

# ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTISTS OF INDIAN ORIGIN IN AMERICA, INC.



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## 41st NATIONAL MEETING OF ASIOA ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY & BANQUET

[WWW.ASIOA.ORG](http://WWW.ASIOA.ORG)

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## Message from ASIOA Executive Leadership Team

Dear ASIOA Members,

Greetings from the ASIOA leadership team! Hope you had a great 2022. Thank you for your support to continue the same leadership team for another term. ASIOA is doing well with recruitment of new life and regular members. Thank you all for the unwavering support!! We organized the 40<sup>th</sup> ASIOA Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony in Philadelphia, PA on the sidelines of “The Last” Experimental Biology (EB-2022) meeting. It was bittersweet as many of us have been attending EB meetings for ever. However, the ASIOA Banquet and Awards Ceremony was a great success with a house full of attendees and awardees. We thoroughly enjoyed the Banquet together with inspiring and endearing speeches from the guest of honor, Dr. Sakthi Sadayappan and major award winners, Drs. Sarfraz Ahmad, Kamesh Badri and Hemal Patel and talks from Scientist awardees. During the business meeting, most of the members voted to have this year ASIOA banquet together with APS Physiology Summit to be held from Apr 20-23, 2023, at Long Beach, California. Hope you all have received the flyer for soliciting nominations for this year ASIOA awards. Our goal is to encourage participation of early career scientists for many of these awards. As you can see, in this Newsletter, we have included the achievements of our ASIOA members, in addition to pictures from last year’s Banquet. In this connection, we request the members not to send us information on your achievements “copy and paste” from other websites/news items due to copy right issues. We are also planning to organize a Biennial Conference (In person) in either May or August 2023. Please let us know your interest in attending the in-person Biennial Conference. Finally, on behalf of the ASIOA executive committee, we cordially invite you all to participate in the 41<sup>st</sup> ASIOA Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony, April 22, 2023, at Long Beach, CA and make it successful. We promise you a great evening of fun, food, and science with “Indianness” sprinkled all over!!!!

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Charles Thodeti, PhD, FAHA, FCVS  
President, ASIOA

Sreelatha Aramgam, MSc  
Secretary, ASIOA

Prasad Dhulipala, PhD, PMP  
Executive Officer, ASIOA



# ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTISTS OF INDIAN ORIGIN IN AMERICA, INC.



41st National Meeting of ASIOA  
Annual Awards Ceremony and Banquet  
April 22nd , 2023  
[WWW.ASIOA.ORG](http://WWW.ASIOA.ORG)

## Organizing Committee

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## SOLICITATION OF NOMINATIONS FOR ASIOA 2023 AWARDS

ASIOA is delighted to announce its annual awards for 2023. Nominations are invited from ASIOA life members and members for the following categories. The Awards Committee will make the selections, and the awards will be presented at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony (Philadelphia, PA), April 3rd, 2022. **Please send your awards application to Dr. Kameswara Rao Badri, Chair, Awards Committee @ [kameshbadri2@gmail.com](mailto:kameshbadri2@gmail.com) on or before February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**



### Awards & Categories



Mrs. Nirmala Desai Lifetime Achievement Award (will be given to ASIOA life member for exceptional contributions in Science)

ASIOA Service Award (will be presented to a life member of ASIOA, who has rendered outstanding service to the Association).

Mario Toppo Distinguished Scientist Award (will be given to a life member of ASIOA, an established senior scientist, who has made an outstanding scientific contribution).

Dr. Sudhir Gupta Young Scientist Award (will be given to ASIOA life member and scientist who is 40 years or younger and has made an exceptional contribution to science).

Six Junior Scientist Awards will be given to scientists, postdoctoral or pre-doctoral fellows of Indian origin and ASIOA life-member/member.

### **Sudhir Gupta Young Scientist Award**

Eligibility Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Scientist of Indian origin, life member of ASIOA and has made exceptional contributions to the field of Science.</li><li>✓ Applicant should be 40 years or younger.</li><li>✓ Nomination should be made and seconded by the ASIOA members in good standing.</li><li>✓ Application must be submitted prior to the deadline. Submissions/ Nominations after the deadline will not be accepted.</li><li>✓ All the below listed documents must be submitted with the application.</li></ul>
Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current CV</li><li>• A brief summary of the applicant's scientific achievements</li><li>• Any official document that confirms the age of the applicant (up on request).</li><li>• Two nomination letters from the ASIOA members in good standing.</li></ul>

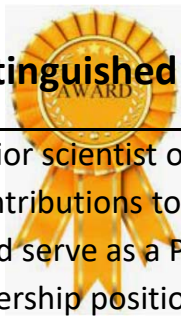
## Mrs. Nirmala Desai Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award



Eligibility Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Scientist of Indian origin.</li> <li>✓ Nominations should be made and seconded by ASIOA life members for at least 5 years.</li> <li>✓ Applicant should be an individual investigator and need to be the life member of the ASIOA for at least 10 years.</li> <li>✓ Researchers and/or practitioners in the fields of Physiology, Pharmacology, Neuroscience, Immunology, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Cell Biology and any other relevant Biomedical Research areas.</li> <li>✓ Exceptional body of work in research, theory or other scholarly work by a living person over a period of not less than 20 years.</li> <li>✓ The body of work should have contributed significantly in unique or innovative findings, theoretical constructs, experimental approaches or practices and/or have made exceptional practical application(s) of others' research.</li> <li>✓ The body of work may be demonstrated by: 1) a minimum of 25 publications as primary/ corresponding author in refereed academic journals with high impact factor and highly cited research findings; 2) significant service as journal editor/editorial member/journal reviewer/members of scientific organizations and 3) significant contributions at and to professional conferences or any combination thereof.</li> <li>✓ Application must be submitted prior to the deadline. Submissions/ Nominations after the deadline will not be accepted.</li> <li>✓ All the below listed documents must be submitted with the application</li> </ul>
Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current CV</li> <li>• Two nomination letters from the ASIOA life members for at least 5 years.</li> </ul>



