

Neurosciences Newsletter

House Magazine of
INDIAN ACADEMY OF NEUROSCIENCES

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June 2006



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I take this opportunity to thank the members of the Academy for electing me its President at this historic juncture, even though I would have much favored the election of a younger and more dynamic person. On this occasion I would like to pay my tributes to the founders of the Academy particularly my dear friend Late Professor K.P. Bhargav, who initiated and nurtured the Academy to its present status.

Last couple of decade has witnessed an explosion in our knowledge of neuroscience globally. While encouraging developments have taken place in the country, we have a long road to travel to make a perceptible mark in the field. The creation of a National Brain Research Centre (NBRC) at Manesar, the establishment of Neuroscience Department at Jiwaji University, Gwalior, initiation of post graduate courses at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai and National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences at Bangalore, in addition to NBRC are welcome steps to generate well trained scientists to strengthen the field. Let us hope that other centres, where nuclei of such activities already exist will take up these leads and participate more actively in enhancing their contributions. We still need to develop a critical mass of basic neuroscientists as has already happened in clinical neurosciences in the country.

I hope that the Silver Jubilee year of the Academy will unleash the dormant potentials of our younger generation. There are challenges galore and opportunities in plenty for us to make a mark.

P.N. Tandon

FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY (HQ)



Dear Members,

We must applaud efforts of Dr (Ms). Preeti G. Joshi and her colleagues for having an exciting scientific programme with good participation of member neuroscientists from the country and abroad during the XXIII annual meeting of the Academy at Bangalore. Those who had attended the meeting may have witnessed the success.

As you are aware that our Academy has stepped in to the Silver Jubilee year. During the Bangalore meeting, programme for the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Academy was also discussed. It was decided that the celebrations should be kick started with the XXIV annual meeting in Lucknow in December 2006 with the year round activities at different centres and places in the country and conclude with the XXV meeting at National Brain Research Centre, Manesar in December 2007. A national steering committee with Dr. P.K. Seth as its Chairman has been constituted to chalk out the scintillating programme.

The XXIV annual conference of the Academy will be held in Lucknow from December 17-20, 2006. As the organizing secretary of this meeting, I on behalf of the Lucknow Branch of Indian Academy of Neurosciences extend a cordial invitation to you to be with us during this conference in the Silver Jubilee Year. The suggestion(s) from the members, if any, for this conference are welcome.

Professor Rakesh Shukla, Editor of our journal - *Annals of Neurosciences* has done an excellent job alongwith his team in bringing out the issues on time. We look forward to receive your research papers and reviews for the next issues of the journal.

Nomination formats for Fellows are enclosed with the newsletter. Please send the nominations before the last date. Please also forward information on your achievements/honours/awards to me for inclusion in the next issue of the Newsletter. I am sure that other members will be happy to share the information on your achievements. Please inform change in address of any of the member if you know to Dr. A.K. Agrawal, Treasurer of our Academy to update in the Membership Directory.

With sincere thanks to all the members for continued support.

June 14, 2006.

Vinay K. Khanna

Professor M. K. Thakur, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Lab, Department of Zoology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi has been elected Fellow. Professor Thakur has been teaching and conducting research in neurobiology for over 25 years. The major area of his research is aging. His observation that acetylation of histones is lower in old brain and thus causes reduced expression of genes has provided new insight in understanding the mechanism of aging. Professor Thakur has several original research papers to his credit. Recently, he has edited a book on Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology.

- Executive Committee

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Dr. P.N. Tandon, Manesar

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Dr. T.R. Raju, Bangalore

Dr. I.K. Patro, Gwalior

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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

Awards Winners

Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award

K. Ramkumar, B.S.S. Rao and T.R. Raju

National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore
Environmental enrichment ameliorates stress induced spatial learning impairment, dendritic atrophy and cholinergic dysfunction in the hippocampus.

Dr. D.M. Kar Prize

A. Ghoshal, K. Saheb, P. Koli, M.B. Appaiahgiri, S. Vrati and A. Basu
National Brain Research Centre, Manesar

Microglial activation and induction of multiple proinflammatory mediators in Japanese encephalitis.

