

Academy News

The 6th Triennial Conference of the Academy of Clinical Microbiologists — TRICON 2014 — was held at Govt. Medical College, Thrissur, from 15th-17th August 2014, on *Newer Trends in Microbiology*.

The pre-conference Clinical Microbiology Workshop on 15th August 2014, “*From Laboratory to Patient*” was indeed a scientific feast. It was magnificently conducted by Consultant Clinical Microbiologists- Dr. Mitul Patel from Birmingham Children’s Hospital, UK and Dr. Sanjay Bhattacharya from Tata Medical Centre, Kolkata.

The 2nd Workshop on “*Outbreak Investigation*” was deftly handled by Dr. Satish Amarnath, Medical Director, Manipal Cure and Care Hospital, Bangalore. The other scientific sessions were dealt by distinguished speakers like Dr. Manoj V, Dr. Ravindran C., Dr. Aswath Kumar and Dr. Jayaraj M.B. with active participation.

The 6th Triennial Conference on 16th August 2014 was inaugurated by former Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Health Sciences, Dr. K. Mohandas, and the proceedings of the conference were released.

The faculty for the CME included eminent speakers like Dr. Vaidehi Raghavan from M.B. Sundaresan Foundation, Chennai; Dr. Priya Abraham from CMC, Vellore; Dr. Savitri Sharma from LV Prasad Eye Hospital, Hyderabad and Dr. Sangeetha Joshi from Manipal Hospital, Bangalore. All the sessions were informative and enlightening. There were over 150 participants from all over India.

The General Body meeting took place at 4.00 pm on 16th August. The election of new office bearers took place and a new team was elected with Dr. Prithi Nair, Medical College, Thrissur as President, Dr. Chithra Valsan, Jubilee Medical Mission, Thrissur as Secretary, Dr. Reena John, Medical College, Thrissur as Treasurer and an editorial team with Dr. Kavita Raja, Sree Chithra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology as the Editor.

Major decisions taken during the meeting included a hike in Life Membership fee from Rs. 3000/- to Rs. 4000/- w.e.f. 1st September 2014; and an increase in minimum article submission rates in JACM to Rs. 2000 per article. The rate of articles with colour pages is to remain the same as earlier.

The schedule of CME and workshops for the next three years were decided as follows:

1. February 2015: Govt. Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram (CME).
2. August, 2015: MIMS, Calicut (Workshop).
3. February 2016: St. John’s Medical College, Bangalore.
4. August 2016: Govt. Medical College, Mysore.
5. February 2017: Govt. Medical College, Thrissur.
6. August 2017: Govt. Medical College, Calicut/Saveetha Medical College, Chennai (7th Triennial Conference).

On the 3rd day, 17th August – the ACM Oration was rendered by Dr. Renu Mathew, Saveetha Medical College, Chennai and Former President, ACM. The topic was Vector-borne Parasitic Diseases. This was followed by Best paper and Free paper sessions; around 30-35 posters were on display and an exciting quiz programme was conducted for the postgraduate students.

The 6th triennial conference was indeed a great success and I take this opportunity to appreciate the sincere efforts of all members of the organising committee.

The ACM has been successful in conducting 4 CME programmes and 3 workshops, including a P.G. Training workshop for residents at Govt. Medical College, Kozhikode in the last 3 years (2011-14). I wish to acknowledge the support and cooperation of all office bearers of ACM for the same.

As of now, the ACM has 282 life members, and I wish the newly elected team of office bearers, all the very best in carrying the organisation to greater heights.

Thanking you

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