



Neurosciences Newsletter

House Magazine of

Indian Academy of Neurosciences

(Registered Under Societies Registration Act XXI 1860 Regn. No. 79106)

June 2021

Message from the President



Dear Friends,

I feel honoured to be elected President of the Academy, thank you all for your confidence in me.

We are passing through a very tough time of the COVID pandemic. We have suffered, survived and even lost many of our near and dear ones.

We all understand our general responsibilities towards society during this pandemic time. Those who have survived the illness are facing different levels of psychological consequences. Mental health consequences of COVID-19 are yet to be fully explored. The major impacts of this illness have been anxiety, depression, features of post-traumatic stress reactions and more. These can be long-lasting. The Corona warriors particularly the Health and frontline workers have serious concerns of fear of contagion, social stigma, boredom of repeatedly doing the same procedures daily, anger, anxiety and uncertainty of this pandemic. While we have some information on the impact of the COVID-19 on mental health of adults we understand very little on the impact of this pandemic on the mental health of children and adolescents. COVID-19 has a widespread impact on the mental health of the children because the children at home are traumatized. They are deprived of outdoor activities, spend more time on the screen, irregular and imbalanced diet patterns, disturbed sleep all leading to higher BMI. We are even unaware how COVID exposure to the carrying mothers would influence the developing brain of the foetus and infants and also at their later life. Available data indicates that early life stress, infections and malnutrition induced altered CNS is vulnerable and prone to neuroinflammation and associated neurological disorders like Alzheimer's, Schizophrenia, ALS, Autism and Parkinson's disease. Together, we can venture to study the impact of this pandemic on mental health. We also have the responsibility to undertake research on all aspects including treatment and prevention of COVID-19 associated mental health (mild, chronic and severe conditions) and to understand how to mitigate the expected additional health care burden on the country. India has a strong neuroscience base and I am sure together we can contribute to the recovery from disruption of mental and psychological health due to COVID.

We had a very successful virtual annual meeting in 2020, aptly organized by Prof. Anita Jagota and our Past-President Prof. Shashi Bala Singh. The next meeting is being organized by Prof. Jayashree Das Sharma, Indian Institute of Scientific Education and Research (IISER), with local CSIR- IICB and Netaji Subhas Open University as partners at Kolkata during December 16-19, 2021. I personally invite you to attend.

Ishan K. Patro



Dr Vinay K. Khanna
Secretary HQ



Dr Pankaj Seth
General Secretary

Despite global efforts, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect the life and livelihoods of human of almost all the countries of the world. This did not deter the IAN and its members to continue their efforts to understand the intricacies of healthy and diseased brain and engage into scientific deliberations, training sessions and activities to promote neuroscience, though most of them were done inonline mode. The fact that SARS-CoV-2 infection causes neurological symptoms is further strengthened with strong clinical evidences emerging from large population studies. As per recent studies published by leading scientific and medical journals such as Lancet, Lancet Neurology, JAMA, Nature Neuroscience and others, it is now well established that more 30-50% of the COVID-19 patients report brain complications that is collectively termed as Brain Fog. They constitute variety of symptoms ranging from confusion, deficits in cognitive functions and memory recalls. Neuropsychiatric disorders, delirium, stroke, neuronal damage due to intracranial hemorrhages, cerebral ischemia is also reported in higher numbers in COVID-19 cases. These are more common in individuals who needed hospitalization following SARS-CoV-2 infection. Hence, enormous research efforts are warranted from neuroscientists in the country to study the long COVID effects in COVID-19 survivors and IAN members can immensely contribute in understanding the brain disorders in COVID-19 patients. Several researchers and members of IAN continued to help in capacity building and increasing the number of RT-PCR tests needed for detection of SARS-CoV-2 in populations across India. This was a great societal contribution by our members during the crisis when the country was struggling with the second wave of this deadly pandemic. Indian neuroscientists and neurologists have played a major role in identifying the neuropathogenesis of SARS-CoV-2, but detailed investigations are needed. We are hopeful that these efforts will help in understanding the cellular and molecular pathways resulting in Brain Fog in COVID19 cases, so that the problem can be managed more effectively.

