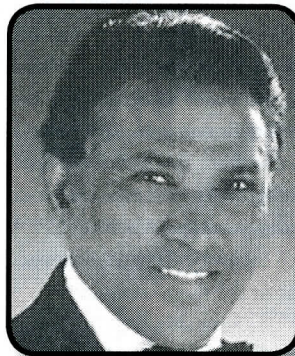




AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CARDIOLOGISTS OF INDIAN ORIGIN

MARCH 2005 • Debasish Roychoudhury, M.D., Editor

The American Association of Cardiologists of Indian Origin (AACIO) will host its Annual Meeting prior to the Scientific Sessions of the American College of Cardiology (ACC) in Orlando, Florida on Sunday, March 6, 2005 at 6 PM. As President of the AACIO, I am proud of our organization's contribution toward the advancement of cardiovascular medicine in both the US and in India. While our membership numbers over 3000 cardiologists, the Executive Committee and I are aligned in our vision to increase our organization's profile in the cardiology community. Indian cardiologists represent the largest demographic membership of the ACC, a number that will significantly increase, as 30% of all cardiology fellows are of Indian descent. During my presidency, it is my greatest hope that the AACIO become recognized as the most unified segment of clinicians who are focused on the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease in the U.S.



As clinicians and patients, we are acutely aware of the rising epidemic of coronary disease among Southeast Asians. Dr. Sandip Mukherjee has extensively studied this epidemic and has developed treatment modalities. Dr. Mukherjee and I hope that you will leave this dinner event sharing our passion and the sense of urgency that we embody, so that generations of Indians will benefit by increased awareness and treatment both here and abroad. Together, with education and the strength of our membership, we can impact our people's health, while gaining the organizational prominence in the ACC that we so richly deserve. Please join us to learn, to become involved with AACIO, and most importantly, to ensure that our voices be heard.

We are also heartily welcoming all 608 fellows in cardiovascular training of Indian origin to this meeting. I sincerely thank Astra Zeneca Pharmaceuticals for their support for this program. I also would also like to extend thanks to the ACC and the AAPI for their help.

— Dayan Naik, M.D., President, AACIO, Email: dnaik.md@att.net

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Future Conferences

Visit our newly renovated web site:
www.aacio.org

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AACIO—Past, Present, and Future

The American Association of Cardiologists of Indian Origin (aacio.org) was formed in 1986 and after crossing puberty, the organization has reached the excited stage of youth after nineteen years. In this article, I want to review the past, present, and future of this organization to evaluate what we achieved so far, our weaknesses and what we can achieve in future.

The principal ideas behind formation of this organization were:

- 1) to bring all the cardiologists of Indian origin under a single platform
- 2) a semiannual meeting coincident with annual conferences of American College of Cardiology and American Heart Association to get together for the exchange of ideas, friendship and to discuss problems of practicing cardiology
- 3) to recognize the outstanding achievements of the Indian cardiologists by giving awards
- 4) to work with ACC but also maintain our separate identity
- 5) to encourage young cardiologists to participate in the organization
- 6) to establish a fraternal relationship and to work with different cardiology societies of India.

However, in the beginning the activity of the organization was limited within awarding an Indian cardiologist for his or her outstanding achievement and semiannual get-togethers before annual meetings of ACC and AHA, as the number of members was very small. In 1995, the association started the Young Investigator Award to recognize a young cardiology fellow (or a cardiologist at the rank of assistant professor) for his research work by honoring with a plaque and a prize money of \$500.00. In 1998, the association reduced the dues of life members and waived the membership fees for cardiology fellows and residents which significantly enhanced the participation of young cardiologists in the semiannual meetings of the organization.

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AACIO—Past, Present, and Future

(continued from cover)

New memberships started increasing. In the last five years the organization has significantly developed due to the sincere work of the members of the board and executive committee, and better communications resulting from the Internet era, of which the following achievements are worth mentioning:

- 1) Significant increase in life and ordinary members
- 2) Recruitment of young cardiologists in the board of directors and executive committee, who have just finished their fellowships
- 3) Increasing the number of awardees to two from one and the prize money to \$1000 for each person in the Young Investigator Award.
- 4) Advertising and asking for abstracts in *Circulation* and *American College of Cardiology* journals each year which increased the participation of the number of contestants and made the award more competitive.

11) Development of dynamic website of the organization (aacio.org) where in addition to the news and information about the organization, cardiologists would be able to become members of the organization from the website.

