

Neurosciences Newsletter

House Magazine of

INDIAN ACADEMY OF NEUROSCIENCES

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

July 2007



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Academy, celebrating a historic landmark in its evolution, has thoughtfully chosen to hold its deliberations, in the oldest living city of the world - Varanasi. This has been a year of enthusiastic academic programmes at several different centres in the country and one even in the US. The Organizing Committee has drawn out an exciting scientific and social programme for the XXV Conference to be held at Varanasi on November 22-25, 2007. We are expecting a galaxy of national and international leaders of neuroscience to share their treasure of knowledge. Being personally aware of the traditional hospitality of people of his hoary city, the unique charm of its cultural and spiritual attraction and the all pervasive intellectual environment of the renowned Banaras Hindu University (BHU). I, strongly, appeal to all the members and fellows of the Academy along with their family not to miss this unique opportunity of participating in this memorable event.

Looking forward to see you all soon.

P.N. Tandon

FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY (HQ)



Dear Members,

The Silver Jubilee Year Conference at Lucknow from December 17 – 20, 2006 was a great success with the support of all the members of the Academy. Nine symposia on the emerging areas of neurosciences were held during this conference. Besides the symposia lectures, plenary lectures, special lectures, oral sessions, young scientist colloquium and award sessions were also organised. Around 300 participants including 35 from abroad attended this conference.

As planned, the Silver Jubilee Year activities are being held at different places. I am happy to inform you that Association of Scientists of Indian Origin in America, Inc. (ASIOA) organized National Scientific Conference on The Expanding Frontiers of Neurosciences on May 11, 2007 at the Department of Psychiatry, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago. It could have been possible with the untiring efforts of Dr. G.N. Pandey and other members of the academy. There were over 40 participants including 14 speakers from different parts of the United States. Just a chance that Dr. P.K. Seth was also present at this conference and delivered a plenary lecture on Neuroscience Research in India: Past Present and Future. This is a glorious moment in the history of the Academy for setting a new milestone with silver studding. As a part of these activities and in the series, a symposia on Neurodegeneration and Neuroregeneration: Current Trends and Future Strategies on July 30, 2007 at Lucknow and another Symposium on Current Trends in Auditory Research on September 22 - 23, 2007 at Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi have been planned. Besides, lectures, symposium and workshops are being planned at other places. The Silver Jubilee activity will conclude with the XXV annual conference and International Symposium on Advances in Neurosciences at Varanasi on November 22 - 25, 2007. The programme is available on the IAN website and those interested may participate in these events.

One of the major issues is the modifications in Rules and Bye-laws of the Academy. I am sure you all have received the same with suggested modifications by the committee. I will appreciate receiving your comment(s)/suggestion(s) to put before the committee for discussions and to implement the same. You will find the nomination formats for fellows and election of the new executive with this newsletter. Please send the nominations before the last date. The minutes of the GB meeting held on December 18, 2006 at Lucknow are also enclosed. I will also request you to forward information on your achievements/honours/awards or any other member to me for inclusion in the next issue of the Newsletter. Change in address, if any, may please be informed to Dr. A.K. Agrawal, Treasurer of the Academy to update in the Membership Directory.

With sincere thanks,

July 14, 2007.

Vinay K. Khanna

Minutes of the General Body Meeting held on December 18, 2006 at Scientific Convention Centre, Lucknow

The meeting of the General Body (GB) of Indian Academy of Neurosciences was held at the Scientific Convention Centre, Lucknow on December 18, 2006. The meeting was presided by Professor P.N. Tandon, President of the Academy. The list of members who attended the meeting is enclosed.

1. The minutes of the last GB held at NIMHANS, Bangalore on December 13, 2005 were confirmed.
2. Dr. Rakesh Shukla, Editor informed the GB that the journal of the Academy Annals of Neurosciences is being brought out at regular intervals. He requested members to motivate their students and colleagues to submit manuscripts for further issues. Dr. Shukla informed that most of the time the journals sent to the members are returned to the Editor's office because of change of address which leads wastage of funds on postage. Dr. Shukla requested for appropriate measures in the matter. He requested the members to inform the change of address, telephone, fax no. of the members known to them to the Secretary/ Treasurer. The GB complemented the Editor for his endeavours to improve the quality of publication.
3. Dr. A.K. Agrawal, Treasurer of the Academy presented the report and it was accepted by the GB.
4. The President informed the GB of the plan for holding symposia, workshops and scientific / popular lectures at different centers engaged in neuroscience activities and one or more such activities could be held at Bangalore, Gwalior, Kolkata, Lucknow, Manesar, New Delhi. The President also informed that Dr. G.N. Pandey (University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, USA), a senior member and Fellow of the Academy, has accepted to hold a symposium at USA under the auspices of Silver Jubilee of IAN at an appropriate time. He further informed that a programme will be chalked out and uploaded on the IAN website for wider participation of interested members.
5. The GB was informed that EC has recommended to revive the local branches of the Academy at Aligarh, Kolkata and Gwalior and Dr (Ms). Preeti G. Joshi would explore the formation of branch at Bangalore.
6. Proposal for constituting Travel Fellowship in the memory of Professor R. Nath who had been a Fellow and President of the Academy by his son Dr. Avindra Nath was discussed. The GB approved that a corpus of US \$ 5000 sent by Dr. Avindra Nath to constitute the award be established and 6-8 travel fellowships be given out of the interest on the corpus. The GB also approved that the travel award may be given from the Silver Jubilee Year Conference at Lucknow, for which an additional amount of US \$

