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From the Desk of the President

Dear Members,

Wishing a very happy and prosperous new year to you and your family members. I thank you all for electing me as the president of the August Body and I hope I live up to your expectations. At the outset I could congratulate Prof. T M Mohapatra, Prof. A K Gulati, Prof Shampa Anupurba, and their team for organizing such a successful conference at Varanasi. The sessions were well planned, speakers were impressive, and there was a new session – a student symposium. Thank you Prof. V. Ravi for bringing this active participation of students in the conference. Though there were only two speakers in the symposium, hope we would have a better performance in the next conference. For the next conference the Lady Hardinge team is already in full gear. They have opened their website, which was inaugurated by Prof. Ravi during the Varanasi conference. We expect a memorable event and invite all of you to block your dates November 22-25, 2012 for Delhi.

I would like to draw your attention towards certain issues, which need to be tackled urgently.

1. Though our association is 36-years old with more than 3000 members, we are not getting due importance from the authorities of this country. The discipline of Microbiology is neglected by MCI, the government ignores the association while making and executing policy decisions on infection surveillance and control of this country. Though some reputed members of our association are in those decision-making bodies, the association as body does not get its due recognition. In comparison, our counterpart in USA – American Society for Microbiology is represented in all infection related decision making bodies of USA. I know it would take long time for us to attain the same level of recognition in our country. But let us start the initiatives. I would first like to take the issue of neglect by MCI for our discipline. I have already discussed with Prof. K K Talwar, the chief of MCI, about the staff and course recommended by MCI for Microbiology in MBBS program. He was receptive to our grievances. We need to formulate our demands with justification for presentation to MCI. A delegation from IAMM meeting the MCI officials including Prof. Talwar may help in improving the status of our discipline.
2. We have plenty of Medical Microbiology laboratories in this country, but majority do not have any quality assurance program in their functioning. However, quality control in diagnostic laboratories is the order of the day. Though Prof. Jesudasan and Prof. Madhavan are running effective external quality assurance program under our association, it is only part of quality assurance program. Many laboratories are not aware how to go for this quality assurance program. Brig. Nagendra conducted a wonderful IAMM symposium in our last annual conference. I have requested Brig. Nagendra to develop a



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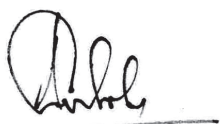
From the Desk of the President (contd. from page 1)

SOP for taking steps for quality assurance program, and he has assured his help. This SOP can be circulated to all members. For quality assurance program, we also require fund in improvement and standardization, and most medical Institutes have very poor funding for Microbiology department. The laboratories possessing standard strains may be requested to share with laboratories desiring for accreditation. This would minimize the cost of accreditation for those laboratories to certain extent.

3. Our association should also be vibrant and busy with its activities. Just holding one successful annual congress would not satisfy our energetic young microbiologists. I request all Chapter organizers to hold regular Chapter activities. In last General Body meeting, it was decided to hold a meeting of the Executive Council with the Chapter organizers during annual conferences to address the issues and difficulties faced by them. I also address the youth of our association to come forward to take responsibilities in the activities of the association. Your participation would help in making our association vibrant. Student symposium in annual conference is an important step in this direction. However, young microbiologists should build youth forum under our association to bring out their problems and solutions in better way.

Let us start each initiative in a determined way and sincere commitment. Hope we succeed in developing our association as the important body for decision-making in infectious diseases of our country.

Best wishes!



Arunaloke Chakrabarti

State Chapters of the IAMM

Maharashtra	Uttar Pradesh	Guwahati
Karnataka	Jammu & Kashmir	Orissa
Andhra Pradesh	North West	Vidharbha
Madhya Pradesh	North East	Gujarat
West Bengal	Tamil Nadu	New Delhi
	Pondicherry	

All office bearers of State Chapters are requested to send information about their respective State Chapters in the following format for publication on the IAMM Website for information of all members of the IAMM. This may include information office bearers of the state chapters, activities and annual conferences of the state chapters of the IAMM conducted, any awards instituted by the chapters and the awardees.

From the Secretary, IAMM

A cooooo...I hello from Hyderabad, the land of Hussain Sagar, The Salar Jung Museum, Hi Tech city and **Telangana War!!! (Oops...that's really low tech! we are peaceful at the moment, till the TRS guys decide otherwise)**. Hope all is well with everyone and wish all members of the IAMM a very happy, prosperous, peaceful new year for 2012. There is plenty of gossip and bits of information for you to **"munch, swallow and digest"**. In particular, take a good look at the Student symposium call for the topic **(don't just read and forget about it till the next conference, we look forward to some thoughtful inputs from your end too)** the minutes of the last GB Meeting and the report of the last congress.

The folks at Delhi have started putting together pieces of the jigsaw quite early **(at least early by Indian standards)**. It was wonderful to see the website of the next conference come alive in front of a gathering at the GBM of the BHU Conference, probably the first of its kind in IAMM, that I remember. I would fail in my duty, if I did not express my thanksgiving to Dr. Renu Dutta and Dr. B.L. Sherwal for this lovely spectacle at Varanasi. The details of the XXXVI conference of the IAMM are given in this bulletin and more information will soon follow. There is an early bird registration **(maybe it is already in the past tense!!)** doing its rounds for the next conference. Do take advantage of this generous New Year offer for discounted registrations while the stocks last. The more unfortunate beings among us will certainly pay for not availing this discounted offer.

Lastly, we have a new President of the IAMM, who is a big name in fungal circles (I don't need to tell you who, you have already read the first page before you turned over to read my so called message!) You could also treat this as a call for applause on his early efforts to bargain hard with the MCI & other government agencies to strengthen the curriculum in medical microbiology at the MBBS level. Hope all members, particularly the senior well informed members (many of them past presidents of the IAMM) will join hands and help our dear President achieve this mammoth herculean task.

I shall leave you grinning (hopefully) for the present time, get back with more masala and tidbits from the rich man's table in April ... Adieus!

