

AAiPS

Newsletter

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INDIAN PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENTISTS

P.O. Box 7244
Colonia, NJ 07067

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

- NJ & Washington DC chapter Meeting Update
- AAPS Elections
- Recognitions – Dr. Pat DeLuca
- Upcoming Company - Chemir
- Call for 2006 AAiPS Awards
- New Members
- Meeting Announcements

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Dear Readers,

The yearly hurricane season has officially started. Memories of Katrina are still lingering in our minds. Last year's havoc during the monsoon season in Mumbai has not been forgotten. As our nations prepare for the upcoming season, even on personal level by doing some advance planning we can be better prepared in case of emergency. Simple steps you can take to face any natural disaster include - 1) Find out the type of disaster which may occur in your area, 2) Determine possible consequences, make a plan and purchase supplies, and 3) test your plan along with your family members. In life, one has to be prepared and must have a plan to face the difficult times.

The association is providing its members a forum to update their knowledge by continuing education lectures and networking opportunities. We appeal to our members to come forward and get involved in its activities. This is a best way for networking. If someone has a project in mind, please propose it to the committee members and AAiPS will provide all possible help and structure.

Regards,

Hemant N. Joshi,

hemantnjoshi@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

We are already entering the second half of 2006! While many activities are in progress in our association, the noteworthy ones are –another successful regional meeting in New Jersey held on May 18th. Dr. Scott Grossman, Vice President, Bristol-Myers Squibb, NJ gave an interesting presentation on “Is drug hunting dead?” See write up for more details. Also

AAiPS Metro DC Chapter held a meeting in Maryland on June 10, 2006. The speaker was Mr. Kumar Barve – Honorable Maryland Senate Representative.

The strategic committees on “the future of AAiPS vision” and “the awards criteria” have met several times and have provided interim reports. The final outcome will be published in future newsletters. Also, the program committee has started planning for the Annual Gala at San Antonio, Texas on November 1, 2006. Please mark your calendar for the Annual AAiPS dinner. This year the guest of honor from India will be Mr. Satish Reddy, Managing Director and COO of Dr. Reddy’s Laboratories, Hyderabad. We are looking for volunteers based in the San Antonio area to help us coordinate the annual meeting. Please let us know if you are interested.

We need to hear from you with your views. Please do not hesitate to write to us.

President

myelvigi@hotmail.com

QUOTE FOR THIS NEWSLETTER

“Deal with the faults of others as gently as with your own.”

– A Chinese proverb

REGIONAL MEETING MINUTES

Contribution by Dr. Punit Marathe

The second NJ regional meeting was held on May 18 in Moghul Restaurant, Morristown, NJ. Dr. Scott Grossman, VP, Pharmaceutical Candidate Optimization from Bristol-Myers Squibb was the guest speaker. He presented a very thought-provoking topic “Is Drug Hunting Dead?” Dr. Grossman highlighted the important milestones in Drug Discovery such as the invention of propranolol, the beginning of targeted screens, team-oriented discovery, appreciation of ADME properties and high throughput screening. Despite these numerous advances in drug discovery and the success of the Pharmaceutical Industry, he stressed the fact that it is getting more and more difficult to produce good drugs in an environment with complexity of novel targets, increased competition and higher regulatory hurdles. Our job, as drug hunters (Drug Discovery and Development Scientists) is to realize the components of drug success in the context of its descriptors, behavior, and benefit-risk assessment. He urged the audience to become drug-hunters; that is to aggressively search for medicines adopting the right set of skills and to constantly look for opportunities to make a difference. Dr. Grossman ended his talk with the importance of globalization, which in his opinion will offer different perspectives on drug hunting from different parts of the world. Over 50 people were in attendance who enjoyed the talk followed by some delicious Indian food.

AAiPS DC METRO CHAPTER

The first regional meeting of the AAiPS Metro DC Chapter was held on June 10, 2006 at Mirch Masala Restaurant in Kentlands. About 30 members attended the meeting. This was the third such event hosted by the local chapter in little over a year. Mr. Kumar Barve, Majority Leader, MD State Government was the invited speaker.

Mr. Barve delivered a captivating talk, laced with humor, on how he came about to be in politics, his experiences with campaigning and getting bills passed and what the future holds for Indian-Americans in politics. He is the first elected representative of Indian origin in the US state legislative body. He is also a member of several committees. Notable amongst them are the Health and Government committee and the Joint Technology Oversight Committee. He has also served as the first Chairman of the Science and Technology sub-committee.

He was awarded the Legislator of the Year Award by the Montgomery County Maryland Medical Society in 1995, 1996 and 2000, making him an unprecedented three time awardee. In addition to his accomplishments in politics, he is the founder and CEO of Environmental Management Services in Maryland. His achievements were a source of pride and inspiration to all of us at the meeting including several youth who were also in attendance. The chairman of the chapter, Dr. Mehul Mehta welcomed him and presented him with a plaque on behalf of the chapter.

