



Conference Report

Report on “Professor Asima Chatterjee Centenary Seminar” (PACCS-2018) held on 23rd September, 2018

Being a member of ISEC family, it was a great opportunity for me to attend “Professor Asima Chatterjee Centenary Seminar” (PACCS-2018) on Recent Inventions in Chemical and Allied Sciences organized by Professor Asima Chatterjee Foundation, Kolkata (PACFK) on 23rd September, 2018 at M. N. Saha Auditorium, University of Calcutta (Rajabazar Campus). It was started with an inaugural ceremony by offering flowers to the portrait of Professor Asima Chatterjee. Professor Biwsapati Mukherjee, the Honorary Secretary of PACFK delivered his welcome address and lucky daughter of Professor A. Chatterjee, Prof. Julie Banerjee, Ex. Khaira Professor of Calcutta University, gave a reminiscence talk in favour of her mother. The inaugural Ceremony was completed with presidential address by the President of PACFK, Dr. Satyesh C. Pakrashi.

The first Technical Session (TS1) was started after a high tea break and this session was chaired by Prof. Bani Talapatra. In this session, Dr. Prithidipta Sahoo, Associate Professor in the Department of Chemistry, Visva-Bharati delivered Professor Asima Chatterjee Award (2018) lecture, titled, “Fluorescent chemosensors for recognition of selective biomolecules and exploration of their biological applications”. From this lecture, it was clear that fluorescence chemosensors had been found to be highly sensitive, cost effective with high spatio-temporal resolution. These sensors could estimate biomolecules in processed food samples by generating fluorescence signal. After this talk, four lectures on Professor Asima Chatterjee Young Scientist Award 2018 were delivered.

(1) Sanchari Begam, Research Scholar in Department of Chemistry, Visva-Bharati has delivered first lecture on “Alum $[KAl(SO_4)_2 \cdot 12H_2O]$:

A green and efficient catalyst for one-pot synthesis of functionalized biscoumarins in water under ambient condition”. Concept of this lecture was based on green chemistry and gram scale synthesis. (2) Then Nibedita Pradhan, research scholar in School of Material Sciences, IACS, gave second lecture on “Designed Nanochaperone for inhibiting intracellular amyloid protein aggregation”. The main focus of this lecture was on aggregation of misfolded protein and nanoformulation from anti-amyloidegenic molecule which functions like protein chaperone (inhibit protein aggregation inside neuronal cell). (3) Susmita Mondal, research scholar in Department of Chemistry, Visva-Bharati, discussed on her paper titled, “Metal-free oxidative C-H amination and Aminomethylation of imidazoheterocycles” as the third lecture. It was based on oxidative C-H amination reaction (organic chemistry and source of methylene group). (4) The fourth Scientist Award lecture was delivered by Dr. Paramita Das, Assistant Professor, Department of Asutosh College. Title of the topic was, “Dicyanomethylene as a versatile reagent for the synthesis of novel unconventional heterocycles”. The lecture was about plausible mechanistic pathway, optimization of reaction conditions, Plausible mechanism for the formulation of 3H-Pyrroles. 1H Vs 3H pyrroles and synthesis of S-centered(1,6) naphthyridines. Technical Session 1 was ended with an interactive discussion and a summarizing of all lectures by session chairperson.

At the time of lunch break, a short audio visual documentary film prepared by PACFK was shown from which all the audience came to know how was Professor A. Chatterjee, (called “Master” by her students and associates) being a person, as a scientist, a teacher and of-course being a mother.

The Chairperson of Second Technical Session (TS2) was Prof. Amarendra Patra. First lecture of TS2 was delivered by Dr. Surajit Ghosh, the Principal Scientist, CSIR- Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Kolkata. It was Professor Asima Chatterjee Award lecture, titled, "Spatial Position regulates power of Tryptophan: Discovery of major groove Specific nuclear localizing Cell penetrating tetrapeptide". Discussion on classification of cell penetrating peptides (CPP), microarray analysis, molecular docking and drug discovery were made in his lecture. Dr. Ghosh gave an beautiful explanation on importance of interdisciplinary research. After his lecture, Arijit Ghosh, Research Scholar, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Cancer Research Institute, Dr. Anirban Kayet, Assistant Professor in Department of Chemistry, University of Calcutta, Soumitra Barman, Research Scholar, Department of Chemical Sciences, IISER Kolkata and Junaid Jibrán Jawed, Research Scholar, Division of Molecular Medicine, Bose Institute presented Professor Asima Chatterjee Young Scientist Award, 2018 Lectures. (1) Title of A. Ghosh's Lecture was "Antiproliferative effect of Moringa oleifera root extract on ovarian carcinoma: in vitro as well as in vivo study". He explained that Moringa Oleifera (Sajne tree in Bengali) is a wonder tree. The Moringa root was extracted in water. Then clonogenic assay was prepared followed by cell cycle analysis. After western blot analysis, immunocytochemistry is performed. Histopathology of mice ovaries under treatment conditions were analyzed and drug protein finding was done experimentally. (2) Then, Dr. A. Kayet gave a lecture on, "5-Annulation of ketoimines: tfa-Catalyzed construction of isoindolinone-3-carboxylates and photophysical studies". He discussed about plausible mechanism

of TFA catalyzed construction. (3) The next lecture was on "Selective light driven reduction of CO₂ to HCOOH in water using a {MoV9}_n(n=1332-3600) based soft-oxometalate (SOM)", delivered by S. Barman. He demonstrated the concept of polyoxometalates, Soft-oxometalates. He also explained which type of the researches were being performed in this area. (4) At last, J. J. Jawed delivered his lecture on "Immune cells as a novel therapeutic strategy: alternative to conventional medicines". He explained about different immune cells, Leishmaniasis. The reason of using dendritic cells for effective therapy was discussed by him. He spoke on related research works along with their results. The second technical session ended with interaction and summarization of all lectures by the Chairperson.

After two technical sessions, total thirty three research papers were presented in front of research experts in Poster Session. Then, award ceremony started and the President of Professor Asima Chatterjee Foundation, Kolkata, Dr. Satyesh C. Pakrashi gave certificates to all award winners including that of poster presenters. The seminar was ended with a concluding session in which the Secretary of PACFK gave his heartiest thanks to all members, speakers and the audience. The Secretary also mentioned about the active role of Professor Asima Chatterjee Foundation, Kolkata to give the limelight on young researchers. He also praised all academicians for attending the seminar. At last, certificate of participation was distributed to attendees.

[A few photographs of the event
are in the back inside cover]

Bandana Barman
KGEC & ISEC

A Brief Report of the Seminar on Celebration of Centenary Year (1919 - 2018) of The Association of Engineers, India held on November 17, 2018

The Association of Engineers, India (AEI) celebrated the glorious occasion of its Centenary Year (1919 - 2018) by organizing a seminar on "Challenges and Prospects of Engineering

Professionals in India" on 17.11.2018 at College of Engineering and Ceramic Technology (GCECT), Kolkata. Eminent Professors and Engineers were present in this auspicious event. Prof. Dr. Santanu