Although significant achievements have been made by our organization, there is no room for complacency. In the United States Indian students occupy almost thirty percent of cardiology fellowships each year. We already have 500 life members and approximately 2000 members in our organization and our future will be bright if we can bring many more new fellows into our association.

4) Working relationship with ACC:

Our organization is interested to work with the ACC but we still want to keep our identity. The relationship can be explored by keeping in mind our financial limitations. At present, president Dr. Nayak is working on this issue and I and Dr. Nayak will continue to work on this in future. I believe a committee needs to be formed to explore the possibilities. At the beginning, a joint conference with ACC and AHA in the annual meetings would certainly give a lot of publicity to the organization and would be a good starting point. In addition to the above proposals I would like

5) Collection of funds for the association; Due to significant personal efforts of some of the executive committee members and the increase in the number of life members and ordinary members, there has been a modest increase in the total collection of funds.

6) A disciplined monetary status has been reached in the last five years after auditing all the past financial transactions. There is now an up-to-date filling of income tax.

7) Achievement of nonprofit status of the organization from the IRS

8) Publication of the *Directory of Indian Cardiologists* in 1999. The directory is in the process of revision and in the second edition now.

9) One member each from the Cardiology Society of India, Indian College of Cardiology and Indian Academy of Echocardiography are incorporated in the executive committee every two years as invited guest members.

10) Establishment of cordial relationship with other ethnic cardiology associations especially with the American Association of Black Cardiologists.

to mention that we would continue our existing programs. We would also try to expedite the publication of the new directory and post it into the website.

One of the major challenges the organization is facing from the inception is the lack of active participation of the members. We always receive valuable ideas and suggestions but for implementation of such ideas, we need real working members and more participation from the young cardiologists. Our strength of the organization lies in the number of members and sound financial status.

As a president elect, I would give my sincere effort to unite all the members for collective and unselfish effort with a common goal of further strengthening the organization.

—Rajat Sanyal, Vice President and the President Elect of AACIO

Dr. Samin Sharma To Be Honored



It has been decided to honor Samin K. Sharma, M.D. at the AAA-CIO meeting in March 2005. Dr. Samin K. Sharma received his medical degree at S.M.S. Medical College in Jaipur, India where he was ranked number one student in his Medical School having received six gold medals and three honors. In 1983 he came to New York for further medical education undergoing residency in Internal Medicine at the NY Infirmary-Beekman Downtown Hospital (1983-86), Fellowship in Cardiology at Elmhurst Hospital (1986-88) and interventional training at Mount Sinai Hospital (1988-1990). He was then appointed as an attending at the Mount Sinai Hospital NY in 1990 where he is currently the Director of Interventional Cardiology and Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory (since 1996) and Co-director of the Cardiovascular Institute (2004) and is the Zena and Michael A. Wiener Professor of Medicine (Cardiology).

Dr. Sharma is widely published on topics of rotational atherectomy, newer interventional devices and drug eluting stents, as well as on the ways to reduce various complications of coronary intervention by the use of beta-blockers and GP IIb/IIIa inhibitors and appropriate techniques for the interventional devices. Dr. Sharma is well known for performing complex coronary interventions, performing over 1500 interventions a year (highest in the country) while achieving an extremely low complication rate. According to the reports of the New York State Department of Health, he has the highest success rate of angioplasty (lowest mortality <0.1%) in the entire group of interventional cardiologists in the New York State since 1994. He is the vice-president of Rajasthan development foundation and has been donating medical equipments worth one lack Rs/month for last four years to the Chief Minister relief fund to help the needy-poor people in Rajasthan. He has been awarded the "Rajasthan Gaurav" by the Sanskriti organization of Rajasthan. He has been regularly featured on national and state TV channels and in various newspapers and magazines such as "Newsday", "Newsweek", "New York Times", "New York Post", "Forbes", "Wall Street Journal", "Barron's", "Daily News" "Washington Post" "New York Resident", "Earthtimes", "India Abroad" and "India Today".

Dr Sharma also has passion for teaching and fellows learn every day with his expertise and have awarded him the Simon Dack best teacher in cardiology division in 2000. Dr Sharma has been asked to serve on the Cardiac Advisory Board of the New York State for coronary interventions that advises the health department and the Governor on issues of health policies and supervision, safety and appropriateness of the heart care by various hospitals in NY.

