

Global Ex-NCLites' Meet December 24-25, 2011

Summary:

The first ever meeting of global NCL alumni members was held at NCL on December 24-25, 2011. The two day event comprised technical presentations on first day and a social gathering with family members on the second day. This report summarizes the presentations and felicitations during the event, the discussions between the event participants, organizing committee members and President of NCL Alumni Association, NAA (Dr. Sourav Pal), about organization and structure of future alumni events.

Invited Talks on Day-1:

1. Prof. M.S. Wadia (Emeritus Prof., Dept. Chemistry, Uni. Pune)
2. Prof. K.N. Ganesh (Director, IISER, Pune)
3. Dr. Sandeepak Pandit (Owner, Aarushi Specialty Chem. Pvt Ltd., Pune)
4. Dr. Datta Ponde (Director, Deccan Institute of Chemical Technology, A'Nagar)

Felicitations of Ex-NCLites:

1. Prof. M.S. Wadia – for his contributions to science & education
2. Successful Entrepreneurs
 - a. Dr. Milind Sathe – PACT Labs Pvt. Ltd., Ratnagiri
 - b. Dr. Sandeepak Pandit – Aarushi Specialty Chem. Pvt. Ltd., Pune
 - c. Dr. Ganesh Samsivam – Anthem Biosciences, Bangalore
3. Dr. Datta Ponde – for leaving behind Asst. professorship (Univ. Pennsylvania, USA) to start DICT
4. Dr. Diwakar Kikkeri – Director, Syngenta R&D, Goa

Takeaways & Suggestions from 1st Global Ex-NCLites Meet:

- **Who are NCL Alumni?** NCL Alumni is anyone who was/is associated with NCL in research capacity. Thus:
 1. Ex-NCLites – PhDs, Ex-Employees who are presently associated with other organizations, Retirees, Entrepreneurs, Person worked/served in NCL as Pool officers, Project Assistants, M.Sc./M.Tech. Students, etc.
 2. Current Ph.D. students, Research Associates and Project Assistants
 3. NCL Staff- Scientists Guiding the Research students/Teaching M.Tech. Students.
- **Strengthening of NCL Alumni Association:** Dr. Sourav Pal, Director, NCL discussed the need to strengthen the NCL Alumni Association. For this, he agreed to provide an office and office staff for the NCL Alumni Association. Further, he welcomed the suggestion of Dr. S. Sivaram during the inaugural session. Dr. Sivaram had suggested that NCL can collect Rs. 500/year from the contingency grant of JRF/SRF working in NCL for Alumni activities. Director promised to initiate steps towards this end. There was also a suggestion from Dr. S. Sivaram (during the inaugural session), to plan NCL Alumni meet in the US and other parts of the world. In US it may be linked to ACS meeting and NCL Director may be invited to address the Alumni.
- **Lifetime Membership:** There was also a suggestion to increase the life membership fee of the NCL Alumni Association from the existing Rs. 500/- to Rs. 2000/-
- **Awards & Other Activities:** The scope of activities of the Alumni in addition to the annual meeting was also discussed during the meeting. Depending on the availability of funds, these are:

- 1) **Instituting Awards** under various categories (An award committee to be formed with Director, NCL as the chair person and categories and criteria for the selection of the awardees to be decided. A corpus fund for this purpose has to be created through corporate /institute/individual donations).
- 2) **Financial support to wards of NCL staff** with excellent academic records, for higher education.
- 3) **Outreach Program covering villages in India** for overall development in educational, social, societal, infrastructural.... areas.

Prof. M.S. Wadia being felicitated by Director, NCL	Dr. Kikkeri being felicitated by Director, NCL
	
Dr. Sathe being felicitated by Director, NCL	Dr. Ganesh being felicitated by Director, NCL
	
Dr. Pandit being felicitated by Director, NCL	At Registration counter
	

Prof. Wadia thanking Prof. KN Ganesh for his talk



Dr. Mayadevi thanking Dr. Ponde for his talk



NCL Alumni Attendees group photo