## Mario Toppo Distinguished Scientist Award



Eligibility Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Established senior scientist of Indian origin, who has made outstanding contributions to the field of Science.</li> <li>✓ Applicant should serve as a Professor, Associate professor or equivalent leadership positions in academia or industry .</li> <li>✓ Applicant should be an individual investigator and need to be the life member of the ASIOA for at least 5 years.</li> <li>✓ Nomination should be made and seconded by the ASIOA members in good standing.</li> <li>✓ Application must be submitted prior to the deadline. Submissions/ Nominations after the deadline will not be accepted.</li> <li>✓ All the below listed documents must be submitted with the application.</li> </ul>
Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current CV</li> <li>• A brief summary of the applicant’s scientific achievements and service.</li> <li>• Two nomination letters from the ASIOA members in good standing.</li> </ul>

## ASIOA Service Award

Eligibility Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ ASIOA life member for at least 5 years who has rendered an outstanding service to the ASIOA - as President, Secretary, Executive officer and Council member, and Meetings and other Committees.</li> <li>✓ Nomination should be made and seconded by the ASIOA members in good standing.</li> <li>✓ Application must be submitted prior to the deadline. Submissions/ Nominations after the deadline will not be accepted.</li> <li>✓ All the below listed documents must be submitted with the application.</li> </ul>
Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current CV</li> <li>• A brief summary of the applicant’s service to ASIOA.</li> <li>• Two nomination letters from the ASIOA members in good standing.</li> </ul>

## Junior Scientist Awards



- Satu Somani Award in Physiology-- current/recent research or the academic background should be in **Physiology**
- American Radiolabeled Chemicals Award in Pharmacology- current/recent research or the academic background should be in **Pharmacology**
- Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Award in Molecular Biology- current/recent research or the academic background should be in **Molecular Biology**
- JOGUE Award in Nutrition-- current/recent research or the academic background should be in **Nutrition**
- Biotex Laboratories Award in Immunology-- current/recent research or the academic background should be in **Immunology**
- Gopal Krishna Memorial Award in Biochemistry-- current/recent research or the academic background should be in **Biochemistry**

Eligibility Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Scientist/Researcher of Indian origin and ASIOA life members or members</li> <li>✓ Either the applicant's current/recent research or the academic background should be in Award category as given in specific criteria <u>and must be specified in the application.</u></li> <li>✓ Application must be submitted prior to the deadline. Submissions/ Nominations after the deadline will not be accepted.</li> <li>✓ All the below listed documents must be submitted with the application.</li> </ul>
Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current CV</li> <li>• Abstract of the research work and/or presentation title accepted for the current or previous year's Experimental Biology meeting (or any other national meeting).</li> <li>• Two reference letters. These letters can be from ASIOA members or mentors, who may or may not be the ASIOA members.</li> </ul>

## General Criteria Awards

- The applicants/nominees of all award categories should be the paid-members of ASIOA.



# ASIOA 2022 Award Winners

## Category/Sub-category of Awards and Applicants

### **Nirmala Desai Life Time Achievement Award**

**Dr. Sarfraz Ahmad, PhD., FAACC, FABAP, Professor, AdventHealth Cancer Institute,  
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL**

### **ASIOA Service Award**

**Dr. Kameswara Rao Badri, Ph.D., MB(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, Assistant Professor, Morehouse School  
of Medicine, Atlanta, GA**

### **Mario Toppo Distinguished Scientist Award**

**Dr. Hemal Patel, PhD., Professor, University of California, San Diego, CA**

### **Sudhir Gupta Young Scientist Award**

**Dr. Nagalakshmi Nadiminty, PhD., Assistant Professor, University of Toledo, Toledo, OH**

### **Junior Scientist Awards**

#### **Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Award in Molecular Biology**

**Dr. Santosh Kumar Yadav, Ph.D, Postdoc, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA**

#### **Biotex Laboratories Award in Immunology**

**Dr. Santosh Singh, PhD, Research Associate, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta**

#### **Gopal Krishna Memorial Award in Biochemistry**

**Dr. Nageswari Yerravarapu, PhD, Senior Scientist, UT Southwestern Medical Center,  
Houston, TX**

#### **Satu Somani Award in Physiology**

**Ms. Akshi Malik, Predoctoral Student, University of Manitoba, Winniepeg, Canada  
(Pre-doctoral)**

**Dr. Subhir Kumar Juin, PhD, Postdoctoral Associate, University of Louisville, Louisville,  
KY (Post-doctoral)**

#### **American Radiolabeled Chemicals Award in Pharmacology**

**Mr. Kishore Chittimalla, Predoctoral student, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND**



## Accolades

**Sadayappan, Sakthivel (sadayasl)** <SADAYASL@ucmail.uc.edu>

to me, Charles ▾

Dear Dr. Thodeti and Mrs. Shree,

It was a great meeting and thank you again for inviting me as a keynote speaker.

I very much enjoyed the session and meeting with everyone.

