



# इवानवेदइहे

The Voice of MAMCOAANA

Maulana Azad Medical College Alumni Association of North America

27<sup>th</sup> Edition  
September 2011



## Executive Committee

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Bupesh Kaul, MD

#### *President-Elect*

I.P. Chhabra, MD

#### *Immediate Past President*

Vikas Khurana, MD

#### *Past President (2009-2010)*

Ajay Goel, MD

#### *Secretary*

Tarang Sharma, MD

#### *Treasurer*

Bhushan Pandya, MD

#### *Chairman*

#### *By-laws Committee*

Ashutosh Gupta, MD

#### *Chairman*

#### *Continuing Medical Education*

Rakesh Nanda, MD

#### *Editorial Board*

Sam Edwin MD, Jack Dang MD,  
Nikhil Goyal MD, Tarang Sharma  
MD

#### *Webmaster*

Nikhil Goyal, MD

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Shiv Gaur MD, Bharat Bhushan  
Kalra MD, Dinesh Choudhry MD,  
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**Life Membership -  
\$ 200 Only! JOIN NOW!  
See Inside For Details**

## Message From The President – 2010-2011



Dear Maulaninas,

The year 2010-2011 was a great one for MAMCOAANA with strides made in every direction, culminating in a fitting annual convention in Philadelphia. It was a wonderful event filled with camaraderie, laughter and memories of times gone by. This year we had ECFMG representation at the convention. Several statistics were provided by them about our Alma Mater and its graduates in USA. They were presented with our alumni book which will grace their library for years to come. Special thanks to Dr. Vimal Sodhi for his initiative to connect with ECFMG. We also had the pleasure of having Dr. Richa Dewan, Head of the Department of Medicine and Medical Superintendent of Lok Nayak Hospital, join us at the convention. The Dean, Dr. A. K. Agarwal, sent a video message to us which touched everyone's hearts. An excellent CME program was organized as usual by Dr. Rakesh Nanda. Special thanks to all the speakers as they enlightened us on various topics. Finally, the entertainment was outstanding and everyone had a good time shaking a leg to the music. The live dhol beats and the magic show are still fresh in our minds. My heartfelt thanks to all the executive committee (EC) members for their support and guidance throughout the planning and execution of the task of organizing, to Dr. Ashutosh Gupta for his organizational guidance at every step, Dr. Bhushan Pandya who is supportive as ever and ready to provide direction and advice, and to my wife Ritu and daughter Vriti, who organized the event with great care, love, and attention to detail.

MAMCOAANA continues to strengthen and fund the source verification process for our graduates, which has already benefitted many of them. Dr. Pandya continues to steer this project skillfully. Editorial board and web presence committee led by Dr. Tarang Sharma, our webmaster Dr. Nikhil Goyal and under able guidance of Dr. Sam Edwin and Dr. Jagdish Dang and other members of the EC has put in a lot of hard work to uplift the look and the functionality of our website which is being introduced this year. We are also on facebook, which is open to all Maulanians; as well as yahoo groups. Join the groups today to see what your colleagues are up to.

I would like to welcome Dr. Bupesh Kaul as the incoming president of MAMCOAANA. Last but not the least, I would like to thank all the members of MAMCOAANA for giving me the opportunity to be of service, and once again, thanks to everyone who enabled me to fulfill my responsibilities.

Regards,

Vikas Khurana, MD



## **Welcome Message From the President – 2011-2012**

MAMCOAANA had a very successful 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Philadelphia in July 2011. Kudos for the success to the team led very successfully by Drs. Vikas and Ritu Khurana. The high point of the convention was the banquet with dancing. Suffice it to say that a good time was had by all. Three new MAMCOAANA families who came for the first time to the reunion, returned home vowing not to miss another meeting MAMCOAANA meeting. That in itself speaks volumes for the success of not just the meeting but the format of the reunion. MAMCOAANA 2011 also



welcomed new participants from 2004-2007 batch and I hope that they too will find time in their busy training schedules to attend future meetings of MAMCOAANA. I have long maintained that the alumni reunion is to connect with other people who share your clinical DNA and the survival and success of MAMCOAANA conventions has borne this out. When I went to my first MAMCOAANA meeting in 2003, I did not know a single person there. But attendees at that reunion took me into the MAMCOAANA family and it was as if one was returning home. Not only did we have much to share in terms of the MAMC clinical legacy, but there was much delight in reliving the fun of our College days.

