



GII NEWS

The Newsletter of the Genome India International

Vol 2, April 2008

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is our pleasure to reintroduce GII News, the Newsletter of the Genome India International. GII News will be published quarterly and will present updates in <http://genome-india-intl.org/> along with news on member's contributions, achievements and announcements.



Prof. C. Kole

GII was established with the vision to create a network of Indian scientists and scholars to provide an unique and resourceful platform for those who are involved and/or interested in Genomic research with the aim of bringing them together, to know them personally and professionally, to help each other to achieve the greatest heights and hold the Indian flag high among the world's scientific community.

GII's popularity can be envisioned by the fact that it has a network of over 800 members affiliated to more than 100 research organizations. GII is open to all Indian scientists and welcomes your contribution(s) for its growth.

If you are interested in contributing your news/achievements/information/job openings /etc, please feel free to contact:

Dr. M. Nageswara Rao (mnrbhav@yahoo.com)

Dr. Jaya R. Soneji (jayasoneji@yahoo.co.in)

GII REGISTRATION IN INDIA

It is our pleasure to share with you that the application for the registration of GII in India has already been filed. The process was started 4-5 months back and it is anticipated that it may take another 3-4 months for the registration to be complete.

A number of people are involved in the registration efforts, however, Drs. Ranjekar and Deshpande (in India) and Drs. Kole and Ratnaparkhe (in USA) are the main coordinators.

International Institute of Information Technology (I2IT), Pune, India will be GII's headquarters and main office from where all the activities will be coordinated including management of memberships, website and journal.

The full address of GII will be as follows:

Genome India International (GII)
International Institute of Information Technology
P-14 Rajiv Gandhi Infotech Park,
Hinjawadi, Pune - 4311057,
Maharashtra, India.

The smooth working of the GII is looked over by its working committee. It has also been decided to introduce membership fees. The money collected will be used to maintain its journal and also appoint manpower for the functioning of GII.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS OF GII

FEATURED IN 2005

Prof. Prabhakar K. Ranjekar

Prof. Prabhakar Ranjekar was the first member to be hosted in the member spotlight category. Prof. Ranjekar, now associated with Persistent life sciences was a former Head of Biochemical Sciences and Director Grade Scientist, National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, India. He can be reached at prabhakar_ranjekar@persistent.co.in



Dr Kulvinder S Gill

Dr Gill is presently a Prof. at Department of Crop & Soil Sciences, and is Vogel Endowed Chair in Wheat Breeding and Genetics at Washington State University (WSU). Before joining WSU, he has held various positions as professor from Assistant to Associate level at University of Nebraska. He was a Senior Scientist at Department of Plant Pathology, KSU. He can be reached at ksgill@wsu.edu

Dr Vidya S Gupta

Dr. Vidya Gupta is a principal investigator at Plant Molecular Biology unit of NCL, Pune. She has been an accredited collaborator for McKnight Foundation Collaborative Crop Research Program in Papaya. She can be reached at vidya@ems.ncl.res.in



Dr Leena Tripathi

Dr. Leena Tripathi is working as a Biotechnologist for the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Nigeria and Uganda since 2000 and has been associated with development of transgenic Banana, Plantain with disease and pest resistance to enhance production and food security. She can be reached at leenatripathi@yahoo.com

Prof. Brahma D Singh

Prof. Singh started his professional career in 1973 as lecturer in the Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India, where he became Professor in 1985. Prof. Singh was instrumental in the development of the School of Biotechnology, Faculty of Science, Banaras Hindu University and in setting up of the Centre for Bioinformatics at the School of Biotechnology. He can be reached at brahmadsingh@gmail.com



Dr Seyed E Hasnain

Dr. Seyed E. Hasnain joined the National Institute of Immunology (NII), India as a Staff Scientist. He was appointed as the first Director of Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics (CDFD) in February 1999. He has recently been appointed by His Excellency, the President of India as the Vice-Chancellor of University of Hyderabad. He can be reached at director@cdfd.org.in