I felt like a family gathering. I am so blessed to know you and others in the ASIOA.

You have my headshot already. Please let me know if you have any questions.

I will promote my student to be lifetime members.

All the best!

Sakthi

## Thanks To Awards Committee 2022

**Prasad Katakam, MD., PhD (Chair)**

**Neetu Tyagi, PhD**

**Sai Sudha Koka, PhD**

**Piu Saha, PhD**

**Madhu Sudhana Saddala, PhD**



## Thanks To Nominations Committee 2022

**Kameswara Rao Badri, PhD, MB(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup> (Chair)**

**Gauthami Jalagadugula, PhD**

**Sudhir Reddy Puttireddy, PhD**

## **AWARD WINNERS**

### **Nirmala Desai Life Time Achievement Award**

#### **Prof. Sarfraz Ahmad, PhD, FAACC, FABAP**

Dr. Sarfraz Ahmad is Director of Clinical Research at Gynecologic Oncology Department of Advent Health Cancer Institute (AHCI), Orlando. He earned his B.Sc. (Hons.) and M.Sc. Degrees in Chemistry from Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, and M.Phil. and Ph.D. degrees in Biochemistry from North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, India. Before joining AHCI in 2002, he spent 2-years at Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi and 10-years in research and teaching at Loyola University of Chicago and University of Illinois at Chicago's Division of Hematology/Oncology, Colleges of Medicine. He has trained several fellows, residents, medical students, graduate/undergraduate, and nursing students during their scholarly research projects. He also has affiliate appointments as Professor of Medical Education at University of Central Florida, and Professor of Clinical Sciences at Florida State University, Colleges of Medicine, Orlando.

Dr. Ahmad's current research focus is on the analysis of clinico-pathologic and surgical outcomes of oncology patients and to better understand the cellular/molecular mechanisms of cancer and related thromboembolic/hematologic disorders. His investigations are also aimed towards the evaluation of novel treatment options (chemo-/cellular-/immuno-therapies) for better management of hemato-oncologic patients. His past research interests focused on the anticoagulant, antithrombin, antiplatelet, and thrombolytic drug development for the management of hematologic and cardiovascular patients. In these various areas of biomedical research, Dr. Ahmad has published over 250 peer-reviewed scholarly research articles and book chapters, and over 400 scientific research abstracts, which are extensively cited globally (>5,300 citations to date). He is a reviewer and has editorial responsibilities for several biomedical journals and books, editor of three Elsevier/Academic Press books; and has received several competitive research grants and national/international awards for his research accomplishments and contributions.

Dr. Ahmad has been an active member of ASIOA since 1993 and has served the Association in many capacities including Councilor, Secretary, President, and Chair/Member of various sub-committees over the years. He has also help-organized ASIOA Biennial National Scientific Meetings. Dr. Ahmad is blessed to be the recipient of ASIOA Junior Scientist Award in Physiology (1995), Sudhir

Gupta Young Scientist Award (2000), ASIOA Service Award (2006), Mario Toppo Distinguished Scientist Award (2020), and now very humbled and honored to be recognized with the coveted Mrs. Nirmala Desai Lifetime Achievement Award (2022). In addition to biomedical science endeavors, Dr. Ahmad is passionate about classical Hindi-Urdu literature and poetry and takes pride with active participation in such forums.



Dr. Sarfraz Ahmad (standing far left) receiving the Award from ASIOA officers in Philadelphia

### Satu Somani Award Winner in Physiology Subir Kumar Juin, PhD

Subir Kumar Juin is a postdoctoral associate who is currently working on renovascular complications of diabetes and hypertension in the Department of Physiology, University of Louisville, USA since March, 2020. He received his PhD degree in Zoology (Reproductive Endocrinology) from Visva-Bharati University (a 'Central University' and an 'Institution of National Importance'), Santiniketan, India in 2016.



Later, he was awarded 'CSIR-Research Associateship' and worked on Cancer Immunology (Melanoma) and Parasitology (Visceral leishmaniasis) in Bose Institute, Kolkata, India. Dr. Juin qualified several state and national level examinations in India including NET, GATE, N-E SLET, SET, RET, TET etc. Over the years, he has published eighteen original research articles and a review article in peer-reviewed journals as a first author and/or co-author. Besides, he published three abstracts in peer reviewed journals and sixteen abstracts in the proceedings of seminars/symposia/conferences as a lead author and/or co-author. He attended as many as thirteen national or international seminars/symposia/ conferences/workshops in India and USA. He is a regular member of 'American Physiological Society' (APS) and 'Association of Scientists of Indian Origin in America' (ASIOA).



## Biotex Laboratories Award in Immunology

### Santosh Kumar Singh, PhD



Dr. Santosh Kumar Singh obtained his Ph.D. in Biotechnology from Banasthali Vidyapith University, India. Later, he pursued post-doctoral research in cancer biology at Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM), Atlanta, GA, USA. Dr. Singh's background in plant end-use products for human wellness has positioned him to targeted therapy for cancers using natural compounds. He is developing nano-therapeutics using natural compounds combined with chemotherapeutic drugs to treat various cancers. Natural compounds have various target proteins in cancer cells, high specificity, safer, and anti-cancer potential with low toxicity treatment. However, rapid metabolism, low bioavailability, and inadequate drug delivery are limiting factors. To overcome these overarching challenges, he delivers these compounds in nanocarriers to improve their clinical translation. He generated the natural compound encapsulated planetary ball milled (PBM) nanoparticles using the FDA-approved nanocarrier and with biodegradable and biocompatible copolymers, functionalized with specific ligands, which selectively bind to the overexpressed receptors on cancer cells. He has investigated natural chemicals' potential to cure docetaxel-resistant prostate cancer cells. These groundbreaking findings have been published in high peer-reviewed journals. Currently, he is working on chemokines-based cancer immunology as Research Associate. Dr. Singh contributed to 62 peer-reviewed publications, book chapters including abstracts at scientific meetings and conferences throughout his career. He is the editorial board member of cancer research journals and is an adhoc reviewer for multiple peer reviewed journals. For his outstanding work, he has received various awards and distinctions from the American Association societies in this subject and honored to receive Biotex Laboratories Award in Immunology.