Important as they are, MAMCOAANA reunions however are much more than just swapping memories, eating and dancing. Friday and Saturday mornings are devoted to CME. Speaking for myself, I have found MAMCOAANA CMEs to be of very high quality.

And now for the last 2-3 years MAMCOAANA has added to its activities. Credentials verification being important for its members, MAMCOAANA has taken the lead in setting up with MAMC, a process which is being continuously refined to provide a service for not only the North American MAMC grads but MAMC grads in any part of the world.

Which brings me to Life Members of MAMCOAANA. A significant portion of the Credentials Verification process is funded by MAMCOAANA. This funding is derived from earnings on the fund established by Life Membership. Therefore, for credentials verification to survive, it is imperative that we enlarge our membership base. I would urge every MAMC graduate in North America to consider becoming a Life Member of the organization. And right now is the perfect time to become a Life Member at reduced rates from \$500 to \$200 for a period of one year. This Life Membership also brings advantages in reduced registration fees for the MAMCOAANA attendee as well as his/her family. Therefore I would urge MAMC graduates in North America (or indeed anywhere in the world) to take advantage of this reduction and sign up as life members.

The next MAMCOAANA convention will be held in Houston, July 26<sup>th</sup> to July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011 with Dr. Randeep Suneja as the meeting host. Stay tuned to the website to find details. I hope to see record enrollment for life membership in MAMCOAANA and a huge turnout for next year's convention.

Bupesh Kaul, MD, FRCA

### The Editorial Board's Inky Notes

We are proud to bring the latest edition of Sandesh to you.

The past year has seen several innovative ideas flow forth from the members and the executive committee of MAMCOAANA. One of the thoughts was to put Sandesh together in such a way as to include a round up of the year with a fitting wrap up of the annual convention, which continues to play such an important part in bringing everyone together. In order to accomplish that, Sandesh will now come to you every year just after the conclusion of the yearly convention complete with pictures and details in its web avatar as a pdf upload on the MAMCOAANA web page. The Editorial Board asks for contributions and feedback without which no magazine and no journal can stay alive.

Additionally, in the past year MAMCOAANA has increased its web presence with facebook and yahoo groups, and it has now also received a face lift in the form of its new website. Our goal is to make the website and Sandesh dynamic mediums to exchange information and ideas within the alumni....one step at a time....



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**Reduced Rates for Life Membership for MAMCOAANA!! Join Now!!**

**Special Low Rate - Reduced By More Than 50% Regular Rate!!**

To register –

1. Send a check made out to MAMCOAANA to either Dr. Ashutosh Gupta or to Dr. Bupesh Kaul with “Life Membership Fee” in the memo line at P.O. Box 28253, Dayton, OH 45428-0253. All checks received will be forwarded to Dr. Gupta OR
2. Register online at [www.mamcoaana.org](http://www.mamcoaana.org)

## Minutes of GBM MAMCOAANA July 30, 2011

The General Body Meeting of MAMCOAANA was called to order by the President, Dr. Vikas Khurana, M.D., at 13:32 hours on July 30 at the Radisson-Warwick Hotel in Philadelphia, PA.

Dr. Khurana invited Dr Bhushan Pandya to give a report about the progress of credential verifications. Dr. Pandya reviewed the progress of the verification process. From a system which was very opaque and without any accountability, it is now transparent and with some accountability. He reported that the system that MAMCOAANA had set up had handled approximately 200 requests for credential verification. Dr. Pandya reported that the MAMC does not possess the records of students and hence requires the 3 documents with every application for credential verifications. Dr. Khurana reminded the GBM that the required documents are listed on MAMCOAANA website.

Since MAMCOAANA subsidizes the salary of the Anup Kumar, the General Body of MAMCOAANA has already approved a charge for the service. However Dr. Pandya felt there were still some kinks in the system and he wanted to ensure that the verification process would be able to deliver 100% of times before he would recommend that MAMCOAANA start charging for facilitation and handling of the process. The process costs are approximately \$50 per applicant.

Dr. Khurana reported that for the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting 100 guests had registered and thanked Ritu Khurana and Vriti Khurana for help with organization of the meeting.

Dr. Khurana invited Dr. Bupesh Kaul to address the GBM.

Dr. Kaul thanked Bhushan Pandya for his efforts in setting up the verification process and Dr. Khurana and his family for organizing the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.

