



Neurosciences Newsletter

House Magazine of

INDIAN ACADEMY OF NEUROSCIENCES

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

February 2013

Message

Dear Members,



It has been a great honor for me to serve as President of IAN and see its continued dynamic growth. The year 2012 has ended with full of academic activities and many encouraging news for the Academy. The grand success of the XXX Annual meeting of the Academy organized at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, was a testimony to the growth and popularity of the Academy. I wish to thank the Local Organizing Committee led by Prof. Gurcharan Kaur for efficiently organizing the excellent scientific and cultural program. This meeting has added few new initiatives which were highly commendable. DBT and ICMR sponsored workshops on 'scientific communication and grant writing', 'neuroscience communication in emerging economies: the challenge of change' and 'mentorship in ethics' were extremely appreciated by the participants. Another highlight was 'ISN-Wiley-Blackwell-JNC-International Lecture' delivered for the first time during IAN conference. The award of fellowships by FAONS to Indian students and assurance to offer more fellowships in future was a great inspiration for young investigators. Fostering these global connections has strengthened the activities of Academy with overseas Neuroscience communities and made it more visible on the global map.

The recommendations made during the panel discussion with chairpersons of scientific sessions and a special session on 'Neuroscience Research Promotion programs of National funding agencies' have been submitted to the concerned organizations for the needful. Looking ahead, IAN in its council meeting approved more new chapters to expand and promote the neuroscience activities throughout the country. It is actively evaluating and launching new programmes to serve the emerging needs of members. New programs provide more avenues, particularly for the budding scientists. IAN welcomes all those who are interested in the profound challenges associated with understanding of the brain and nervous system, including scientists and clinicians with diverse training and skills. Besides strengthening basic research, fostering more close collaboration with clinicians is tremendously important for translational research. Funding organizations have many plans to provide financial support for such activities.

As you can read in this issue of the newsletter, the 31st Annual meeting of the Academy will be held at Allahabad from October 25 - 27, 2013. The organizing Secretary, Prof. UC Srivastava, has much experience in organizing successful meetings with the expectation of fine scientific exchanges. Before this meeting, local chapter at Varanasi has planned an IBRO-APRC Advanced School at Banaras Himdu University. This will help the participants to attend the workshop as well as the annual IAN meeting.

At the end, I wish to reiterate my gratitude to the predecessors for their mentorship and thank all those who work to make our Academy a vibrant and purposeful organization. It is the dedicated efforts of council members, meeting organizers, editorial members, and all others that we accomplish the mission of IAN. Finally, I welcome the new IAN Council members and look forward for their support in the activities of the Academy.

With sincere best wishes,

February 11, 2013

Mahendra K. Thakur, Ph.D.
President, Indian Academy of Neurosciences
Email: <mktian2007@gmail.com>

Report

Dear Friends,

Over the period of years, the number of participants in annual meetings have steadily increased which speaks about the potential and growth of the Academy. The annual meeting of Indian Academy of Neurosciences (IAN) in Amritsar was a success and we have been able to serve the best delicacies in neuroscience to the participants. Further, ever increasing number of foreign participants as session and plenary speakers and special lectureships to our regular annual meetings have added feathers to the cap of the IAN. The lecture of Professor Philip Robinson, Australia during this meeting was a milestone in the global recognition of the Academy and in leaving a bigger footprint in the neuroscience community. The lecture was sponsored by the International Society for Neurochemistry and Wiley Blackwell.

Further, as decided earlier a FAONS Symposium on **Healthy Brain Aging and Interventions** was organized during the annual meeting in Amritsar. Professor Sarah A. Dunlop, the President FAONS and other FAONS regional representatives attended the symposia and the theme was appreciated by the participants. Recently, FAONS invited nominations from the IAN of young neuroscientists from India to consider for providing travel fellowships to promising researchers for attending the FAONS-ANS 2013 meeting in Australia. Two students were awarded the travel fellowships and attended the FAONS-ANS 2013. We hope that this trend will continue to benefit young neuroscientists in the country and strengthen the collaboration of IAN with FAONS.