200 has been sent by Dr. Avindra Nath. The GB was informed that guidelines for the award are being framed by the Treasurer and Dean.

7. The proposal for holding the next annual conference at Varanasi by Dr. M.K. Thakur was discussed at the GB. The members happily accepted and approved the proposal.
8. Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Organizing Secretary of the Silver Jubilee Year Conference of IAN at Lucknow presented the report of the conference and thanked the members of the organizing committee for their whole hearted support. He also thanked the participants from India and abroad for their active participation in this historical meeting. The house appreciated the efforts of the organizing committee for the success of the conference.
9. The proposal that the same EC be continued for one more year keeping in view of the Silver Jubilee Year activities of the Academy was discussed. The GB unanimously approved the proposal for continuation of EC for one more year.
10. The GB was informed the recommendations of the search committee selecting Dr. P.K. Seth for Professor B.K. Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award and academic committee for the award of IAN Fellowship to Dr (Ms). Raj D. Mehra and Dr. B.G. Unni and its approval by the EC.
11. The issue of bringing out the status of neuroscience on the occasion of Silver Jubilee of the Academy was discussed. It was felt that the theme based commemorative volume be prepared and released during the next annual conference. It was suggested that Dr. P.K. Seth may be requested to coordinate for compiling the chapters alongwith other members. Also, the proposal of documenting the history of IAN on the occasion of its Silver Jubilee was discussed. The GB was very happy to note that Dr. Mahdi Hasan has agreed to take up this important task and approved the proposal with applause.
12. President of the Academy informed that the FAONS conference will be held at New Delhi in 2010. The GB was happy to note and approved that IAN being the affiliate body of FAONS could sponsor this event.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Professor B.K. Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award

Dr. Prahlad K. Seth has been selected for Professor B.K. Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award for 2005. Dr. Seth over the last three decades has been engaged in understanding the mechanism of neurotoxicity of environmental chemicals and has significantly contributed to strengthen the area of Neurotoxicology in the country. He has served the Academy since its inception in various capacities. At present he is the Chief Executive Officer of Biotech Park at Lucknow. He will deliver the oration during the XXV annual conference of the Academy at Varanasi.

Executive Committee

President

Dr. P.N. Tandon, Manesar

Vice Presidents

Dr. H.C. Pant, Bethesda, USA

Dr. T.R. Raju, Bangalore

Dr. I.K. Patro, Gwalior

Dean

Dr.R.C. Srimal, Lucknow

General Secretary

Dr. (Ms) P.G. Joshi, Bangalore

Secretary (HQ)

Dr. V.K. Khanna, Lucknow

Secretary (International Affairs)

Dr. S.C. Pandey, Chicago, USA

Joint Secretary

Dr. P. Seth, Manesar

Treasurer

Dr. A.K. Agrawal, Lucknow

Chief Editor

Dr. R.Shukla, Lucknow

Co-Editors

Dr. R.K. Garg, Lucknow

Dr. N. Jain, Manesar

Members

Dr. M.C. Arunan, Mumbai

Dr. A. Chattopadhyay, Hyderabad

Dr. Debjani Guha, Kolkata

Dr. R. Sandhir, Chandigarh

Dr. M.K. Thakur, Varanasi

Dr. B.G. Unni, Jorhat

IBRO and **FAONS**
Representative

Dr. (Ms) V. Ravindranath, Manesar

Immediate Past President

Dr. (Ms) S. Wadhwa

Immediate Past General
Secretary

Dr. I.K. Patro, Gwalior

Congratulations!! - Award Winners

Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award

Merlin Margaret, Kavindra Nath, Nuzhat Husain, Mukesh Tripathi, Pauliah Mohan, Sunil Kumar, Yogendra Kumar Gupta, Rakesh Kumar Gupta. *Department of Radiology and Anaesthesiology, Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow.* **Macrosphere induced permanent MCAO rat stroke model – study on A 1.5 T magnetic resonance clinical scanner and its histopathological correlation.**