Dr. Kaul informed the GBM that the executive committee had approved Houston as the site of the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting for approval of GBM. The motion to approve Houston, TX, as the site of the 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting was moved by Dr. Ashutosh Gupta and seconded by Dr. Prem Kumar and was adopted unanimously by the GBM. The Meeting host will be Dr. Randeep Suneja and the dates for the meeting will be from Thursday July 26 to July 29, 2012.

Dr. Kaul presented the slate of officers for the 2012 as approved by the Executive Committee for approval by the GBM. The slate was as follows:

1. President: Bupesh Kaul, M.D.
2. President Elect: I.P. Chhabra, M.D.
3. Immediate Past President: Vikas Khurana, M.D.
4. Past President: Ajay Goel, M.D.

5. Secretary: Tarang Sharma, M.D.
6. Treasurer: Bhushan Pandya, M.D.
7. Chairman Bye-Laws Committee: Ashutosh Gupta, M.D.
8. CME Chairman: Rakesh Nanda, M.D.
9. Webmaster: Nikhil Goyal, M.D.
10. Members at Large: Shiv Gaur, M.D., Bharat Bhushan Kalra, M.D., Dinesh Choudhry, M.D, Alka Srivastava, M.D., Vivek Mishra, M.D., Bhavin Jani, M.D., Vimal Sodhi, M.D.

The motion was moved for approval from the floor by Dr. Dang and seconded by Dr. Khurana and was adopted unanimously by the GBM.

Various measures were discussed to attract the younger Maulanians to MAMCOAANA were discussed. Dr. Rakesh Nanda proposed that the Life Time Membership fee be reduced to a \$200 for a year. The motion was seconded by Dr. Jagdish Dang, and was adopted by the GBM by a show of hands.

There was some discussion from the floor about combining the MAMCOAANA meeting with the AAPI meeting. The Pros and Cons of this was discussed. There was general feeling that the MAMCOAANA would lose its identity since AAPI would only allot one afternoon for a MAMCOAANA meeting. The general feeling among the GBM was that one afternoon was not enough is that for MAMCOAANA and was undesirable at this point.

Dr. Kaul proposed that Dr. Vikas Khurana be the MAMCOAANA liaison with AAPI and this was seconded by Dr. Dang and accepted by the GBM.

The meeting was adjourned at 14:45 Hrs.

A special meeting of GBM was called on Saturday, July 30, 2011 by Dr. Ashutosh Gupta, with the following agenda.

- 1) Approval of the minutes of the GBM in July 2010.
- 2) Financial Statement: Dr. Bhushan Pandya.
- 3) Adjournment.

The minutes of the 2010 GBM were posted on the MAMCOAANA website soon after the GBM ended. They were read again by Dr. Kaul at the special meeting and were approved unanimously by the Special GBM

The financial report was given by Dr. Pandya who reported that the Life Membership fund had approximately \$187,000 while a smaller account in Danville, IL had about \$5000. This was the same report as the one to EC on July 28<sup>th</sup>. GBM.

After the above two report, the special meeting was adjourned by Dr. Khurana.

## **Credential Verification Process Initiative By MAMCOAANA – An Update**

Dear Fellow Maulanian,

I have been a member of MAMCOAANA for last several years. Meetings several years ago attracted many more MAMC graduates. Like most other organizations, attendance in our meetings had decreased in recent years. This created an opportunity for us to look at our goals as an Alumni organization. We realized that along with the feeling of belonging to the family of MAMC we should explore ways to help our graduates in North America.

As we explored the needs, we realized that all of us need attestation of our credentials by MAMC when we apply at ECFMG or State License. MAMCOAANA, working with our Dean Dr. Agarwal, and our colleagues at MAMCOS has assisted this process by paying for an employee who works under the direction of the Dean. He receives the applications, logs them in, takes them to the Academic Registrar and mails them back as soon as they are attested. This gives an accountability and efficiency to the process. An application needs to be accompanied by the following documents to avoid any delays –

1. Attested copy of medical degree
2. Attested copy of Internship Completion Certificate (ICC)
3. Attested copy of clock hour certificate (Transcript)

We invited and met with officials from ECFMG during our annual meeting in Philadelphia at the end of July. We are working with them and the Dean to arrange the following:

MAMC will be able to receive requests for attestation electronically and confirm verification electronically.

MAMC will be able to access USMLE scores of its graduates electronically.

ECFMG has an Acculturation department that can help MAMC graduates adjust in their new environment. We are trying to see how we can have our students access the information and benefit from that.

Over the last two to three years I see a surge of recent graduates participate and take leadership role in our annual meetings. It is a breath of fresh air and a view to the great future of our organization.