Dr. Ranganathan N Iyer
Secretary IAMM

Office of the Treasurer

Dr. Deepak Mendiratta

Prof. and Head, Department of Microbiology
Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences
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Call for Nominations of IAMM Awards and Prizes - 2012

(Last date for receipt of all nominations is August 31, 2012)

Dr. S.C. Agarwal Oration 2012

This award is supported from the annual interest incurred from a fund donated by Dr. SC Agarwal, to be given to a senior member of the association for his/ her outstanding contribution to the field of Medical Microbiology. Nominations for the award, duly proposed and seconded with the consent of the nominee along with six copies of his/ her CV should reach the IAMM Secretary's office on or before 31st August 2012. The award carries a citation and a gold medal. The selected candidate must be prepared to deliver the oration at the National IAMM Conference held in 2013. Nominations must come by post/ courier as a hard copy by the last date. Nominations received by Fax or E mail will not be accepted.

Dr. HI Jhala Memorial Award 2012

This award is given to a senior member of the association above the age of 50 years, who has made significant contribution to the development of Medical Microbiology in India. The award is supported by the annual interest from the fixed deposit donated by the organizers of the IAMM Congress held at Solapur in 1983. Nominations duly proposed and seconded with the consent of the nominee along with six copies of the curriculum vitae must reach the office of the Secretary IAMM on or before 31st August 2012. The award carries a citation and a gold medal. The selected candidate will receive the award in the National conference of the IAMM held in 2013. All nominations must be sent by post/ courier. Nominations sent by fax communication or E mail will not be accepted.

IAMM Endowment Oration award 2012

This award is supported by the annual interest obtained from the fixed deposit, donated by the organizers of the IAMM Conference held at Hyderabad in 1985. The award is given to an eminent Medical Microbiologist over the age of 50 years from India or abroad for their outstanding work in the field of Medical Microbiology, Bacteriology, Virology, Mycology, Parasitology/ Immunology/ Epidemiology and Microbiological techniques. Nominations duly proposed and seconded with the consent of the nominee along with six copies of the curriculum vitae, including a write up on the contribution of the nominee to Medical Microbiology must reach the secretary's office on or before the 31st August 2012. The awardee will receive the award and deliver an oration in the National Conference held in 2013. Nominations must be sent by post/ courier by the last date. Nominations sent by fax or E mail will not be accepted.

IAMM Junior Best Paper Award 2012

Nominations are invited for the Junior Best paper award competition to be held at the XXXVI National Conference of the IAMM at Delhi in November 2012. This award is supported by the annual interest from a fixed deposit donated by the organizers of the National IAMM Conference held at Bombay in 1979. The contestant should be a member of the IAMM, less than 35 years of age as of 31st August 2012(certificate showing the proof of age should be attached) and be the principal author of the paper. The same paper should not have received any other award or be published in any

journal and should be so certified, as a signed declaration by the contestant. The aforementioned declarations and six copies of the full paper complete with tables, figures etc(prepared according to the format of the IJMM) should reach the Secretary's office on or before the 31st of August 2012. The award carries a citation and a gold medal. The selected candidate will receive the medal and the citation at the Valedictory function of the Delhi conference held between 22nd and the 25th of November 2012. Nominations along with the full text articles must be sent by post/courier. Nominations sent by Fax or E mail will not be accepted.

The Prof A.N. Chakrabarthy memorial prize for the best published paper in Mycobacteriology:

Any IAMM member who has published a paper in the field of Mycobacteriology during the preceding calendar year i.e. 2011 in any National/ International journal will be eligible to submit the paper for the award. The paper should not have received any other award and a declaration to that effect should be submitted while applying for the award. Six copies of the paper may be sent to the Office of the General Secretary IAMM at Hyderabad on or before 31st August 2012. The award carries a citation and a gold medal. The awardee will receive the award at the inaugural function of the National IAMM Conference at BHU Varanasi in November 2012

Prizes for the Best Papers during the IAMM Congress 2012 (Total six categories listed below)

The following six prizes are given during the National Conference of the IAMM in various categories:

1. NAWOPIA Dr. Pankajalakshmi V Venugopal Prize for the Best paper in Mycology.
2. Dr. S.R. Sengupta – Dr. AM Saoji Memorial prize for the Best paper in Immunology
3. Dr. SS. Kelkar Memorial Prize for the Best Poster (any subject in Medical Microbiology)
4. IAMM Silver Jubilee Prize for the Best paper in Parasitology
5. Belgaum Mumbai Prize for the best poster paper in Bacteriology
6. Mumbai Belgaum Prize for Best Poster paper in Mycobacteriology

Nominations are invited for the Dr. S.R. Sengupta, Dr. A. Saoji memorial award, Dr. SS Kelkar Poster award, NAWOPIA Dr. Pankajalakshmi V. Venugopal award, IAMM Silver Jubilee prize for the Best paper in Parasitology papers, Belgaum Mumbai Prize for the best poster paper in Bacteriology and Mumbai Belgaum Prize for the best poster paper in Mycobacteriology. Any IAMM member is eligible to contest for these awards. Abstracts for the award papers from interested members must be submitted to the Organising secretary of the Annual Conference at BHU Varanasi on or before 31st August 2012. These will be subjected to peer review and only selected abstracts will be allowed to be presented as a paper at the respective oral/ poster sessions. The best paper amongst those presented will be adjudged the best paper by the panel of judges. The authors of an abstract must express their interest in a particular category while submitting the abstract. All awards will be presented during the valedictory function of the National IAMM Conference.

Minutes of the 35th Annual General Body Meeting held on the 25th November, 2011 at Swathantra Bhavan, IMS BHU Varanasi

The president called the meeting to order at 12.00 Noon. A majority of members were present at the GBM.

