

# REPORT ON 5<sup>th</sup> ICDDT

## INTRODUCTION

The fifth symposium of the series of Drug Discovery and Therapy conferences was again held in Dubai from February 18-21, 2013 at Dubai Women's College, UAE. The success trend of these conferences even this year attracted a huge audience, setting the stage for an august assemblage of scientists and researchers to present their research work and raise the curtain from the state-of-the-art developments coming about throughout the world in the field of drug discovery and therapy. The 5th ICDDT well received an esteemed gathering of a number of Nobel Laureates who honored the event with their prestigious presence including Prof. Ferid Murad (USA), Prof. Hartmut Michel (Germany), Prof. Jean-Marie Lehn (France), and the honorable Fellow of Royal Society (FRS) Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman.

The conference agenda spanned over 160 lectures including Plenary, Special Invited, Invited and Session lectures accompanied by 120 poster presentations catering to 35 major drug discovery disciplines and an associated exhibition. This conference provided a platform to pharmaceutical scientists, doctors and clinical researchers to enlighten the aspiring addressees with the latest discoveries and researches in their respective fields.

## MAJOR TRACKS

1. **Academic CRO/Industrial Collaborations in Drug Discovery**
2. **Anti-Cancer Drug Discovery & Therapy**
3. **Anti-Infectives**
4. **Bioactive Lipids**
5. **Biologics**
6. **Chemistry**
  - a. *Asymmetric Synthesis*
  - b. *Organometallic Chemistry*
  - c. *Carbohydrates*
  - d. *Spectroscopy*
  - e. *Medicinal Chemistry*
7. **Cardiovascular Drug Discovery & Therapy**
8. **Combinatorial Chemistry**
9. **CNS Drug Discovery & Therapy**
10. **Diabetes and Obesity Drug Discovery & Therapy**
11. **Drug Delivery & Targeting**
12. **Drug Discovery in Preclinical Research**
  - a. *De-risking Drug discovery*
  - b. *Hit to Lead and Lead Optimization*
13. **Drug Metabolism**
14. **Enabling Technologies**
15. **Genomics**
16. **Green Techniques for Medicinal Chemistry**
17. **High-throughput Screening & Laboratory Automation**
18. **Hot Topics in Drug Targets**
19. **Hot Topics in HIV Research**
20. **Hot Topics in Medicinal Chemistry**
21. **Hot Topics in Natural Products**
22. **Inflammation and Immunology**
23. **Innovative Drug Discovery and Nanotechnology**
24. ***In-silico* Drug Design and *In-silico* Screening**
25. **Medical Imaging**
26. **Nutraceutical Drug Discovery & Therapy**
27. **Pharmaceutical Biotechnology**

28. **Pharmaceutical Research & Development**
  - a. *Successful Drug Discovery from the Research Lab to the Marketplace*
    - i. First disclosure of Clinical Compounds
    - ii. Case Histories of Drugs on the Market
  - b. *Global Roundup of Pharmaceutical Research capabilities and Opportunities*
    - i. Middle East
    - ii. China
    - iii. Japan & Far East
    - iv. North America
    - v. Europe
    - vi. South America
    - vii. India & Asia
    - viii. Africa
  - c. *Global Discovery Outsourcing*
  - d. *Generic Pharmaceuticals: Challenges and Opportunities*
  - e. *Regulatory Affairs*
  - f. *Other Areas of Pharmaceutical R & D*
29. **Pharmacogenomics**
30. **Process Chemistry and Drug Manufacturing**
31. **Protein and Peptide Sciences**
32. **Proteomics & Bioinformatics**
33. **Pulmonary Drug Discovery & Therapy**
34. **Recent Advances in Patient Treatment and Care**
35. **Recent Advances in Spectroscopy**
36. **Regenerative Medicine**
  - a. *Stem Cells*
  - b. *Gene Therapy*
  - c. *Tissue Engineering*
  - d. *Recent Developments in Regenerated Medicine*
37. **Stereoselective Synthesis of Bioactive Compounds**
38. **Structural Biology**
39. **Translational Medicine**
40. **Women's Health Drug Discovery & Therapy**

