

## **Report of 57th Annual Conference of Association of Physiologists and Pharmacologists (APPICON 2011)**

The 57th Annual Conference of Association of Physiologists and Pharmacologists of India was held from 13-17th December 2011 at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. The conference was attended by more than 900 delegates from all over the country and abroad. The conference was graced by about 100 Invited Guest Speakers of National and International repute. The conference truly represented the length and width of the country with delegates from all states barring one of India with representation from Maharashtra (142) and Karnataka (116) dominating in numbers. The vibrancy of the APPI was also revealed in record 550 plus abstract submissions from all the important sub-fields of physiology, namely, Neurosciences (16%), Metabolism (13%), Endocrinology (12%), Cardiovascular (11%), Complementary and Alternative Medicine (11%), Respiratory Physiology (10%), Medical Education (4%), Hematology (3%), Phytomedicine (3%), Environment (2%). The pharmacology section contributed to 6% of abstracts. The pride of APPI reflected in very high representation by postgraduates and Junior Faculty.

The conference was held for 2 and ½ day as per the constitution of APPI with one day of Pre-conference “Young Scientist Training Workshop of Techniques and Tools” (six workshops) supported by Department of Science and Technology and one day of International Symposium on Systems Biology. The systems biology symposium covered an important emerging field and was addressed by International faculty from all over the globe. The workshops covered techniques on cell culture and molecular biology, cardiovascular physiology and pharmacology, autonomic physiology, electroencephalography and integral health management and practice of yoga. The Guest faculty from various part of the country shared their views during the workshops.

The main conference included Plenary Session and Inauguration, Orations, 10 symposia, 10 thematic sessions for free paper presentation (110 papers), 2 sessions of thematically categorized poster presentation (440 presentations), 3 parallel Award Sessions for undergraduate, postgraduates and APPI awards and a special session to discuss the VISION of APPI for next 10 years. The poster presentations were done in group of 10-15 sub-sessions (40 sessions) that chaired by scientists of repute. Forty full length submissions were made for awards for best research presentation by postgraduates and undergraduates out of which 16 were selected for presentation during the conference. The symposia topics covered feeding behaviour, reproductive physiology, high altitude, neurodegeneration and plasticity, biologics, cardiovascular pharmacology, lifestyle and yoga, space travel, sleep and cognition. The symposia were addressed by Guest Faculty from all over the India and other countries. The Session of VISION 2020 reiterated the ethical issues in human and animal experimentation, and need for publication, mentorship and popularizing physiology and pharmacology amongst medical students and general public.

The executive committee meeting was held during the conference. The editorial board for the Indian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology were formally elected (2012 - 2015). The General body meeting was held on December 16, 2011. It was unanimously agreed to hold the APPICON 2012 at Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Medical College, Swami Vivekananda Subharti University, Meerut.

<p>First Announcement – APPICON 2012 www.appicon2012.com email: appicon2012smc@gmail.com</p>
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