Bhushan Pandya, MD



## MAMCOAANA 2011 In Pictures

CME Program In Progress.....



ECFMG Officials - Mr. William Kelly (Vice President For Operations), & Emily Hartshough –  
Visit To MAMCOAANA Annual Convention...





## Lunch and Visit to Independence Hall





Party Time!.....





### **MAMCOAANA Members Speak**

*Annual Convention 2011 - A real nice event to recharge the batteries and then look forward to getting together next July. It was a treat to see the video of the campus in current form. The heartfelt message from the dean was very meaningful. The surprise appearance of Prof. Richa Deewan, my immediate senior batch, was very heart warming. The tours arranged by Vikas and Ritu were a definitely memorable experience to feel the history of our adopted homeland. The musical talents of Tarang and Bhushan were a treat to the ears and will be remembered till we hear them again. Individuals like Dr. Dang, Dr. Renu Kapur Thapar and RD make these gatherings worth coming back. They are great role models and inspiration. More electronically and computer age experts like Nikhil keep making applaudable efforts to bring some of that science to folks like me. The hard work done by Khurana family was at the root of this very successful and pleasant gathering. Kudos to them all! So, once again, looking forward to next years recharging ceremony. To the entire gang:*

*“ Ramaiyya Vasta Vaiyya, Maine Dil Tujhko Diya ”*

*“ Jeena Yahan Marna Yahan, Iske Siva Jaana Kahan ”*

**- Vimal Sodhi, MD**

*Philadelphia was my third visit to MAMCOAANA. It was last year that I got hooked on to the alumni meeting. About 15 of my batch people had come to Boston and it was really great to see them after such a long time. It was then that I realized what I had been missing. This time in Philadelphia, it was even better. The arrangement was great and we had a great time with so many families present at the Radisson Hotel. The Saturday dinner was truly awesome with a video DJ present and putting out one great hindi hit song after another. Bhavin Jani and I will try to call as many people for the Houston conference and hope it is even better than the last one.*

*On a serious note, the efforts by MAMCOAANA to have a person to help with credentialing is truly remarkable. Bhushan Pandya with the help of our Dean Dr Agarwal has put in great effort to have it up and running and our participation in the annual meeting helps the organization remain strong and provide a platform for the next generation.*

**- Vivek Mishra, MD**

*This year's MAMCOAANA annual meeting in the historical city of Philadelphia was quite an enjoyable experience. Although none of my own batch mates was there, I had no problem interacting with other younger and some very young Maulanians. All who came had a good time. All the events were well planned and done, thanks to the hard work of Vikas and Ritu Khurana and their daughter, Vriti. CME was very well organized with interesting topics and experienced speakers, thanks to Rakesh Nanda. A guided tour of the Independence hall, interaction and presentation by the ECFMG officials, Mr. William Kelly and Ms. Emily Hartshough, and video address by the Dean, Dr. A K Agarwal were important highlights of this meeting. The magic show, the good old songs, jokes, music and dance and saturday night dinner added their own values to the meeting. It was good to see many younger batch MAMC graduates, some of which were first timer, and all enjoyed well. It is important to bring them back as they will be the MAMCOAANA torch bearers in the future. Let us continue the same spirits in Houston next year.*

**- Ashutosh Gupta, MD**

*This was the second reunion we attended and we all had great fun .Our twins Enjoyed the Dance floor and especially the dholak. We enjoyed meeting old friends and made some new ones. We are extremely excited to host the 2012 reunion in Houston, Texas. We look forward to making it the biggest and the best reunion ever anyone has attended . We would love everyone to invite their friends from all over the US to come to Space City next year where the MAMCOANNA eagle is landing.*

**- Randeep Suneja, MD**

### **The Webmaster's Thoughts**

40,000,000 bytes. That was my first computer's hard disk - it also had 1 MB of RAM and was powered by a CPU running at 16 MHz. State-of-the-art for India in 1990. When the original iPhone was introduced in 2007, it had 100 times the storage, 128 MB of RAM and a CPU running at 412 MHz.

The Internet arrived in Delhi in 1995, and with my dialup connection I set up my first web page. Becoming 'Student Editor' at MAMC was the perfect opportunity for me to expand and launch "The Spandan Website," named after the college magazine. The creation of Spandan.com prompted me to learn more about web development and start using computers as tools rather than just gaming machines. When MAMCOAANA needed a website I was happy to volunteer for the task; MAMC had sparked my initial interest in web development and this would be an excellent opportunity for me to give back. I became the Webmaster.