The thrust for nurturing neuroscience research by funding agencies including DBT, ICMR and DST and participation of their representatives and support during IAN's annual meeting speaks for recognition of neuroscience discipline in the country. Many IAN members have served and are serving on the task forces of national funding agencies and have helped to bridge the gap and to sensitize the need of increasing the funding opportunities in certain areas of neuroscience. National Initiative of Glia Cell research in Health and Disease is one such recent example of efforts of IAN members that has received the due attention and several pertinent projects have been funded by DBT under this initiative.

Indian Academy of Neurosciences enjoys the membership of over 970 members and aims to break the 1000 mark for Life members in year 2013. Our Academy is growing not only in its membership but also in the activities it is involved. IAN has joined hands with the National Brain

Research Centre, to successfully organize the Brain Awareness program at various Centres in the country. Brain Awareness Program were successfully held at Lucknow, New Delhi, Varanasi, Allahabad and in a remote area, Pithoragarh during March of 2012. Besides the IAN Fellows and members these were attended by young researchers, students and general public. This has helped the Academy to reach out to people of all walks of life.

Annual scientific meetings, Outreach programs and effective communication are of paramount importance towards fulfilling the mandate of the Academy to promote basic and clinical neuroscience in the country. Regular annual meetings of the Academy since its inception and Brain Awareness program with support of National Brain Research Centre were held. More recently we have initiated the Scientific Communication and Grant writing workshops under the umbrella of IAN. We hope with support and encouragement of IAN members we will continue to do these and start some new initiatives in the interest of neuroscience.

Some other achievements of IAN members have been the publication of research papers in journals like Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences, Nature Neuroscience, Journal of Neuroscience, FASEB J, Molecular Human Genetics, Journal of biological chemistry and others of international repute. One of our Past President Prof. P.K. Seth who is currently the Executive member of the IAN has been re-elected member of Board of Trustees of International Life Sciences Institute, and was conferred Gujral-Bhargava Oration, Award. Dr. K.P. Mohanakumar has been elected as the President of Society of Neurochemistry (India) and ISN council member. Dr. Vinay K. Khanna and Dr. Pankaj Seth have been elected as FAONS Council Members in 2012.

I would like to encourage young IAN members to help us strengthen our academy through their active participation by organizing hand on training workshops, seminars at their institutions for young researchers and students and involve them in activities of the Academy. Efforts should be aimed at reducing the burden of brain disorders and spreading the word of brain awareness, where it lacks. Some of the other important developments have been reaching out to IAN members with various opportunities in neuroscience through regular emails and through Academy's website.

We sincerely look forward to the suggestions and support from the membership in taking the IAN to great heights.

Vinay K. Khanna, Ph.D.
Secretary HQ

Pankaj Seth, Ph.D.
General Secretary



Vinay K. Khanna



Pankaj Seth

Congratulations !!

Professor B.K. Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award – 2013



Dr (Ms). Shashi Wadhwa
Professor & Head
Department of Anatomy and Dean
All India Institute of Medical Sciences
Ansari Nagar
New Delhi – 110 029

New Elected Fellows



Dr. T. R. Raju
Senior Professor
Department of Neurophysiology and
Dean
National Institute of Mental Health and
Neurosciences
Hosur Road
Bangalore – 560 029



Dr. Gautam Palit
Scientist – G (Retd.)
CSIR - Central Drug Research Institute
P. B. No: 173, Chattar Manzil Palace
Lucknow - 226 001

Ravindra & Lalita Nath Memorial Travel Awards – 2012

Rajesh S Yadav, Developmental Toxicology Division, CSIR – Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, Lucknow – 226 001, India, Email: <razitrc@gmail.com>

Tanya Chaudhary, University Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Panjab University, Chandigarh - 160 014, India, Email: <chaudharytanya22@gmail.com>

Hitesh Dhar, University Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Panjab University, Chandigarh - 160 014, India, Email: <hdhar8@gmail.com>