1. A one-minute silence was observed by all members of the GB as a mark of respect to two senior founder members of the IAMM who had left for their heavenly abode in the year 2011, Dr. K. Rajyalakshmi and Dr. K.B. Sharma.
2. The minutes of the 34th GBM meeting held at the Swabhumi, Kolkata, were read out by the secretary of the IAMM. It was pointed out by Dr. Savitri Sharma that meeting of representatives of the state chapters of the IAMM which was scheduled with the secretary need to be communicated well in advance to the state chapters (either individually) or through a column of the newsletter with a date and time before the Executive council meeting so that any points arising out of the same can be discussed in the EC followed by the GBM. This was noted for action in the next year. There was a discussion on the issue of the corporate memberships. The secretary pointed out that this was taken up with a view of enhancing funding to the corpus of the IAMM as well as to ease the burden of finances on the organizers of every IAMM Conference. Since the issue was delayed in the last year for implementation, the same would be taken up in a proactive manner and the outcome reviewed in the next GBM in 2012. It was also felt that the website needs to be upgraded and brought up to date with the newsletters and other material. In this connection, the secretary expressed inability to pursue the matter with Visual Ventures Mumbai due to the lack of communication telephone numbers and also stated that the said company in Mumbai does not respond to the general mail id given by the immediate past president Dr. Abhay Chowdhary. The latter promised to give more details of the company operating the website for effective communication. The minutes were passed by the GB (proposed by Dr. Arunaloke and seconded by Dr. Reba K)
3. The secretary's report and the expenses statement were read out to the GBM. The GBM appreciated the fact that the secretary has been able to function without any financial support from the association. The treasurer further stated that this had added Rs80,000 over a period of two years to the corpus. The secretary's report was passed (proposed by Brig A. Nagendra and seconded by Dr. Uma Tendolkar)
4. Dr. Reba Kanungo read out the editor's report and also presented the audited statement of accounts to the GB. She announced that at the present time, the IJMM (Indian Journal of Medical Microbiology) had been allotted an impact factor of 1.006, all four issues of the journal being launched on time in the year 2011 both in the website as well as the print copies being made available and mailed to all members. There were 117 published articles, of which original articles were 41 (the largest number) followed by others. The journal had received 378 articles

in all (all of them online) and the acceptance rate was 18% (up from 14% in 2010). The journal impact factor depended on the citations, regularity of publication among many other factors and hence she made an appeal to all members to cite the IJMM articles whenever they published articles. There was an earnest appeal to increase the personal print subscription from the existing Rs 3000/- to Rs 4000/- per annum and the Institutional subscription from the existing Rs 4000/- to Rs 5000/- per annum. In addition the subscription of the journal from those residing abroad (both online and print copies could be made to 400 dollars (US) from the existing 360 dollars (US). The Editor's request for enhancement of subscription fees to institutions and those residing abroad was recommended favourably by the EC and accepted by the General Body.

The editor also announced the prizes for the year 2011. The IJMM Best paper prize for Bacteriology has been bagged by Dr. Vikas Manchanda for his paper titled "*Development of TaqMan realtime PCR for the detection of newly emerging form of carbapenem resistance gene in clinical isolates of E. coli, Klebsiella pneumoniae and Acinetobacter baumannii*". The IJMM Best paper prize in Virology was bagged by Dr. M. Ramamurthy from CMC Vellore for the paper titled "*Comparison of a conventional polymerase chain reaction for the detection of neurotropic viruses in CSF samples*". The editor further stated that the editorial office would be willing to conduct a one day scientific workshop on writing publications to enhance the writing skills among young members of the association. Since there have been some ethical issues plaguing the editorial office, there is a need to follow international guidelines such as the COPE (Committee for Publication Ethics) which provides advice to handle cases of research and publication misconduct. Membership to COPE is necessary to avail of their services and the annual fee is 300 pounds sterling. The editor also presented the audited statement of accounts for the journal and stated that the journal is strong financially; it was not necessary for the editorial office to take any money from the association for the functioning of the office or for the journal. This was a commendable feat and the editor was applauded for the same by the GB. The editor's report was accepted and passed by the GB (proposed by Dr. Abhay Chowdhary and seconded by Dr. Aparna Lahiri)

5. **Treasurer's report:** The statement of accounts was presented by Dr. R.D. Kulkarni. This was presented in two portions from April 2010 till the 31st March 2011 and from 1st April 2011 till 31st October 2011. The two statements were read out by Dr. Kulkarni as the current treasurer IAMM, Dr. Mendiratta, could not attend the conference and the GBM. The statement of accounts till the 31st March 2011 was audited on the 5th November 2011, while the second portion of the statement was unaudited and presented as expenses of the treasurer's

office. The IAMM has now acquired a separate TAN number due to the efforts of the present treasurer Dr. D.K. Mendiratta and the GB applauded the effort of the treasurer in this direction. The treasurer also stated that both the secretary and the editorial office did not ask or take any money from the association and this had further strengthened the corpus fund of the IAMM. Further the GB also noted its appreciation to Dr. Aparna Lahiri as she had presented to the GB an audited statement of accounts of the XXXIV Conference of the IAMM held in 2010 at Kolkata. The GB accepted the audited statement of accounts for the 34th Annual Conference of IAMM. Further Dr. Lahiri stated that a sum of Rs 3,70,000 would be donated to the corpus of the IAMM from the savings of the Kolkata conference. Dr. Lahiri was already ready with the cheque of Rs 1,00,000 for the same and the remaining amount of Rs 2,70,000 would be sent to the treasurer's office soon. An amount of Rs5 lakhs would be however be retained by the West Bengal chapter of the IAMM for enhancing learning and education among medical microbiologists in the state. The GB accepted this request of Dr. Lahiri. The GB greatly appreciated the efforts of the West Bengal chapter and Dr. Aparna Lahiri and her team was congratulated by the GB for having organized a successful conference at Kolkata in 2010. The treasurer's statement of accounts was accepted by the GB (proposed by Dr. Mariraj and seconded by Dr. Vijaykumar).