**AWARD WINNERS**  
**ASIOA Distinguished Service Award**  
**Kameswara Rao Badri, PhD, MB(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**

Dr. Kameswara Rao Badri is currently working as Assistant Professor of Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology, Cardiovascular Research Institute, and Director of Clinical Analytical Chemistry Laboratory, COVID-19 Testing Lab (that he started during the pandemic), Clinical Research Center, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, USA. He earned his doctoral degree in Biochemistry (Diabetes Mellitus and Natural Products) from Sri Venkateswara University, India, before moving to the United States and completed his postdoctoral studies at University of Delaware and Wayne State University-School of Medicine. Dr. Badri was appointed as faculty, Assistant Professor (Research), at Wayne State University and the University of Chicago. Later he relocated to Savannah State University (Savannah, GA), to conduct biomedical research, strengthen the research core facilities, train students and junior faculty to conduct biomedical research and teach undergraduate students. In 2016, he accepted a faculty position at Morehouse School of Medicine after working briefly at Hampton University, Hampton, VA.

Dr. Badri's major research focus is to elucidate the molecular mechanisms of adipogenic and myogenic regulation of novel proteins in health and disease (obesity, diabetes mellitus, cardiovascular diseases and lung diseases). His other research interests include natural products and drug discovery. He published extensively in the field of biomedical sciences in high impact factor journals with more than 2800 citations. He is an active member of several scientific organizations, grant panels, editorial boards of scientific journals, doctoral dissertation committees, recruitment committees and professional scientific committees. He is reviewer for many peer reviewed scientific journals. He has been actively engaged in medical, graduate, undergraduate student teaching, mentoring and research training.

Dr. Badri has been serving for multiple scientific non-profit organizations. For two years (2013 and 2014), Dr. Badri represented the American Thoracic Society at Hill Day (Capitol Hill, Washington D.C) and met with the honorable Appropriation Commission Members including House of Representatives and Senators to advocate for policies related to 1. lung disease research funding increase, 2. SGR fix, 3. oppose Cigar Bill, 4. elimination of Tuberculosis, and 5. NIH and VA research funding increases. He was also an active member in conducting Regional (Savannah) Science Fairs. He has been extending his service to Association of Scientist of Indian Origin in America (ASIOA) more than a decade as Council Member, Secretary and Executive Officer contributing significantly bringing



fellowship among members, mentoring postdoctoral fellows and conducting multiple scientific National Meetings. Dr. Badri trained multiple high school, undergraduate, graduate, medical students, postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty. He has been teaching multiple courses (integrative biomedical cardiovascular sciences, frontiers in cardiovascular sciences, biochemistry and critical thinking) to medical, physician assistant and graduate students. Indian American students and Indian students to conduct research and prepare them for Biomedical and Medical Programs. He is currently serving (2020 - 2023) as Steering Committee member for American Physiological Society Endocrinology and Metabolism Section. He gave multiple invited talks at multiple national and international dais.

Dr. Badri was a recipient of multiple awards and honors including Junior Research Fellowship and Senior Research Fellowship from University Grant Commissions (India), and Dr. Sudhir Gupta Young Scientist Award from ASIOA. He was recognized as American Lung Association Interstitial Lung Disease Scholar for the year 2011. Dr. Badri received Outstanding Research Contribution Award for training high school students for Student Educational Enrichment Program (SEEP)-2014 for multiple years as Research Director and Outstanding Service to SSU-COST Regional Science and Engineering Fair (2015). He received ASIOA Service Award for his exemplary Services to Association of Scientists of Indian Origin in America (April, 2022). Dr. Badri also assists financially and academically multiple students and needy in India from time to time to make a change.

Dr. Badri recently received major funding (SC1, 1.42M, 2022-2026) from NIH for his research grant entitled “P311 mediated adipogenesis, adipocyte plasticity and metabolic regulation.” Dr. Badri believes in team work and serving the underserved. God bless America



Dr. Kameswara Rao Badri (standing far left) receiving the ASIOA Distinguished Service Award from ASIOA officers in Philadelphia



## Congratulations to ASIOA President Prof. Charles K. Thodeti, PhD,

Dr. Charles Thodeti, Ph.D., FAHA, FCVS, Professor in the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, The University of Toledo, has been elected as the president of Ohio Physiological Society (OPS) for 2023. The OPS was founded in 1986 and became the first independent chapter of American Physiology Society (APS) in 1995. As a president, Dr. Thodeti will organize 37th Ohio Physiological Society (OPS) Annual Meeting to be held in October 2023 at the University of Toledo Health Science Center. OPS Annual meeting is a wonderful platform and will be attended by students, early and established investigators of all Ohio Universities and undergraduate institutions in Ohio.

