

Report of SZUSICON 2015 Held at Visakhapatnam, 10-12 July 2015

(Report by Dr.H.Krishna Moorthy, Hon. Secretary, ASU)

The 26th Annual Conference of Association of Southern Urologists (SZUSICON 2015) was held at Hotel Novotel, Visakhapatnam. Prof.Chodiseti Subbarao was the Organising Secretary for this mega show. About 825 delegates attended this conference, which witnessed unique academic fiesta of very high calibre.

The preconference CME was inaugurated on 10 July 2015 by Dr. S.V Kumar, Principal, Andhra Medical College, Vizag. The master class by Prof.Urs E Studer from 9.00 AM to 1.00 PM kept the audience spell bound. Not a single soul left his or her seat until the program was over! Prof Studer took the delegates through a wonderful journey of Radical Cystectomy punctuated by his inimitable style. This was a life time experience for most of the delegates. Hats off to the super teacher of this era....

The Board of Education, USI, inspired by the Studer show, put up an equally enviable academic celebration in the afternoon. The stalwarts from across the country demonstrated their surgical skills through educative videos on different techniques on Reconstructive Urology, Andrology and Female Urology. The delegates could see rare procedures like Kenneth Kropp Procedure, Pitcher Potter Procedure, Al Ghorab Shunt and so on. It seemed again that the delegates never wanted to move from their seats for fear of losing them. Both academic halls were jam packed throughout the 4 hours of academic sessions. Full credit to Dr.Sabnis and his academic team for crafting an excellent program, which has now become a routine in ASU meetings. The welcome dinner on 10th July was held at Hotel Taj.

The academic program of SZUSICON 2015 started on 11th July 2015 with the prestigious Prof.H.S Bhat Oration by Prof.Syam K Ramesh, Thiruvananthapuram and Khivraj Memorial Symposium moderated by Prof.Suresh Bhat, Kottayam. For the first time, in a zonal conference, video conferencing was attempted; 4 video conferences were held with Dr.Ramajayanthi from USA (Long Term Complications of Posterior Urethral Valves), Dr.K.Subramonian from UK (Management of Difficult Ureteral Strictures), Dr.Mahesh Desai from Nadiad (Tips and Tricks in Urology) and Dr.Parthasarathy from Coimbatore (Technology Update for Urologists) talking live to the audience. This was a unique experience to the delegates and many believed that this would probably be the future of our conferences in the years to come

There was a Guest Lecture namely Artificial Kidney, where in the speaker Prof.Ganesh Gopalakrishnan, Coimbatore mesmerised the delegates with his vast research on this topic and demonstrating the latest technological advancements in RRT. Many feared that the future of kidney transplantation was bleak if these gadgets were to get popularised! Prof Ravisankar Uro Radiology Quiz conducted by AMVC Raju of Bhimavaram was a unique academic exercise to the post graduates to hone their skills. The posters were presented as E Posters in 4 plasma screens which were running on all the 3 days of conference. 134 Scientific Papers were presented throughout the conference in podium, video and poster sessions, which were all selected after preliminary screening

The AGM was held in the evening and probably this could be recorded as the shortest AGM in the history of the society. Every single decision was taken by the house unanimously in double quick time and the entire AGM lasted for hardly 1 hour! The unity among the members would be worth appreciated

The inaugural ceremony of SZUSICON 2015 was held at 7.00 PM. The president of ASU, Prof.K Thiagarajan presided over the function and the Guest of Honour was Dr.T.Ravi Raju, Vice Chancellor of Dr.N.T.R University of Health Sciences, Vijayawada who stressed upon the importance of equality of training of Urologists across the country. Dr.Percy Chibber, President of USI, Dr.Ramesh D, Hon.Secretary of USI, Dr.Sasi Prabha R, Ex DME of Andhra Pradesh, Dr.Krishna Moorthy H, Hon.Secretary of ASU and Dr.Chodiseti Subbarao, Organising Secretary of SZUSICON 2015 also spoke during the occasion. The various awards/prizes of ASU for 2014-2015 were distributed by the President.

The Gala Dinner of the Conference held at Hotel Novotel was punctuated by a musical extravaganza by Ms. Preety Bhella, Mumbai who literally invaded the hearts of the audience. Almost the entire crowd was on the performing stage, dancing, singing and enjoying the program. Congratulations to Prof.Subbarao and his team for arranging such a lively program.

After the late night show, the delegates were back to their academics again on 12 July 2015. There were podium and video presentations in addition to Guest Lecturers by Prof.Kim Mammen, Ludhiana (Surgical Complications of Renal Transplantation), Prof.Nitin Kekre (History of Urology) and Journal Scan by Prof.Dorairajan of Puducherry. There was also Prof.N.Krishna Murthy Point-Counter Point Debate for Junior, Senior and Super Senior Consultants in Urology. The prestigious Prof.P.B Sivaraman Endowment Guest Lecture was delivered by Prof.Aneesh Srivastava of Lucknow. The academic program concluded by 12.30 noon

The highlights of the Conference were

- ❖ Master Class by Prof. Urs E Studer
- ❖ Scientific Papers invited, submitted, evaluated, reviewed and results informed online along with referee's comments through Microsoft CMT Program
- ❖ Papers for Best Paper Categories were shortlisted based on the evaluation of entire papers submitted for the conference, resulting in selection of the best paper for prize sessions
- ❖ Precise time schedule was maintained during the entire conference
- ❖ Personalised certificates were distributed to chairpersons and presenters. Cancellation or change of chairpersons and presenters were strictly banned for the conference
- ❖ No fancy conference kits, mementos etc given
- ❖ LED wall for main hall
- ❖ Entire scientific proceedings made available in the ASU website more than 1 month ahead of conference
- ❖ E posters with prior submission of posters to secretariat
- ❖ Duration of short paper presentations were 6+2 minutes

SZUSICON 2015 will remain in the memories of the participants for a very long time to come

Awards and Prizes of SZUSICON 2015, Vizag

NAME OF AWARD/FELLOWSHIP	NAME, PLACE
Dr.N Sethuraman Best Paper Prize	Dr.Santhosh Nagasubramanian, Vellore
Bangalore Urological Society Video Prize I	Dr.Mallikarjuna C, Hyderabad
Bangalore Urological Society Video Prize II	Dr.Kishore TA, Kochi
Prof.C.L Ashok Kumar Best Poster Prize I	Dr.Rakesh BH, Mangalore; Dr.Mohan BA, Coimbatore
Prof.C.L Ashok Kumar Best Poster Prize II	Dr.Nisarg Mehta, Kochi
Dr.N.Jeyasekharan Gold Medal for Ideas & Innovations	Dr.Maneesh Sinha, Bengaluru
Prof.K.Ravishankar Uro Radiology Quiz Prize	Dr.Ashwin Mallya, Bengaluru
Prof.N.Krishnamurthy Gold Medal for Point Counter Point Debate	Dr.Mohammed Taif Bendigeri, Hyderabad
Prof.Ravindranath Travelling Fellowship	Dr.Paul Naveen, Guntur
Prof.A.P.Pandey Travelling Fellowship	Dr.Krishna Prasad, Bengaluru