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Dr Krish Sundararajan

Vice President:

Dr Raj Singh

Secretary General:

Dr Vikram Padhye

Treasurer:

Dr Nimit Singhal

Past President:

Dr Suren Krishnan

Professional Development:

Dr Sarika Kumar
Dr Raakhi Mistry

Media & Communications:

Mr Karthik Badrinath

Sports & Cultural Secretary:

Dr Raj Chakrabarty

Human Resources:

Dr Anand Sadashiva

Finance & Business:

Dr Subhita Prasannan

Student Secretary:

Mr Namit Mathur

GP Liaison:

Dr Arvind Sehgal

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A President's Welcome...

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our inaugural SAIMA sentinel! It gives me immense pleasure to write to you all as your President. 2012/2013 has been eventful and the future appears bright.

Before I commence in true Indian tradition, I seek the blessings of MAATHA, PITHA, GURU, DEIVAM, which translates as mother, father, teacher and God.

As an organisation SAIMA achieved many notable accomplishments during this past year. Firstly, we have established a sound organisational structure within our association in collaboration with the AMA, who have supported us with secretarial help. Even though we pay a competitive rate to the AMA for the administrative services provided, with our current financial position, I feel that this is still worth the investment. However, if we endeavour to be a strong and robust organisation, our membership has to be thriving and long-lasting!

I am sure all of you would agree with me that this year's Gala dinner at the Convention centre was a grand success! It was perhaps the best show we have managed to put up compared to previous years based on the feedback we have received. I have no doubt that this is a reflection of the



SAIMA President Dr. Krish Sundararajan with AMASA President Dr Patricia Montanaro and Australian Cricket legend Dean Jones

enthusiasm and energy which this association has! The credit goes to each one of you for making this happen. I thank you once again for making it a huge success!

Using the gala dinner as a launching pad, we have arranged a SAIMA family day on the 10th of November, which will showcase the SAIMA versus PMASA cricket match as well as activities for the entire family. Please spread the word around and come along to make the event memorable!

Last but not the least, I have to acknowledge the personnel who work behind the scenes - especially Nimit Singhal and Vikram Padhye. They are consummate team players and it is great to be associated with them. Also, I would like to thank the current committee members Raj Singh, Raj Chak-

rabarty, Sarika Kumar, Arvind Sehgal, Anand Sadashiva, Namit Mathur, Subhita Prasannan, Raakhi Mistry for putting their hand up to contribute to the society

Special word of thanks to Karthik Badrinath for taking on the responsibility of drafting this newsletter and fulfil a long cherished dream of our association

I have been greatly privileged to have known and worked alongside Mr. Suren Krishnan (Immediate past president of SAIMA), Dr. Sam Nitchingham and Mr. Raj Rajan, to name a few. My sincerest apologies to those who I have not mentioned who in the past have been the guiding light for the SAIMA. I pay my humble obeisance's to all of you.

Just a word of reminder for future SAIMA events:

- SAIMA's Family Fun day- **10am Sunday, November 10th**
- AVANT Medicolegal seminar, **6pm Saturday, 23rd November**, Chennai Palace, Walkerville

On that note, Happy Diwali to all of you and hope to catch up with you all either in print or in person fairly soon!

Cheers

Krish Sundararajan
SAIMA President

The year that was...

During the past year SAIMA has undergone some major structural change

As your president it is my duty to provide the membership with a performance review of our association. I have detailed below an analysis of our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

I think our biggest **strength** is our intelligentsia, work ethic, culture and passion for our heritage. I also believe that strength lies in numbers and that is why I have been a fervent supporter for membership. We need to have a strong group of long term members. Therefore, I once again take this opportunity to encourage people to become long term members of this organisation.

When looking at our **weaknesses**, I feel we will have to be more prompt in renewing our membership. Even though our database reflects nearly 500 members, only 150 are actually paid members!

In my humble opinion this is unacceptable. We should strive to do better than this! If any of you have not renewed your membership, please do it right away by contacting SAIMA secretariat Tracey DiBartolo at tracey@amasa.org.au

Looking to the future and new **opportunities**- there are plenty for all of us! I would like to promote Indian art and culture, as they being the poorer cousin to science, have always taken a back seat. The committee have planned to host a cultural night exclusively for SAIMA members in 2014 - if you are interested, please contact Raj Chakrabarty at adhirajc@gmail.com, our committee member in responsible for sports and cultural activity, at the earliest.

