NEWSLETTER 2018

Dear Friends,

In this Alumni Newsletter we summarize key events involving alumni in 2018.

Many departments in CMC, as well as its extramural and intramural alumni, made notable achievements in 2018. At the end of the year, it is good to review these accolades and celebrate our successes.

This newsletter also lists alumni who passed away in 2018 and whose lives, work, and friendship we honour and cherish.

In 2018, CMC celebrated 100 years of medical education. As part of the celebrations, all batches were invited to the Alumni Reunion on 9-11 August, 2018. We had a programme of inter-house music and dance that was a super hit. Hope to continue this in a smaller scale periodically. We want to compile the stories and achievements of our alumni so please do send information and write-ups to the Alumni Office. We will be grateful if alumni could provide write-ups, pictures, reflections, or obituaries for inclusion in the website: (http://cmcvellorealumni.org/).

There were four luminary lectures by Shri Bezwada Wilson, Shri Romulus Whitaker & Ms Janaki Lenin, Shri P Sainath and Shri Gopalkrishna Gandhi. These recordings may be viewed at http://www.cmcedu100.org/centenary-news/. Celebrations culminated with a colloquium on the Theology of Health and Healing on Founders Day, 9th December 2018.

CMC strives to give the best education by emphasising a holistic approach, placing values at the centre of the healthcare encounter and, promoting prevention and healing rather than just cure.

Christmas is a season of hope, peace and goodwill. We wish you all happiness and fulfilment. As we are at the brink of another new year, let us renew and rededicate ourselves to uphold the motto of our Alma Mater: Not to be ministered unto but to minister. We have an important role in today’s world of greed, deception and superficiality to committed service, promoting peace and alleviating suffering.

Three cheers for the “Silver and Blue”.

With warm regards and best wishes,

President                    Secretary

On behalf of the Office Bearers and staff at the Alumni Office
The following CMC faculty retired in 2018 after years of dedicated service to the institution:

| Noel Malcolm Walter | MBBS batch of 1975 | December 2018 |

CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Nihal Thomas (1982) received the following honours:
- Recommended to be awarded the 2018 World India Diabetes Foundation Outstanding Investigator Award by the international committee (Dr. Robert Rizza-Mayo, Edward Horton-Harvard and John Wahren-Karolinska Institute) at the International Symposium on diabetes at Mumbai. This award is in honor of Mr. Raman Kapur (Chair, WIDF Board).
- Awarded the prestigious Dr. Subash Mukherjee Oration for the year 2018, at the 48th Endocrine Society of India Conference (ESICON-2018).

Dr. Alexander Thomas (PG alumnus; Orthopaedics) received the following honours:
- CAHO Lifetime Achievement Award at the International Conference CAHOCON 2018 in Chennai.
- NBE Emeritus Teacher Award 2014 from the Vice President of India, Shri. Venkaiah Naidu.

Dr. M.J. Paul (1987) received the following honours:
- Delivered the Dr. K.D. Verma Oration Award on "Endocrine Surgery at CMC, Vellore - A Harmonious Journey" at the 19th Annual Conference Indian Association of Endocrine Surgeons of India held at Tirupathi.
- Won first prize in the Oral Presentation - "Indocyanine green dye with autologous serum for optimal fluorescence; development of a novel technique for in-vivo imaging and its use in axillary reverse mapping for breast cancer" at the 7th Annual symposium of International Oncoplastic Breast surgeon conference in conjunction with 16th Women's Cancer initiative breast cancer conference held at Goa.

Dr. Asirvatham Samuel Jayaprakash (1981) has been appointed as the Vice Chair for Innovation at the Mayo Clinic.

Dr. Moji Jini (1977) was instrumental in starting the Tomo Riba Institute of Health & Medical Sciences (TRIHMS), the first medical college of Arunachal Pradesh.

Dr. Hiramalini Seshadri (1973) has written a book “Towards Excellence in Modern Health Care" (Spiritual approach towards healthcare for doctors - A human values based perspective with practical guidelines).

