Minutes of General Body Meeting (GBM) of the Indian Immunology Society, held on 16.11.2013 at the Conference Centre, University of Delhi

The Executive Committee of IIS met on 15.11.2013 at Conference Centre, Delhi University and the GBM was held at same venue on 16.11.2013. President Dr. Pawan Sharma was in the Chair at the GBM. A total of 65 members attended the GBM. The following decisions were taken and approved by the GBM.

1. The CME programme of the Society, being very actively implemented over the last few years, was unanimously appreciated by GBM. The GBM approved the following applications for holding CME programmes in the near future:
   a. Dr. Krishna Hajela from DAVV, Indore willing to do CME in August 2014.
   c. Dr. Subir K. Das from Kolkata committed for CME September 19-20, 2014.
   d. Dr. Yash Pal Mallik from IVRI, Izatnagar committed for CME Feb., 2014.
   e. Dr. Sarat Dalai from Ahmedabad committed for CME August 29-30, 2014.
   f. Dr. Vijayalakshmi from AIIMS, Jodhpur committed for CME Sept., 12-13, 2014.

2. The GBM approved enhancement of cash award for the Senior Scientist Oration to Rs. 30,000/- and for Dr. G.P. Talwar Young Scientist Award to Rs. 10,000/- each w.e.f. 2014.

3. Next (41st) Annual Conference of the Society (Immunocon 2014) will be held at the Madurai Kamraj University, Madurai. It was already approved at the last GBM. Dr. Balakrishnan, the Organizer of the Immunocon-2014 presented a brief description about the host institution and invited the IIS members to attend the Immunocon-2014 with enthusiasm. He will communicate the dates of the meeting ASAP. As soon as an MOU is signed between IIS and him, IIS will provide him the seed money (refundable) to initiate the process of organizing the Immunocon-2014. Dr. Balakrishnan will also be ex-officio member of the Executive Committee from now onwards through Immunocon-2014.

4. Proposals for holding Immunocon-2015 at RMRIMS, Patna (Dr. Pradeep Das), Immunocon-2016 at University of Calcutta (Dr. Arindam Bhattacharyya), Immunocon-2017 at Tezpur University (Dr. ShashiBarua) were also considered and provisionally approved by the GBM.

5. The GBM put on record its thanks to Dr. NK Mehra of AIIMS (New Delhi) for donating Rs. 1,05,000/- to IIS from the 5th FIMSA funds, and to Prof. Usha of BHU (Varanasi) for donating Rs. 20,000/- to IIS from the Immunocon-2012 funds.

6. Proposals received from the Omics Group and CNKI, China for publishing IIS proceedings/journal were deliberated upon by the GBM. The GBM authorized EC to call Omics Group as well as Elsevier group for bringing out IIS journal/ meeting proceedings etc. In the same context, Prof. Nibhriti Das was requested to kindly resume the online newsletter of the Society as she had very kindly done until a few years ago. Prof. Das kindly agreed to do so in due course of time.
7. GBM placed on record its appreciation to Dr. Tarunamadan, Mumbai, Dr. Keshar Mohanty, Agra, Dr. K. Balakrishnan, Madurai, Dr. Hemlatha Reddy, Delhi University, Dr. D.N. Rao, AIIMS, and Dr. Gyanander Awasthi, Dehradun for holding Day of Immunology celebrations at their respective places.

8. GBM also acknowledged with thanks the efforts of Dr. Dil Afroze, SKIMS, Srinagar (J&K); Dr. Lakshmi, Global Hospital, Hyderabad; and Dr. Pradeep Das, Rajendra Memorial Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (Patna) for successfully holding CME courses at their respective places. GBM also wished Dr. Apranjita, Andhra University, Vishakapatnam, all the success for the upcoming CME at her place in December 2013.

9. The GBM approved to EC’s suggestion to issue a Membership ID card to the IIS members in due course of time.

10. The GBM approved that the IIS PAN number should be used only for the Society’s activities, including its Annual Conference (Immunocon), and for no other event at all.

11. The GBM appreciated the success of Immunocon 40th, and congratulated Dr. B.D. Banerjee, Dr. A.K. Tripathi and their team for putting together an excellent scientific programme, selection of highly respected Invited Lectures, and selection of meritorious abstracts for oral and poster presentation. Arrangements for audio-visual support for various sessions were flawless; delicious, wholesome and sumptuous meals during the conference were appreciated warmly.

12. IIS Secretary Dr. DN Rao, while giving the official invitation to Prof. Tripathi to hold the 40th Annual Conference (Immunocon-2013), had mentioned that 10% of the registration money should come to IIS. This was the decision by GBM three years back. Dr. Tripathi did not object to it at that time. In the GBM he raised his objection to payment of 10% registration fee to IIS. The GBM could not come to any firm decision on this point. Hence the GBM authorized the EC to deliberate upon this subject more and come back with alternative suggestions, if any.

13. GBM approved the resolution that no one in the EC, including the office bearers (viz. President, Vice-president, Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer) would hold the office beyond two consecutive terms, each term being of two years duration.

14. GBM approved the suggestion to initiate an annual Conclave of Young Immunologists so as to foster academic interaction amongst the senior level Research scholars and post doctoral fellows pursuing studies in any branch of immunology.

15. GBM was informed that IIS had sanctioned 20 bursaries to the members of the society, enabling them to attend the 40th Annual Conference (Immunocon-2013).

16. The meeting ended with Thanks to the Chair and the Members.