FEATURED IN 2006

Prof. Lalji Singh

In June 1987, Prof. Singh joined Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad as a Senior Scientist and become its Director in 1998. In 1995, he shouldered the responsibility of setting up of Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics (CDFD) as its Officer-on-Special-Duty (OSD) and worked towards development, acquisition and standardization of protocols for carrier detection, prenatal diagnosis and genetic counseling for all the genetic disorders prevalent within India. He can be reached at lalji@ccmb.res.in



Dr. Milind B. Ratnaparkhe

Dr. Ratnaparkhe joined DRDE, Gwalior, India as a Senior Scientist in the microbiology division in 1999. As a Visiting Scientist, he has worked in Canada and France. He worked as a Post-Doctoral Research Associate at Virginia Tech. Since 2006, he is at the University of Missouri. He can be reached at ratnaparkhem@missouri.edu



Dr. Krishna M. Ella

Dr. Ella is an alumnus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He taught at the Medical University of South Carolina-Charleston till 1996. His quest for uniqueness has transformed him into a Bio-entrepreneur, which led to the birth of Bharat Biotech International Ltd., at Hyderabad. He can be reached at ella@bharatbiotech.com

Dr. Asim K. Duttaroy

Dr. Duttaroy started his career as a Clinical Instructor in 1985 and went on to become a Faculty in 1987 at the Wright State University School of Medicine, Ohio, USA. He joined Rowett Research Institute, Aberdeen, Scotland, UK in 1990. At present he is a Professor at Institute for Basic Medical Sciences, University of Oslo, Norway. He can be reached at a.k.duttaroy@medisin.uio.no

Dr. Jayashree S. Nandi (nee Mitra)

Dr. Nandi joined the National Institute of Virology, Pune, India in 1990 as a Research Officer and became the Assistant Director and Head, Department of Retrovirology in 1992. As a Visiting Scientist, she has worked in UK and USA. She continued to work in USA as an Associate Research Scientist and at the moment is the Adjunct Associate Professor in Respiratory Immunology and Asthma Program at the Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute, NM. She can be reached at JNandi@lrri.org



Dr. Madhugiri Nageswara Rao

Dr. Nageswara Rao started his career as a chemist at the Karnataka Breweries and Distilleries (KBD) Pvt. Ltd. in 1993. He joined the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, India in 1996. He joined the University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Citrus Research & Education Center as a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in 2004. He can be reached at mnrbhav@yahoo.com

Dr. Narayana Upadhyaya

Dr. Upadhyaya is a Principal Research Scientist and leads Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) Plant Industry's rice functional genomics research. He can be reached at Narayana.Upadhyaya@csiro.au





Dr. Mukesh Verma

Dr. Verma was a faculty member at Georgetown University. In 1997, he joined NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. He joined the National Cancer Institute in 1999 and served as its Program Director in Division of Cancer Prevention (DCP). He was also a Coordinator for DCP's Small Business Programs. He has served as Project Officer for an Inter Agency Agreement with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). At present, he is at Analytic Epidemiology Research Branch (AERB). He can be reached at vermam@mail.nih.gov

FEATURED IN 2007

Dr. Hemanth K. N. Vasanthaiah

Dr. Vasanthaiah started his career as a Research Scientist at Avestha Gengraine Technologies Pvt. Ltd. In 2000, he joined the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Hessarghatta (IIHR), Bangalore as a Senior Research Fellow. In 2004, he joined the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore as a Senior Research Fellow. In 2005, he joined the Center for Viticulture and Small Fruit Research, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Florida as a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow. He can be reached at hemanth.vasanthaiah@gmail.com



Dr. Naren Vyavahare

Dr. Vyavahare joined University of Michigan Medical School as a faculty in 1995. In 1997, he joined the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. In 1999, he joined Clemson University as an Assistant Professor. At present, he is Hunter endowed Chair and professor in the Department of Bioengineering and is also director of Cardiovascular Implant Research Laboratory at Clemson University. He is serving as a Chair for cardiovascular biomaterials special interest group in the Society for Biomaterials. He can be reached at narenv@clemson.edu