Rakesh Kumar, Department of Anatomy, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi – 110029 India, Email: <rakeshpandey12@gmail.com>

Raghavendra Singh, Laboratory of Clinical & Experimental Neuroscience, Division of Cell Biology & Physiology, CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, 4, Raja S.C Mullick Road, Jadavpur, Kolkata – 700032, India, Email: singh_sarvesh01@yahoo.co.in

Nabila Sorathia, S. Masurkar, M. S. Rajadhyaksha, Sophia College, Mumbai, India, Email: <nabzsoathia@gmail.com >

Durga Chougule, R. Modi, S. Masurkar, M. Rajadhyaksha, Sophia College, Mumbai, India, Email: <durgaaqui@gmail.com >

Pooja Jain, Neha Shinde, Yasmin Khan, Sophia college, Mumbai, India, Email: <poojain151290@yahoo.com >

Richa Modi, D. Chougule, S. Masurkar, M. Rajadhyaksha, Sophia College, Mumbai, India, Email: <richa_modi930@yahoo.in >

John Miller Travel Award – 2012

Sunil Kumar, Department of Neurophysiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi – 110 029
Email <aiims.suneel@gmail.com>

Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award – 2012

Pranay Srivastava, R.S. Yadav, R.K. Shukla, L.P. Chandravanshi, Y.Dhuriya, L.K.S Chauhan, A.B. Pant, V.K Khanna, Developmental Toxicology Division, CSIR – Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, Lucknow – 226 001, India (Email: pranaydehradun@gmail.com), **Protective efficacy of curcumin in arsenic induced mitochondrial dysfunctions, apoptosis and memory impairment in rats**

Dr. D.M. Kar Prize – 2012

Dhananjay Huilgol, S.Udin, T.Shimogori, B.Saha, A.Roy, S.Aizawa, R.Hevner, G.Meyer, T.Ohshima, S.J. Pleasure, Y.Zhao, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, India, (Email: huilgol@tifr.res.in), **Dual origins of the mammalian accessory olfactory bulb revealed by an evolutionarily conserved migratory stream**

S.S. Parmar Research Foundation (USA) Prize – 2012

Abhinoy Kishore, Prasenjit Bhaumik and Jayasri Das Sarma, Department of Biological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Kolkata, India, (Email: abhinoy@iiserkol.ac.in) **Two consecutive proline residues in the fusion domain of the spike protein is the major determinant of the fusogenic properties of mouse hepatitis virus**

Abhishek Singh, Nidhi Subhashini, Sudha Sharma, Birendra Nath Mallick, School of Life Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi – 110 067, India, (Email: abhishek2582@gmail.com) **Noradrenergic modulation of sleep wake and sleep loss mediated effects in zebrafish**

Jyotsnamoyee Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize – 2012

Niranjan Kambi, Shashank Tandon, Hisham Mohammed, Leslee Lazar, and Neeraj Jain, National Brain Research Centre, Manesar, Haryana 122 050, India, (Email: neuro.niru@nbr.ac.in) **Reorganization of the primary motor cortex of adult macaque monkeys after sensory loss resulting from partial spinal cord injuries**

Next Conference at Allahabad

The XXXI annual conference of Indian Academy of Neurosciences will be held at the University of Allahabad, Allahabad from October 25 – 27, 2013. Professor U.C. Srivastava is the Organizing Secretary. The preliminary details of the conference are available on the IAN website www.neuroscienceacademy.org. In Suggestions, if any for the conference may be sent to him on the following address,

Professor U.C. Srivastava, Department of Zoology, University of Allahabad – 211 002, India
Email: ucsrivastava@rediffmail.com

Call for Proposals for Symposia

Proposals for symposia on cutting edge areas of neuroscience are invited for consideration for XXXI conference of Indian Academy of Neurosciences from October 25 – 27, 2013 at Allahabad. The duration of the symposium will be 2 hours with four-five presentations of 20 minutes by the experts in the area. A written proposal not exceeding 2 pages with background and rationale alongwith list of speakers be forwarded to the Organizing Secretary and a copy of the same to Dr. Pankaj Seth, General Secretary and Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Secretary HQ latest by **April 30, 2013**. Suggestions, if any for the programme may also be forwarded.

