

Review of CSI Activities for the Year 2011

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Figure 1: Attendees at the GCMS workshop

Soon after a very successful symposium on the 'Essential Oils, Flavors and Fragrances' in November 2010, Chromatographic Society of India (CSI) entered yet another exciting year of activities. It was promised during the above symposium that there will be a workshop conducted on GC and GCMS for the benefit of those in the Essential Oils industry. Therefore, a two-day workshop on GC and GCMS was conducted in collaboration with the Shimadzu Analytical Centre in Mumbai. Only a limited number of 16 participants were registered for this course so that a better contact time for each participant with the instructor and the instrument can be achieved. The instructors for this course were Dr G. Ramakrishnan, Dr Ajit Datar and Dr Jitendra Kelkar. Most of the participants came from the Perfumery industry and they felt that the training that they received was directly useful to their day to day work. There are requests for similar courses from those, who could not attend this course. CSI is planning to have such GCMS training focused on Perfumery industry annually so that more and more practicing chemists can undergo such necessary training.



Figure 2: Attendees at the HPLC workshop

HPLC was another important topic selected for workshop as this is the most widely used chromatography technique. This workshop was conducted in collaboration with Ruia College,

one of the leading colleges in the city of Mumbai. The target was only 20 students and this was filled up very easily. Interestingly the delegates came in from different industries such as Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals, Analytical Instruments and Column Manufacturers and postgraduate students. The two day course was designed by Ms Vanishree Acharya, who has many years of experience in pharmaceutical industry and training. Besides the theory of HPLC, instrumentation, method developments, etc., the essential parts of the instrument was shown and explained and the sequences of method development and data analysis was demonstrated. Essentials of Instrument Trouble shooting were also covered.



Figure 3: Excellent turnout for the Bioanalytical seminar

Another topic of great importance selected for one day seminar and discussions was Bioanalytical Research and Applications. This was an overwhelming success as more than 80 participants attended this seminar. The participants came from the pharmaceutical industries, Leading CROs and Postgraduate students of Bioanalysis. The instructors were very carefully selected from the leading Pharma Companies and CROs, who have extensive experience in various aspects of Bioanalytical Research and running of the Bioanalytical Laboratories. The proceedings of the seminar were much appreciated by the participants and they requested that such seminars are conducted at least once a year. In conjunction with this seminar, CSI also felicitated Professor (Dr) R. T. Sane, who is a very well-known teacher, guide and Consultant in the area of Bioanalysis. The Lifetime Contribution award and the citation from CSI were presented to Dr Sane by Dr R. M. Iyer, who has an international reputation for his contribution to Chromatography and Nuclear Chemistry.



Figure 4: From L to R: Dr.G.Ramakrishnan, President-CSI, Mr. N.Mani, Director-LCGC Chromatography Solutions, Dr. S. Narasimhan, Chairman-Asthagiri Reserch Foundation & Chairman CSI Trust, Dr. Latha Narasimhan, Ms. Vanishree Acharya and Ms. Sudha Barigat, CSI-HPLC Course Directors

CSI also decided to participate in the Analytica-Anacon 2011 in Mumbai in October. The organisers of Analytica Messe Munchen were kind enough to provide a complimentary booth to CSI. This helped CSI to show case some of its educational activities to the visitors of the Trade Show. Among the various displays, the poster of 'Chromatography Today' and also some of the recent issues of 'Chromatography Today' were also exhibited in the CSI booth. This enabled us to show the strong ties that CSI is having with ChromSoc of UK. We were also pleased to enrol some new Life members during the Analytica Anacon 2011. CSI also brought out its periodical "Chromatography News" which contained two articles of common interest and national importance such as the analysis of explosives and sports doping substances written by experienced scientific managers Dr Rukmani Krishnamurthy and Dr Sheila Jain respectively.

Looking at the success of all 2011 training programs and the feedback that we have received, it is very clear that there is a definite need for good training programs on various instrument techniques and different industry domains. CSI is planning to take the above trainings to various other cities in India and also come up with new training programs. There are also plans to update the CSI website www.chromsocindia.org with lot more education and training materials on different techniques and applications.