

The Laboratory Animal Scientist's Association of India has been untiringly working to provide a platform to discuss the developments in the field of lab animal science across the globe to its members. It is also a forum which critically examines, discusses with its members and formulates working plans on implementation of the 3 R's principles in animal experimentation and animal welfare. Since its inception, LASA has obtained International recognition. It is a scientific member of the ICLAS, a member of the AFLAS, it has been recognized by the FELASA and JALAS and now it will very soon become a member of the AALAS. Thirteen of its members are AAALAC adhoc consultants. During the last 6 years the association has held three International/National conferences and has invited several international experts to deliver lectures and interact with its members on various topics of lab animal science, experimentation and welfare. During the last conference at Mumbai, the representatives of government and private organizations were given an opportunity to interact with the International Accreditation bodies. Dr. Gilles Demers, President ICLAS, Dr. Christian Newcomer, Executive Director AAALAC, Dr. Robert Dysko, President Elect AALAS were invited. The interaction has led to the accreditation of 6 laboratories by the AAALAC with another 5 obtaining accreditation shortly. Two scientists from LASA competed for the Japanese Association for Laboratory Animal Science Fellowship and were successful in 2007 and 2009. The LASA has also honored 4 senior scientists with Life Time achievement awards for their contribution to lab animal science.

The LASA will be organizing the IV International conference at Mathura from 17-18 February 2011. The conference will be preceded by a pre-conference workshop (Wet Lab) on Canine Echocardiography and ECG from 15-16<sup>th</sup> February 2011 at Mathura. The preconference workshop is being conducted by the team led by Mz. June Boon from Colorado State University. The workshop is accredited by RACE, AAVSB for CE credits. During the workshop the participants will have hands on experience on manned work stations and will also be given a chance on two unmanned stations to gain experience. The workshop would also include Telemetry and the reading and interpretation of ECG data. This workshop would be an excellent opportunity for all those who plan to work on Pharmacodynamic and Pharmacokinetic studies in dogs. It will also be very useful for Toxicologists, Pharmacologists, Pathologists and other private veterinary practitioners. The main conference would start with the keynote address by Dr. Steven M Niemi DVM, DAACLAM Director, Center for Comparative Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, Instructor in Pathology, Harvard medical School and Vice President, ACLAM. The other international Experts who would deliver lectures and would be available for interaction would be Dr. Robert Dysko DVM, DAACLAM, President AALAS, Dr. Christopher Cosgrove, Director, Vivarium, Dr. Claire Hankenson DVM, MS, DAACLAM University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Dr. Sai Thummala DVM, MS, DAACLAM, CPIA, Director, Biological Research Center, National Jewish Health, Denver, Dr. Jeffrey Wyatt DVM, MPH. Professor and Chair, Dept. of Comparative Medicine, University of Rochester Medical Center and Member of Council on Accreditation, AAALAC, Dr. Karl Field DVM,MS, Executive Director, Bristol Meyers & Squibbs. A large number of experts from India will also be available to discuss and interact with the participants.