



Australian Indian Medical Graduates Association.Inc

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Welcome to AIMGA's 2nd Newsletter for 2011.

This newsletter covers the various activities in which AIMGA has been involved since the last news letter

AIMGA President Corner

Dear Members

Welcome to our winter edition of the newsletter. This is a new column I am adding to widen our opportunity for communication. Dr Sundar has been the capable editor of the newsletter and I thank him for his meritorious work. Dr Orekondy a multiple award winner for the past one year deserves yet another award for his contributions to this newsletter. Our membership is increasing which means more ideas and more goals and objectives. Keeping in mind the expansion I welcome Dr Sarita Sachdev who has joined the editorial team. I am also hoping that you will be the active reader and responder to help us develop our activities to make this newsletter more relevant to the needs of the membership.

I also wish to thank Dr Naggama for her superb organisation of our CME activities which has become one of the most popular segment of AIMGA



AIMGA committee has been active as usual. This year has been exceptionally busy , it may be true that the speed picks up as you get closer to the deadline. AIMGA is keen to start a section of young doctors as well as creative doctors. We are depending on you to take our dreams further. We are planning a dinner dance for young and prospective members on 10th September and I shall request you to spread the word around to make it a success. You will soon receive the details of it.

I was extremely fortunate to interview Dr Kalam the most desirable and precious son of India. I introduced myself as representing AIMGA and the work we were doing nationally with aspirations to take our resources and experiences to India in building its 21st century image. His message was that our 1st duty is towards Australia where we were living in the present time. He compared many natural similarities between India and Australia which continue to strengthen our bond. He has great faith in the youth of today both in India and Australia to march forward in the scientifically and technologically advanced world with spiritual foundation.

It was indeed a lifetime experience and a challenge to bind the free spirit of our somewhat eccentric leader in a structured interview. His free floating spirit has lost its bounds even more now as he has proven the brilliance of his mind and the simplicity of his passionate heart beyond doubts. The remarkable simplicity and innate spirituality are the profound experiences one feels on meeting this great scientist of our time. He reframed all the questions in messages which he wanted to leave with us.

AIMGA will continue to strive to improve its services in your professional and personal life.

Please keep 12th November free for our annual function

AIMGA is your organisation and without you it has no reason to exist. I look forward to sharing your views and vision for our future journey

Kind Regards

Dr Shailja Chaturvedi

Membership

Over the past few months, AIMGA has increased its membership profile. We extend a hearty welcome to all of our new members and note that reduced membership contributions are now offered to retired and student doctors. Membership is due now for 2011-12

General news updates

The Executive Committee has been meeting every two months to discuss various issues in respect to IMGs as well as the important topics of community service, domestic violence issues and the introduction of Medicare locals. Notably, the Federal budget cut in funding for mental health services has been introduced at the cost of MBS rebates for GP Mental Health Plans being cut by half. The savings made from the rebate cuts will go towards Medicare Locals, with plans for the organisations, to be rolled out in July, to take over the care co-ordination for patients with mental illness.

Letters sent by AIMGA

AIMGA has sent a letter of appreciation to Dr Andrew Pesce for his efforts in regards to IMGs. Dr Pesce has recently retired as president of the Australian Medical Association. A letter of congratulations was also sent to the incoming president Dr Steve Hambleton.

AIMGA also sent a letter to Hon Jillian Skinner MP, Minister for Health NSW to bring the interests of IMGs to her attention.

Representation of AIMGA at meetings

A significant highlight of the year to date was the meeting held between Dr Shailja and Dr Abdul Kalam, past president of India, who visited Australia recently, to receive the Scientific Award from the University of Sydney. The interview will be televised on Chandana TV. The 188th World Medical Association Symposium was held 5 April 2011. The Symposium showcased various aspects of medical leadership, including medical research and e-health. AIMGA was represented by *Dr Patel and Dr Sawrikar in this symposium.* The United India Association (UIA) Annual General Meeting was held on 3 April 2011. AIMGA members in attendance were Dr Rao & Dr Patel.

