Dear Colleagues,

With great pleasure, I welcome you all to the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Society of Nuclear Medicine. This year we will be gathering in San Antonio, the Alamo city in Texas. Following the tradition of the past years, we will have the annual reception of the Indo-American Society of Nuclear Medicine (IASNM) on Sunday, June 5, 2011. The venue of the dinner will be in Room 001, Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center, San Antonio. Please follow the time schedule of 6:30 to 10:00 pm.

This year we are honoring Dr. Sam Gambhir for his contributions to the field of Nuclear Medicine. Dr. Gambhir was the president of IASNM during 2001-2003 period. His name and molecular imaging are often spoken in same breath. We feel proud by the presence of scientists like Dr. Gambhir among us. IASNM is thankful to Advanced Biomarker Technologies (ABT, Knoxville, TN) who are sponsoring this program. For more information about ABT, Inc., I encourage the attendees to visit ABT booth in the exhibits hall.

As we study the present and move into the future, we realize that Nuclear Medicine infrastructure in India is continuing to grow and has become par with that in the US. So, we are inviting a representative from India to speak about such developments and the current as well as future needs. I believe that a strong collaboration between the Indian and American professionals in the field will be of mutual benefit. IASNM’s practice of granting competitive travel awards to the attendees was also initiated with the same spirit. This year, IASNM will felicitate two best oral presenters of Indian Origin in the Society of Nuclear Medicine. We have opened up the competition to the researchers working in the United States. I especially encourage graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, residents and clinical fellows to note this opportunity by clicking on the link <http://iasnm.org/HTML/news_awards.html>.

The continuity of our organization is dependent on the contributions from members. Every year we add a generation of nuclear medicine physicians, scientists, pharmacists, technicians and chemists of Indian origin in the profession. However, the stagnation in membership does not reflect this growth. We all can reverse this phenomenon by disseminating information about IASNM to the newer colleagues and the ones who have not had the opportunity to become members yet.

Please check this web site at a later date for further details about the meeting. We will be glad to provide any further information. I close this newsletter by welcoming you again to San Antonio, and hope that you all will have a productive and enjoyable time.

Vibhudutta Awasthi, Ph.D. Neil Vasdev, PhD.

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