Even in these pressing times, the academy successfully organized the annual meeting of Indian Academy of Neurosciences from Hyderabad in collaboration with University of Hyderabad, and National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) from October 4-7th, 2020. The meeting was organized in an online mode for the safety of the participants, due to travel restrictions and in compliance with government guidelines. The meeting was attended by delegates from over 20 countries. Our collaboration for co-publishing the Annals of Neurosciences, the official journal of the academy, with the leading international publisher - SAGE has also seen a remarkable growth in number of submissions of research articles and gathered greater visibility through this partnership.

Our public engagements through activities of IAN local chapters, and our global alliance with IBRO and Japanese Neuroscience Society (JNS) is growing stronger. We will be holding the XXXIX annual conference of IAN in hybrid mode from December16-19, 2021. The conference is being organized by Dr Jayasri Das Sarma, Indian Institute of Scientific Education and Research (IISER), with local CSIR- IICB and Netaji Subhas Open University as partners Kolkata. Further details are available at the conference website and IAN website. We look forward to your active participation during the meeting.

Vinay K. Khanna

PankajSeth

BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award - 2020



Dr (Ms). Gurcharan Kaur
University Honorary Professor
Department of Biotechnology
Guru Nanak Dev University
Amritsar - 143 005, Punjab, India
Email: kgurcharan.neuro@yahoo.com

Title of Oration -

Unmasking the Neurotherapeutic Potential of a Key Plasticity Marker, PSA-NCAM

KT Shetty Memorial Oration

2019



Dr. Anirban Basu
Scientist-VII & Senior Professor
National Brain Research Centre
NH-8, Manesar, Gurgaon, Haryana-122 052, India
Email: anirban@nbrc.ac.in, anirban.nbrc@gov.in

Title of Oration -

Innate Immunity in the Central Nervous System: Redefining the Relationship Between 'Immune System' and 'Nervous System'

2020



Dr. MM Srinivas Bharath
Professor and Head
Department of Clinical Psychopharmacology and Neurotoxicology
National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences
P.B. No. 2900, Hosur Road, Bengaluru-560029, Karnataka, India
Email: bharath@nimhans.ac.in, thathachar2010@gmail.com

Title of Oration -

Mitochondrial and Redox Dynamics: Connecting Basic and Clinical Neuroscience

IAN Elected Fellows- 2020



Dr Akshay Anand
Professor, Neuroscience Research Lab
Department of Neurology
Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research
Chandigarh - 160 012, India
Email: akshay2anand@gmail.com



Dr Laxmi T. Rao
Professor, Department of Neurophysiology
National Institute of Mental Health and NeuroSciences
Hosur Road, Bengaluru - 560 029, Karnataka, India.
Email: laxmi.nimhans@gmail.com; laxmir@gmail.com



Doctor Sunit K. Singh
Professor and Head-Molecular Biology Unit
Institute of Medical Sciences
Banaras Hindu University
Varanasi - 221 005, Uttar Pradesh, India
Email: sunitsingh2000@gmail.com



Dr Karunamuni Ranil Dayaranjan de Silva
Professor, Faculty of Medical Sciences
University of Sri Jayewardenepura (USJ)
Nugegoda, Sri Lanka
Email: ranil@sjp.ac.lk

Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award

Yogita K Adlakha, Translational Health Science and Technology Institute, NCR Biotech Science Cluster, 3rd Milestone, Faridabad - Gurgaon Expressway, Faridabad - 121001 Haryana, India; **Email:** yogita@nbric.ac.in

MiRNA-135 regulates human neural stem cell fate: Adopting induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) derived 2D neural stem cells (NSCs) to study neural development

DM Kar Prize

Anima Kumari, Developmental Toxicology Laboratory, Systems Toxicology & Health Risk Assessment Group, CSIR - Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, Vishvigyan Bhavan, 31, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, P.O. Box No. 80, Lucknow - 226 001, Uttar Pradesh, India; **Email:** animalifescience@gmail.com

Neuroinflammation- A potential mechanism in lambda-cyhalothrin induced neurotoxicity in rats

Jyotsnamoyee-Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize

Shrutha Sinha, School of Studies in Neuroscience, Jiwaji University, Gwalior- 474001, Madhya Pradesh, India; **Email:** shruthasinha@gmail.com

Amelioration of neurobehavioral and cognitive abilities of F1 progeny following dietary supplementation with Spirulina to protein malnourished mothers

SS Parmar Research Foundation (USA) Prize

Aditya Singh, National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research-Hyderabad, Balanagar, Hyderabad - 500 037, Telangana, India; **Email:** singh.aditya.aditya150@gmail.com