Dr. D.M. Kar Prize

Barsha Sen, Swagata Sinha, Shanbina Ahmed, Saurabh Ghosh, Prasant Kumar Gangopadhyay, Usha Rajamma. *Manovikas Biomedical Research & Diagnostic Centre, 482 Madudah, Plot I-24, Sector-J,E.N. Bypass, Kolkata 700 107.* **Analysis of HOXA1 and HOXB1 polymorphisms in the Indian Population – An Association study with autism.**

S.S. Parmar Research Foundation (USA) Prize

Amit Mishra, Ranjan Nihar Jana. *Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience Laboratory, National Brain Research Centre, Manesar, Gurgaon - 122 050.* **Angelman ubiquitin ligase E6-AP promotes degradation of tumor suppressor P53 by proteasome in the neuronal cells.**

Aparna Shah, A Kundnani, J Jacob, A Mane, D Sengupta, MC Arunan. *Brain Research & Cognitive Sciences Laboratory, Department of Life Sciences, Sophia College for Women, BD Road, Mumbai 400 026* **Regenerating brain of earthworm as a model system to study differentiation of monoaminergic neurons in adult animals.**

Jyotsnamoyee-Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize

Ashu Johri, A. Dhawan, R.L. Singh, D. Parmar. *Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, Lucknow – 226 001.* **Effect of prenatal exposure of deltamethrin on the ontogeny of xenobiotic metabolizing cytochrome P450s in the brain and liver of offsprings.**

Best Paper Award from the Organizers of XXIV IAN Conference

Kiran Kushwaha, P Srivastava, P Sharma, A Srivastava, S Sood, M Reddy, VK Khanna. *DOEACC Centre Govt. of India, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow.* **Computational studies of inflammation disease a better lead identification by binding free energy calculations.**

NASI Young Scientist Colloquium Award

Manali Das, Sayantani Mondal, Swagata Sinha, Anindita Chattopadhyay, Kanchan Mukhopadhyay. *Manovikas Biomedical Research & Diagnostic Centre, 482 Madudah, Plot I-24, Sector-J,E.N. Bypass, Kolkata 700 107.* **Risk of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) conferred by MAOA gene polymorphism.**

Congratulations!! - New Elected Fellows

Dr. (Ms.) Raj D. Mehra, Professor, Department of Anatomy, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi has been elected Fellow. Her studies on experimental transplantation in primates enhanced the knowledge in understanding the concept of rejection and necrosis of the transplanting tissues. She also showed that estrogen receptors are present in neurons of all subfields of hippocampus.

Dr. B. G. Unni, Scientist F, Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat has also been elected Fellow. Dr Unni isolated and characterized a new neuropeptide in the brain of insects. His studies on silkworms demonstrated that application of insect hormones and neuropeptides increased the yield of silk.

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, supported by three Fellows of the Academy are invited alongwith complete biodata. Nominations should be sent to the Dean (Dr. R.C. Srimal, Former Director, ITRC, 322/13, Surangi Tola, Chowk, Lucknow – 226 003) and a copy of the same to Secretary HQ (Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Scientist, Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001) by **September 15, 2007**. Nominations received after the last date will be considered next year.

Travel Award(s)

Applications are invited for **Dr. R. Nath Memorial Travel Fellowship** and **Dr. John Miller Travel Award** which are available to the candidate (below 35 years of age) presenting a paper at the annual conference on competitive basis. Up to 8 travel awards consisting of actual travel reimbursement by AC-3Tier upto the maximum of Rs. 1,500/- will be available in case of **Dr. R. Nath Memorial Travel Fellowship**. In case of **Dr. John Miller Travel Award**, up to 2 travel awards will be available 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 (Dr. M.K. Thakur, Organizing Secretary IAN – 2007, Department of Zoology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi – 221 005, India) and a copy of the same to the Treasurer (Dr. A.K. Agrawal, Head, Developmental Toxicology Division, Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001) by **September 1, 2007**.

Silver Jubilee Conference at Varanasi

The XXV annual conference of Indian Academy of Neurosciences and International Symposium on Advances in Neurosciences will be held at Varanasi on **November 22-25, 2007**. Dr. M.K. Thakur, Organizing Secretary of the conference is in the process of sending announcement to members. Suggestions, if any, for the meeting may be sent to him.

Dr. M.K. Thakur
Organizing Secretary IAN - 2007
Department of Zoology
Banaras Hindu University
Varanasi – 221 005, India

Tel: +91-542-2307194 , +91-9450547155
Email: mktian2007@gmail.com ; mkt_bhu@yahoo.com
Website <www.neuroscienceacademy.org.in>

Awards/Prizes 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.

