

Neurosciences Newsletter

House Magazine of
INDIAN ACADEMY OF NEUROSCIENCES

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

July 2009

Message



Dear Friends,

I feel honoured to have been elected President of the Academy and express my sincere thanks to the members. I am aware of the responsibility that comes with it and feel a bit nervous as my predecessors, Prof. PN Tandon and Prof. B.N. Dhawan, are giants in the field of clinical and basic neurosciences. I shall constantly seek their guidance as well as the advice of the other senior members of the academy during my three year term.

The journal has also passed into new hands and Dr. Akshay Anand from Chandigarh is its Editor. The journal is the mouth piece of any scientific body and I shall request you all to submit the best research work for publication in the Annals of Neurosciences. This will go a long way in having the journal indexed. The scientific programme for the next meeting at Jaipur is being finalized and suggestions from the members regarding the topics for various symposium as well as speakers are welcome. I appeal to all the members and fellows of the academy to come to Jaipur to participate in the scientific deliberations and also take time to visit various historic places along with your family members.

With best wishes,

Rakesh Shukla
President

rakeshshukla_rakesh@rediffmail.com

Report

Dear Colleagues,

Attending the IAN meeting at Cochin is an experience in its own where we all enjoyed the neuroscience in aroma of spices around.

The XXVII conference of IAN is fast approaching near. The conference is scheduled on December 18 - 20, 2009 at NIMS University, Jaipur, which is the capital of Rajasthan and popularly known as the Pink City. The city is vibrant and has many attractions with broad avenues and spacious gardens. You may experience and enjoy the rich traditions of Rajasthan with your love ones. Please block the dates to be with us and encourage your colleagues and students to attend the conference. Suggestion(s) pertaining to the scientific programme may be forwarded to us or Dr. Anurag Tomar, the Organizing Secretary of the conference. The announcement of the meeting is ready and will be sent soon by the Organizing Secretary.

Dr. Akshay Anand, the new Editor of the journal needs to be congratulated for doing an excellent job. The first issue of 2009 brought out by him is impressive but the journal needs your support and specially by contributing research papers and reviews. Dr. Anand is quite open to suggestions and comments and you may forward these to him to improve the quality of the journal. One of the important things is to update your emails and addresses. What we find recently that the emails are getting bounced and the journals sent by the Editor by courier are also received undelivered. It is therefore important to update the list of addresses of members with their Emails. If there is any change, it may be forwarded to us or the Treasurer, Dr. A.K. Agrawal <aka33@rediffmail.com>.

I am sure, you visit the website <www.neuroscienceacademy.org.in> of the Academy frequently. If not, please do so as we are trying to update it from time to time. In case you have any suggestion(s) regarding the website, forward this(these) to us or to Dr. Pankaj Seth <pseth@nbric.ac.in> at the National Brain Research Centre, Manesar who is helping us efficiently in managing it.

With sincere thanks for your continued support,

Vinay K. Khanna
Secretary HQ
neuroscienceacademy@gmail.com

Mahendra K. Thakur
General Secretary
mktian2007@gmail.com

Minutes of the General Body Meeting held on December 13, 2008 at Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT), Cochin

The meeting of the General Body (GB) of Indian Academy of Neurosciences (IAN) was held on December 13, 2008 at Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT), Cochin. The meeting was chaired by Dr. B. N. Dhawan, President of the IAN. The list of members who attended the meeting is attached as Annexure - I.

Before starting the business, a condolence was held for Dr. KTN Shetty, one of the outstanding neuroscientists and a past General Secretary of the Academy. The meeting was adjourned and reconvened.

Dr. Dhawan welcomed all the Fellows and members and thanked them for attending the meeting.