Taxifolin treatment improves high glucose-generated mitochondrial dysfunction in neuroblastoma cells

Kamble Mithila Ashok, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research- Kolkata, Campus Road, Mohanpur - 741 246, West Bengal, India; **Email:** mak17rs074@iiserkol.ac.in

iNOS plays a protective role in murine-Coronavirus induced neuroinflammatory demyelination

Suttee Nag Prize

Sushree Abhidhatri Sharma, University of Hyderabad, India Post Lingampally, Hyderabad Central University Rd, CUC, Gachibowli, Hyderabad - 500 046, Telangana, India; **Email:** sushree.abhidhatri.sharma@gmail.com

Alteration of daily rhythms in various inflammatory markers in Rotenone induced Parkinson's disease (RIPD) rat model

Subhadeep Dutta Gupta, National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences, Hosur Road, Bangalore - 560029, Karnataka, India; **Email:** subhadeep.dutttagupta224@gmail.com

Short photoperiod facilitates behavioral and cognitive restoration in ventral subicular lesioned rats: Possible molecular and electrophysiological mechanisms

SfN Bangalore Chapter Award

Nicky Singh, University of Calcutta, 87/1, College Street, Kolkata - 700 073, India

Email: nickysingh403@gmail.com

Memory impairments in intracerebroventricular STZ injected AD rats are related with the neuroinflammatory changes in hippocampus

Anam Aseem, Jamia Millia Islamia University, Maulana Mohammed Ali Jauhar Marg, New Delhi -110 025, India; **Email:** anam.aseem@gmail.com

Brainwave entrainment and improvement in sleep in collegiate population: A polysomnographic trial

Best Paper Award from Organizers

Jhilik Dey, CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, 4, Raja S. C. Mullick Road, Kolkata - 700 032, India;

Email: jhilik9692dey@gmail.com

Dynamics of endogenous neural progenitors In adult brain following kainate induced status epilepticus

Arun Shankar, Seth GS Medical College and KEM Hospital, Acharya Donde Marg, Parel, Mumbai - 400012, India;

Email: arun9788@gmail.com

Evaluation of anti-Parkinson's activity of Abhrak bhasma on rotenone induced Parkinson's disease in Drosophila melanogaster.

**XXXIX Annual Conference of IAN at
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research-Kolkata, West Bengal, India**

The **XXXIX Annual Conference of Indian Academy of Neurosciences** has been scheduled from **December 16 - 19, 2021**. The details of the conference are available on the IAN website: www.neuroscienceacademy.org.in
Suggestions, if any for the conference may be sent by **Thursday; July 15, 2021 to the organizers.**

The conference will be jointly organized by -

Dr (Ms). Jayasri Das Sarma

Department of Biological Sciences

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research-Kolkata (IISER-K)

Mohanpur - 741 246, West Bengal, India

Email:dassarmaj@iiserkol.ac.in

Dr Subhas C. Biswas

Senior Principal Scientist and Professor - AcSIR

Cell Biology & Physiology Division

CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Biology

4, Raja S. C. Mullick Road

Kolkata - 700 032, West Bengal, India

Dr Anirban Ghosh

Associate Professor

Department of Zoology, School of Sciences

Netaji Subhas Open University

Durgapur Regional Centre

Durgapur - 700 064, West Bengal, India

Executive Committee

President

Dr Ishan K. Patro 2021 - 2023
Gwalior

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Madison, USA

Dr (Ms) S Jain 2020 - 2022
New Delhi

Dean

Dr TR Raju 2021 - 2023
Bengaluru

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Manesar

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Lucknow

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Tsukuba, Japan

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Dr Aurnab Ghose 2020 - 2022
Pune

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Silchar

Dr (Ms). Anita Jagota 2021 - 2023
Hyderabad

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Dr Prahlad K. Seth
Lucknow

Immediate Past President

Dr (Ms) Shashi B. Singh
Hyderabad

Immediate Past General Secretary

Dr (Ms). Shashi B. Singh
Hyderabad

Awards for Young Neuroscientists

To encourage and recognize the contributions of young researchers working in the area of neurosciences, the Indian Academy of Neurosciences has instituted following awards /prizes -

Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award

(For best oral presentation by the young neuroscientist below 40 years of age at the time of annual conference).

Dr DM Kar Prize

(For best oral presentation by the young neuroscientist below 35 years of age at the time of annual conference).

