President’s Message

IDA hosted a Holiday Mixer at the Doubletree hotel on 13th of November. It was well attended by IDA members and sponsors. The guest speaker, Dr Ankush Raj Gaur from California spoke about Health care economics. The program ended with dinner by Madras Pavilion and melodious singing by Saregamapa winner Salil Bhadekar and Kashmira Nayak.

COVID is still here. We are not out of the woods yet. In the USA, we still have a 7 day average of more than 80000 new cases. We need to follow CDC guidelines and take the booster vaccine.

We will do many more programs including mixers, picnic, CME and gala next year. Any suggestions or input is welcome. We look forward to your participation in every IDA activity. Looking forward to a successful year in 2022.

Thank you for your help and support to IDA as always. Please stay safe and healthy and we all are looking forward to December.

Atasu Nayak, MD
President

New Board Member

Vinita Bhagia, MD
Lifetime Member

Vinita is the Chief of Endocrinology at Kelsey-Seybold Clinic. She currently practices at their Main Campus (Medical center) & Meyerland location.

She earned her Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery degrees in 2001 at Lady
Hardinge Medical College in New Delhi, India. She completed her Internal Medicine residency at The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston in 2007, followed by her fellowship in Diabetes, Endocrinology, and Metabolism in 2009, when she served as Chief Fellow.

Over the course of her career, she has cared for patients at the Endocrine & Psychiatry Center in Houston from 2009 to 2011. She also served as Endocrinology Section Chief at the Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center from 2011 to 2017 and as an Assistant Professor of Endocrinology at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Her main clinical interests are managing diabetes mellitus, obesity and PCOS.

Vinita has been very active with the American Association of physicians of Indian origin (AAPI) on the national level. She was the President of National AAPI: Young Physicians' section (AAPI) in 2011-2012 and the secretary of National AAPI: Medical students, residents, and fellow section in 2008-2009.

She was also active on the board of the Indian Doctor's Association since 2007 when she started as a resident liaison and then was on the board of directors from 2008-2010 and then the treasurer in 2010-2011 following which she moved to Chicago. She is excited to be on the IDA board again in this upcoming year.

In her free time, Vinita spends much of her time with her husband and their young children.

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MEMBERS CORNER

Dipesh Batra
Dipesh Batra, MD

Dipesh Batra is a Pediatrician, who has been taking care of a medically underserved population for the last 20 years, first in Florida and now in Texas.

He did his medical school from Government Medical College , Patiala and his Residency from The Brooklyn Hospital Center , NY . He went on to do a fellowship in Pediatrics Cardiology at the University of Miami /Jackson Memorial Hospital. Thereafter he started taking care of medically underserved communities in Central Florida and Naples, Florida.

10 years ago, he moved to Houston Texas and started a Pediatrics practice from scratch and has been taking care of the medically underserved population since then.

He is a Clinical Assistant Professor at Baylor College of Medicine . He has been the past Brand Ambassador for HCMS and is currently serving various committees of HHSC including the e- health advisory committee , the telemedicine committee for behavioral health and was associated with The Meaningful use committee for 2 years.

His other interests include travel, singing, theatre, biking and running marathons. His wife , Ashu, is also a Pediatrician and they have two wonderful daughters. Mehak is 19 years old and Chaahat is 15 years old.
MEMBERS CORNER

Ashu Paul is a Pediatrician. She has been taking care of the medically underserved population in different capacities, first in Florida and now in Houston, Texas. Her expertise includes asthma prevention, adolescent medicine, and prevention of childhood obesity.

Ashu did her medical school from Dayanand Medical College, Ludhiana, India. She did her Internship from The Brooklyn Hospital Center, NY and completed her Residency from University of Miami/ Jackson Memorial Hospital.

She moved to Houston 10 years ago and started a new Pediatrics Program for a Community Health Center. Now she and her husband, Dipesh, take care of the medically underserved Pediatrics population in Houston.

Ashu is a Clinical Assistant Professor in Baylor College of Medicine and enjoys travelling and spending time with her family and has lovely daughters, Mehak and Chaahat.

India Ministry of Culture: Lakshadweep

Lakshadweep is one of the world's most spectacular tropical island systems. Thirty-two sq. km of land spread over 36 islands surrounded by 4200 sq. km of lagoon rich in marine wealth. The precious heritage of ecology and culture is supported by an extremely fragile ecosystem. Committed to the cause of Ecotourism, Union Territory of Lakshadweep has consciously followed a middle path between tourism promotion and environmental conservation. The Administration is carefully monitoring the environmental impact of coastal tourism and has taken steps to promote tourism in a way that is consistent with ecological concerns. As an effective strategy to avoid pressure on ecological environment, the efforts to promote tourism have been synchronized with the carrying capacity of the islands.

For more information, [click here].

IDA Social Media

Members and events are highlighted on our social media channels.

IDA Speakers Bureau

Please update your membership profile on idahouston.org if you would be interested in
becoming a motivational speaker for IDA at our future events.

IDA Physician Specialty Awareness Videos

https://www.facebook.com/idahouston15
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