1. The minutes of the last GB held at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi on November 23, 2007 were confirmed.
2. The General Secretary's report was presented by Dr. M. K. Thakur wherein he informed that the strength of the Academy has increased and it is the time to move ahead together to attain new heights. He requested the Convener / Secretary of local branches to gear up academic activities to mobilize young researchers. He also appealed the members to inform the change in address and emails, if any, to the Treasurer and Secretary HQ to update the address directory.
3. The Treasurer's report presented by Dr. A.K. Agrawal was approved by the GB. The members thanked him for managing the accounts of the Academy smoothly.
4. In the absence of Dr. Rakesh Shukla, the Editor's report was presented by Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Secretary (HQ). Sincere and untiring efforts of the Editor and the editorial team in bringing out all issues of the journal on time were appreciated.
5. Dr. C.S. Paulose, Organizing Secretary of the XXVI IAN Conference presented the report on scientific sessions organized and number of papers presented in oral and poster sessions. In his short report, Dr. Paulose apprised that 8 symposia, 5 oral sessions, 2 award sessions, invited lectures and poster sessions were held. Besides, an INSA Award lecture and NASI children interactive meet were also organized during the three days conference. He informed that there was a lot of enthusiasm among the young researchers to participate in this conference. Dr. Paulose was requested to prepare a consolidated report at the earliest for publication in Current Science in consultation with the General Secretary and Secretary HQ. He was also requested to prepare a report of the NASI children interactive meet for sending it to The National Academy of Sciences, Allahabad and of the INSA oration to the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi. A brief report should also be sent to other agencies which provided funds to facilitate future grants. He was suggested to settle the accounts and remit some of the savings out of the conference funds to IAN as decided during the last GB held at Varanasi.
6. Consideration of the recommendations of the EC
 - (i) Proposal to elect Dr. M. S. Kanungo, Varanasi and Dr. K. N. Sharma, Bangalore as Honorary Fellows and Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Lucknow and Dr. P. Prakash Babu as Fellows of the Academy was unanimously approved by the GB.
 - (ii) The GB also approved recommendation of EC awarding Dr. B.K. Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award to Dr. R.C. Simal.
 - (iii) The GB approved that Membership fee be increased to Rs. 2,000/- from Rs. 1,000/- and this change be implemented from January 1, 2009.

- (iv) The GB approved recommendation of EC for implementation of updated Rules and Byelaws and also approved that existing Honorary Members be termed as Honorary Fellows henceforth. The GB also approved the recommendation of EC that one more category in the membership as Associate Member be included which should be on annual basis for interested individuals with M. Sc. / M. Phil Degree in life, pharmaceutical, physical and social sciences or humanities. The Associate Members will not be able to take part in the election process. The fee of Associate Member at present will be Rs. 200/- (Rupees Two hundred only) on annual basis.
- (v) In order to cut down the expenses on postage, it was approved that issues of the journal to overseas members be sent as soft copy. Those overseas members interested in getting the hard copy of the journal will have to bear the cost of postage. The GB approved the proposal.
- (vi) The GB approved the proposal to institute an award in the memory of Dr. KTN Shetty. It was also approved that Dr. H. C. Pant may discuss the modalities with his other colleagues, frame guidelines and forward these to Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Secretary HQ for approval by EC.
7. The GB was informed that Dr (Ms). V. Ravindranath, Convener for the FAONS Congress in 2010, in a letter addressed to the President expressed her inability to organize the FAONS as she will be moving from Manesar to Bangalore. The issue was discussed in the EC to explore the possibility for holding the conference either at Varanasi, Lucknow or New Delhi. Dr. M. K. Thakur, the General Secretary was entrusted the responsibility to finalize the venue quickly after consulting the EC members. The GB approved the same.
8. The recommendation of EC for holding the XXVII annual meeting at Jaipur was accepted by the GB. The suggestion of EC that the Organizing Secretary should develop the scientific programme in consultation with President, General Secretary and Secretary HQ to avoid overlaps was also appreciated and approved by the GB.
9. Recommendations of the EC in constituting the new executive was presented and approved by the GB (list enclosed). No valid nomination was received for the post of Editor. Name of Dr. Akshay Anand, Chandigarh was proposed at GB. It was suggested that Dr. Anand should expeditiously forward the details of experience along with certification by his HOD to the Secretary HQ. Final decision will be taken by the President in consultation with Editor, Dean, General Secretary, Secretary HQ and Treasurer. Co-Editors may later be selected by the new Editor in consultation with the President, General Secretary and Secretary HQ.
10. The President thanked the outgoing EC members for their contribution to efficient working of the Academy and cooperation extended to him. He welcomed the new EC and hoped that progress of the Academy will be accelerated during its tenure.
11. The GB thanked Dr. C. S. Paulose and his colleagues for organizing the annual meeting of the IAN and international conference.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Free online access to the journal NEURO SIGNALS.