6. **Report of the IAMM EQAS programme submitted by the coordinators of the EQAS:** The EQAS report was presented to the GB by the secretary highlighting salient points as brought out by Dr. Mary Jesudason and Dr. H.N. Madhavan, the coordinators of the EQAS. An analysis of the smear interpretation reports from various laboratories across the country showed that only 41% of the laboratories could give a correct result on *Haemophilus influenza* in CSF, which was alarming as this is an important pathogen in CSF. Similarly there were problems in interpretation of RA Factor test such as only 63% of the laboratories could give out a correct interpretative result for the test. Equally alarming was the fact that only 48% of the laboratories were able to identify *Vibrio cholera* in a fecal sample sent as part of the EQAS. Similarly 57% and 54% of the laboratories were only able to identify Group C *S. pyogenes* and *Candida tropicalis* to the species level. There were several comments on these issues from the members of the GB. The GB recommended that that the template used by the coordinators of EQAS for scoring results be placed in the website of the IAMM after each cycle of EQAS so that members participating in the EQAS could refer to the same for clarifications if any while working out Root cause analysis and corrective actions for discrepancies in the EQAS results. The GB also recommended that every cycle of the EQAS must carry a feedback form for comments and suggestions to enable participants to provide a feedback to the coordinators on the quality of specimens received by them. The collective feedback report could be discussed in the EQAS subcommittee and the same could help in

further improvement of the program. The GB also recommended that the coordinators participate in an international EQAS. This the members felt was needed for accreditation of the EQAS programme. The issue of a second laboratory offering help to the EQAS programme was discussed. There were two volunteers for the same, namely Dr.T.N. Dhole from SGPGI & Dr. Chand Wattal from the Sir Gangaram Hospital New Delhi. Dr. T.N. Dhole expressed his willingness to extend help being a nodal laboratory for the EQAS programme in the north of India. However the GB, based on the observations from the present coordinators felt that it may be necessary for the volunteers to come to Chennai and be a part of the process of sending the packs at least during one cycle. This would help them initiate themselves into the subtle demands of the EQAS programme. The Secretary was advised to write to both the volunteers after the GB meeting suggesting the same. Further course of action will be decided soon thereafter. The efforts of the coordinators was well appreciated by the members of the GB and the EQAS statement of accounts was read out to the house. It was approved by the GB (proposed by Dr. Kagal and seconded by Dr. Reba Kanungo).

7. **The points submitted by the members of the IAMM**
- A. The secretary read out an amendment to the constitution regarding the term of the treasurer of the IAMM which featured in the newsletter January 2011 issue, which was circulated to all members. Since no comments were received by the president or the secretary, the issue was opened to the house for the same. It was unanimously agreed by the GB that the amendment be accepted as proposed which would read as follows; **“The treasurer shall be appointed for a period of three years. He/She shall not continue for more than three years as a routine. His/ Her term may be extended by not more than a further period of three years”**. The amendment to the constitution was passed by the GBM.
- B. **Corporate memberships to the IAMM:** This was initiated as a measure to enhance the corpus fund of the association. The secretary confessed to have started the process quite late (August 2011). There was an agreement that corporate memberships could be tried for another year, before a final review in the next GBM 2012.
- C. Dr. Abhay Chowdhary stated that further information regarding establishment of the **Indian College of Medical Microbiologists (ICMM)** would be made available to all members of the IAMM. Further issues could be discussed at the next GBM.
- D. **The Royal College of Pathologists UK** wanted to have an understanding with the IAMM to enhance education and learning on both the sides. As this was fluid at the present time, the secretary who also happens to be national coordinator for the Royal College of Pathologists stated that a concrete MOU will be made available to all members for discussion by the next GBM.
8. **Decision of Various awards committees for the year 2011:** The recommendations of the Awards Committee were accepted by the GB.

- **The Dr. S.C. Agarwal oration award-** Dr. Savitri Sharma was chosen for the award
- **The IAMM Endowment oration award-** Dr. Anita Chakravarti from MAMC Delhi was chosen for the award.
- **Dr. H.I. Jhala award-** Dr. J. Shanmugam was chosen for the award
- **Prof U.C. Chaturvedi Life Time Achievement award-** Prof H.N. Madhavan Chennai.

The GB congratulated the members on their achievement.

9. Election of Office bearers for the year 2011- 2012.

The GB felt the need for **Dr. Reba Kanungo to continue as the editor of the IJMM** for another term of three years as she has been doing a great job. This was accepted by Dr. Reba with grace. The GB also requested her to identify and groom a next Editor for the IJMM during the next term. The EC recommended the name of **Dr. Arunaloke Chakrabarti as the President IAMM** for the year 2012 and the accepted the recommendation and welcomed **Dr. Arunaloke Chakrabarti as the President IAMM** for the year 2012.

10. The XXXVI Conference of the IAMM 2012, in accordance with the decision of the GB at Kolkata in 2010, would be hosted by the department of Microbiology, Lady Hardinge Medical College New Delhi and the venue of the conference would be the India Habitat Centre New Delhi.

The website for the same was also ready and the same was launched by the President IAMM Dr. V. Ravi. **Dr. Renu Datta, Prof and Head Department of Microbiology would be the organizing chairman while Dr. B.L. Sherwal Prof Microbiology would be the organizing secretary of the conference.** The GB heartily cheered and congratulated the organizing committee for having made the website available a year in advance of the conference. The point to be noted in this regard was that such a state of preparedness was witnessed for the first time in the IAMM Conference. The organizers of the XXXVI Conference also opened an early bird registration for the first 100 delegates at the conference.

The 2013 XXXVII Conference of the IAMM, again in accordance of the decision of the GB at Kolkata would be hosted by the Department of Microbiology JIPMER Pondicherry. Dr. B.N. Harish from the department stated that same would be confirmed in writing to the secretary by March 2012.

