

Dr Srinivas Mutalik, Department of Pharmaceutics has received Best Oral Award in 66<sup>th</sup> Indian Pharmaceutical Congress held at Hitex, Hyderabad during January 23 – 25, 2015.

Ms K Pallavi, won Second Prize in National level essay writing competition on "Pharmacists' Organization for Women Empowerment and Research (POWER)" during January 2015.

Mr Asim Priyendu has received a travel grant worth Rs 86,966.00 from Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) for attending 3<sup>rd</sup> International One Health Congress held at Netherlands during March 2015.

Faculty members of MCOPS attended 15 National and 02 International Conferences during Jan-Mar 2015.

### Dignitaries' visits to MCOPS

- 1 Dr Meenakshi Chandra Sekar, Professor, College of Pharmacy, University of Findlay, USA, delivered a talk on "Current status of Pharmacy Practice in US and an update on gaining provider status for pharmacy practitioners" on January 2.
- 2 Dr G N Singh, Drugs Controller General of India and Director of Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission interacted with the faculty and research scholars of Manipal University on January 9.
- 3 Dr P Gundu Rao, former Principal of MCOPS interacted with the faculty members, research scholars and PG students on January 19.
- 4 Prof David Sadler, Vice President (International) and Ms Jaspreet Kaur, India Office representative from Queen Mary University of London (QMUL), UK visited MCOPS to explore newer areas of collaboration in varied disciplines during January 14 – 16.
- 5 Prof Andrej Davey, Head and Dr Sohail Khan, Faculty, School of Pharmacy, Griffith Health University gave presentations on "Research and Career opportunities at Griffith University in particular and Australia in general" on January 20.
- 6 Dr P N Murthy, Principal, Royal College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences, Berhampur interacted with research scholars and PG students of MCOPS on February 13.
- 7 Dr Harendra Parekh, Senior Lecturer, School of Pharmacy, University of Queensland, Australia and Adjunct Professor, Department of Pharmaceutics, MCOPS, delivered a talk on "Opportunities in Australia for Pharmacy Graduates" on February 17.

### PharmD students clinch prizes at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Pharmacology Postgraduate lecture update at KMC

**February 28:** Ms Manasa and Ms Jenny, fifth year PharmD students won the second and third prizes, respectively at the pharmacology lecture update competition, hosted by the department of pharmacology, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal. 'Old bullet - New target: Antidiabetic drug providing hope for anti-tubercular therapy' was the topic presented by Manasa, while Ms Jenny spoke on 'LCZ696: A New Lifeline for Failing Hearts'

### MCOPS students selected in ABBOTT, United Health Group, Advinus, Indegene, Quintiles, Microlabs

Fourth BPharm students, viz., Harjot Singh Kalra, Serdeshmukh Kaustubh, Pooja Vinayak, Manvendra, Preeti Patil and Gowri Krishnan are placed in ABBOTT.

### Students got selected in United Health Group

- 1) Sisir Kattempudi, Pharmacy Administration
- 2) Deeksha Saxena, Pharmacy Administration
- 3) Ritika Raj, Pharmaceutics
- 4) Md Rizwanul Haque, Pharmacy Practice
- 5) Rajiv Kumar, Pharmacy Practice
- 6) Jatin Agarwal, Pharm D

### For Internship at United Health Group

- 1) Safa Hassan
- 2) Sugita Paul
- 3) Niharika Vyas
- 4) Ivan Uthup
- 5) Lalith Kumar Mittal

### ATHLOS 2014-15

**January 25 – February 26:** ATHLOS is the Annual sports Meet of MCOPS, conducted over a month, encouraging students to participate and compete in various games like cricket, football, basketball, volleyball, throw ball, badminton, table tennis, carrom, chess, swimming and athletics.

"Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence wins championships" – this is an inspirational quote by Michael Jordan

On a fine Sunday evening of 25<sup>th</sup> January, the event took off with carrom and chess competitions which marked as a grand inaugural for the meet. Students were just back from their winter vacation but were enthusiastic in playing the indoor games. It was a packed schedule during February with other sport events, and were played with the spirit of winning.

The final day of ATHLOS began with the arrival of Dr Ullas Kamath Dean, MMMC Manipal, who was the chief guest for the day and Dr C Mallikarjuna Rao, Principal, MCOPS Manipal. The marching of various batches of MCOPS, led by their respective class sports representatives formally inaugurated the ceremony which was followed by the torch lighting, held for the first time in the history of MCOPS and the torch bearers were Md Zabiuddin Ahad, Ramakrishnan, Sneha, Upamanyu and Anuvrinda who have represented MCOPS as well as Manipal University in various sports and brought laurels to the college.

Runners up trophy donated by Dr C S Shreedhara, secretary, MAPS was unveiled by the chief guest and the winner's trophy donated by Mr Venkatesh Kamath and Dr Anup Naha was also unveiled.

After the inauguration, all the athletic events took place in a sound and smooth manner. The day ended with the valedictory function with Second BPharm emerging as the champions and the runners up were the MPharm students.

### MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

**February 7:** MCOPS Cultural Committee was given the onus to coordinate with the Cultural Coordination Committee of Manipal University in organizing "GUNJAN" Hindustani Classical Flute Recital by Pt. Rajendra Prasanna. Pandit Rajendra is a world-wide renowned flute artist. He was accompanied by Vidwan Gurumurthy Vaidya on tabla for the musical night. The audience was captivated on that magical evening, with the flutist's notes and percussion

### ALUMNI DIGEST



Six years of my sojourn at MCOPS [those days it was COPS] was beautiful till my post-graduation. The green, hilly end-point and KMC Greens where the places, we used to spend a lot of time after classes. Studying used to be fun with friends till 2.00 am at the central library. I am fortunate to be a student of Dr N Udupa, Dr J Venkat Rao, Dr K K Sreenivasan, Dr Mallikarjuna Rao, Dr Gautam Shenoy and

Dr Gopalan Kutty who taught us different disciplines in pharmacy. Pharmacology practical used to be one of the interesting labs where we used to be excited about handling animals for experiments with Dr Sreedhar Pai. I still remember making the sodium fusion extract in organic chemistry lab where Dr Varadaraj Bhat, Dr Suvarna Kini used to teach us different techniques. The teachers of MCOPS inspired me, and I take pride in saying that whatever I am today is because of them.

After my post-graduation, I pursued doctoral studies at Birla Institute Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani where I studied different molecular modeling techniques for designing inhibitors of Mycobacteria. Post PhD, I joined as a research scientist at Informatics and Modeling Group (Molecular Modeling), Novel Drug Discovery and Development (NDDD) of Lupin Limited at Pune, where I collaborated with medicinal chemist and biologist in design and delivery of NCEs in target to hit to lead and optimized lead for wide range of therapeutic targets. The research profile included design of selective enzyme inhibitors/ agonists, design of receptor modulators. Currently, I am with Schrodinger Inc. as an applications scientist, based at Bangalore. Schrodinger is a scientific leader in computational chemistry, which provides software solutions and services for life sciences and materials research.

For any queries related to my field, please free to contact me  
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# MCOPS

## A constituent college of Manipal University

The most sought-after for pharmaceutical education and research

Programs: DPharm | BPharm | MPharm | PharmD | PharmD (PB) | Doctoral

# Ad Meliora

a quarterly newsletter

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### EDITORIAL

Welcome to the first issue of 2015! In this issue, the readers will appreciate the assortment of topics from sports to awards and student placements. In the regular content, a pharma fest and important visits to MCOPS has been showcased. This issue, we have captured the thoughts of one of our alumnus from Schrodinger who has shared his experiences at COPS (then it was College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, affiliated to Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Manipal)

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

We are a bit late to bring out this third issue of Ad Meliora, the first issue for 2015. Better late than never, they say. So although it is late, the issue covers the major events of the year beginning in January. To say that we have been very active in the first quarter of the year is to state the obvious. We celebrated the MCOPS Annual Day in February where the Joint Drugs Controller of India and our alumnus Dr Eswara Reddy was the chief guest. In March, ISPOR-Karnataka Chapter held its national convention at MCOPS. Pharma Quora, a program entirely conceived, planned and conducted by the students of MCOPS was held in February. Detailed reports of all these are presented below.