S.S. Parmar Research Foundation (USA) Prize

Sraboni Chaudhury, T.C. Nag and S. Wadhwa

All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi

Prenatal auditory stimulation alters the levels of phosphorylated camp response element binding protein (p-CREB) in chick hippocampus.

B. Mehta and P.G. Joshi

National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore

Glutamatergic and purinergic receptor involvement in neuronal hyperactivity under epileptic condition.

Jyotsnamoyee-Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize

P. Alladi, T.S. Roy, N. Singh and S. Wadhwa

National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore

Prenatal auditory enrichment with species-specific calls and sitar music modulates expression of Bcl-2 and Bax to alter programmed cell death in developing chick auditory nuclei.

Best Paper Awards from the Organizers of XXIII IAN Conference

Sarada Raghavan, S. Raghavi and R. Mittal

Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai

Potential Involvement of SUMOylation in the mitogen activated protein kinase (MAPK) pathway.

U. Saeed, L. Divakar and V. Ravindranath

National Brain Research Centre, Manesar

Neuroprotection by estrogen is mediated through its regulation of glutaredoxin, a thiol disulphide oxido reductase

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 along with complete Biodata by 30, 2006. Nominations should be sent to the Dean (Dr. R.C. Simal, 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 30, 2006. Nominations received after the last date will be considered next year.

Travel Award(s)

The Academy provides John Miller Travel Award that covers round trip II class sleeper fare to the candidate (below 35 years of age) presenting a paper at the annual conference on competitive basis. Depending on the availability of funds, up to two travel awards may be provided. Requests along with abstract of the paper may be sent to the Organizing Secretary (Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Scientist, Developmental Toxicology Division, Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Lucknow – 226 001) 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 October 15, 2006.

Silver Jubilee Year Conference at Lucknow

The XXIV annual conference of Indian Academy of Neurosciences and International Update on Basic and Clinical Neuroscience Advances will be held at Lucknow on December 17-20, 2006. Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, 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.

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Industrial Toxicology Research Centre
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Lucknow – 226 001
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neuroscienceacademy@gmail.com

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 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 October 15, 2006.

Forthcoming Meetings

The Second International Conference of the National Neuroscience Society of Romania: Neuronal Excitability - From Molecular Level to System, Bucharest, Romania, September 1-3, 2006.

<http://www.snn.ro/conference2006>

XXIV Annual Conference of Indian Academy of Neurosciences and International Update on Basic and Clinical Neuroscience Advances, Lucknow, India, December 17-20, 2006.

<http://www.neuroscienceacademy.org.in>

The 4th Congress of Federation of Asian-Oceanian Neuroscience Societies (FAONS), Hong Kong, November 30 - December 2, 2006.

whyung@cuhk.edu.hk

11th Biannual Meeting of International Neurotoxicology Association, California, USA, June 10-15, 2007.

confandeventsvcs@ucdavis.edu

IBRO 7th World Conference of Neuroscience
Melbourne, Australia, July 12-17, 2007.

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

Honours/Awards

Professor P.N. Tandon, President, Indian Academy of Neurosciences and National Brain Research Centre, Manesar has been honoured with Padma Vibhushan.

Professor Y.K. Gupta, Head, Department of Pharmacology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi has been elected as President of Indian Pharmacological Society.

Professor P. K. Seth, Chief Executive Officer, Biotech Park, Lucknow delivered Dr. C.R. Krishnamurti oration under the auspices of Madras Science Foundation. He also delivered an oration under the auspices of Alumni Association of Department of Biochemistry, Lucknow University, Lucknow.

Dr. C. Nath, Deputy Director, Pharmacology Division, Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow received Dr. G. Achari Oration Award of Indian Pharmacological Society.

Dr. Vikas Kumar, Reader, Department of Pharmacology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi has been honored in Marquis Who's Who for his contributions in pharmaceutical sciences.

Suggestion(s) For IAN Website

The Academy thanks Dr (Ms). Vijaylakshmi Ravindranath, Director, National Brain Research Centre, Manesar for her support to host the new website of the Academy www.neuroscienceacademy.org.in Dr. Pankaj Seth, Joint Secretary of the Academy who has been entrusted the responsibility to update it from time to time has done an excellent job with the help of his other colleagues at National Brain Research Centre, Manesar. 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.