Ms. Lisa Locher from S. Karger AG has agreed to offer free online access to the IAN members to Neurosignals. Interested members may request her directly on the following address,

Lisa Locher, Promotion, S. Karger AG, Medical and Scientific Publishers, Allschwilerstrasse 10, CH-4009 Basel; Tel. +41 61 306 11 11 (main), +41 61 306 13 64 (direct), Fax +41 61 306 1234, website www.karger.com, E-mail l.locher@karger.ch

Annexure- I

List of members who attended the GB meeting at Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT), Cochin on December 13, 2008.

1. A. K. Agrawal, IITR, Lucknow
2. B.G. Unni, NIIST, Jorhat
3. B.S.S. Rao, NIMHANS, Bangalore
4. Bindu Kutty, NIMHANS, Bangalore
5. C.S. Paulose, Cochin University, Cochin
6. D.K. Sarkar, Rutgers University, USA
7. E, Vijayan, Cochin University, Cochin
8. Fakhrul Islam, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi
9. H.C. Pant, Bethesda, USA
10. Ishan Patro, Jiwaji University, Gwalior
11. Iswar Baitharm, NBRC, Manesar
12. K. Mukhopadhyay, Manovikas Kendra, Kolkatta
13. K.P. Mohanalumar, IICB, Kolkatta
14. Kalpana Barhwal, DIPAS, New Delhi
15. Laxmi T. Rao, NIMHANS, Bangalore
16. M. C. Arunan, Sophia College, Mumbai
17. M. Hasan, Lucknow
18. M.K. Thakur, BHU, Varanasi
19. Monika Sadananda
20. Muddanna S. Rao, Manipal
21. N. Madhusudhan, Bangalore
22. P. K. Seth, Biotech Park, Lucknow
23. P. Mahaboob Basha, Bangalore
24. Pankaj Seth, NBRC, Manesar
25. Preeti Joshi, NIMHANS, Bangalore
26. R. V. Omkumar, Trivendrum
27. Raghu Vemuganti, Wisconsin, USA
28. Rajnikant Mishra, BHU, Varanasi
29. Rakesh Shukla, CDRI, Lucknow
30. Ram Raghubir, CDRI, Lucknow
31. Rao B Adibhatla, USA
32. Ratna Sircar, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Glen Oaks, USA
33. S. K. Hota, DIPAS, New Delhi
34. S. K. Trigun, BHU, Varanasi
35. Sherly George
36. Shruti Bajjal, CBCS, Allahabad
37. Subash Pandey
38. T. J. James, Kerala
39. Usha R, Manovikas Kendra, Kolkatta
40. V. K. Khanna, IITR, Lucknow
41. Vishal Jain

Executive Committee

President

Dr. Rakesh Shukla (3)
Lucknow

Vice Presidents

Dr. H. C. Pant (1)

Bethesda, USA

Dr. B. G. Unni (2)

Jorhat

Dean

Dr. I. K. Patro (3)

Gwalior

General Secretary

Dr. M.K. Thakur (2)

Varanasi

Secretary HQ

Dr. V.K. Khanna (1)

Lucknow

Secretary International Affairs

Dr. Yogesh Dwivedi (1)

Chicago, USA

Treasurer

Dr. A. K. Agrawal (2)

Lucknow

Editor

Dr. A. Anand (3)

Chandigarh

IBRO and FAONS Representative

Dr. P. K. Seth (3)

Lucknow

Members

Dr. N.B. Joshi (1)

Bangalore

Dr. A. Jagota (1)

Hyderabad

Dr (Ms). K. D. Gill (2)

Chandigarh

Dr. K. P. Mohanakumar (2)

Kolkata

Dr. P. Seth (3)

Manesar

Dr. C. S. Paulose (3)

Cochin

Immediate Past President

Dr. B.N. Dhawan

Lucknow

Immediate Past General Secretary

Dr (Ms). P.G. Joshi

Number with in () indicate the term in year in each case.

Congratulations!!