Dr. Sudipta Dhar Chowdhury (PG alumnus, Gastroenterology) received the First Prize for Endoscopic Video presentation paper entitled “EUS Guided Gastrojejunostomy for Afferent Loop Syndrome” at SGEI (Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy of India) session during Indian Society of Gastroenterology Conference held at Bhubaneswar.

Dr. Sunil Chandy (1978) was awarded the “For the sake of Honour Award" by the Rotary Club of Vellore, for demonstrating excellence in the area of administration and management in CMC and for improving services for the people of Vellore.
Dr. Neeraj Kulkarni (PG Alumnus, Obstetrics & Gynaecology) won the FOGSI Karan Gupta Memorial Award for his poster titled: “Peripartum hysterectomy: Lessons learnt over a decade in a tertiary care centre in South India” at the 61st All India Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology held at Bhubaneswar.

Dr. Shaji Pankiraj (2004) won the “TNOACON 2018 Orthopaedic Oncology Free Paper Gold Medal” for his scientific presentation on “Follow up study on distal femur Giant Cell Tumour” at the Tamil Nadu Orthopaedic Conference 2018 (TNOACON 2018), held at Nagercoil.

Dr. Philip Amitav Vikram Kalindi (PG Alumnus, Anaesthesia) and Dr. Praveen Benjamin D (2005) won the 2nd prize in 'Quiz ACME 2018-Physics' held at Vydehi Institute of Medical Science and Research Centre, Bangalore.

Dr. J.V. Peter (1982) was presented the 2017 Presidential Citation for dedicated and outstanding contributions to the Indian Society of Critical Care Medicine.

Dr. Anand Bhaskar (PG Alumnus, Physiology) won the second prize for poster presentation at the SIMEDUCON 2018 conference.

Dr. Rani Diana Sahni (PG Alumnus, Microbiology) won the Best Poster Award for the paper, "Trend in Echinocandin susceptibility among Candida species causing invasive candidial infections at a tertiary" at SIHAM 2018, 12th National Conference of Society of Indian Human and Animal Mycologists at St. John’s National Academy of Health Sciences, Bengaluru.

Dr. Sneha E (PG Alumnus, Anaesthesia) and Dr. Philip Amitav Vikram Kalindi, (PG Alumnus, Anaesthesia) were the First prize winners in case presentation of the practical examination preparation programme (PREPP) at Kilpauk Medical College, Chennai.

Dr. Anika Amritanand (1990) presented her study on ‘Validity of trained community health volunteers in identification and appropriate referral of persons with ocular morbidity’ done with the partnership of Christoffel-Blindenmission at the 14th Annual Conference of the ‘Vision 2020, The Right to Sight, India’ held in Guwahati. This years’ theme was ‘Advocacy and Inclusive partnership for eye health’. She received the best paper award for the session on ‘Sharing Knowledge Repository: towards organisation’s sustainability and growth’.

Dr. Albert Abhinay Kota (2000) won the “Excellent Abstract Presentation Award” at Charring Cross International Symposium 2018, held at London.

Dr. V. Rajshekhar (1975) delivered the following 4 Orations and 1 keynote address over the past year: 5th Cherukuri Narasimham and Subhadra Devi Chair Oration at SVIMS, Tirupati; Dr. John S. Carman Oration, CMC, Vellore; 2nd Mrs.I.Satyavathi Oration-Andhra Medical College, Visakhapatnam, DAVE-NEWTON ORATION at the King George's Medical University, Lucknow. Keynote address - Third JIPMER Research Day, Puducherry.

Dr. Megha Mariam George (2009) was awarded 3rd prize for her poster entitled ‘A rare cause of recurrent oral and genital ulcer’ at the 9th State Conference of Tamil Nadu
Branch of Indian Association of Dermatologists, Venerologists and Leprologists, Cuticon, Tamil Nadu 2018.