Jyotsnamoyee - Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize

(For best published research paper in the field of basic neurosciences. Paper should have been published during the past 2 years).

Professor S.S. Parmar Research Foundation (USA) Prize

(For best poster presentation by young neuroscientist below 35 years of age at the time of annual conference).

Suttee Nag Prize

(For the best poster presentation by young neuroscientist below 35 years of age at the annual conference)

For more details, please visit <http://neuroscienceacademy.org.in/index.php> and click AWARDS

Individuals willing to be considered for the awards may apply directly or get themselves nominated. The details of the awards are on the IAN website. Further information, if any may be obtained from Dr Vinay K. Khanna, Secretary (HQ), Senior Principal Scientist and Professor-AcSIR, Developmental Toxicology Laboratory, Systems Toxicology & Health Risk Assessment Group, CSIR - Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, Vishvigyan Bhavan, 31, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Lucknow - 226 001, Uttar Pradesh, India, Email: <neuroscienceacademy@gmail.com>

Last date of receiving nominations is Tuesday: August 31, 2021.

Forthcoming Meetings / Symposia / Workshops / NeuroscienceSchool

- ❖ **An International Virtual Conference on 'COVID-19: Myths and Facts', July 14, 2021; Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur, India; Website: <https://forms.gle/Pw3qqWE2uwDxzvCFA>**
- ❖ **44th Annual Meeting of the Japan Neuroscience Society, July 28-31, 2021; Kobe Convention Center, Japan; Website: <https://neuroscience2021.jnss.org>**
- ❖ **VIRTUAL WORKSHOP on Brain Imaging and Mapping Protocols for Humans, Every Saturday of July 2021; All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi, India; Website: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfdQoHyDIDm7uRtaHHzmpRvXqBBnCLgpICSjy7RTZ2v7P4Ag/viewform?usp=pp_url**
- ❖ **IBRO-APRC Associate School of Neuroscience on Biophysical to Molecular Techniques: An Interface in Neurobiology Research, August 23-27, 2021; Website: <https://ibro.org/ibro-aprc-associate-school-of-neuroscience-on-biophysical-to-molecular-techniques-an-interface-in-neurobiology-research/>**
- ❖ **5th IBRO-APRC Chandigarh Associate School on Neuropsychiatric and Neurodegenerative Diseases, August 23-27, 2021; University Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (UIPS), Panjab University, Chandigarh, India; Website: <https://ibro.org/5th-ibro-aprc-chandigarh-associate-school-on-neuropsychiatric-and-neurodegenerative-diseases/>**
- ❖ **SENC Meeting 2021, September 7-9, 2021; Lleida; Website: <https://www.senc.es/en/senc-meeting-2021-2/>**
- ❖ **IBRO-APRC Associate School on Animal Models of Neurobiology Research: Models to Molecules, September 20-24, 2021; Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh, India; Website: <https://ibro.org/ibro-aprc-associate-school-on-animal-models-of-neurobiology-research-models-to-molecules-3/>**

Nominations for BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award & KT Shetty Memorial Oration

Nominations for **BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award and KT Shetty Memorial Oration for 2021 and 2022** are invited. The nominee must be a Life Member of Indian Academy of Neurosciences. He/She should have at least 10 years standing in the area of neurosciences. The contributions in neuroscience in India will be judged by (i) Research publications (ii) Honours and Awards and (iii) Contributions in the growth of neuroscience in India.

Nominations along with complete bio-data and supporting documents should be sent to **Dr TR Raju**, Dean-IAN, A.S. Paintal Distinguished Scientist Chair of ICMR, National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore, Karnataka, India **Email:** trraju.nimhans@gmail.com and a copy of the same to **Dr Vinay K. Khanna**, Secretary (HQ), Senior Principal Scientist and Professor-AcSIR, Developmental Toxicology Laboratory, Systems Toxicology & Health Risk Assessment Group, CSIR - Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, Vishvigyan Bhavan, 31, Mahatma Gandhi Marg P.O. Box No. 80, Lucknow - 226 001, Uttar Pradesh, India, **Email:** <neuroscienceacademy@gmail.com> positively by **Tuesday; August 31, 2021**.