Professor B.K. Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award - 2008



Dr. R. C. Srimal
Former Director
Industrial Toxicology Research Centre
M.G. Marg, Post Box No. 80
Lucknow – 226 001, India

New Elected Fellows



Dr. Vinay K. Khanna
Scientist
Developmental Toxicology Division
Indian Institute of Toxicology Research
M.G. Marg, Post Box No. 80
Lucknow – 226 001, India



Dr. P. Prakash Babu
Professor
Department of Animal Sciences
School of Life Sciences
University of Hyderabad
Hyderabad – 500 046, India

Professor R. Nath Memorial Travel Award

Ms. Maitrayee Sinha, Institute of Post Graduate
Medical Education & Research, Kolkata
Mr. Amit Kumar, Jiwaji University, Gwalior
Ms. Arpita Sharma, Jiwaji University, Gwalior
Ms. Shruti Baijal, University of Allahabad, Allahabad
Mr. Kapil Saxena, Jiwaji University, Gwalior
Ms. Meghna Srivastava, Jiwaji University, Gwalior
Mr. Durga Praveen, National Brain Research Centre,
Manesar
Ms. Arti Nagayach, Jiwaji University, Gwalior
Mr. Rakesh Kumar, All India Institute of Medical
Sciences, New Delhi

John Miller Travel Award

Mr. Shashank Tiwari, Jiwaji University, Gwalior

Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award

Richa Tiwari, Vivek Sharma, Nitin Koul and Ellora Sen, National Brain Research Centre, Manesar, Haryana – 122 050, India: Inducing GBM cell death through lipid RAFT intervention.

Dr. D.M. Kar Prize

Sunil Kumar Hota, Defence Institute of Physiology & Allied Sciences, Timarpur, Delhi – 110 054, India, Novel molecular mechanism pertaining to excitotoxicity following hypobaric hypoxia.

S.S. Parmar Research Foundation (USA) Prize

Praseeda Venugopalan, Ziauddin Darokhan, Rahul Chaudhary and V Rema, National Brain Research Centre, Manesar, Gurgaon, Haryana – 122 050, India : Investigating the potential of embryonic stem cells in enhancing recovery of neuronal function following cortical injury.

R. Harini, Sunitha, S.N, Bhupesh Mehta, Nanda B. Joshi and Preeti G. Joshi, Department of Biophysics, National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore, India: Lipid RAFTS modulate L type calcium channel activity in rat hippocampal neurons.

Jyotsnamoyee Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize

Mamata Mishra, S. Vetrivel, N.B. Siddappa, U. Ranga and P. Seth, National Brain Research Centre, Manesar, Haryana – 122 050, India: Clade-specific differences in neurotoxicity of human immunodeficiency virus – 1B and C tat of human neurons: significance of dicystein C30C31 motif. *Annals of Neurology* 63, 366 – 376, 2008.

Best Paper Award from the Organizers

Rituraj Niranjana and Rakesh Shukla, Division of Pharmacology, Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow – 226 001, India: Anti proliferative and anti inflammatory effect of guggulipid on LPSs stimulated human astrocytoma cell line, U373MG.

Next Conference at Jaipur

The XXVII annual conference of Indian Academy of Neurosciences is being hosted by NIMS University, Jaipur on December 18 – 20, 2009. Dr. Anurag Tomar is the Organizing Secretary of the conference. The first circular has been sent by him to the members. Suggestions, if any for the conference may be sent to him on the following address,

Dr. Anurag Tomar,
NIMS City Centre
4, Govind Marg, Jaipur – 302 004, India
Cell – +91 - 98290 61020
Email - ianjaipur@rediffmail.com

Proposal for Symposia

Proposals for symposia, if any, on cutting edge areas of neuroscience are invited for the next annual conference of Indian Academy of Neurosciences scheduled at Jaipur. A brief write up including the scope and relevance of the symposium not exceeding 2 pages and list of speakers alongwith the titles of their presentation should be forwarded to the Organizing Secretary and a copy to Dr. M.K. Thakur, General Secretary, IAN, Email: mkt_bhu@yahoo.com latest by **August 15, 2009.**

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 the following awards/prizes.

1. Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award (1, For best oral presentation by the young neuroscientist below 40 years of age at the annual conference).
2. Dr. D.M. Kar Prize (1, For best oral presentation by the young neuroscientist below 35 years of age at the annual conference).
3. Professor S.S. Parmar Research Foundation Award (2, For best poster presentation by young neuroscientist below 35 years of age at the annual conference).
4. Jyotsnamoyee - Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize (1, 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 themselves nominated. The details of the awards are on the IAN website. Copies may also be obtained from the Secretary HQ (Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Scientist, Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001).

Last date of receiving nominations is September 15, 2009.

Nomination 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 by September 15, 2009. Nominations should be sent to the Dean (Professor Ishan K. Patro, Head, School of Neuroscience, Jiwaji University, Gwalior – 474 011) and a copy of the same to Secretary HQ (Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Scientist, Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001) by **September 15, 2009.** Nominations received after the last date will be considered next year.

Travel Awards

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 2ndClass-3Tier and will not exceed Rs. 600/- each. Requests alongwith abstract of the paper may be sent to the Organizing Secretary (Dr. Anurag Tomar, NIMS City Centre, 4, Govind Marg, Jaipur – 302 004, India; Email - ianjaipur@rediffmail.com) and a copy of the same to the Treasurer (Dr. A.K. Agrawal, Developmental Toxicology Division, Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001) by **September 15, 2009.**

Forthcoming Meetings

22nd Biennial Meeting of the ISN/APSN Joint Meeting, BEXCO, Busan, Republic of Korea, August 23 – 28, 2009

Web site: <http://www.isn2009.org>

Workshop on Applications of Bioinformatics and Proteomic Techniques in Neurobiology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi September 7-21, 2009

Website: <http://www.bhu.ac.in>

32nd Annual Meeting of Japan Neuroscience Society, Nagoya, Japan, September 16 – 18, 2009

Web site: <http://www.jnss.org/neurosci2009/>

World Stem Cell Summit, Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore, Maryland, USA, September 21 - 23, 2009

Web site: <http://www.worldstemcellsummit.com>

3rd World Congress on Controversies In Neurology, Clarion Congress Hotel, Prague, Czech Republic, October 8 -11, 2009

Web site: <http://comtecmed.com/cony/2009>

CINP Biennial International Congress, Hong Kong, June 6 -10, 2010

Web site: <http://www.cinp2010.com>

8th IBRO World Congress of Neuroscience, Florence, Italy, July 14-19, 2011

Web site: <http://www.ibro.info>; <http://www.ibro2011.org>

Honours /Awards

Professor Ravindra K. Garg, Head, Department of Neurology, Chatrapati Shahuji Maharaj Medical University, Lucknow has been conferred with Vigyan Ratna by the UP Council of Science and Technology.

Professor Ishan K. Patro and Dr (Ms). Nisha Patro, School of Neuroscience, Jiwaji University, Gwalior have been elected Fellow of Collegium Internationale Neuro-Psychopharmacologicum (CINP).

Dr. A. B. Pant, Scientist, Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, Lucknow has been elected Fellow of Society of Toxicology, India.

Dr. K. P. Mohanakumar, Scientist, Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Kolkata has been elected Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, Allahabad (India).

Suggestion(s) For IAN Website

The details of various activities of the Academy are on the website www.neuroscienceacademy.org.in 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>

Request

The abstracts of the earlier meetings of Indian Academy of Neurosciences were not published in Annals of Neurosciences and therefore are not easily available. The Academy will therefore bring out the abstracts of meetings held earlier in a serial volume. Members having copies of abstracts and souvenirs of conferences from 1982 onwards are requested to send these to Dr. Vinay K. Khanna by May 30th 2008. These will be returned back soon after taking the images and acknowledged.

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, Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, 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 :(Surname)..... (Middle name).....(First 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. numberBank Date)
7. Nominated by:

Name & Membership No:

Address:

Signature:

Signature of the applicant.

Note:

Admission fees Rupees Five only shall be charged.

1. Subscription fees* for Membership - Rs. 2000/-, Associate Membership - Rs. 200/-
2. Associate Membership is valid for one calendar year and shall become due on the 1st of January each year.
3. 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

Indian Institute of Toxicology Research

PO Box 80, M.G. Marg,

Lucknow – 226 001, India

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.