PARTICIPATE IN AAPS ELECTIONS

Satyam Upadrashta, AAiPS Fellow, is contesting for the "Member-at-Large" position in the upcoming AAPS elections. The other AAiPS members contesting AAPS elections are Siddharth J. Advant (DioSynth RTP), T. G. Venkateswaran (Wyeth Research), Deepa Deshpande (Acologix, Inc.), S. Ramanathan (Gilead Sciences), Raja Velgapudi and Prabhu Nambiar (Cubist Pharmaceuticals). Please support them win the elections.

RECOGNITIONS

Information provided by – Satyam Upadrashta

Prof. Patrick DeLuca, University of Kentucky, was awarded an honorary doctorate degree by the University of Perugia, Italy on May 30, 2006. In the past, this award was received by another renowned scientist -Dr. Rita Levi Montalcini, a recipient of the Nobel Prize for Medicine. The selection process is rigorous and takes about 2 years. Prof. DeLuca presented his research in the area of Novel Drug Delivery by injectable administration.

Congratulations to Prof. DeLuca who has been closely associated with AAiPS and is a fellow of AAiPS.

UPCOMING COMPANY

Compiled by Hemant Joshi

Chemir Analytical Services, Maryland Heights, MO.

Dr. Clara Claver, owner of Chemir (who started the company in 1959) did not offer a job to Dr. Shri Thanedar because she wanted to sell the company. He, instead of securing a job, bought the company in October 1990. Dr. Thanedar has received his Ph.D. from the University of Akron in 1982 and MBA from Fontbonne College in St. Louis. Chemir has been featured in the "Top 50 fast growing companies" from the St. Louis region for 4 consecutive years since 1997. Recently, Business Journal honored Dr. Thanedar with a prestigious national business award. The sales of Chemir have increased from \$150,000 to ~\$30 millions in the past 15 years. Chemir acquired Bodycoat Industrial Testing Laboratories, BETEC Laboratory, Azopharma – Contract Pharmaceutical Services and recently, Gateway Chemical Technologies.

Dr. Thanedar's vision is to create a company which is the best full services CRO (analytical and formulation).

For more information, please visit www.chemir.com & www.azopharma.com .

CALL FOR 2006 AAiPS AWARDS

AAiPS Executive Committee is inviting nominations for 2006 AAiPS Fellow Award, Outstanding Achievement Award and Graduate Student Scholarship Award. These awards will be given at the annual meeting to be held in San Antonio, TX on October 31, 2006. Detailed information on these three awards is as follows:

1. AAiPS FELLOW

Criteria:

Recipient shall be an individual who has made significant, pioneering, and sustained contributions to pharmaceutical sciences. The areas of contribution will include pharmaceuticals, drug delivery, pharmaceutical technology, regulatory affairs, biotechnology, analytical chemistry, pharmacokinetics and drug metabolism and pharmaceutical and healthcare industry, in general.

Information should be submitted by the nominator to AAiPS (Dr. Navnit Shah) no later than September 1, 2006. Please include in your nomination package:

- Letter of Justification - (Max 2 pages) consisting of an outline of significant achievement in pharmaceutical sciences, publications, patents, abstracts, invited presentations, products developed that are marketed etc.

- CV

- One letter of recommendation

2. OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Criteria:

Individual who has made outstanding, sustained, contributions to the pharmaceutical and healthcare field in delivery, pharmaceutical technology, regulatory affairs, biotechnology, analytical chemistry, pharmacokinetics and drug metabolism, pharmaceutical education, pharmaceutical marketing, and manufacturing operations. In addition, the individual should also be recognized nationally and internationally for his/her outstanding contribution in the pharmaceutical sciences and healthcare industry. Recipient shall also be an individual who has made sustained pioneering contributions through academic and/or professional excellence in the pharmaceutical and healthcare fields. Moreover, the individual should have provided services for the sustained growth of AAiPS.

Information should be submitted by the nominator to AAiPS (Dr. Shah) no later than September 1, 2006. Please include in your nomination package:

- Letter of Justification- (Max 2 pages) consisting of an outline of outstanding achievements and pioneering contributions to pharmaceutical sciences and healthcare industry, details of recognition by national and/or international organizations, and service or support to AAiPS organization

- CV

- One letter of recommendation

Navnit Shah, Ph.D Chair, AAiPS Awards Committee Email: Navnit_h.shah@roche.com Tel : 973-235-4116

3. GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

AAiPS is pleased to announce the availability of FOUR scholarship awards for graduate students in Pharmaceutical Sciences. The applicants must present their research findings at the 2006 Annual meeting of American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) in San Antonio, TX. Three awards will be given to the students of Indian heritage and one is open to all graduate students.