Awards for Young Neuroscientists

To recognize the contributions of young researchers working in the area of neurosciences and encourage them, 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 annual conference).

Dr. D.M. Kar Prize (For best oral presentation by the young neuroscientist below 35 years of age at the annual conference).

Professor S.S. Parmar Research Foundation Award (For best poster presentation by young neuroscientist below 35 years of age at the annual conference).

Jyotsnamoyee - Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize (For published research paper in the field of basic neurosciences. Paper should have been published during the past 2 years).

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 also be obtained from Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Secretary HQ and Principal Scientist, CSIR – Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001, Email <vkkhanna1@gmail.com> **Last date of receiving nominations is August 30, 2013.**

Nominations for Fellowship

The Academy recognizes scientists who have excelled in neurosciences by electing them as Fellows. A life member or honorary 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 or from the Secretary (HQ), supported by three Fellows of the Academy are invited alongwith complete Biodata. A soft copy and seven hard copies of nominations complete in all respects should be sent to Professor Subrata Sinha, Dean, Indian Academy of Neurosciences and Director, National Brain Research Centre, NH 8, Nainwal Mode, Manesar – 122 050, Email <director@nbrc.ac.in> and a copy of the same to Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Secretary HQ and Principal Scientist, CSIR – Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001, Email <vkkhanna1@gmail.com> latest by **July 30, 2013**.

Note: Seven complete set of nomination papers alongwith CV should be sent to the Dean and a copy of the same to the Secretary HQ before the last date. Soft copy of the material in CD should also be sent along positively. Incomplete nominations will not be entertained. Nominations received after the last date will be considered next year.

Travel Awards

Applications are invited for Ravindra and Lalita Nath Memorial Travel Fellowships and John Miller Travel Awards. Students and young researchers below 35 years of age presenting a paper at the annual conference at Amritsar are eligible to apply. The awards will be available on competitive basis. Up to 8 travel awards consisting of actual travel reimbursement by AC-3 Tier upto the maximum of Rs. 1,500/- will be awarded in case of Dr. Ravindra & Lalita Nath Memorial Travel Awards. In case of John Miller Travel Award, up to 2 travel awards will be awarded consisting of actual travel reimbursement by 2nd Class-3Tier and will not exceed Rs. 600/- each. Requests alongwith abstract of the paper may be sent to the Organizing Secretary Professor U.C. Srivastava, Department of Zoology, University of Allahabad – 211 002, India Email: ucsrivastava@rediffmail.com and a copy of the same to the Treasurer Dr. A.K. Agrawal, Developmental Toxicology Division, CSIR – Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001 by **August 30, 2013**.

Executive Committee (2011 – 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

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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

Forthcoming Meetings

19th International Conference on Neuroscience and Biological Psychiatry "STRESS AND BEHAVIOR" International Stress and Behaviour Society (ISBS) Conference, May 16 – 19, 2013, St-Petersburg, Russia

Website <http://www.stressandbehavior.com>

Neuro 2013: Joint meeting of the 36th Annual Meeting of the Japan Neuroscience Society, the 56th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Neurochemistry, and the 23rd Annual Conference of the Japanese Neural Network Society, June, 20 – 23, 2013, Kyoto, Japan

Website <http://www.neuro2013.org>

FENS Featured Regional Meeting, Neuroscience Meeting, September 11 – 14, 2013, Prague, Czech Republic

Website <http://www.fensrmpague2013.com>

5th International Conference on Neural Computation Theory and Applications (NCTA 2013), September 20 - 22, 2013, Vilamoura - Algarve, Portugal

Website: <http://www.ncta.ijcci.org>

International Conference on Neuroscience, November 9 – 11, 2013, Cuttack, India

Website : www.ravenshawuniversity.ac.in; www.icns-2013.com

IBRO-APRC Advanced School will be organized from October 19 - 23, 2013 at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. The information has been posted on BHU website <www.bhu.ac.in> and IBRO website <www.ibro.info> under Professional Development, IBRO Schools in 2013. It has also been announced on IBRO Face book page under Events.