To optimise these opportunities we have decided to develop two committees, the core and the executive. The core committee will consist of myself, the immediate past president, treasurer, vice presi-

Krish Sundararajan (President, SAIMA)

dent and the secretary general. The core committee will allow decisions to be made in a timely fashion whilst upholding the broader interests of the association.

Alternatively, the executive committee is comprised of officers with portfolios attached to their name. We have people looking after membership, professional development, sports and cultural events, database and website, finance and business, GP liaison and CME activities and student representative.

It is hoped that this newly structured organisation format will increase accountability and provide SAIMA with better direction in achieving its short and long term goals.

The future of SAIMA looks very promising. With your support we can make this organisation an ornament of the medical fraternity in South Australia!

A night to remember...

It was a warm winters night as the suits were dusted off and the saris sparkled at the Adelaide Convention centre on the 27th of July 2013.

This was the first year SAIMA has held its showcase event at the convention centre - and what a night it was!

Over 300 hundred guests were delighted to a night filled with fun, laughter and of course a sumptuous Indian dinner.

It started off with a traditional dance performed by the talented children of the SAIMA community after which Dr Chris Drummond spoke about inspirational efforts of Australasian Palliative Link International, an Australian volunteer organisation aiming to increase

awareness of palliative health care across South Asia and help ease the suffering of those who are approaching the end of their lives.

This was followed by the main event, a keynote speech by none other than Australian cricket legend Dean Jones.

The audience was captivated as "Deano" reminisced on his time spent in the sub-continent.

He recounted the highs and lows of his famous double-century in the historic tied Test at Chennai. Of particular interest to the predominantly medical crowd were the various electrolyte concoctions being suggested by none other the Messrs Sunil Gavaskar and Kapil Dev!

Dinner was then served during which Jay Dabgar and his accompanying artist filled the convention centre with melodious Hindustani music.

The night wrapped up with two more colourful dances performed by Vithya Karthi and the Temple of Fine arts.

The 2013 gala dinner was a landmark event for SAIMA and has set the benchmark for the years to come!

Visit the SAIMA website to see the 2013 SAIMA Gala dinner picture gallery.

Karthik Badrinath

Want to contact SAIMA?

www.saima.org.au

Email: tracey@amasa.org.au

South Australian Indian Medical Association 2013 Annual Gala Dinner—Adelaide Convention Centre



SAIMA Calendar of Upcoming Events

SAIMA Family Fun Day



When: **10 am Sunday November 10, 2013**

Where: Oval 21 West, South Parklands
(corner of South Terrace and Goodwood Rd)

For more details please contact:
Adhiraj Chakrabarty, Sports & Cultural Secretary - adhirajc@gmail.com

SAIMA Medico-legal seminar

When: **6pm Saturday 23 November, 2013**

Where: Chennai Palace, 119 Walkerville Terrace, Adelaide

RSVP: **STRICTLY** before 20 November 2013 (essential for catering purposes)

The night will feature a series of case studies and a Q&A session

Key speakers on the night include:

- Ms Alison Fitzgerald, Senior Solicitor, Avant
- Mr David Worswick, Lecturer, School of Law, Flinders Univeristy



The Medico Legal event is **FREE** for paid members only

RSVP to Tracey DiBartolo - **Phone:** 8361 0105 **Fax:** 8267 5349 **Email** tracey@amasa.org.au

Congratulations!

SAIMA is very proud to congratulate final year Adelaide medical student Mahesh Umaphysivam for becoming the University's 107th Rhodes Scholar.

Mahesh will undertake a Masters degree in Evidence Based Healthcare at the University of Oxford.

He has been an active student member of SAIMA and organized a delegation to rural India to work with a hospital that provides free medical services to the poorest of patients in 2009.

Mahesh has excelled academically and in 2012, was awarded First Class Honours in Medical Science for his work on the better long-term management of diabetes. He was invited to present his research at the 2013 American Diabetes Association Scientific Session, the leading international diabetes conference.

All of us at SAIMA wish Mahesh the very best of luck in his studies at Oxford and his career beyond.

Well done Mahesh!



Adelaide medical student Mahesh Umaphysivam is the 2014 Rhodes Scholar for South Australia