Dr. Rosh Varghese Georgy (2009) got 3rd place in a quiz competition at the 17th Hyderabad Annual Radiologic Physics course held at Hyderabad.

Leaders Asia magazine takes immense pleasure to honour Dr. Sunil Chandy (1978) with the India’s Most Trusted CEO’s 2018 award. This honour was presented on 27th August 2018 during the 3rd edition of WCRC IDEASFEST 2018. Dr. Sunil Chandy, former Director was selected as one among the top 30 CEOs in India by World Consulting and Research Corporation International (WCRCI NT), a media consulting group in Asia. Revolving around transformational leadership, India’s Most Trusted CEOs 2018 is about CEO’s who have steered their values, as a CEO along with the company's performance. WCRC LEADERS ASIA is currently one of the leading niche media in print and online format available across Asia. The Indian edition enjoys the most superlative viewership across all business media in the country.

Dr. Satheesh Solomon T. Selvin (1995) won the first prize at the Open Quiz for Ophthalmologists, at the Annual Tamil Nadu Ophthalmic Association (TNOA) State conference at Puducherry.

Dr. Jeyanth Suresh Rose (1995) won the second prize at the Annual Tamil Nadu Ophthalmic Association State conference held at Puducherry under the category “Shark Tank- New Innovations in Ophthalmology” for his research innovation entitled “A device to quantify corneal transparency in donor corneal buttons using laser scatter analysis”.

Dr. Abhilash Cheriyan (2005) won the first prize for his poster titled "Collecting Duct Carcinoma of the Kidney - Our Experience" in the South Zone Urological Society of India Conference held at Wayanad, Kerala.

Dr. Bhavagna Bandla (PG alumnus, Ophthalmology) won the 1st prize in the All India Ophthalmology Society, Academic & Research Committee Post Graduate Refresher Course 2018; South Zone quiz conducted at Aravind Eye Hospital, Chennai.

Dr. Roshan Kurien (PG alumnus, Anaesthesia) won the first prize in for his e-poster titled “Usefulness of PECS block in providing Opioid-free analgesia for intra-operative and post-operative cancer related breast surgery - A Randomized Controlled Trial” at the 8th National Conference of Academy of Regional Anaesthesia of India (AORA INDIA 2018) held at AL SAJ Convention centre, Trivandrum, Kerala.

Dr. Smitesh G (2006) won the Best E-Poster award for the paper, "Study of Heart Failure in Influenza Infection" in the 3rd American College of Physicians Indian Chapter Congress - Medicine 2018 held at Lucknow.

Dr. Alka Ganesh (1965) received the NBE Distinguished Teacher Award for the year 2014 from the Vice President of India, Shri. Venkaiah Naidu.

Dr. Dharshini S (PG alumnus, Dermatology, Venerology & Leprosy) received the "Imrich Sarkany Non-European memorial Scholarship" awarded to young dermatovenereologists by the European Academy of Dermatologists and Venereologists
Dr. Jagadish R (PG alumnus, Biochemistry) was awarded the President’s Gold Medal for the best performance in the examinations conducted by the National Board of Examinations (NBE), New Delhi, for the Diplomate of National Board (DNB) in Biochemistry in 2016-2017. He was presented the medal at the 19th Convocation of the NBE held in New Delhi.

Dr. Solomon Sathishkumar (1993) won the 1st prize for oral presentation at the 12th Annual conference of the Association of Physiologists of Tamil Nadu (APT) held at Karpagavinayaga Medical College, Kancheepuram.

Dr. Silviya Jared (PG alumnus, Physiology) won the 1st prize for e-poster presentation at the 12th Annual conference of the Association of Physiologists of Tamil Nadu (APT) held at Karpagavinayaga Medical College, Kancheepuram.

Dr. Elizabeth Tharion (PG alumnus, Physiology) won the 2nd prize for e-poster presentation at the 12th Annual conference of the Association of Physiologists of Tamil Nadu (APT) held at Karpagavinayaga Medical College, Kancheepuram.