11. **Selection of the topic of the IAMM Symposium for the XXXVI Conference of the IAMM 2012:** Many topics were proposed both from the list placed forth by the EC as well as fresh topics proposed by members of the GB. After a considerable debate, the topic titled “ **Emerging Technologies in the Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases**” was chosen for the IAMM Symposium at the XXXVI Conference and **Dr. Abhay Chowdhary Past President IAMM was requested to be the moderator for the symposium.**

12. Any other matter with the permission of the chair:

a. The secretary brought out the fact that a review of all the posters for the **Dr. SS. Kelkar prize for the best poster prize of the IAMM** was getting to be increasingly difficult due to the large scale confusion at the poster venue, non availability of judges on all the three days of the conference. The Executive council recommended that a subcommittee consisting of the secretary Dr. Iyer R.N, Dr. Anju Kagal and Dr. Anita Chakravarti would discuss ways and means of simplifying the matter and the same would be discussed in the next GB. The GB agreed to this and also invited an easier solution to the issue.

b. The secretary stated that the **student symposium would form a part of the IAMM** activities in all forthcoming conferences. The EC recommendation that the topic for the same would be invited from all institutions and hospitals through an announcement in the January newsletter of the IAMM. The secretary would collect all the topics proposed and arrive at a suitable topic for the Student symposium. The same will be communicated through the subsequent newsletter and also informed to the organizers for inclusion in the schedule of the conference. It was also agreed by the GB that the student symposium would be placed after the orations on the first day of the conference. This was agreed upon by all members of the GB.

The president thanked all the outgoing members of the EC as well as all the other members for spending their time and giving inputs at the GB meeting. There being no other matter, the meeting was adjourned.

Dr. V. Ravi
President IAMM

Dr. Ranganathan N Iyer
Secretary IAMM

Forthcoming Conferences

HIV CONGRESS 2012

Dates: March 16–18, 2012

Venue: Taj Lands End Bandra, Mumbai

Organising Chairperson: **Dr. J.K. Maniar**

69/2 Walkeshwar Road Mumbai- 400006

Mob: 09820440613; E mail: jkmaniar@vsnl.com

Congress website: www.hivcongress2012.com

Congratulations!!

The impact factor for the IJMM (Official journal publication of the IAMM) stands at 1.006. This is the highest in the specialty category and the third highest among all the Indian journals. The president Dr. Arunaloke Chakrabarti congratulates Dr. Reba Kanungo, Dr. Savitri Sharma and their entire editorial board team on the tremendous effort and the wonderful work done on the journal.

The 35th National Conference of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (MICROCON 2011) was held during 23rd -26th November, 2011 at Varanasi

A total of 900 delegates and associate delegates registered for the conference. On November 23, 2011, two pre conference CMEs were conducted on "Infection control in health care settings" and "An update on opportunistic infections". Each CME was attended by 100 participants. Two pre conference workshops were also held on "Detection of β lactamases: Phenotypic and genotypic methods" and "Antibiogram, antibiotic policy, antibiotic stewardship : bench, bed and beyond" which were attended by 20 participants each. All the programmes were highly appreciated by the participants. The inaugural function was held in the evening of 23rd November at 6.30 pm in Swatantrata Bhawan, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. The Vice-Chancellor, BHU, Padmashree Dr.Lalji Singh was the Chief Guest and Dr.V.M.Katoch, Director General, ICMR was the Guest of Honour. It was presided by IAMM President, Dr.V.Ravi. The programme started with garlanding of the bust of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya and lighting of the lamp. This was followed by Kulgeet: the BHU anthem.

Prof.A.K.Gulati, Organising Chairman delivered the welcome address. Prof.T.M.Mohapatra, Director, IMS and Prof.B.D.Bhatia, Dean, IMS gave their blessings. Dr.Ranganathan Iyer, Secretary IAMM presented the Secretary's report and conducted the IAMM award function in which Dr.Uma Tendolkar (Dr. S.C. Agarwal Oration Award), Dr. Mary Jesudasan (Dr. H.I. Jhala Award), Dr. Pratibha Narang (IAMM Endowment Oration Award) and Late Dr.K.Rajalakshmi (Prof U.C. Chaturvedi Life Time Achievement Award) were honoured. Dr.K.Sasikala daughter of Dr.K.Rajalakshmi came to receive the award for her late mother. The award function was followed by release of souvenir and address by Dr.V.M.Katoch. Dr.V.Ravi felicitated the former IAMM presidents and gave the presidential address. Then the Vice-Chancellor, Dr.Lalji Singh addressed the gathering and finally the Organising Secretary Dr.Shampa Anupurba proposed a vote of thanks. The function concluded with the National Anthem.

The Scientific Program of the Conference started with Junior Best Paper award session on the 24th November. This was followed by the Presidential Oration by Dr.V.Ravi on "Neurovirology as a superspeciality: where do we stand now?", S.C.Agarwal Oration by Dr.Uma Tendolkar on "The Challenging world of mycotic infections" and IAMM

Endowment Oration by Dr.Pratibha Narang on "Tryst with mycobacterium in laboratory and field". A beautiful cultural programme was held in the evening of 24th Kathak dance was performed by Jim Youg Kin from South Korea and Odissi dances were performed by Amanda Geroy from USA and Maria Laura Valdez from Peru. The occasion was graced by presence of Padma Vibhushan, Shri Chanulal Mishra who also rendered a few 'mukhras'.

On 25th November 2011 the IAMM Quiz was conducted by Dr. Ranganathan Iyer. This was followed by IAMM symposium on Quality Assurance in Microbiology Laboratory. The moderator was Brig. A. Nagendra and the speakers were Dr.Ranganathan Iyer, Dr.Sarman Singh, Dr.Abhay Chowdhary and Dr. P.K. Menon. A Symposium on curriculum of Microbiology for MBBS: MCI Vision 2015 generated a lot of interest. The speakers were Dr.Sujata Baveja, Dr.S.C.Parija, Dr.Abhishek Chandra and Dr.Deepak Gautam. The General Body meeting was also held in the afternoon 25th November 2011. The delegates enjoyed the banquet in the evening with lovely food accompanied by soothing music.

On 26th November, a student symposium was conducted for the first time. The topic was "Antimicrobial resistance in gram positive organisms". A total of 9 Guest lectures were delivered by eminent scientists from India and abroad.