We are also happy to announce that Dr. Charles Thodeti has been awarded Transformational Project Award (TPA; 7-1-2022 to 6-30-2025) from American Heart Association (AHA) for his project entitled "Endothelial Autophagy in Cardiac Remodeling". His laboratory works on the mechanotransduction mechanisms in cardiac remodeling and pathological angiogenesis with a focus on the mechanosensitive ion channel, Transient Receptor Potential Vanilloid 4 (TRPV4).

## Congratulations to Dr. Sai Sudha Koka, PhD, RPh

We are happy to inform that our council member Dr. Sai Sudha Koka has been recently awarded a R01 grant from NIH National Heart Lung and Blood Institute for her project entitled "Role of Trimethylamine-N-Oxide in endothelial dysfunction". Dr. Koka is a pharmacologist and cardiovascular scientist by training. She received bachelor's and master's degree in pharmacy from Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, India and a Ph.D. in Pharmacology and Toxicology from the Eberhard Karls University of Tuebingen, Germany. She completed her postdoctoral training at School of Medicine, Virginia Commonwealth University. She served as a faculty member at University of Houston, School of Pharmacy, Texas and Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine, Arkansas before recently joining Texas A&M University. She is currently an Associate Professor at Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Irma Lerma School of Pharmacy, Texas A&M University. Dr. Koka's laboratory is focused on the studying the cellular and molecular mechanisms regulating the development of cardiometabolic disorders and identifying novel pharmacologic strategies to combat cardiovascular diseases, such as atherosclerosis, endothelial and vascular dysfunction in diabetic, obese and aging patients. Dr. Koka's most recent studies explored the role of gut microbe-derived metabolites in endothelial and vascular cell signaling.

## Felicitation of Dr. Kameswara Rao Badri

Dr. Badri was invited and attended 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Nutraceuticals and Chronic Disorders (INCD2022) on ‘Pharmaceuticals and Nutraceuticals for Cancer and Other Chronic Diseases’ held at University of Delhi, Delhi, India (Oct 2022) and delivered an invited talk entitled “Past, Present and Future of Therapeutics of Obesity: a Long Ignored Chronic Disease”. Dr. Badri advocates for Obesity Research and funding due to its global pandemic nature and risk factor for multiple metabolic and psychological issues. And during the visit Dr. Badri was invited to speak at multiple schools in India including Rayalaseema University, Sri Venkateswara University, Sri Padmavathi Mahila University and KVR College and shared his research and research awareness. Dr. Badri was felicitated by the Division Heads and VCs of these Institutions.

### మహిళా వర్సిటీలో కలాం జయంతి వేడుకలు..

తిరుపతి రూరల్, మేటర్నల్స్: శ్రీపద్మావతి మహిళా విశ్వవిద్యాలయం భారత మాత రాష్ట్రవతి డాక్టర్ పీవీజీ అబ్దుల్ కలాం జయంతి ని పురస్కారంపొంది డిపార్టుమెంట్ ఆఫ్ అప్లైడ్ మైక్రోబయాలజీ మరియు మైక్రో బయాలజీ సొసైటీ ఇండియా వారి సంయుక్త ఆధ్వర్యంలో నిర్వహించారు. ఈ కార్యక్రమ మానకీ ముఖ్యఅతిథిగా డాక్టర్ కామేశ్వర్ బుద్రి మోర్ హాస్ సూట్ ఆఫ్ మెడిసిన్ అడ్వాంజ్ యూఎస్ఎ విచ్చేసి ప్రసంగించారు. ఈ సమావేశంలో విద్యార్థులు, అధ్యాపకులు ఊబకాయం వలన వచ్చే సమస్యలు సందేహాలు నివృత్తి చేసుకున్నారు. ఈ సమావేశంలో డాక్టర్ బుద్రి డిపార్టుమెంట్ ప్రొఫెసర్లు చందీ



మహిళా వర్సిటీలో ఆరిగిన కార్యక్రమంలో ప్రసంగిస్తున్న డాక్టర్ కామేశ్వర్ కుమారి, సువర్ణలత, ఉమా మహేశ్వరి, రుక్మిణి ఎమ్మెస్ లక్ష్మి రమణి తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.



### శ్రీ పద్మావతి మహిళా విశ్వవిద్యాలయంలో

ఘనంగా అబ్దుల్ కలాం జయంతి వేడుకలు  
తిరుపతి(విద్య), అక్టోబర్ 15, ప్రభాతవార్



జయంతి వేడుకలు ఘనంగా నిర్వహించారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా యుఎస్ఎ నుంచి విచ్చేసిన డా. కామేశ్వర్ బుద్రి విచ్చేసారు. విద్యార్థులు, అధ్యాపకులు ఊబకాయం వలన వచ్చే సమస్యలు సందేహాలు నివృత్తి చేసుకున్నారు. ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో ప్రొఫెసర్ చందీ కుమారి, సువర్ణలత, ఉమామహేశ్వరి, జయమాధురి, వాణి, జ్ఞానేశ్వరి, రుక్మిణి, లేఖ, రమణి తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

శ్రీ పద్మావతి మహిళా విశ్వవిద్యాలయంలో డిపార్టుమెంట్ ఆఫ్ అప్లైడ్ మైక్రోబయాలజీ, మైక్రోబయాలజీ సొసైటీ ఇండియా సంయుక్త ఆధ్వర్యంలో ఘనంగా అబ్దుల్ కలాం జయంతి వేడుకలు నిర్వహించారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా యుఎస్ఎ నుంచి విచ్చేసిన డా. కామేశ్వర్ బుద్రి విచ్చేసారు. విద్యార్థులు, అధ్యాపకులు ఊబకాయం వలన వచ్చే సమస్యలు సందేహాలు నివృత్తి చేసుకున్నారు. ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో ప్రొఫెసర్ చందీ కుమారి, సువర్ణలత, ఉమామహేశ్వరి, జయమాధురి, వాణి, జ్ఞానేశ్వరి, రుక్మిణి, లేఖ, రమణి తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.