Awards received by our members

AIMGA heartily congratulates Prof Parminder Sachdev for the NSW scientist of the year award in Biomedical sciences and also for receiving an AM in Queen's Birthday honours list. His work has been internationally recognised.

We also congratulate, Dr Smita Shah who has been honoured with the President's Award at the 2011 Annual Scientific Meeting of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand in Perth. The award recognises Dr Shah's outstanding dedication and achievements in respiratory health, particularly in socially disadvantaged communities.

Obituary - Dr Qadri Passed away:

Dr Qadri was a valuable and highly respected member of AIGMA almost since its inception. We are sorry to lose him. Life is full of triumphs and tribulations which largely remain beyond our control. A life of accomplishments like Dr Qadri is all we can expect before ending our journey. His dedication to his patients, his family, music, literature and shaayeree must have given him the sense of fulfilment. The legacy he has left behind will continue to comfort the family in carrying and living his dream.

Dr NC Patel Grandson and Dr Amin Son Passed away:

On behalf of AIMGA members the executive committee sent sincere condolences to Dr Amin and Dr Patel family. Dr Amin's son Pranil has left an untarnishable mark in his short 14 yrs what most of us do not accomplish in our lifetime. He will be loved and cherished each day of your life without being with you. May God give you some of the strength He gave Pranil to find peace for yourself and him and meaning and purpose of the journey and its destination we take for granted. Please accept our sincere sentiments to share the grief of this tragic event with you.

Annual events

AIMGA participates annually in fundraising for breast cancer research. On 8 May 2011, many committee members attended the Mother's Day Classic fun run/walk at Parramatta Park. Chandana TV interviewed several AIMGA participants on the day and the feedback from the public on this broadcast has been excellent.

India Australia Friendship Fair 2011 will be held on the 14th August. AIMGA will have health promotion stall. For enquires please contact Dr Sundar and Dr Prakash and Chandana TV .



AIMGA is proud to sponsor the forthcoming 5th anniversary celebrations of Chandana TV. AIMGA members regularly host a televised health information program monthly on Chandana TV and we are grateful to the network for their ongoing service to the community. Members interested in hosting future programs are welcome to contact Mr Onkaraswamy.

Volunteer services

Carewell has launched a new aged day care and respite facility for people of Indian Origin. Carewell has requested for voluntary medical services, perhaps once or twice a month or as suitable to the volunteer. This is an excellent opportunity for AIMGA members to show their altruism. Members who want to volunteer may contact Dr Shailja for further information.

AIMGA is also planning to hold a meeting in Fiji 2012 of Doctors of Indian origin who are based in Australia and New Zealand during the Easter holidays. To coincide with this event, Dr Shailja has coordinated volunteer medical service program in Fiji, which it is hoped will extend beyond Fiji in the future.

CME Activities

Last 3 CME activities had very good attendance from AIMGA Dr Nagamma is the CME Coordinator for 2011. All members are requested to provide ideas and assistance on CME activities where appropriate.

AIMGA's Overseas conference-Canada-Alaska in August

A group of 29 members are attending a conference in July in Canada and Alaska. This conference has been organised under the banner of AIMGA by Dr Chandra, Dr Hingorani and Dr Orekondy.

AIMGA's Overseas conference-Eastern Europe

We like to wish all of our members who are embarking on the cruises of Eastern Europe a 'Bon voyage'. this trip is taking place in October 2011.-Coordinators for this trips are Dr Sawrikar and Dr Borkar.

We will view the photographs from the trip. The Best Picture from the trip will be published in our Magazine.

Professional Support

We extend our gratitude to Mr Bellantonio, Honorary Solicitor and Mr McNaughton, Accountant for their ongoing assistance. We also thank Mr Onkaraswamy for his efficient administrative support Finally, we look forward to the second half of 2011. As AIMGA members, we are privileged to be able to share friendship, support and professional advice with one another.

AIMGA Annual Dinner and AGM- AIMGA annual dinner will be held on 12th November Venue will be announced soon, please keep the date free.

This newsletter has been prepared by Dr Sundar, in conjunction with Dr Sarita Sachdev and Dr S Orekondy

AIMGA Executive Committee 2011



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Chaturvedi



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Dr. P. Sawrikar



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