1. **Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award** (For best oral presentation by the young neuroscientist below 40 years of age at the annual conference).
2. **Dr. D.M. Kar Prize** (For best oral presentation by the young neuroscientist below 35 years of age at the annual conference).
3. **Professor S.S. Parmar Research Foundation (USA) Award** (For best poster presentation by young neuroscientist below 35 years of age at the annual conference).
4. **Jyotsnamoyee-Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize** (For published research paper in the field of basic neurosciences. Paper should have been published during the past 2 years).

Persons willing to be considered for the awards may apply directly or get them nominated. The details of the awards are on the IAN website. These may also be obtained from the Secretary HQ (Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Scientist, Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001). Last date of receiving nominations is **September 1, 2007**.

Forthcoming Meetings

IBRO 7th World Conference of Neuroscience

Melbourne, Australia, July 12 - 17, 2007.

<http://www.ans.org.au>

ESF-EMBO Conference: Three Dimensional Sensory and Motor Space: Perceptual Consequences of Motor Action

Sant Feliu de Guixols, Spain, October 6 – 11, 2007

<http://www.esf.org/conferences/07226>

1st International Conference on Cognitive Neurodynamics/3rd Shanghai International Conference on Physiological Biophysics: Cognitive Neurodynamics

Shanghai, China, November 17 – 21, 2007.

<http://www.iccn2007.org>

IBRO International Workshop, Complex Neural Networks: From Synaptic Transmission to Seeing the Brain in Action

Debrecen, Hungary, January 24 – 26, 2008

<http://www.ibro2008.unideb.hu>

Nominations for the Executive Committee

Nominations for the positions of President (1), Vice Presidents (3), Dean (1) General Secretary (1), Secretary HQ (1), Secretary International Affairs (1), Treasurer (1), Joint Secretary (1), FAONS and IBRO Representative (1) and Members (6) are invited on the prescribed format (enclosed herewith). The completed nominations should be sent by **October 30, 2007** to -

Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Secretary (HQ),
Scientist, Industrial Toxicology Research
Centre, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001.

INDIAN ACADEMY OF NEUROSCIENCES Format For Annual Elections

Nomination for the post of:

Name:

Address:

Membership No.:

Proposer

Name:

Membership No.:

Signature

Proposer and Seconder should be the member of the IAN

Seconder

Name:

Membership No.:

Signature

IAN Website

www.neuroscienceacademy.org.in

Dr. Pankaj Seth, Joint Secretary, IAN with the help of his other colleagues at National Brain Research Centre, Manesar has done an excellent job to keep the IAN website updated. Any suggestion(s) to improve the website are welcome and may be forwarded to

Dr. Pankaj Seth, Scientist, National Brain Research Centre, N.H. 8, Nainwal Mode, Manesar – 122 050;
Email: <pseth@nbrc.res.in>

News for the Next Issue

You may inform your achievements and of other members and forward news items for the next issue of the newsletter to Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Scientist, Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001, Fax: +91-522-2628227, E-mail: <vkkhanna1@rediffmail.com>

**INDIAN ACADEMY OF NEUROSCIENCES
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

I wish to become a member of the Indian Academy of Neurosciences. I have read the constitution of the society and agree to abide by it.

1. Name: _____ 2. Educational Qualification _____
 3. Address: _____
 Tel: _____ (O); _____ (Res.); _____ Fax: _____
 Email: _____
 4. Are you actively engaged in work related to neurosciences: Yes/ No
 5. Field of specialization: _____
 6. Type of membership* desired (Tick or circle the appropriate one):
 I. Life _____ II. Ordinary _____ III. Student _____
 (D.D. number Bank Date)

7. Nominated by: _____
 Name & Membership No: _____
 Address: _____

Signature: _____ Signature of the applicant. _____

Note:

Admission fees Rupees Five only shall be charged.

- Subscription fees* for Life Membership is Rs. 1000/-, Ordinary Membership is Rs. 100/- and Student Membership is Rs. 50/-.
- Ordinary and Student Membership is valid for one calendar year and shall become due on the 1st of January each year.
- All the payment be made in cash or by demand draft in favour of **Treasurer, Indian Academy of Neurosciences** payable at Lucknow and shall be sent along with the duly completed form at the following address.

Dr. A.K. Agrawal
 Treasurer, Indian Academy of Neurosciences,
 Industrial Toxicology Research Centre
 PO Box 80, M.G. Marg,
 Lucknow – 226 001
 Email: aka33@rediffmail.com

For Office Use Only

Membership No. Type of Membership
 Subscription Details:
 D.D. No. Bank Date OR
 Receipt No. Date (if payment made in cash)
 Date Treasurer's Signature

**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 Seconder should be Fellows of the Academy.