Dr. Lalee Varghese (PG alumnus, Otorhinolaryngology) won the Gold Medal in the Senior Consultant award category for paper presentation at the 11th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Rhinosinusitis and Nasal Polyposis, held at Bengaluru.

Dr. Joy S. Michael (PG alumnus, Microbiology) was nominated as a member of the "National Technical Expert Group on diagnosis of Tuberculosis" (NTEG-Diagnosis) under Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP).

Dr. D.J. Christopher (1979-80) delivered "Dr. Christian Frimodt Moller Memorial Oration, during the 36th Andhra Pradesh TB & Chest Diseases Conference at AMC, Madanappally.

Dr. Pragathesh P (PG alumnus, Paediatrics) won the Prestigious Young Talent award and 3rd prize in free paper Presentation held at the 20th National Conference of Paediatric Intensive Care, Coimbatore.

Dr. Ebor Jacob (PG alumnus, Paediatrics) has been nominated as the Vice-Chair for the Intensive Care Chapter, Central Indian Academy of Paediatrics.

Dr. Pragya Kafley (PG alumnus, Transfusion Medicine) won the third prize for paper presentation titled “Clinical Utility of ISTH Bleeding Assessment Tool and Thromboelastography in assessment of patients referred for evaluation of Bleeding Disorders”, at the annual conference of Indian Society of Haematology and Blood Transfusion held at Cochin, Kerala.

Dr. Mary Parimala Samuel (1969) received the Arch of International Education Excellence award at Bangkok.

Dr. Reena Mary George (1985) has written a book ‘One Step at A Time – The Birth of the Christian Medical College, Vellore’.
Dr. Seshadri Raju (1957) has been inducted into the University of Mississippi Hall of Fame.

Dr. Vincent Rajkumar (1984) received the Distinguished Mayo Clinic Investigator Award 2018.

Dr. Ashok Roy (1971) received the Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in the Queen’s Birthday Honours.

Dr. P. Raghupathy (PG alumnus, Paediatrics) has been conferred with the ESPE International Outstanding Clinician award. This award is being given to a Paediatric Endocrinologist in the World, outside European and the Mediterranean countries.

Dr. Anil Cherian (1983) was awarded the Dignity and Right to Health Award 2016 of the ICMDA Leadership in Christian Health and Development Initiative.

Dr. Nandakumar C. Menon (1967) received the American College of surgeons humanitarian award.

Dr. Jackwin Sam Paul (2008) secured the Best Paper Award for presenting a paper titled "A Study of the Burden of Sexual Abuse in the general population" in the National Students’ Medical Research Conference, organized by the Kerala University of Health Sciences, Department of Community Medicine, Government Medical College, Trivandrum on 9th and 10th November, 2018. He received the Best Paper Award from the Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. MKC Nair, Kerala University of Health Sciences, Kerala State.

Dr. Prema Dhanraj (PG alumnus, General Surgery) was awarded Aval Vikatan Achiever’s award.

Dr. Suganthy J (PG Alumnus, Anatomy) received the Dr. P.C. Basal Memorial Gold Medal, for the best Histology paper published in Journal of Anatomical Society of India at the 66th National Conference of Anatomical Society of India NATCON 2018 at AIIMS, Rishikesh.

Dr. Ajit Sebastian (PG Alumnus, Obstetrics & Gynaecology) won the 3rd prize in oral presentation at the 26th Annual conference of the Association of Gynaecologic Oncologists of India, AGOICON 2018, held at Gwalior.

Dr. Ashisha Janeela M (2006) was awarded the best oral presentation (Basic Science) for her study “A Mechanistic Study to Assess the Efficacy of Gastric Lavage in Acute Organophosphate Poisoning” at the Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology Conference held at Bali, Indonesia.

Dr. Chiramel George Koshy (1993) has been selected for the Editorial Fellowship award, for this year from the Journal of Vascular and Intervention Radiology (JVIR).