Nominations for IAN Fellowship

The Academy recognizes scientists who have excelled in neurosciences by electing them Fellows. A life member of the Academy with at least 10 years of research experience in the field of neurosciences can be nominated. Nominations on prescribed format available at the website duly proposed and supported by Fellows of Indian Academy of Neurosciences are invited along with curriculum vitae. Both soft copy and hard copy of nomination complete in all respects should be sent to **Dr TR Raju**, Dean-IAN, A.S. Paintal Distinguished Scientist Chair of ICMR, National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore, Karnataka, India **Email:** trraju.nimhans@gmail.com

Further, copy (both soft and hard copy) of the nomination papers should also be sent to **Dr Vinay K. Khanna**, Secretary (HQ), Senior Principal Scientist and Professor-AcSIR, Developmental Toxicology Laboratory, Systems Toxicology & Health Risk Assessment Group, CSIR - Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, Vishvigyan Bhavan, 31 Mahatma Gandhi Marg, P.O. Box No. 80, Lucknow - 226 001, Uttar Pradesh, India, **Email:** <neuroscienceacademy@gmail.com> latest by **Tuesday; August 31, 2021**.

Nominations for the Executive Committee

Nominations for the positions of Vice President (1), Secretary (HQ) (1), Secretary International Affairs (1) and Members (2) are invited on the prescribed format enclosed herewith. The term for these positions will be for 3 years. The nominations should be sent either to **Dr Vinay K. Khanna**, Secretary (HQ), Senior Principal Scientist and Professor-AcSIR, Developmental Toxicology Laboratory, Systems Toxicology & Health Risk Assessment Group, CSIR - Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, Vishvigyan Bhavan, 31, Mahatma Gandhi Marg P.O. Box No. 80, Lucknow - 226 001, Uttar Pradesh, India, **Email:** <neuroscienceacademy@gmail.com> or to **Dr Pankaj Seth**, General Secretary, Professor, National Brain Research Centre, NH-8, Nainwal Road, Manesar - 122 051, **Email:** <pseth@nbrc.ac.in> so as to reach them positively by **Tuesday; August 31, 2021**.



Indian Academy of Neurosciences

FORM FOR ANNUAL ELECTION

Nomination for the post of :

Name :

Address:.....

.....

.....

Membership No. :

Proposer

Secondar

Name:

Name:

Membership No.

Membership No.

Signature

Signature



Indian Academy of Neurosciences

Proforma for Nomination for the Election of Fellows

1. Name:.....

2. (a) Date of Birth..... (b) Gender: Male ☐ Female ☐

3. Designation/Affiliation:.....

4. Address:

(a) Official.....
.....
.....

(b) Residential.....
.....
.....

Telephone/Mobile.....Email.....

5. Membership Status Yes / No
[Date of Joining Academy as Life Member].....

6. Qualification (Degree and Post Graduation).....

7. Specialization / Area of research.....

8. Significant Contributions in the field of Neurosciences
(About 200 words, Attach annexure if required)

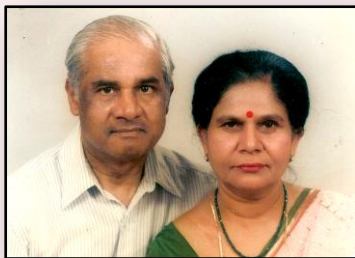
9. Publications in the last five years
(Please give complete references and attach copies of three publications)

	Proposed by	Supported by
Name	-----	-----
Address	-----	-----
Signature	-----	-----

Note:

Proposer and Secunder should be Fellows of the Academy. Complete set of nomination and CV of the nominee should be sent to the Dean and a copy of the set to the Secretary HQ of the Academy before the last date. Soft copy of the material should also be sent positively.

Nominations received after the last date will be considered next year.



Applications are invited for the **IAN - Lalita and Ravindra Nath International Travel Awards** from researchers working in neurosciences intending to present a paper at a neuroscience conference or attend neuroscience schools / training workshops outside India.

Criteria and Guidelines

1. Applicant should be the first author on the selected abstract, presenting their work as a talk or poster at an international neuroscience conference or selected for a neuroscience workshop and be an IAN member at the time of application.
2. Applicant should be at an advanced stage of pursuing research in neuroscience in a national laboratory or UGC recognized university as a Ph.D. candidate or a post-doctoral fellow (PDF) (awarded Ph.D. degree within the last 2 years from the application deadline).
3. Applicant should have a strong scholastic record and the application should be supported by two recommendation letters, including one from the Ph.D. supervisor.
4. Applicant should provide a paragraph to describe the scientific questions being pursued and as to how the conference / school / workshop will help in their research (within 200 words).
5. The application will be reviewed by a committee, and two awards will be announced 4 weeks after the last date of application.
6. Preference will be given to researchers (Ph.D. students or PDF) attending the FAONS conference or neuroscience school / training workshops / conference in the Asian region and conference or workshop in other regions of the globe.

