General Secretary.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

## Executive Committee (2012 – 2013)

### **President**

Dr. M.K. Thakur  
Varanasi

### **Vice Presidents**

Dr. S.C. Pandey  
Chicago, USA

Dr. U.C. Srivastava  
Allahabad

### **Dean**

Dr. S. Sinha  
Manesar

### **General Secretary**

Dr. P. Seth  
Manesar

### **Secretary HQ**

Dr. V.K. Khanna  
Lucknow

### **Secretary International Affairs**

Dr. D.K. Lahiri  
Indianapolis, USA

### **Treasurer**

Dr. A. K. Agrawal  
Lucknow

### **Chief Editor**

Dr. A. Anand  
Chandigarh

### **Members**

Dr (Ms). Laxmi T. Rao  
Bangalore

Dr (Ms). Vidita Vaidya  
Mumbai

Dr U.S. Bhalla  
Bangalore

Dr (Ms). Gurcharan Kaur  
Amritsar

Dr. (Ms). S.B. Singh  
New Delhi

Dr. RV Omkumar  
Thiruvananthapuram

### **IBRO and FAONS Representative**

Dr. P. K. Seth  
Lucknow

### **Immediate Past President**

Dr. R. Shukla  
Lucknow

### **Immediate Past General Secretary**

Dr M.K. Thakur  
Varanasi