In many ways, it's an excellent job - prominent physicians from across the country instantly recognize me as the "tech guy" and I've been vaulted to a leadership position in the organization. MAMCOAANA asks only that I keep the website updated to disseminate information to all Maulanians. The website is the face of MAMCOAANA for the rest of the world and I take this responsibility very seriously. When you are the first Google search result for "MAMC alumni", you realize that MAMC graduates all over the world are relying on you to make a good first impression.

Our website has been overdue for a facelift, and soon we will introduce MAMCOAANA.org v2. I hope you enjoy this new iteration and I will be happy to receive any comments and suggestions for the future. Technology is evolving at an incredible pace and we need to start thinking about v3 of our website soon; it's also time for me to let new Maulanians take the lead. For those of you out there with some serious web skills, this is your opportunity to shine, to give back to MAMC, to become [webmaster@mamcoaana.org](mailto:webmaster@mamcoaana.org).

**- Nikhil Goyal, MD**



**Editor's Note:** Since Sandesh 2011 is being published in September of the year, rather than January as is usually the precedent, we have an interesting problem – that of representing our hardworking team of 2010-11 as well as the team of 2011-12 appropriately in the annals of this Sandesh. Sure enough, the individuals are too magnanimous to care one way or the other about their recognition in print, but MAMCOAANA owes it to its general body members and executive committee, who, each year, lovingly organize, coordinate and participate in every event to keep MAMCOAANA alive. Therefore, please see below for the team that worked so hard to make the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Philadelphia such a success, and the GBM minutes of 2010 where the members of MAMCOAANA chose their representatives.

## Executive Committee

## 26<sup>th</sup> Annual GBM Minutes, 2010

### 2010-2011

#### *President*

Vikas Khurana, MD

#### *President-Elect*

Bupesh Kaul, MD

#### *Immediate Past President*

Ajay Goel, MD

#### *Secretary*

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Sam Edwin MD, Jack Dang MD,

#### *Webmaster*

Nikhil Goyal, MD

#### *Canada Representative*

Shiv Gaur, MD

#### *Members At Large*

Shiv Gaur MD, Vivek Mishra MD,

Bhavin Jani MD, Vimal Sodhi

MD, Tarang Sharma MD

July 31, 2010. Hyatt Regency, Boston.

Called to Order @ 12: 44 PM by the President Ajay Goel, MD

- Moment of silence in memory of Satish Kathpalia.
- Election of officers.
- Treasurer's Report: Bhushan Pandya presented the financial report
- Next years meeting: Vikas Khurana proposed holding the 2012 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Philadelphia. The proposal was accepted by a voice vote in the GBM. The dates for the meeting tentatively are July 28 (Thursday), 2011 to July 31, 2011 (Sunday).
- Suggestions for 2012 meeting were taken from the floor. Chicago, Houston or the West Coast were some of the proposals.
- The General body passed a vote of thank to Sam Edwin and Ajay Goel for their contributions to MAMCOAANA. The Sandesh has been kept going mainly because of the hard work put in by Sam Edwin
- The future of Sandesh was discussed. Paper printing involves a lot of costs and about 200-300 copies of Sandesh are returned. It was proposed that communication be mainly electronic and that a post-card be used to announce date/time of meeting.
- The new credentials verification process was reviewed by Dr. Pandya. The process has been outlined in the Sandesh May 2010 edition. (<http://www.mamcoaana.org/ann/sandesh2010.pdf>) The applications need to be mailed to the Academic Section. The exact mailing address will be given later as there are some kinks to be ironed out and the loop has to be closed with regards to the process. Once the process has been finalized, it is proposed that a fee will be charged by MAMCOAANA for the verification process.
- A vote of thanks was passed to Drs. Ashutosh Gupta, Bhushan Pandya and Vikas Khurana for the work they have put in for setting up the credentials verification process with the Dean of MAMC.
- Dr. Pandya presented a proposal to GBM for a welcome package for MAMC graduates who move to USA. The exact contents of the package will be decided later by the executive committee. At present members will be asked to provide emotional support to the MAMC graduates who move to USA.
- Dr Bhushan Pandya advised that AAPI is offering a \$ 100 life membership to new Doctors in the first 6 years of their practice.
- Dr Pandya was designated as a Liason between MAMCOAANA, MAMC And MAMCOS

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 13:42 PM



# 2012



**JOIN IN!!! Be part of a  
fun-filled weekend!!!**