What the award will cover?

1. A bursary up to INR 50,000 (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only) will be provided to the selected candidates to cover partial expenses towards their registration, travel, boarding and lodging.
2. Total amount will be a maximum of INR 50,000 (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only) per award and will include a certificate signed by the President of the IAN.
3. Award money will be disbursed on return to India and after providing proof of participation (Participation certificate / picture at the meeting during talk / poster session), travel tickets (attested copy by the Head of Department; HOD), receipts of registration and accommodation charges (attested copy by HOD) and a brief report of the conference / school / workshop.

How to apply?

Prepare following documents in MS Word or PDF and submit online

1. Details of conference /workshop applicant wishes to attend.
2. Copy of the abstract and its acceptance for the neuroscience meeting. In case of neuroscience schools / training workshops, copy of the selection letter.
3. Curriculum vitae, including list of papers and abstracts presented in meetings.
4. Scan of two recommendation letters including one from the supervisor.
5. Statement as to how participation in the event will be helpful to the applicant (within 200 words)

Deadline for receiving Applications: Tuesday; August 31, 2021.



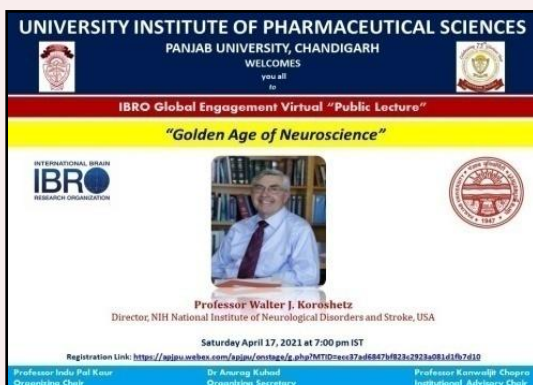
Dr Debomoy K. Lahiri, Professor of Neurobiology, Psychiatry, and Medical and Molecular Genetics has been inducted as Distinguished Professor by Indiana University, USA in view of his excellence in research.



The International Society for Neurochemistry (ISN) through Committee for Aid and Education in Neurochemistry (CAEN) awarded a grant to **Dr. Kunjbihari Sulakhiya**, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacy, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh to support research on autism spectrum disorder.



A Symposium on Sketch and Etch Creative Ideas in Neuroscience was organized under the auspices of IAN, Bangalore Chapter at National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences, Bengaluru from December 16-17, 2020.

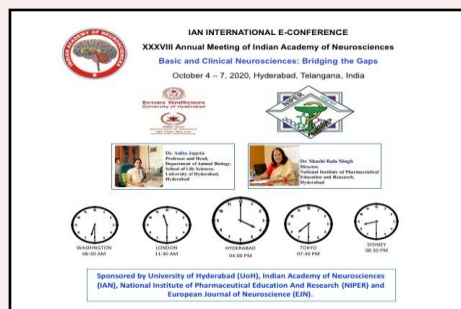


Dr Anurag Kuhad, Assistant Professor, University Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Chandigarh organized **IBRO Global Engagement Virtual Public Lecture on Golden Age of Neuroscience** by Professor Walter J. Koroshetz, Director, NIH-National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, USA on April 17, 2021.

IAN International E-Conference
XXXVIII Annual Meeting of Indian Academy of Neurosciences

Basic and Clinical Neurosciences: Bridging the Gaps

October 4 - 7, 2020



Highlights

The XXXVIII Annual Conference of the Indian Academy of Neurosciences had been jointly organized by the Department of Animal Biology, School of Life Sciences, University of Hyderabad and the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Hyderabad from 4th-7th October 2020.

Every year a large number of neuroscientists from across the world, come together and contribute to the success of our annual meetings. This year, however, owing to the unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were unable to hold the conference in person as traditionally done. In view of existing travel restrictions and concern for the safety and well-being of our delegates, the Executive Committee had resolved to convene an e-conference this year.

The conference was held between 14.30 to 23.00 (IST) to encourage and welcome the participation of neuroscientists from different time zones.