### శాస్త్రీయ పరిశోధనలతో సుఖమయ జీవనం

కర్నూలు సీడి: మానవ జీవితాన్ని సుఖమయం చేసేందుకు శాస్త్రీయ పరిశోధనలు ఎంతగానో దోహదం చేస్తున్నాయని రాయలసీమ యూనివర్సిటీలో డాక్టర్ పీవీజీ అబ్దుల్ కలాం జయంతి వేడుకల సందర్భంగా ప్రసంగించారు. గురువారం ఆర్.యూలో వర్సిటీ వ్యక్త శాస్త్రం, అంతర్జాతీయ శాఖల ఆధ్వర్యంలో జీవ శ్రీయ నియంత్రణలో కొవ్వు సమస్య, పరిమాణం, నాణ్యత, బొంబడ మొక్కలు, సెలెన్ సెన్సిటివిటీలో అణువుల పాత్ర అనే అంశపై సదస్సు జరిగింది. ఆమెరికాలోని అడ్వాంజ్ అప్లైడ్ మోర్ హాస్ సూట్ ఆఫ్ మెడిసిన్ల రెండిన అసిస్టెంట్ ప్రొఫెసర్ కామేశ్వరరావు బుద్రి ప్రధాన పక్కగా పాల్గొని ప్రసంగించారు. అనంతరం అసిస్టెంట్



ప్రొఫెసర్ కామేశ్వరరావు బుద్రిని సన్మానిస్తున్న పీవీజీ అనందరావు, తదితరులు

ప్రొఫెసర్ కామేశ్వరరావు సన్మానించారు. వర్సిటీ ప్రొఫెసర్ అబ్దుల్ కలాం జయంతి వేడుకల సందర్భంగా ప్రసంగించారు. అనంతరం అసిస్టెంట్

అధ్యక్ష మధుసూదన్ వర్మ, సైన్స్ కాలేజీ డిప్యూటీ చీఫ్ అధ్యక్షుడు సీపీ కృష్ణారెడ్డి, బొబిస్ శాఖ అధ్యక్షుడు అధ్యక్షుడు ఆర్.భరత్ కుమార్, నాగారాం గౌతు రెండవ ప్రొఫెసర్ కరం చంద్ర తదితరులు హాజరయ్యారు. అలాగే స్థానిక కేవీఆర్ ప్రభుత్వ మహిళా డిగ్రీ కాలేజీలో వ్యవస్థాపక అధ్యక్షుడు శాఖ అధ్యక్షులు అసోసియేట్ ప్రొఫెసర్లు - చందీబిబి సివారలలో సహజ ఉత్పత్తుల పాత్ర అనే అంశంపై అవగాహన సదస్సు నిర్వహించారు. కాలేజీ వైస్ చీఫ్ డాక్టర్ వీరాచారి, వ్యవస్థాపక అధ్యాపకులు జీవీ రంగారెడ్డి, డాక్టర్ ఎస్ సునీత, డాక్టర్ జె. మైఖేల్ తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.





## Plenary Lectures by ASIOA former presidents at 108<sup>th</sup> Indian Science Congress

The 108<sup>th</sup> Indian Science Congress meeting inaugurated by India's Prime Minister, Narendra Modi was held from 3-7<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 at Nagpur University. Several political, bureaucrats and scientists have attended the event including 5 Nobel Laureates, Central Minister Nitin Gadkari, Maharashtra current and former CMs and Governor.

Dr. Prasad Dhulipala from Miltenyi Biotec chaired a Plenary session-4 on "Diagnosis and treatment of diseases by exploiting Genomics, Zebrafish, Humanized Mouse and Holistic models" and gave a lecture entitled 'Next Generation Sequencing, Array CGH and Whole Genome Amplification for Genetic Diagnostics'. Dr. Pudur Jagadeeswaran, University of North Texas participated in the session and give a plenary lecture on 'Genome-wide knockdowns in adult zebrafish and discovery of novel genes in hemostasis and antithrombotic drugs' followed by two other plenary lectures by Professor Santhi Gorantla, University of Nebraska Medical Center on Humanized mice for biomedical research and therapeutic development and Srujana Naramala, Director, Sparsh Holistic Healing Hub, Bangalore on Holistic Healing - Venturing through Reiki and Psycho-spiritual Practices. The session was attended by several scientists and students and instilled lot of interest and discussion among the attendees.

Dr. Pudur Jagadeeswarans lecture was covered by a local News paper and his interview was published in the paper.



In a separate Plenary Session on Project Management Methods in Pharma, Biotech and Academia, , Dr. Satya Kunapuli gave a lecture on Managing a research center in an academic setting: Lessons for the Indian Context. Dr. Kumar Rallapalli, Vice President, Takeda Vaccines who spoke on 'Key Drivers for Commercialization in Biotechnology and Pharma Industries' and Rohini Dhulipala, Director, Global PMO on 'What it takes to be a Successful Project Manager: Project Management in Pharma/Biotech' in the same session which inspired the students and lead to several questions to the presenters.



