

2012 Annual Report from Medicinal Chemistry Group
Dr. Raj (SB) Rajur,
Program Chair for Medicinal Chemistry Division, NESACS.
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The medicinal chemistry division is one of the active divisions of NESACS that conducted two excellent symposia during the year 2012. The first symposium was held on September 13th 2012 at Crown Plaza Hotel in Woburn, MA. The symposium focused on “ Globalization of Japanese Pharmaceutical Industry Strategies, Innovations, and Future Trends” . This was a half day symposium which started at 1.00 pm.

Dr. Maki Umemura, Cardiff University, UK gave a keynote presentation on the “Crisis and change in the system of innovation in the Japanese pharmaceutical industry since the 1990s. There were nine speakers in the program

The annual symposium titled “ EPIGENETIC TARGETS” was held on December on 13th, 2012 at Genzyme Corporation- (Sanofi). There were more than 150 participants who enjoyed the cutting edge research results that were presented by four well-known speakers from academia and the pharmaceutical industry.

Dr. Ramesh Shivdasani, Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School DFCI, Boston, spoke on the "Epigenetics in gastrointestinal differentiation and cancer."

Dr. William H. Miller, Director and Head of Chemistry, Oncology R&D, Cancer Epigenetics DPU at GlaxoSmithKline, Collegeville, PA spoke on the topic “Discovery of Small Molecule Inhibitors of the Histone Methyltransferase EZH2”,

The third speaker for the evening was Dr. Dafydd Owen, Research Fellow at Pfizer Worldwide R&D, Cambridge. His presentation focused on the “Chemical Probes for Epigenetics”

The keynote presentation for the evening was presented by Dr. Brian Albrecht, Head of Medicinal Chemistry, Constellation Pharmaceuticals, Cambridge, MA. Brian’s presentation focused on the “Inhibition of BET Bromodomains for the Treatment of Cancer”

The social hour, networking and dinner were part of the program.

The program chair, Dr. Raj (SB) Rajur, CreaGen Biosciences welcomed the guests and participants. Dr. Norton Peet, Director of Chemistry, Microbiotix moderated the symposium. Dr. David Harris of Genzyme-Sanofi introduced the keynote speaker. The symposium was concluded with the token of respect to the speakers by the program Chair, Dr. Rajur.