About Department of Animal Biology, School of Life Sciences, University of Hyderabad

University of Hyderabad has been recognised as an Institute of Eminence by the Government of India, and ranked the 4th Best Institution in India (NIRF Ranking). The School of Life Sciences (SLS) was established in 1977 with the vision of promoting inter-disciplinary teaching and research. Currently, the school comprises five departments- Animal Biology, Biochemistry, Plant Sciences, Biotechnology & Bioinformatics and Systems and Computational Biology. Over the years, SLS has grown steadily and progressed towards achieving academic excellence.

The Department of Animal Biology is equipped with state-of-art laboratory facilities and offers a range of graduate programs including M.Sc. in Animal Biotechnology, Integrated-M.Sc.-Ph.D. in Animal Biotechnology and Ph.D. in Animal Biology. The Department is home to reputed faculty members who receive independent funding from various national (DST, DBT, CSIR, UGC, ICMR, DRDO and international funding agencies and biotechnology industries.

About National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER)

National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Hyderabad is an 'Institute of National Importance' with the proclaimed objective of becoming a Centre of Excellence for advanced research in pharmaceutical sciences.

NIPER's first institute established in 1998 in Mohali under the aegis of the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India.

NIPER Hyderabad is strengthened by its mission of achieving excellence in higher education and research in Pharmaceutical Sciences & Management, and becoming one of the principal sources of professional manpower to the ever-growing Indian pharmaceuticals industry. The institute comprises departments focusing on Medicinal Chemistry, Pharmacology & Toxicology,

Pharmaceutical Analysis, Pharmaceutics, Regulatory Toxicology, Process Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Management. The institute offers various graduate programs including M.S. (Pharm.), M. Tech. (Pharm.), M.B.A (Pharm.), and Ph.D. programs in different disciplines.

Scientific Program

The Conference participants comprised of Distinguished Scientists, experts, Ph.D. scholars, Post-Doctoral Fellows, postgraduate and undergraduate students from over 20 countries. It was really heartening to see symposiums in which we had speakers from UK, USA, Japan, Switzerland, Srilanka, Taiwan, Malaysia, Australia, Japan, UK, Italy, Germany, France, Portugal, USA, Denmark and India etc. delivering lectures back to back from the comfort of their own homes/offices.

Because of the virtual nature of the conference, we were able to have many international speakers to add to the neuroscience feast we had on offer. 4 poster presentations and 25 oral presentations.

Conference participants are comprise Distinguished Scientists **Profesor P. N. Tondon, a Father figure in the field of Neurosciences**, Founder President NBRC, **Professor VS Ramachandran, the Marco Polo of Neuroscience**, an Outstanding Scientist well known in Neuroscience community globally from San diego, Prof. M K Thakur, Dean IAN, Prof. Vinay K Khanna, Secretary, HQ, IAN , Prof. Pankaj Seth, General Secretary, IAN and; **Professor P. K. Seth**, one of the **Founder of IAN, NASI Sr. Scientist and Chairman, ILSI, India, Professor Suresh Rattan, Univ of Arhus, Denmark** and Prof William J Schwartz, University of Taxas and Prof. Russel Foster (University of Oxford), Prof. Pawan Sinha (University of Harward), Prof. BN Gangadhar (Director, NIMHANS) etc., and many eminent Neuroscientists and many eminent Neuroscience experts chaired the sessions and gave lectures from across the World, Colleagues, Ph.D. scholars, Post-Doctoral Fellows, postgraduate and undergraduate students from India, Srilanka, Taiwan, Malaysia, Australia, Japan, UK, Italy, Germany, France, Portugal, USA, Switzerland and Denmark etc.

Over 300 delegates participated in this neuroscience feast "Basic and Clinical Neurosciences: Bridging the Gaps"

The sessions were organised as 1Keynote Lecture, 1 Distinguished lecture, 3 Plenary Lectures, Special orations such as BK Bachhawat memorial Lecture, 2 KT Shetty Orations, 73 Symposia speakers in 15 Symposia, 10 Special Invited Talks, as well as Special Lecture on Techniques, 2Young Scientist Colloquia, 3 oral sessions, 2 Poster Sessions, Panel Discussions etc.

We also had 44 poster presentations and 25 oral presentations to encourage young and budding neuroscientists.