## *ASIOA Life Member Prof Reddy helps develop first medicine for refractory epilepsy*

Two decades of tireless research by D. Samba Reddy, PhD, RPh, Regents Professor at Texas A&M University School of Medicine, has led to a major breakthrough in the field of neurosteroid therapy for epilepsy. This work has culminated in the historic approval of the first neurosteroid treatment for a previously untreatable brain condition. In March 2022, the FDA granted approval for ganaxolone (Ztalmy) to be used in the treatment of CDKL5-deficient epilepsy, a rare and refractory form of epilepsy. This achievement is a testament to the potential of Reddy's work on neurosteroids, a class of compounds that play a critical role in regulating brain functions and mood by interacting with GABA-A receptors. Ganaxolone, a synthetic version of allopregnanolone, is able to control seizures by activating both synaptic and extrasynaptic GABA-A receptors. We would like to extend our congratulations to Dr. Reddy for this iconic accomplishment.



Here is the official press note from Texas A&M, chronicling a detailed story on this project.

*Texas A&M Today (January 30, 2023)*

### **Texas A&M Researcher Helps Develop First Treatment for Rare Type of Refractory Epilepsy**

*Samba Reddy has spent decades working to bring ganaxolone and neurosteroid replacement therapy to patients.*

<https://today.tamu.edu/2023/01/30/texas-am-researcher-helps-develop-first-treatment-for-rare-type-of-refractory-epilepsy/>

Summary news have appeared in various news outlets in the US and abroad, including:

*Indian Express News (January 29, 2023):*

**Indian neuroscientist develops first therapy for refractory epilepsy**

<https://www.expresspharma.in/indian-neuroscientist-develops-first-therapy-for-refractory-epilepsy/>

## Dr. Samba Reddy named Texas A&M University Regents Professor ASPET MEMBER News:

*This coveted honor recognizes Dr. Reddy for making extraordinary contributions in pharmacology.*

Pharmacologist Dr. Samba Reddy is named for the Texas A&M University System **Regents Professor Award**, which is the highest honor bestowed by the System on faculty members.

<https://vitalrecord.tamhsc.edu/two-texas-am-health-faculty-named-regents-professors/>

The TAMUS Board of Regents honors faculty whose performance in scholarship has been exemplary and distinguished. Dr. Reddy earned this coveted title for making extraordinary contributions and achievements that had an impact on, not only, their institution or agency, but also, the community, the state of Texas, and at the national and international levels.

## WELCOME TO NEW LIFEMEMBERS OF ASIOA

### Manohara Basoor Halasiddappa



With a career spanning over 15 years, Manohara Halasiddappa is a global clinical development & operations leader for development of numerous novel therapeutics targeting oncology, immunology and infectious diseases and has extensive experience in clinical research across the pharmaceutical and CRO industry, spanning US, Europe and Asia. Manohara is responsible for the end-to-end oversight of clinical development deliverables with expertise in clinical and translational science, regulatory requirements, and critical path activities in drug development. He is responsible for leading the strategic execution of Global Clinical Operations, including clinical

trial execution, quality oversight, regional clinical operations, process simplification and optimization, vendor management, and clinical trial financial planning and analysis.

Manohara holds Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS), from Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS), and Post Graduate Diploma in Clinical Research, Bangalore, Karnataka, India. Manohara is also editorial board member of Journal of Clinical Research & [Journal of Clinical Research and Reports](#) (JCRR). Manohara is a member of the Drug Information Association (DIA), Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP), Society of Clinical Research Associates (SOCRA), The Society for Clinical Trials, Institute of Clinical Research (UK), American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).



## WELCOME TO NEW LIFEMEMBERS OF ASIOA



### RAJESH SINGH, PhD

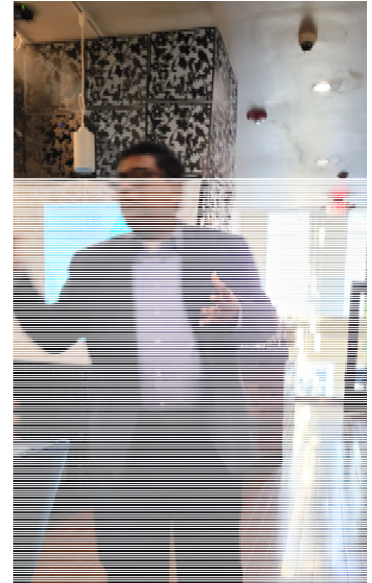
Morehouse School of Medicine, 720 Westview Drive S.W., Department of Microbiology, Biochemistry and Immunology, Hugh Gloster Building, Room B337, Atlanta, GA 30310 Tel:(404)756-6661; Fax:(404)752-1179; Email: [rsingh@msm.edu](mailto:rsingh@msm.edu); [atl.rajesh@gmail.com](mailto:atl.rajesh@gmail.com)