In the free paper sessions, there were a total of 162 oral papers out of which 40 were on bacteriology, 22 were on antimicrobial resistance, 18 on nosocomial infections 8 on immunology, 7 on virology 15 on mycobacteriology, 14 on parasitology, 10 on mycology, 9 on HIV, 8 on HIV opportunistic, 5 on biofilm and 6 on miscellaneous topics. For poster presentation there were a total of 393 papers out of which 110 were on bacteriology, 53 on antimicrobial resistance, 50 on virology, 29 on mycobacteriology, 35 on nosocomial infections, 40 on mycology, 25 on parasitology, 9 on immunology, 11 on biofilm, 10 on HIV and 17 on miscellaneous topics.

The different trade partners that participated in the conference were Bio Merieux, BD, Hi-Media, Immunoshop, Olympus, Titan Biotech, Alere, Transasia, Trivtron, CPC, Anand Bros, Genome Diagnostics, Biogenix Inc Siemens Healthcare, Genetics Biotech and Giri Diagnostics. On the whole the food was excellent. The conference culminated with the valedictory function and the organizers got a standing ovation.

XXXVI Annual National Conference of the IAMM

Hosted by The Department of Microbiology
Lady Hardinge Medical College and Hospital, New Delhi

Organising Chairman: Dr. Renu Dutta
Prof and Head Microbiology
LHMC New Delhi
Mob: 09899077011
E-mail: drrenudutta@gmail.com

Organising Secretary: Dr. B.L. Sherwal
Prof Microbiology
LHMC NEW Delhi
Mob: 09868168400
E mail: drblsa703@yahoo.co.in

Website : www.microcon2012.com

(Early Bird Registration details available at the website)

Topic for the Student Symposium

The student symposium is an integral part of the IAMM Conference and the session will be held on the first day of the conference immediately after the orations are completed. This is a call for topics of the student symposium.

Please send your choice of topic for this symposium to the office of the Secretary by the 31st March 2012. The topic will be chosen by the secretary after going through all the choices received.

Dr. Ranganathan N Iyer
Consultant Clinical Microbiologist
Global Hospital
Lakdi- ka- pul Hyderabad- 500004
E mail: ranganathaniyer@yahoo.com

Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists, Dharwad - Treasurer's Office

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31.03.2011

Capital & Liabilities	As at 31.03.2011	As at 31.03.2010	Assets	As at 31.03.2011	As at 31.03.2010
Capital Account			Investments		
Capital Fund A/c	31,69,380	25,81,922	SBI Mutual Fund	3,00,000	3,00,000
Add: Life Membership	5,15,300	3,82,000	Seed Money AFMC Microcon-08	0	0
Add: Life Membership Certificate	28,400	21,200	UTI Certificate	0	0
Add: Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	2,32,438	1,84,258			
	39,45,518	31,69,380			
Endowment Fund			Current Assets		
For Prize Distribution	1,20,000	1,20,000	Cash in hand	163	457
Current Liabilities			Balances with Banks	37,75,555	29,97,623
Dr. Raghvendra D. Kulkarni	10,200	8,700	(Schedule: 1)		
Total	40,75,718	32,98,080	Total	40,75,718	32,98,080
	0	0			

For **Khire Khandekar and Kirloskar**
Chartered Accountants

(K.G. Pathak)
Partner
Place: Sangli
Date: 05.11.2011

Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists

Treasurer Secretary President

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.03.2011

Particulars	Current Year Rs.	Previous Year Rs.	Particulars	Current Year Rs.	Previous Year Rs.
Indirect Expenses			Indirect Income		
Bank Charges	536	847	Membership Fees Received	23,300	
Postage & Telephone Expenses	9,264	1,484	Student Membership Fees	19,800	16,000
Printing & Stationery	30	0	Annual Membership	3,500	9,700
Secretarial Office Expenses	0	0			
Honorarium - President	5,000	5,000	Dividend Received	38,695	57,065
Editor's Office Expenses	0	1,45,000	Interest & Other Income	2,67,709	2,98,824
Professional Fees to Auditors	16,546	5,000	Microcon 2010 (Net)	12,110	0
Certificates, Medals & Citations	45,000	40,000			
Website Expenses	33,000	0			
Net Surplus transferred to Corpus	2,32,438	1,84,258			
	3,41,814	3,81,589		3,41,814	3,81,589

For **Khire Khandekar and Kirloskar**
Chartered Accountants

(K.G. Pathak)
Partner
Place: Sangli
Date: 05.11.2011

Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists

Treasurer Secretary President

Indian Journal of Medical Microbiology

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD 01.04.2011 TO 30.09.2011

RECEIPTS	Rs. P.	Rs. P.	PAYMENTS	Rs. P.	Rs. P.
To Opening Balance					
a. Cash in hand	130.00		By Salary Expenses		15,000.00
b. SBI A/c No. 3063924334	<u>2,83,893.95</u>	2,84,023.95	By Printing & Stationery		665.00
To Subscription Charges		60,608.00	By Bank Charges		225.00
To Bank Charges		6.00	By Postage & Courier		891.00
To Bank Interest		5,127.00	By Outstanding Expenses		
			– Medknow Publications & Med.	9,204.00	
			– Audit Fees Payable	3,000.00	
			– Salary Payable	<u>3,000.00</u>	15,204.00
			By Closing Balance		
			a. Cash in hand	574.00	
			b. SBI A/c No. 3063924334	<u>3,17,205.95</u>	<u>3,17,779.95</u>
		<u>3,49,764.95</u>			<u>3,49,764.95</u>

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD 01.04.2011 TO 30.09.2011

EXPENDITURE	Rs. P.	INCOME	Rs. P.
To Salary Expenses	18,000.00	By Advt. Collections	45,200.00
To Journal Publication Charges	6,04,548.00	By Article Processing Revenue	42,200.00
To Mailing Charges - Journal	1,15,096.00	By Subscription Charges	6,66,714.00
To Printing & Stationery	665.00	By Bank Interest	5,127.00
To Bank Charges	219.00		
To Postage & Courier	891.00		
To Depreciation	357.00		
To Excess of Income over Expenditure	19,555.00		
	<u>7,59,331.00</u>		<u>7,59,331.00</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30.09.2011