The various symposia were in areas such as Conditioning the Brain Against Ischemic Damage, Basic Neurosciences, Cytoskeletal and Membrane Adaptations in Neurons, Current Advancements in Research in COVID-19 and Brain, Understanding Neural Regulation of Circadian Biology: Health and Disease, Is Sleep Essential for Maintaining Optimal Networks for Neurocognition: Novel Evidences?, Nature and its Impact on Agingand Mental Health, Physical Activity and Nutrition In Enhancing Cognitive Strength And Immunity, Neurotoxicity and Neuroprotection: Emerging Trends and Approaches, Brain Health During Covid-19 Pandemic: Help from Herbs,Neuroprotective Effects of Estradiol, Neurodegeneration etc.

There were 2 Young scientists Colloquia 1. Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award and D.M. Kar Prize.

There were 6 Awards for posters were 2 Suttee Nag Prizes and 2 Professor S.S. Parmar Research Foundation (USA) Award and 2 Poster Awards sponsored by Organising Secretariat also.

There were 2 panel discussions

1. Interactive session on mind-body Medicine (For this Yoga gurus, Sri Sri Ravishankar, Art of Living and Dr Kamlesh Patel, Heartfulness Foundation gave remarks and addressed questions from law-makers, science communicators and IAN office bearers) Mr Vineet Joshi, President, Joshi Foundation
2. Preparing for emerging challenges in neurosciences involving Eminent Neuroscientists and Panelists from Funding Agencies (Panelists: Subrata Sinha (NBRC, Manesar, India), Pankaj Seth (NBRC, Manesar & Member DBT Neurotask force, India), Meenakshi Sharma (ICMR, India) Vandana Singh (DST, India), Manjari Tripathi (AIIMS, New Delhi & Member DBT Neurotask force), Shashi Bala Singh (NIPER, Hyderabad, India)

We also had special Symposia (IAN-EJN Joint Special Symposium on Mood disorders) sponsored by **European Journal of Neuroscience** and another (IAN-FAONS Symposium Understanding the Protective mechanisms in Neurodegenerative diseases) sponsored by **Federation of Asian and Oceanic Neurosciences**.

Keeping in mind the diverse backgrounds of attending delegates, the sessions had been planned to satisfy the scientific temperament of all the participants involved. We had opened the inaugural function and all the planary lectures for all students and people interested in Neuroscience through live streaming where in **some sessions more than 2000 viewership was observed**.

Keeping in mind the diverse backgrounds of attending delegates, the sessions had been planned to satisfy the scientific temperament of all the participants involved.

The opening Ceremony had **Professor Appa Rao Podile**, Vice Chancellor, University of Hyderabad as Guest of Honour, **Professor P N Tondon**, a Father figure in the field of Neurosciences, Founder President NBRC, as Chief guest of the function.

The closing ceremony included Guest of honour, **Dr. M. Gouri Devi** (IHBAS, New Delhi, India) and Chief Guest, **Dr. K.K. Deepak** (AIIMS, New Delhi).

We acknowledge the infrastructure of the University of Hyderabad especially with uninterrupted power supply and internet connectivity throughout. The 3 parallel sessions and common sessions went smoothly surprising the global scientists in Covid-19 Pandemic times and making this meeting **IAN-2020 a historical event in Neuroscience**.

We acknowledge the conference had been sponsored by University of Hyderabad, Institution of Eminence (IoE); NIPER Hyderabad; Indian Academy of Neurosciences & European Journal of Neuroscience

The Organisers acknowledge financial assistance from University of Hyderabad, Institution of Eminence (IoE); National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) Hyderabad; Indian Academy of Neurosciences (IAN) & European Journal of Neuroscience (EJN).

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Tel:.....Cell number:.....
6. Are you actively engaged in work related to neurosciences: Yes ☐ No ☐
7. Field of specialization:.....
8. Type of membership* desired (Tick or circle the appropriate one)
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1. Admission fees Rs. 50/- additional shall be charged for secretarial purpose and included in the fee.
2. Subscription fees* for Life Membership and Associate Life Membership is Rs. 4000/-, Associate Membership is Rs. 500/-.
3. Category of Associate Life Membership will be upgraded to Life Membership once the candidate submits his / her Ph.D. certificate.
4. Associate Membership is valid for one calendar year and shall become due on the 1st of January each year.
5. Payment in cash/ DD or local cheque drawn in favour of Treasurer, Indian Academy of Neurosciences payable at Lucknow should be sent along with the duly completed form at the following address.
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C/o. Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Principal Scientist, Developmental Toxicology Division
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