

Message from the President



It is with great pleasure that I write this message as the President of the South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP) elected for the years 2023 and 2024. I am very thankful to all the members of the Executive Council of SAAP for electing me for this prestigious position. I sincerely remember with deep gratitude the Founding Father of SAAP, the late Professor Arif Siddiqui.

South Asians from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka have rich and diverse ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds. While promoting peace and harmony among all in the South Asia Region, it is our responsibility to strengthen the foundation built by SAAP founders stronger for the betterment of the younger generation. We together need to work towards enhancing scientific interactions through research and physiology education for better visibility of South Asians.

During this 2-year period, we will together initiate sub-committee discussions on research and physiology education to identify current trends in research and education to identify our strengths, and weaknesses, and how to move forward. For this purpose, we have a very competent team of physiologists appointed as 'Adjunct advisors' from whom we will seek advice. In addition, we need to contribute as a team and represent at different global forums such as the International Union of Physiological Sciences, the Federation of Asian Oceanian Physiological Societies, and other international bodies.

In addition, identifying and recognizing the junior and senior physiologists who work hard and contribute to uplifting physiology-related research, education, and service are meant to encourage fellow physiologists. We have developed a set of criteria for two memorial awards to be made in the name of Professor Arif Siddiqui to recognize the most suitable young and senior physiologist. During this two-year period, we will work towards identifying a budding physiologist and a senior physiologist and recognizing their contributions, and appreciating the donation made by the family of our founder towards the same.

Publishing research findings and educational reforms is another method of enhancing the visibility of SAAP members. Being a professional society established in the year 2008, it is high

time for SAAP to establish its own identity for the benefit of its members. Another task in our hands during our tenure is to establish a good journal to share research work.

Another accomplishment to consider is the establishment of physiological societies in Afghanistan, Bhutan, and Maldives to expand our membership and thereby represent our regional forum at the global level.

I am confident that with the support of the Secretary-General, advisors of SAAP, Executive Council members, adjunct advisors, research and education sub-committee members, and all other members of the member societies of the South Asian Association of Physiologists will move forward and work for the betterment of fellow physiologists.

Long live SAAP!

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