The best piece of news for all alumni, students, faculty and in fact with everyone interested in MCOPS, is that MCOPS has just been ranked the Best Pharmacy College among the private institutions and the Second rank overall, private and government institutions included. We shall bring out a detailed write up of that in our next issue.

So, for the present, happy reading.



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INSPIRED BY LIFE

## EVENTS

### MCOPS Annual and Awards Day Celebrated

**February 14:** Dr Eswara Reddy, Joint Drugs Controller of India, exhorted the pharmacy students to develop communication skills. He also told the gathering that continuous training programs are required to keep everyone updated with new developments in the field of pharmacy. He assured the students that there would be ample opportunities for them to progress in their career. He said that India is currently exporting drugs to 200 countries and so lack of job opportunities will not be a problem. Dr Reddy was speaking as the Chief Guest of the Annual and Awards Day function of Manipal College of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Dr H Vinod Bhat, Dr G K Prabhu and Dr P L N Rao, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Registrar and Registrar Evaluation of Manipal University respectively graced the occasion with their presence. Principal of MCOPS, Dr C Mallikarjuna Rao and Vice Principal, Dr M Sreenivasa Reddy were also on the dais.

Dr C Mallikarjuna Rao presented the annual report of the college. Five alumni of MCOPS were conferred with the Distinguished Alumni Award. They are: Mr Ashok Chander (entrepreneur), Mr Ram Kamineni (Vice President, Mylan, USA) and three faculty members of MCOPS, namely, Dr Leelavathi D Acharya, Dr Manjunath Setty and Dr D Sreedhar.

Dr Srinivas Mutalik secured the coveted Dr TMA Pai Gold Medal for research and Dr N Udupa (former principal and present Director of Research, Manipal University) was given Lifetime Achievement Award for contribution to teaching and the profession of pharmacy.

Mr Kanav Khara, Dr Alex Joseph and Dr N Gopalan Kutty received the Good Teacher awards, while Dr K Sreedhara R Pai got the Teacher of the Year award.

Endowment Awards, prizes and certificates were given away to students for academic excellence. Eight research scholars bagged Travel Grants, instituted by Dr N Udupa to enable them to attend conferences.

There was a variety entertainment program staged by students, faculty and supporting staff.

Dr M Sreenivasa Reddy proposed the vote of thanks.

Dr Sajjad Hussein was the Master of Ceremonies for Awards function.



### Matrabhasha Diwas was celebrated

**February 21:** The very purpose of commemorating Matrabhasha Diwas is to encourage one's mother tongue, which is necessary for the development of nation and science too. On 21<sup>st</sup> February 2015, Manipal College of Pharmaceutical Sciences joined other institutions of Manipal University in celebrating Matrabhasha Diwas. The Students' Affairs Council Secretary, Dr C S Shreedhara and a few other faculty members addressed the gathering. Matrabhasha Diwas was observed through a skit performance by first and second year BPharm students, Nishma, Madhav, Nabeel, Akshay, Abishek, Aditya, Aditi, Upamanyu and Hrishika. It was a splendid performance wherein they showed the influence of mother tongue on our day to day activities.