Interested graduate students should submit a two page summary of their research findings. The summary should include title, author, affiliation, objectives, methodologies, results and discussion. Please include your telephone #, fax #, and email address with your submission.

The submissions must reach Prof. Bhargava by September 1, 2006.

Prof. H. N. Bhargava Chair,

AAiPS Student Research Awards Committee

Email: hksv@aol.com

Tel: 781-784-6764

NEW MEMBERS

Compiled by - Ramesh Raikar

AAiPS welcomes the following new members:

Life Members – Rashmi Taneja, NJ, and Sushant Hardikar, NJ (Novartis).

Annual Members – Dave Rutesh, and Suniket Fulzele, Tallahassee.

AAiPS OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2006 -2008

President : *Mukund "Mike" Yelvigi*

Vice President : *Dilip Wadgoonkar*

Secretary : *Punit Marathe*

Treasurer : *Ramesh Raikar*

Immediate Past President : *Suggy Chrai*

Past President : *Sampat Singhvi*

Members-at-large : *Barry Fox, Vijai Kumar and Vinod Shah*

Metro DC Chapter Chair : *Mehul Mehta*

Various committees chairs are :

Programming : *Pramod Chemburkar*

Newsletter : *Hemant Joshi – Editor*

Scientific : *Navnit Shah*

Sponsorship : *Bala Srinivas*

Membership : *Dilip Wadgaonkar*

Vision Committee :

Chair - *Vinod Shah,*

Members - *Krip Borah, Praful Sheth (FIP-India), Ajit Singh (AAC, India), Atul Mehta, Suggy Chrai, Ben Issac, Paul Likhari*

Finance Stratgic Committee :

Chair - *Suggy Chrai,*

Members - *Bala Srinivas, Andy Honeycheck, Dilip Parikh, Ramesh Raikar.*

Awards Strategic Committee :

Chair - *Sam Singhvi,*

Members - *Nemi Jain, Dev Wadke, Yatindra Joshi, Vijai Kumar, etc.*

ADVERTISEMENT RATES

The rates of advertisement for the AAiPS newsletter are as follows:

One year ads (four issues only)-

\$1000 full page per year, \$500 half a page per year., \$250 quarter page per year

One time ads (one issue only)-

\$400 full page per issue, \$200 half a page per issue., \$100 quarter page per issue

No ad under a quarter page

Contact for advertisements :

Mukund ‘Mike’ Yelvig, myelvig@hotmail.com

or Hemant N. Joshi, Editor, AAiPS Newsletter, hemantnjoshi@gmail.com

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

AAiPS supports CHI conference

AAiPS has provided support to a conference organized by Cambridge Healthtech Institute. The title of the conference is – “Drug Development in India – Planning and managing drug discovery & development activities”. The conference is scheduled for November 16-17, 2006 at Boston Park Plaza, Boston, MA. For more information, visit the following website : Please note that AAiPS members get 20% discount on registration. (<http://www.healthtech.com/2006/pci/index.asp>)

Indian Pharmaceutical Congress conference to be held in December 2006 The 58th Indian Pharmaceutical Congress to be held in Mumbai in December 2006 is going to showcase strengths of Indian pharmaceutical industry in the area of human, material and intellectual resources.

Cphi India (Chemical & Pharma Ingredient) will debut alongside 2006 IPC

CMPi's new pharma ingredients show, CPhi India, will debut in December alongside the prestigious annual Indian Pharmaceutical Congress (IPC) and Pharma Expo at Bombay's Exhibition Center. Revised dates for CPhi India are December 1-3, 2006.

Interpex to be held at Bombay Exhibition Center, Mumbai, India September 13-15, 2006

For more information please contact John Stuttard at 203-840-5360 OR jstuttard@reedexpo.com

AAIPS JULY 27 NJ REGIONAL MEETING ABSTRACT

Mr. Owen Richards has been associated with Pharmaceutical corporations for more than 15 years and with the field of consultancy for pharmaceutical companies for more than 10 years. From his vantage position of providing assistance to many companies in auditing, cGMP compliance, quality systems set-ups, and providing remedial actions for regulatory problems, he will provide his views about the explosive expansion of the field of consultancy in the last 10 years. He will describe several disciplines in pharmaceutical companies that need help from consultants. He will list the fields where demands for consultants are high and provide his views on whether a pharmaceutical scientist could select a career path during his corporate job to be a consultant after retirement.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I liked the new column – “Upcoming company”. I would like to hear how Indians are progressing in the corporate world both as managers and bench level scientists.

- Anonymous

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

If you have changed your job or if you know of anyone who has changed job, please let us know the details. Drop an email to the editor – hemantnjoshi@gmail.com

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