



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY ON TOXINOLOGY

President: Prof. Jay Fox - Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Cancer Biology
Director of Research Infrastructure; Assoc. Director UVa Cancer Center
University of Virginia School of Medicine, Charlottesville, Virginia, USA VA22908-0734
Phone: +1-434-924 0050 Fax: +1-434-982 2514 Email: jwf8x@virginia.edu

Secretary: Prof. Julian White, AM, MBBS, MD, FACTM - Department of Toxinology
Women's & Children's Hospital, North Adelaide SA 5006 Australia
Phone: +61-8-81617000 Fax: +61-8-81618024 Email: julian.white@adelaide.edu.au

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Professor C.R. Maity; President of the Toxinological Society of India
Associate Professor Robin Doley; Organizing Committee of SnakSymp2016

Dear Drs. Maity and Doley:

As President of the International Society on Toxinology I am delighted to learn of the National Seminar on "Snake Venom Research and Snake-bite Therapy" (SnakSymp2016) being held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Toxinological Society of India (TSI) November 22-24th at Tezpur University. We are all very well aware of the critical impact that snake bite has on the Indian population and the significant health and financial stress this causes for the victims. India has a long and well regarded history of snake bite research and health care and the program that the organizing committee has assembled clearly will be of great value to local researchers and health care workers as well as those from outside India who are fortunate enough to attend. This congress is impressive in that it merges basic, translation, clinical and population research for the betterment of outcomes for the Indian population as well as others throughout the world stricken by this "Neglected Tropical Disease" (World Health Organization). I am honored to be part of this outstanding assembly of scientists and health care professionals.

Beyond this august meeting itself, I wish to encourage the scientists, clinicians, health care workers, commercial entities and government bodies to redouble their *concerted* efforts in reducing the mortality and morbidity associated with snake bite and continue with their efforts to make India a "showcase" for how to develop a multipronged attack on a complex health issue. On behalf of the IST, we too will continue to work to develop closer relations between our society and the TSI for mutual support and opportunity to advance science and improve patient outcomes in India as well as throughout the world.

As both president of the TSI and as a scientist I look forward to greeting my friends and colleagues as well as making new ones at this important gathering of Indian scientists and clinicians and wish you both great success with this meeting.

Sincerely,

Jay W. Fox, Ph.D.; President
International Society on Toxinology