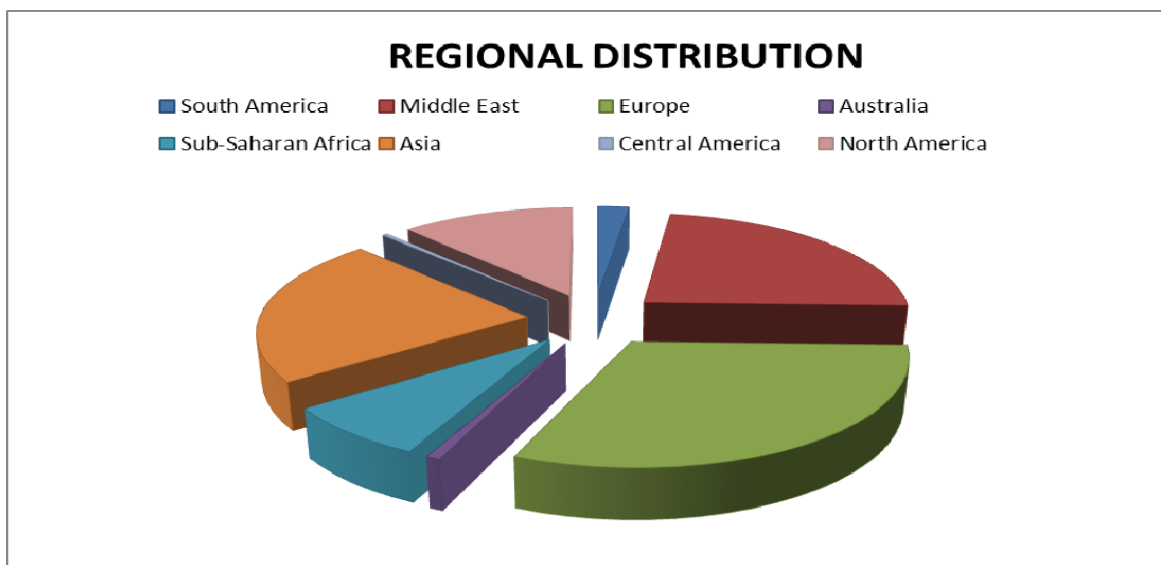
### **INAUGURAL CEREMONY**

The opening ceremony of 5th International Conference on Drug Discovery and Therapy as well as of 2nd Biotechnology World Congress, jointly held on 18th February 2013 marked the inauguration of these symposia of multidimensional importance, seeking to highlight the importance and significance of latest research advances in the field of drug discovery, disease management and diagnosis as well as the translational nature of biotechnological research.

Prof. Ferid Murad, the Nobel Laureate and Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman who are the co-presidents of conferences, delivered their speeches anticipating that these conferences would provide distinguished scientists the prospects to expound on their cutting edge researches in the field of drug discovery and therapy in addition to biotechnology. They also gave an assurance that this meeting of scientists and researchers from around the globe will bring out the best in drug discovery and therapy, besides biotechnology. He discussed that the conferences sought to provide wide-ranging perceptions on the rapid developments in new and emerging fields, thereby providing new opportunities and challenges to the scientists and medical doctors.



### **PARTICIPATION BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREA:**



The proceedings of 5th ICDDT were smooth and effortless both in management and influence which will have far reaching impact on Drug Discovery and Therapy, providing a platform to a wide range of subjects, offering cordial participation of a large number of delegates, bequeathing fruitful deliberations and genially welcoming productive responses from the participants of this scientifically woven venture.

#### **LECTURE SESSIONS:**

The regular sessions of Invited and Session lectures were conducted in 6 parallel sessions on 18th February 2013, followed by 5 sessions on 19th till 21st Feb 2013. Each successive day the lecture sessions commenced with the Plenary lectures from Nobel Laureates and other renowned scientists and biotechnologists, and were later taken over by a large number of eminent researchers who presented their talks as Invited and Session lectures. All the sessions of the conference were favorably attended by the participants and were genuinely appreciated.