### National Convention of ISPOR-Karnataka chapter held at MCOPS

**March 6-8:** This was organized and hosted by ISPOR - Karnataka Chapter in collaboration with KLE University, Belgaum and supported by International Society for Pharmaco-economics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR). The main aim of the conference was to bring pharmacy students under one forum and create awareness about the need for pharmaco-economics and health outcomes research. The conference received an overwhelming response from various Pharmaceutical Institutions. More

than 400 delegates, from over 20 pharmacy schools, attended the conference. The participants came from Bheemavaram located on east coast in Andhra Pradesh to Trivandrum the southern end of India. This clearly reflected the growing interest in Pharmacoeconomics.

The conference was inaugurated by Dr G K Prabhu (Registrar, Manipal University) and Dr M S Ganachari (Professor and Deputy Registrar KLE University, Belgaum). Dr N Udupa (President, ISPOR- Karnataka Chapter, Manipal), Dr C Mallikarjuna Rao, Principal, Manipal College of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Dr A N Nagappa (Secretary cum Treasurer, ISPOR- Karnataka Chapter, Manipal) were also present on this occasion. Dr N Udupa delivered a talk on "ISPOR-Asia Health Net India" followed by Dr A N Nagappa on "Opportunities of Pharmacoeconomics & Pharmacy Practice". The students of Manipal College of Pharmaceutical Sciences put up an entertainment program at the end of the inaugural function.

A total of 19 talks were delivered on various topics of Pharmacoeconomics, Health Outcome Research, Patient Safety and Pharmaceutical Care by experts in the fields. Mr Bejon Mishra (Consumer Connexion), Mr Ramkishan (CDSCO, New Delhi), Dr M S Ganachari (KLE University Belgaum), Dr Chanda Kulkarni and Dr Shobha Rani (both from RGUHS, Bangalore) and Dr Vigneshwaran (ISPOR, Andhra Chapter) were the speakers. As part of the academic program, there were many informative and thought provoking lectures presented by experts in the field of Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research. The lectures covered a broad range of topics. In addition to the lectures, there were also group discussions where students put their heads together to discuss the different facets of pharmacoeconomics research, especially in the Indian scenario. These facilitated healthy discussions regarding what are the current strategies and also how we could contribute as future health professionals. These interactive sessions allowed delegates to broaden their interest and knowledge in different aspects of pharmacoeconomics and outcomes research. One hundred and twenty four scientific posters were presented in three sessions.

The program was concluded with a valedictory gathering at which Mr Bejon Misra spoke. Certificates were distributed to the participants. A few participants gave feedback on the conduct of the program. The vote of thanks was proposed by Dr D Sreedhar. Dr Manthan Janodia was the master of the ceremony.



### PhD awardees

The following persons successfully defended their theses to be awarded PhD during January-February 2015. They are:

Dr B Meenashi Vanathi (Topic: A study on design and evaluation of DNA vaccine delivery system through surface modified multifunctional micro particles. Guide: Dr N Udupa : Co-Guide : Dr J Venkata Rao (5.1.2015)

Dr Asmy A B (Topic: Cancer Stem Cells Inhibitory Activities of Selected Indigenous Medicinal Plants Bearing Sesquiterpene Lactones.

Guide: Dr N Udupa (5.2.2015)

Dr Angel Treasa Alex (Topic: Formulation and Evaluation of Nanoparticle Drug Delivery Systems for Brain Delivery by Nasal Route.

Guide: Dr N Udupa (13.2.2015)

### AICTE sponsored Quality Improvement Program

**January 5 - 17, 2015:** A 12- day AICTE sponsored Quality Improvement Program (QIP) was held in Manipal College of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Dr K Ramnarayan, Vice Chancellor Manipal University inaugurated the QIP in the presence of Dr N Udupa (Director, Research Manipal University) and Dr C Mallikarjuna Rao (Principal MCOPS). The theme of the QIP was: Frontiers in Pharmacology of Drug Research and Recent Trends in Pharmacy Practice.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Ramnarayan said that quality has six aspects to it. These are: credibility, comprehensiveness, reliability, objectivity, relevance and feasibility. He urged the participants and organizers to try and realize these six aspects of quality in any program that is initiated. Dr C Mallikarjuna Rao welcomed the gathering and



Dr J Venkata Rao proposed the vote of thanks. The 12-day program was coordinated and conducted by the departments of pharmacology and pharmacy practice, with each department accounting for six days' activities.