Dr. Rajesh Singh is an Associate Professor at Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA. He received his B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. from Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India. Dr. Singh's research interests in cancer immunobiology, nanotechnology, and chemokines, both in vitro and in vivo models, contribute to multiple disciplines, including oncology (Lung, Liver, Prostate, Ovarian, Pancreatic, and Breast), vaccine development, chemoprevention, and disparity research. Dr. Singh has authored over 200 scientific communications, including 25 patents, meeting abstracts, and peer-reviewed publications cited > 8000 times. Dr. Singh's work has been nationally and internationally recognized, as indicated by appointments on editorial boards and scientific review for the NIH, NCI, NHLBI, Department of Defense study sections, and National science foundation. He has also been appointed to editorial boards of journals, e.g., Scientific Reports, Cancers, *Journal of Ovarian Research*, and *BMC Cancer*. He is also a peer reviewer for several journals and has received and managed over \$8 million in peer-reviewed funding over his scientific career. Dr. Singh's laboratory is focused on developing therapeutic and chemo-preventive strategies for cancer using targeted delivery of natural and synthetic agents. Dr. Singh is also actively involved in teaching and training the minority education of graduate, M.D., Ph.D., and postdoctoral fellows. Additionally, Dr. Singh is a valuable member of several Ph.D. students' dissertation committees. His long-term goal is to improve cancer patients' therapeutic outcomes and overall survival and train the underrepresented groups, thereby enhancing the diversity of the future biomedical workforce.

# Reflections: Annual Awards Ceremony & Banquet 2022 (Philadelphia, PA)



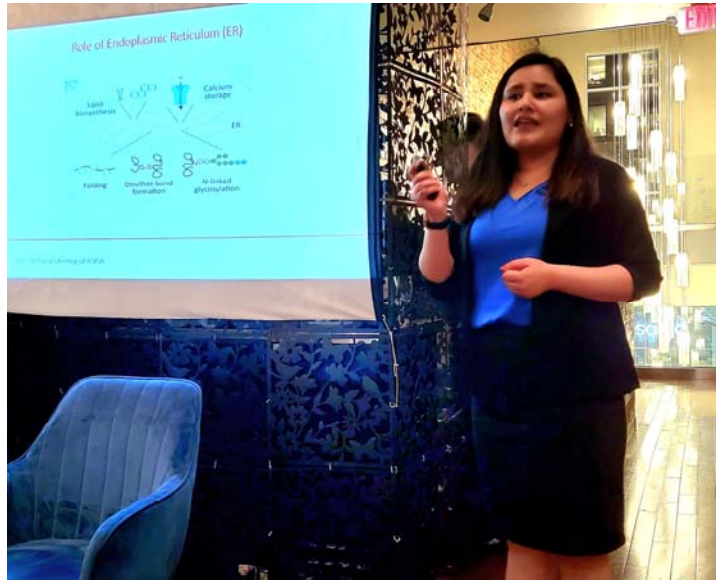




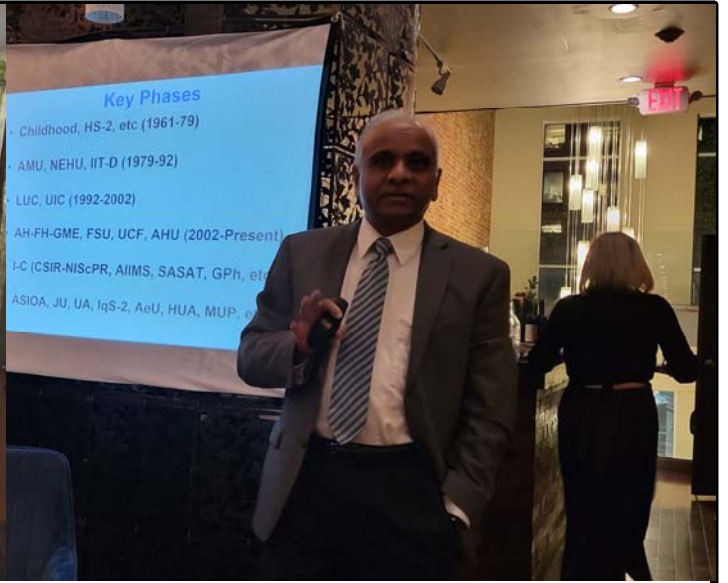






















## Condolences

### Alluru S. Reddi, MD, Ph.D

We regret to inform with immense sorrow, the sudden demise of Dr. Alluru S. Reddi, former president of ASIOA. Alluru S. Reddi, MD, Ph.D., Professor of Medicine Chief, Division of Nephrology & Hypertension, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, The State University of New Jersey. He is affiliated with University Hospital and is a Professor at UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School. His research on diabetes, particularly he authored several books like Absolute Nephrology Review: An Essential Q & A Study Guide, that served as reference books for nephrologist. Following are details of his education and credentials.

ASIOA expresses heartfelt condolences to his family and it will be a great loss to ASIOA community.

**Medical Specialty:** Nephrology  
Internal Medicine

**Medical Interests:** Oxidative Stress, Pathophysiology of  
Diabetic Microvascular

**M.D. Degree:** La Universidad Autonoma de Cd. Juarez -  
1979  
Juarez Mexico

**Internship:** Internal Medicine, 1979 - 1980  
U.S. Public Health Service Hospital  
Staten Island NY USA

**Residency:** Internal Medicine, 1980 - 1982  
U.S. Public Health Service Hospital  
Staten Island NY USA

**Fellowship:** Nephrology, 1982 - 1984  
Metropolitan Hospital Medical Center  
New York NY USA

**Board Certification:** Nephrology - American Board of Internal  
Medicine, 1988  
Internal Medicine - American Board of  
Internal Medicine, 1986



## Condolences



Usha Pendurthi, Ph.D

We regret to inform with immense sorrow, the sudden demise of Dr. Usha Pendurthi, Professor of Molecular Biology at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler, Tyler, Texas died of complications associated with an elective heart surgery.

ASIOA expresses heartfelt condolences to her family and it will be a great loss to ASIOA community.