

Report on 24th Annual National Convention of Association of Pharmaceutical Teachers of India



24th Annual National Convention of Association of Pharmaceutical Teachers of India – 2019 (APTICON - 2019) was hosted by DIT University, Dehradun in association with Uttarakhand State APTI Branch from 11-13th October, 2019 at DIT University Campus. It is hosted for the first time in Uttarakhand state by wider participation by teachers of pharmaceutical sciences all across India.

The convention has witnessed the participation of more than 1000 delegates including 110 complementary registration across the Nation. Delegates from academia, industry, research centres and regulatory affairs participated in 24th APTICON. Several Pharma stalwarts from USA, UK, Malaysia and Oman and premier institutes in India such as Indian Institute of Sciences, National Institute of Technology, Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology, and others made the event the most graceful and memorable through their participation. This APTICON was the first and unique in many ways and set a new benchmark for forthcoming conventions. To list top ten of them,

- It is the first APTICON certified by PCI under CEP program.
- It is hosted for the first time in Uttarakhand state.
- For the first time APTICON is completely hosted on the digital platform including poster presentations.
- We are the first one to Organize unique "Meet and Greet your Professor" event for students to support their research and higher studies.
- 24th APTICON is the first one to collaborate with Industries for the student's industrial visit.

- For the first time effort is made by APTI to prove that Pharmacy teachers are open and ready to learn from multidisciplinary scientists and excel in both teaching and research.
- APTICON 2019 is the first one to have six preconvention hands on experiential workshops focusing on teaching pedagogues, research, publication, patenting, research funding and clinical pharmacy practice.
- We are the first one to have a blend of 18 Multidisciplinary, International and Nationally acclaimed eminent speakers from Industry, Academia and Research centres.
- For the first time self-review and declaration by the authors is introduced in accepting paper for presentation.
- This pre-silver jubilee convention is the first one to check originality of abstract submitted for presentation using TurnItIn.

Preconvention Workshops:

The preconvention workshops was inaugurated by Chief-Guest Dr. N. Udapa, Research Director, Manipal University, Manipal - Karnataka. The inaugural ceremony was graced by Shri N. Ravishankar, Hon'ble Chancellor, DIT University, Dr. K. K. Rains, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, DIT University and the Guest-of-Honor Dr. Raman Dang, General Secretary, APTI. Following six hands on experiential workshops conducted by experts from India and abroad,

- Title: Innovation and Knowledge Exchange in Academic set-ups: Challenges and Opportunities by Prof. Anant Paradkar,

Interdisciplinary Chair in Pharmaceutical Engineering Science, University of Bradford, UK

- Title: Patenting of Pharmaceutical Inventions by **Dr. Sharana Gouda**, Group Leader-Biotechnology Division, The Patent Office, Government of India, Chennai.
- Title: Team based learning at Bradford University by **Dr. Mohammad Isreb**, Lecturer in Clinical Pharmaceutics Bradford University, UK.
- Title: Writing research grant application to National and International Funding Agencies by **Dr. Neeraj Mahindroo**, Dean, Health Sciences, University of Petroleum Engineering and Sciences, Dehradun.
- Title: Writing Scientific Articles for Publication in High Impact Journals by **Prof. Rajender R. Aparasu** Chair, Department of Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy, University of Houston, Houston, Texas USA and **Prof Gan Siew Hua**, School of Pharmacy, Monash University, Malaysia.
- Title: Best Practices for OSCE as an Effective Student Learning Assessment by **Dr. Anadi V. Law**, Associate Dean for Assessment, and Professor, Western University of Health Sciences College of Pharmacy, Pomona, California

More than 390 delegates participated in workshops and got acquainted on the most essential topics of interest and enhanced their skills for teaching and research in pharmaceutical sciences.

Exhibition:

The B2B Pharma exhibition organized as a part of convention in the campus was inaugurated by Dr. Ramesh K. Goel, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Delhi Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research University and Dr. K. K. Raina, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, DIT University, Dehradun. In this exhibition eleven pharmaceutical and allied healthcare companies actively participated and distributed their promotional material.

Inaugural Function:

The most colorful and much awaited inaugural function and award ceremony of 24th APTICON was held at 4.00 PM on 11th October, 2019 at the Auditorium of DIT University Campus, Dehradun. A well renowned teacher and philosopher in Pharmaceutical Sciences Prof. S. K. Kulkarni, Former Pro-Vice Chancellor of Punjab University, Chandigarh graced the event as

Chief-Guest. Dr. Shailendra Saraf, Vice-President, Pharmacy Council of India and Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Durg University, Chhatisgarh and Dr. Syed Farooq, President, The Himalaya Drug Company were the Guest-of-Honor in the event. The august gathering was presided by Dr. PD Chaudhary, President, APTI who presented a report on APTI activities for 2018-19. Vice Presidents of APTI Dr. Milind Umekar, Dr. Satheesh Kavatgimath, and Dr. Debajyoti Das were also present on the stage along with General Secretary Dr. Raman Dang, Executive Secretary Dr. Rajsekharan S., Associate Secretary Dr. Sohan Chitlange, and immediate past President Dr. Mahesh Buarnde. On the stage Local Organizing Committee was represented by Chairman Dr. N. V. Satheesh Madhav, General Secretary Dr. Arun Chawdhary, Organizing Secretary Dr. Havajiy Chitme and Convener Dr. Rajeev K. Sharma.

Chief Guest of the function Prof. S. K. Kulkarni delivered key note address. He advised the APTI office bearers to look into the option of holding award ceremony in the middle of the year and the convention in the month of September or October. He appreciated the organizers on choosing topics of scientific talks which are the most relevant in today's scenario. He also called upon the teachers of Pharmaceutical sciences to open the door of learning and excel in both teaching and research from every walk of the life. During the convention Dr. Saraf Hon'ble Vice President of Pharmacy Council of India in his key-note address mentioned that the education regulators are also changing with the change in time. He mentioned several regulatory changes such as no PCI inspection to the accredited institutes, self-regulation of intake based on availability of eligible faculty, digitalization of institutional and teachers data, funding research projects and self-regulation of pharmacy practice by pharmacists. Prof. K. K. Raina, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, DIT University, Dehradun requested the eminent teachers and education regulators to provide flexibility in pharmacy educational system to cater the regional needs. He mentioned that the priority of the state may vary from the needs of country therefore there is a need to relook into the policies related to curriculum to meet aspiration of students and population of particular region. On this occasion Shri N Ravi Shanker, Hon'ble Chancellor, DIT University, Dehradun inspired the inaugural gathering through his speech. He called upon the teachers of pharmaceutical sciences fraternity to link our cultural heritage and beliefs such as Sanjivini to modern pharmaceutical sciences and explore research opportunities in Himalayan states.