Dr. Masood Ali

Dr. Ali started his career as an Assistant Professor at GBPUA&T, Pantnagar in 1971. In 1975, he joined the H.P. University, Palampur as an Associate Professor. In 1976, he was appointed as the Agronomist and Officer-in-charge for the Dryland Agriculture Project at IGFRI, Jhansi. In 1982, he was appointed as the Principal Investigator (Scientist S 3) and Head at Indian Institute of Pulses Research (IIPR), Kanpur and went on to become its Director in 2000. He has also served as the Project Co-ordinator of the All India Coordinated Research Project on MULLaRP and Chickpea. He has also served as a NATP Facilitator for Pulse based production System Research. He can be reached at mali@iipr.ernet.in



Dr. Hifza Mazhar

Dr. Mazhar is a Research Scientist at the Center for Viticulture and Small Fruit Research, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Florida. She has been a Visiting Scientist to the UK and Sweden. She has also worked as a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the University of Missouri, USA. She can be reached at hifza.mazhar@famuedu

Dr Mehboob B. Sheikh

Dr Sheikh started his career as an Assistant Research Scientist at the University of Florida, USA. He joined the Florida A&M University, USA as an Assistant Professor in 1979 and went on to become an Associate professor in 1981 and a professor in 1986. He can be reached at mehboob.sheikh@famuedu

Dr. Ramesh Katam

Dr. Katam started his career as a Research Scientist at Mayor Ltd., Jalna, India in 1993. In 2001, he joined Laxmi Agro Corporation, Buldhana, India as a Principal Investigator. He moved to the Mississippi State University, USA in 2002 as a Researcher. In 2004, he joined the Center for Viticulture and Small Fruit Research, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Florida as a Researcher. He can be reached at katamr@yahoo.com

Dr. Jaya R. Soneji

Dr. Soneji started her career as a Lecturer at the Ramnivas Ruia College, Mumbai, India. She joined the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Hessaraghatta, Bangalore, India as a Research Associate in 2002. She joined the University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Citrus Research & Education Center as a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in 2004. She can be reached at jayasoneji@yahoo.co.in



Dr. Nirmal Joshee

Dr. Joshee started his career in 1989 as a Senior Research Scientist at Research Lab for Agricultural Biotechnology & Biochemistry, Kathmandu, Nepal. As a Post-Doctoral Fellow, he worked at Biotechnology Institute, Akita, Japan (1991) and University of Nebraska Medical Center, USA (1998). In 2001, he joined the Fort Valley State University, USA as an Assistant Professor. He can be reached at josheen@fvsu.edu

FEATURED IN 2008

Dr. Anand Krishna Yadav

Dr. Yadav started his career in 1976 as a Research Pomologist at Fort Valley State University, USA. In 1984, he became an Associate professor and in 1990 a Professor at Fort Valley State University. He can be reached at yadava@fvsu.edu



Dr. Evelina Basenko

Dr. Basenko has recently completed her Ph.D from the University of Georgia, USA. She can be reached at ebasenko@uga.edu



WORKING COMMITTEE OF GII

We would like to introduce the members of the working committee (2008) of the GII (in alphabetical order)

President

Prof. Chittaranjan Kole
Clemson University, USA
(ckole@clermson.edu)

General Secretary

Dr. Milind Ratnaparkhe
University of Missouri, USA
(ratnaparkhem@missouri.edu)

Committee Members

Dr. Emani, Chandrakant
Texas A&M University, USA
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(hemanth.vasanthaiah@gmail.com)

Dr. Perumal, Azhaguvel
Texas A&M University, USA
(azhagu@ag.tamu.edu)

We would also like to acknowledge the following personalities as, at different period of times between **2005 to 2007**, they have been involved with the working committee of GII (in alphabetical order)

Niranjan Baisakh

Ranjana Bhattacharya

Sandip Das

Amit Dhingra

Harish Gandhi

Tarun Gupta

Pankaj Jaiswal

Arun Joshi

Chittaranjan Kole

P. Lavakumar

Arup Mukherjee

Madhugiri Nageswara Rao

Rajni Nigam

Rajendra Marathe

Hema Rao

Milind Ratnaparkhe

Jai Shah

Rekha Shah

Neelam Shukla

Hari P Singh

Vikas Singh

Sonia Sinha

Jaya R. Soneji

Prashanth Suravajhala

Ratnakar Vallabhaneni

Rajiv Varshney

Pritish Varadwaj

Hemanth KN Vasanthaiah



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