OBITUARY



Padma Shri Professor Mahdi Hasan, one of the founders of Indian Academy of Neuroscience passed away on January 12, 2013 in Lucknow. He served the Academy in various capacities and has been its President and Founder Fellow. He was also the worthy recipient of BK Bachhawat Life Time Achievement Award of Indian Academy of Neurosciences (2004).

Dr. Hasan, a medical anatomist had illustrious academic career and was the Fellow of premier science academies of the country and abroad. Professor Hasan's path breaking endeavours for the promotion of the brain research resulted in the establishment of Interdisciplinary Brain Research Centre, the first in the country at Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh in 1977 where he also served as the Principal and Chief Medical Superintendent (1983-87) and Dean (1992-94). His pioneering studies led to propose a new hypothesis for the genesis of lipofuscin (age-pigment) in 1972 which was confirmed by Scandinavian group in 2002. He was also instrumental to discover a new technique for demonstrating zinc in brain sections. Teaching and research was his passion and he continued to serve as Senior / Honorary Scientist of the Indian National Science Academy and Honorary Professor at the Department of Anatomy, King George's Medical University, Lucknow till last.

In spite of his high stature, Professor Hasan was humble and helping. His unconditional services, support and contributions to the Indian Academy of Neurosciences and for the upliftment of neuroscience research in the country will always be remembered.

Nominations for Professor B. K. Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award & Professor KT Shetty Memorial Oration

Nominations for B. K. Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award – 2014 and KT Shetty Memorial Oration for 2013 and 2014 are invited. The nominee must be a Fellow / Life Member of the 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. Awards and iii. Contributions to growth of Neuroscience in India.

Nominations alongwith complete Bio-data and supporting documents should be sent to Professor Subrata Sinha, Dean, Indian Academy of Neurosciences and Director, National Brain Research Centre, NH 8, Nainwal Road, Manesar – 122 051, Email <director@nbrc.ac.in> and a copy of the same to Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Secretary HQ and Principal Scientist, CSIR – Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001, Email <vkkhanna1@gmail.com> positively by **June 30, 2013.**

Nominations for the Executive Committee

Nominations for the position of Vice President (1), General Secretary (1), Treasurer (1) and Members (2) are invited on the prescribed format enclosed herewith. The nominations should be sent either to Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Principal Scientist, Developmental Toxicology Division, CSIR - Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001, Email <neuroscienceacademy@gmail.com> or Dr. Pankaj Seth, additional Professor, National Brain Research Centre, NH 8, Nainwal Road, Manesar – 122 051, Email <pseth@nbr.ac.in> so as to reach them positively by **July 30, 2013**.

INDIAN ACADEMY OF NEUROSCIENCES Format for Annual Election / Nomination

Nomination for the post of:

Name:

Address:

Membership No.:

Proposer:

Secunder:

Name:

Name:

Membership No.:

Membership No.:

Signature

Signature

Note: Proposer and Secunder should be the member of IAN.

Last date of receiving nominations - July 30, 2013.

INDIAN ACADEMY OF NEUROSCIENCES Format for Nomination of Fellows

Name:

Address & Designation:

Qualification:

(Degree and post graduation)

Membership in Academy:

Life

Date of joining Academy

Significant Contributions

in the field of Neurosciences:

(About 200 words, attach annexure)

Most Significant Publications

During the last five years

(Please give the titles and attach copies of three publications)

Proposed by

Supported by

Name

Signatures

Address

Note: Proposer and Secunder should be Fellows of the Academy.

Seven complete set of nomination papers and CV should be sent to the Dean and a copy of the same to the Secretary HQ before the last date. Soft copy of the material in CD should also be sent along positively.

Incomplete nominations will not be entertained. Nominations received after the last date will be considered next year.

Last date of receiving nominations - July 30, 2013.