### PHARMAQUORA- 2015

**February 1:** A program entirely conceived and executed by the students of Manipal College of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MCOPS), christened Pharma Quora-2015, was held recently in the college. Pharmaquora is a forum for the students to get information about their chosen profession. For this experts brought from industry are roped in. Most of these experts are alumni of MCOPS with years of experience in industry, because of which they are ideally suited to provide an overview of the situation in the pharma sector. Mr K V Raghavendra (Senior Business Manager, Biocon India Ltd) was one such expert. In his interaction with the students, he shared his pragmatic views over the future prospects in the industry. He advised them to distinguish the good from the bad.

Dr Manthan Janodia (Associate Professor, MCOPS) dealt with regulatory issues and drug markets. Another speaker was Mr Sambit Dash (Assistant Professor, MMMC, Manipal). He brought home to the students the tips to memorize essential information as well as to learn multi-tasking. Dr Anup Naha (Assistant Professor, MCOPS) stressed the need for staying calm and composed even under trying situations. Ms Sanchari Basu (Research Scholar) spoke of the myriad of possibilities in the field of pharmacology. To reassure the anxious Pharm D students, Ms Shilpa Garg Agrawal focused on the career opportunities for them. Mr Baliga gave a talk on human behaviour, striking an emotional chord with many in the audience.



The Princeton Review Group conducted a session on programs for advanced studies in universities abroad much to the delight of those who are planning to pursue their higher studies in USA and other western countries.

Oral and poster sessions for the event were very competitive. Students, with the help of selected faculty members as mentors, put up posters on currently relevant topics. An expert panel of judges from KMC Manipal evaluated the posters.

It was a two-day affair conducted with passion and verve. Everyone associated with Pharma Quora looked very satisfied in the end. Dr R S Jayaprakash (Staff in charge of MAPS) and Ms Shweta Bhatt (President, MAPS) co-ordinated the entire program as facilitators.



### Industry experts give their insights into MPharm proposed curriculum

**February 13:** AICTE-sponsored Curriculum Development Cell (CDC) was held on February 13, 2015. HoDs presented the structure and contents of the planned MPharm program and discussed with the industry representatives. Two industry representatives namely, Mr Indu Bhusan, Steer Engineering Pvt Ltd, Bangalore and Dr Subhash Gore participated in the CDC activity.

## RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

Ms Smita Sagarika Behera, M Pharm Part II - Drug Regulatory Affairs won first prize in National level essay writing competition on the subject "Pharmacists' Organization for Women Empowerment and Research (POWER)" during January 2015.

Dr Usha Y Nayak, Department of Pharmaceutics won the first prize for the poster entitled "Chronotherapeutic drug delivery in the management of hypertension" in the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Non-communicable Diseases (NCD) Research Meet - Manipal Chapter - 2015 held during January 10 - 11, 2015 at Manipal.

Dr Ruchi Verma, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry won the first prize for the poster entitled "Determination of solubility of Naproxen using UV visible Spectrophotometer" in the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Non-communicable Diseases (NCD) Research Meet - Manipal Chapter - 2015 held during January 10 - 11, 2015 at Manipal.

Dr Anantha Naik Nagappa has received a "500 Euro ISOPP Research Award"

Dr N Udupa, Director - Research (Health Sciences), Manipal University received Association of Pharmacy Teachers of India sponsored Dr G P Srivastava Memorial Award - 2014 during inaugural session of 66<sup>th</sup> Indian Pharmaceutical Congress held in Hyderabad during January 23-25, 2015.