Keeping in consideration the enthusiasm of the attendees to witness the breakthrough advancements on the research front

through poster presentations as well, one hour was allotted each day to the poster sessions after the lectures. A number of participants displayed their well arranged and perceptively prepared posters, which attracted a huge number of delegates to appreciate the efforts of the presenters. Number of participants displayed their well arranged and perceptively prepared posters, which attracted a huge number of delegates to appreciate the efforts of the presenters.

#### **SOCIAL MIXER**

After the lecture and poster sessions on the 18th of February 2013, drew to a close, the Social Mixer, basically a cocktail party, offered



the participants a relaxing environment to mingle, socialize, meet new people and exchange ideas with leading pharmaceutical scientists and researchers. The social mixer well served the purpose of granting the guests- all from varied backgrounds- the opportunity to be sociable and get to know each other, discuss ideas and introduce ways for new possibilities in research discovery and development. It was a delectable evening for the visitors who enjoyed the mixer with a variety of snacks served with fresh juices and drinks.

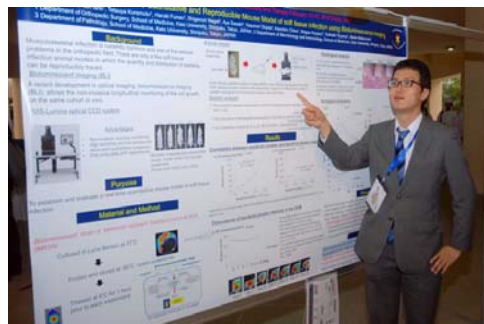
### **GALA DINNER ON DHOW CRUISE:**

The 'Gala Dinner on Dhow Cruise' was the highlight of the conference held on the 20th of February 2013. 'Dhow Cruise' offers the pleasure of discovering the true beauty of Dubai while being on a traditionally decorated wooden boat, sailing along the Dubai creek under the moonlight. The major Dubai landmarks passed by as the wooden vessel slipped silently across the creek. This unforgettable evening cruise served a buffet dinner of continental and oriental cuisine, with soft drinks and traditional coffee to be enjoyed at the beat of traditional Arabic music and conventional dance performance. The Dhow Cruise lasted for 2 hours, between 7:30-9:30pm.



### **POSTER PRESENTATION- CASH PRIZE DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY**

The concluding stages of the conference presented the Cash Distribution Ceremony which was the most awaited event of this conference. The prize distribution ceremony of 5th ICDDT awarded prizes to three best posters. A panel of judges including Dr. Aurora Martinez, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Iqbal Choudhary, and Prof. Dr. Asaad Khalid Ahmed shouldered the responsibility to assess all the posters very critically, based on the arrangement of the poster, the stance, the research embarked on, the perspective of the poster presenter, his/her awareness of the subject matter of the poster presented, and most of all, his/her attitude when the poster was being assessed. Considering the mentioned aspects, three best posters were selected and awarded cash prizes. The first, second and third prizes were awarded to Dr. Riyaz M Basha, Dr. Asha Thomas and Dr. P. Rieske, respectively. The prize winners were extremely overwhelmed to be appreciated for their efforts, and so were the other delegates.



### **EXHIBITION**

Apart from lecture series and poster presentations, there was an associated exhibition, where different companies displayed their publications and other materials. The major exhibitors were the following:





**SPONSORS AND MEDIA PARTNERS:**

The sponsors and media partners of 5<sup>th</sup> ICDDT 2013 were the following:





### SUCCESS STORY of 5<sup>th</sup> ICDDT- A CONTINUING TREND

Eureka Science and Higher Colleges of Technology, proudly announced to host two magnificent conferences, 5th International Conference On Drug Discovery & Therapy and The 2nd Biotechnology World Congress, held from 18th – 21st February 2013 at Dubai Women’s College. These conferences presented an eminent platform to renowned scientists and researchers from the scientific community to talk about their innovations in their own specialized fields.

Based on plenary lectures, invited and session talks and through poster presentations, the symposia outlined not only the revolutionary progress in drug design and discovery, but also the promising field of Biotechnology. The ICDDT in 2013, being held the fifth time, drew together most renowned and leading scientists of the world to foster alliance between scientists in UAE with those in the advanced Western countries, continuing with the success trend of these conferences