Under Dr Sharma's leadership, Mount Sinai Hospital has become one of the best and busiest centers in NY providing excellent care for all types of simple and complex high-risk heart patients from tri-state area as all over the USA. The Mount Sinai School and Hospital recently endowed Dr Sharma with the Zena and Michael A Wiener Professor of Medicine (Cardiology).

FUTURE CARDIOLOGY/ ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY CONFERENCES

March 5, 2005, 21th

Annual International Conference on Recent Advances in Echocardiography, Orlando, Florida. Conference Director: Dr. Navin C. Nanda. Held just prior to the American College of Cardiology meetings.

September 15-17, 2005

IX World Congress of Echocardiography and Vascular Ultrasound, Marrakesh, Morocco. Under the patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, King of Morocco. Congress President: Prof. Ahmed Bennis. Contact email: iscu2005@albaine-conseil.fr

September 22-25, 2005

18th Annual Conference on 2D, Conventional and Color Doppler Echocardiography. Callaway Gardens Resort, Pine Mountain, Georgia. Dr. Navin C. Nanda, Conference Director.

For further information on any of the above conference please contact:

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619 19th Street South
Birmingham, AL 35249

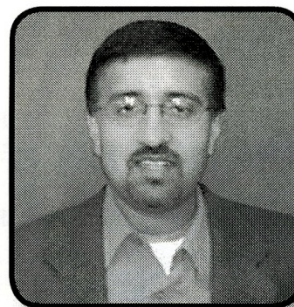
phone: 205-934-8256
fax: 205-934-6747

conference email: lindyc@uab.edu
personal email: nanda@uab.edu



AACIO YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARDS November 2004 New Orleans, Louisiana

Dr. Mammen



The abstracts of Dr. Sreekanth Vemulapalli (Duke University, Durham, NC) and Dr. Pradeep P.A. Mammen (UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX) were selected for the AACIO Young Investigator Award and were presented at the AACIO Meeting held during the ACC meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana in March 2004. Both

received a plaque and a check for \$1000.00. Dr. Vemulapalli received the Dr. Krishna Ramaswamy Young Investigator's Award and presented an abstract on the "Exogenously Administered Adult Stem Cells Localize Preferentially to the Bone Marrow and Aorta in Atherosclerotic Mice: In Vivo Localization and Quantification with Ultra High Resolution Pinhole Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography" and Dr. Mammen received the Dr. Madhukar Deshmukh Young Investigator's Award and presented his abstract on "Cytoglobin: A Novel Cardioprotective Factor in the Stressed Heart".

Dr. Navin C. Nanda Honored

The Association of Physicians of India, during their Diamond Jubilee Celebrations and Annual Scientific Conference, designated January 23, 2005 as the "Dr. Navin C. Nanda Day of Cardiology" in honor of Dr. Nanda's pioneering contributions in Cardiology and his efforts to the advancement of Cardiology in India. He was also honored as Master Teacher who has trained many physicians and cardiologists from India. The Association of Physicians of India is the largest physician organization in India and has over 13,000 members. In addition, Dr. Nanda was inducted as an Honorary Fellow of the Indian College of Physicians, January 2005 by the College President, Dr. S. B. Gupta and the College Dean Dr. Prabash Manoria.





**American Association of
Cardiologists of Indian Origin
The Cardiology Scientific Program &
Dinner Meeting
March 6, 2005**

ROSEN PLAZA HOTEL
9700 International Drive
Orlando, Florida
Tel 407-996-9700

**If you would like to attend please call 888-595-7737.
Reference program number 93021981016.**

(The Rosen Plaza Hotel is across from the Convention Center and next to the Peabody Hotel)

4:00 PM ——— Board Meeting

6:00 PM ——— Reception

7:00 PM ——— Welcome: Daya n Naik, M.D., FACC, President, AACIO

7:30 PM ——— Lecture by Sandip K. Mukherjee, M.D., FACC

Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine, Cardiology Associates of New Haven, P.C., Vice President, South Asian Society Of Atherosclerosis & Thrombosis; "CLINICAL PERSPECTIVES IN THE TREATMENT OF DYSLIPIDEMIA."

8:15 PM ——— Young Investigators Awards

Drs. Shekar P. Kumar and Uday N. Kumar, and Presentation of Distinguished Honoree: Dr. Samin Sharma.

Navin Nanda, M.D., FACC, Chairman, AACIO Awards Committee.

9:00 PM ——— Dinner Catered by "Passage to India"

10:00 PM ——— Entertainment

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