LIABILITIES	Rs. P.	Rs. P.	ASSETS	Rs. P.	Rs. P.
Capital - Opening	2,70,009.95		Computer	1,190.00	
Less: TDS on Advertisement	904.00		Less: Depreciation @ 60%	357.00	833.00
Add: Excess of Exp. over Income	<u>19,555.00</u>	2,88,660.95			
Current Liabilities & Provisions			Cash & Bank Balances:		
Medknow Publications & Media P.Ltd.		26,952.00	a. Cash in Hand	574.00	
Salary Payable		<u>3,000.00</u>	b. SBI A/c No. 3063924334	<u>3,17,205.95</u>	<u>3,17,779.95</u>
		<u>3,18,612.95</u>			<u>3,18,612.95</u>

Date: 31.10.2011
Place: Pondicherry

For **Indian Journal of Medical Microbiology**
(Dr. Reba Kanungo)
Office of the Editor - IAMM
Apt A-3, 38, Rue Labourdonnais
Pondicherry - 605 001

As per my report of even date
Prabhakaran P
Chartered Accountant
M.No. 207684

Indian Journal of Medical Microbiology

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD 01.04.2011 TO 31.03.2011

RECEIPTS	Rs. P.	Rs. P.	PAYMENTS	Rs. P.	Rs. P.
To Opening Balance					
a. Cash in hand	689.00		By Salary Expenses		33,000.00
b. IDBI, Bhubaneswar	28,639.95		By Printing & Stationery		355.00
c. IDBI, Hyderabad	15,404.31		By Bhubaneswar Expenses		17,623.00
d. SBI A/c No. 3063924334	<u>2,85,987.00</u>	3,30,720.26	By Travelling & Conveyance		11,490.00
To Subscription Charges		1,36,400.00	By Bank Charges		1,547.31
To Rhino International Agencies		10,300.00	By Postage & Courier		1,204.00
To Bank Interest		13,460.00	By Outstanding Expenses		
			– Medknow Pub.&Med.P.Ltd.	1,29,637.00	
			– Dr. Reba Kanungo	6,000.00	
			– Audit Fees Payable	3,000.00	
			– Salary Payable	<u>3,000.00</u>	1,41,637.00
			By Closing Balance		
			a. Cash in hand	130.00	
			b. IDBI, Bhubaneswar	—	
			c. IDBI, Hyderabad	—	
			b. SBI A/c No. 3063924334	2,83,893.95	2,84,023.95
		<u>4,90,880.26</u>			<u>4,90,880.26</u>

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD 01.04.2011 TO 31.03.2011

EXPENDITURE	Rs. P.	INCOME	Rs. P.
To Salary Expenses	39,000.00	By Advt. Collections	2,29,600.00
To DOI Registration Charges	2,608.00	By Article Processing Revenue	68,881.00
To Journal Publication Charges	10,42,063.00	By Subscription Charges	9,97,379.00
To Mailing Charges - Journal	2,25,158.00	By Bank Interest	13,460.00
To Printing & Stationery	355.00	By Excess of Expenditure over Income	40,514.31
To Bhubaneswar Expenses	17,623.00		
To Travelling & Conveyance	11,490.00		
To Audit Fees	6,000.00		
To Bank Charges	1,547.31		
To Postage & Courier	1,204.00		
To Depreciation	1,786.00		
	<u>13,49,834.31</u>		<u>13,49,834.31</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31.03.2011

LIABILITIES	Rs. P.	Rs. P.	ASSETS	Rs. P.	Rs. P.
Capital - Opening	3,19,389.26		Computer	2,976.00	
Less: TDS on Advertisement	8,865.00		Less: Depreciation @ 60%	<u>1,786.00</u>	1,190.00
Add: Excess of Exp. over Income	<u>40,514.31</u>	2,70,009.95	Cash & Bank Balances:		
Current Liabilities & Provisions			a. Cash in Hand	130.00	
Audit Fees Payable		3,000.00	b. IDBI, Bhubaneswar	—	
Medknow Publications & Media P.Ltd.		9,204.00	c. IDBI, Hyderabad	—	
Salary Payable		<u>3,000.00</u>	b. SBI A/c No. 3063924334	<u>2,83,893.95</u>	2,84,023.95
		<u>2,85,213.95</u>			<u>2,85,213.95</u>

Date: 16.06.2011

Place: Pondicherry

For **Indian Journal of Medical Microbiology**

(Dr. Reba Kanungo)

Office of the Editor - IAMM

Apt A-3, 38, Rue Labourdonnais

Pondicherry - 605 001

As per my report of even date

Prabhakaran P

Chartered Accountant

M.No. 207684

News from Delhi State Chapter - 2011

The year 2011 has been very eventful for the Delhi Chapter of IAMM. During the year, the 3rd Annual Congress of IAMM Delhi Chapter (**Micro-D-Con 2011**) was held at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi on 26th March 2011. The conference was inaugurated by Dr. V.M. Katoch, Secretary, Department of Health Research (DHR) & Director General (DG) ICMR. Dr. V.M. Katoch delivered Prof. Shrinivas Oration on "Evolution of Drug Resistance in Microbes: Implications in Health Care" during the Conference. The highlight of the Annual Conference was that the 10 Senior Microbiologists above the age of 75 years were felicitated by the Executive Committee of IAMM Delhi Chapter during inaugural ceremony for their significant contributions to the growth of Medical Microbiology in India. The Microbiologists of eminence who were felicitated were Dr. S.N. Saxena, Dr. A. Dasgupta, Dr. Ramesh Kumar, Dr. R. Natarajan, Dr. T.D. Chugh, Dr. S.C. Arya, Dr. (Mrs.) Rani Seth, Dr. (Mrs.) Rajinder Gupta, Dr. (Mrs.) Suhas Ahuja. Scientific sessions included guest lectures on the theme "Microbial evolution: Adaptations and Challenges". Dr. Renu B Lal, CDC, US Embassy India and Dr. Vineet Ahuja, Additional Professor, Department of Gastroenterology, AIIMS delivered on 'Microbial evolution with special reference to Influenza' and "Human Microbiota: Rising to the challenges in future" respectively. In the concluding session, Dr. K. Satyanarayana, Editor, Indian Journal of Medical Research delivered his guest lecture on 'Health Care and Bio-ethics'.

The Congress was preceded by Pre-Conference Satellite Workshops at various institutions of Delhi & NCR on 24th and 25th March, 2011. The details are as follows:

1. Hospital Infection Control (HIC): Principles & Practices (Sir Ganga Ram Hospital)
2. Bacterial respiratory infections: Molecular diagnosis and Typing (VP Chest Institute)
3. Biomedical Waste Management: Practical Problems (Lady Hardinge Medical College)
4. Immunodiagnosics (Subharti Medical College, Meerut)
5. Molecular Typing & Detection of Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (AIIMS)
6. Biofilm: Formation & Detection (UCMS & GTB Hospital)
7. Testing Related to HIV & HCV Infection (Maulana Azad Medical College)

More than 200 delegates from Delhi & NCR participated with nearly 45 free papers were presented. Besides the best poster awards, 3 sponsored awards on various category were also given. The first chapter meeting of the year 2011 was held at Institute of Liver & Biliary Sciences (ILBS), New Delhi. The theme of the chapter meets us "Viral infections in solid organ transplants". It was a great success.

The following members have been elected as the officer bearers of IAMM Delhi Chapter for the year 2011:

- President: **Dr. Iqbal R. Kaur**, UCMS, Delhi University (for the year 2011)
- Secretary: **Dr. B.R. Mirdha**, AIIMS Hospital (for a period of three years 2011 -2013)
- Treasurer: **Dr. Chand Wattal**, SRGH (for a period of three years 2011 - 2013)

Remembering Professor K.B. Sharma

"All that live must die, passing through nature to eternity" — William Shakespeare



Death is God's retirement plan and it cannot take away the name and spirit of Dr. K.B. Sharma. He was a legend who took Medical Microbiology to greater heights in India and abroad. Kulbhushan, as he was fondly known to his friends and colleagues, graduated from Medical College, Amritsar in 1954 and proceeded for PhD to Pasteur Institute, Paris, France. During his long and distinguished, professional career, he worked in JIPMER, Pondicherry and LHMC, New Delhi where he established WHO/National Reference centres for Salmonella Phage Typing and Streptococcal Diseases. He worked at a frantic pace as he churned out postgraduates and scientific work. He had a passion to promote medical microbiology. He trained young microbiologists by organizing regular symposia and workshops. He then took bigger responsibilities as Dean (MAMC, New Delhi), Deputy Director General Health Services, Govt. of India and later Regional Advisor, Health Laboratory Services, SEARO office World Health Organization, New Delhi. He was one of the very few who took a bold decision to start Indian Society of Medical Microbiology and its own Journal which is now flourishing and is one of the few Indian Journals which is Indexed and has an Impact Factor of more than one. The first Annual Meeting of IAMM was organised by him in 1978 in LHMC, New Delhi. For his tremendous contributions to Microbiology, we owe the respect to him. Henry Wordsworth Longfellow said "When a great man dies, for years the light he leaves behind him, lies on the path of men." We all will cherish him as a professional colleague, a mentor and a friend for ever. He received many honors and awards but remained a modest, sensitive, sincere and a fair man. He was a visionary and multifaceted. He was able to maintain so many priorities perfectly all the time. He is survived by his wife, Urmil, whom he married in 1958 and had first met her at High School and his two children and their families. His demise has been a loss to family, friends and above all, the microbiologists.

Kulbhushan Sharma born 17th December, 1932 ; died 20th October, 2011.

T.D. Chugh

Sr. Consultant & Emeritus Professor (NAMS),
Department of Microbiology,
Dr. B.L. Kapur Super Specialty Hospital,
Pusa Road, New Delhi-110005

Notification for Election of Executive Council Members of the IAMM

The Executive Council of the IAMM has **Two** vacancies in the year 2012. As per the constitution of the IAMM, notice is hereby issued by the Secretary of the IAMM, inviting nominations to three positions in the Executive Council of the IAMM. The following rules apply as per the constitution of the IAMM:

Members who have already served the Executive Council of the IAMM in the past are not eligible for re-election until after the lapse of two years.

Nomination for membership of Executive council may be made by any two Founder/ Life/ Ordinary members and shall be sent to the Secretary's office.

Such nominations must be accompanied by written undertaking from the nominee that he/ she is willing to serve the Executive Council.

Candidates for the Executive Council membership must have been members of the IAMM for at least five years continuously. All nominees should send a written intimation, duly proposed and seconded by two Founder/ Life members as aforementioned along with a copy of their brief CV and a photograph scanned on Email as a copy. The same must be sent as a hard copy either by courier or by registered post to the office of the Secretary. This must reach the Secretary's Office by March 15, 2012.

Nominations sent only by E-mail or fax communication are not valid and will not be accepted.

Number of Vacancies to the Executive Council : TWO

Last date for submission of Nominations: March 31, 2012.

Dr. Ranganathan N Iyer

Secretary IAMM, Consultant Clinical Microbiologist, Global Hospital, Lakdi-ka-pul, Hyderabad- 500 004.

**The Executive Council of IAMM wishes all Members
a Happy and Prosperous New Year 2012**

Published by
Dr. Ranganathan N. Iyer
Secretary, IAMM

BOOK-POST

To,

If underlivered, please return to:

Dr. Ranganathan N Iyer

Secretary IAMM

Consultant Clinical Microbiologist

Global Hospital, Lakdi-ka-pul, Hyderabad- 500 004.