Dr. Lisa Cherian, (PG alumnus, Otorhinolaryngology) received the Campion Ma Playoust award for the best ECR presentation at the 57th Australian Society for Medical Research National Scientific Conference held in Australia.
Christian Medical College, Vellore has been Ranked No.3 in the 'India Rankings 2018'. This award comes under the 'National Institutional Ranking Framework', Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. This framework outlines a methodology to rank institutions across the country based on "Teaching, Learning and Resources", "Research and Professional Practices", "Graduation Outcomes", "Outreach and Inclusivity", and "Perception". The award was given by Shri Prakash Javadekar, Minister of Human Resource Development, in a ceremony held in New Delhi on 3rd April, 2018. We thank God for this recognition and all the faculty and staff who make CMC what it is.

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Family Welfare was awarded Shields and Certificates of Appreciation by the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Tamil Nadu for the best performance (Sterilizations) among Voluntary Organisations in a function which was held on 8th May 2018 at Mylapore, Chennai. The award was presented by Dr.C.Vijaya Baskar, Honourable Minister for Health and Family Welfare. The department has bagged the First Prize for 3 consecutive years, 2014 – 2015, 2015 – 2016 and 2016 – 2017.

ANNUAL ALUMNI REUNION 2018


As part of the Centenary Year celebrations, a photograph exhibition was organised during the Alumni Reunion. The inauguration was held on August 10, 2018 at 9.00 in the New Examination Hall. Dr. Sethu Bhaskaran (1942) inaugurated the exhibition. Dr. J.V. Peter, Director released the song book “100 Years of Campus Music” and Dr. Joyce Ponnaiya received the first copy.

On August 10, 2018, the celebrations commenced with the representatives of the special reunion batches shared their experiences with the medical students on August 10, 2018. The alumni who spoke included Dr. Sethu Bhaskaran (1942), Dr. Razia Doshi (1958), Dr. Uma Khanduri (1963), Dr. Ajit Varki (1968), Dr. Solomon S. Chelliah (1973), Dr. Monika Bhol (1978), Drs. Darly Mathew and Thelma Suresh (1983), Drs. Premkumar Mony and Madulika Jonathan (1988), Drs. Divyan Paul Pancharatnam and Anita Victor(1993). This was followed by a CME session. The speakers included Dr. Bala Venkatesh (1978), Dr. Pramod David Jacob (1983) and Dr. R. Giridharan (1993).

The highlight of the evening was the ‘First Inter-House Alumni Music & Dance Programme’ that involved medical students, post graduate students, junior and senior staff, alumni who had superannuated and extramural alumni spanning over 50 years. The evening was magical and electrifying. The fun, interaction and bonds that formed during the practices that went into this event and the final programme far exceeded everyone’s expectations.
The General Reunion on August 11, 2018 began with traditional tree planting and the Alumni meeting in Scudder Auditorium. Dr. Anna B. Pulimood, Principal released the book “Hundred Years, Hundred Stories” and Dr. Jacob Abraham received the first copy. The Director, Dr. J.V. Peter and the Principal, Dr. Anna Pulimood presented some of the newer developments in CMC to the alumni. The Medical Superintendent, Dr. Prasad Mathews offered his felicitations. The President of the Student’s Association Mr. Paul Timothy Prabhu welcomed the alumni on behalf of the student body. The Alumni Association presented the Alumni Award of Distinction to Dr. Aravindan Nair, in recognition of his immense contribution to CMC.

This was followed by the General Body Meeting of the Alumni Association and the special batch introductions and photographs.

At the General Body Meeting of the Alumni Association, the office bearers who were nominated and elected were:
- President: Dr. Abraham Peedicayil (1975) who completed the remaining one year tenure of Dr. Prathap Tharyan (1974) as President for a full three year term (from 2018 – 2021).
- Vice President Intramural: Dr. Shyam Kumar (PG Alumnus, Radiodiagnosis) as Vice President Intramural for a period of 3 years (from 2018 – 2021).
- Vice President Extramural: Dr. Stanley Macaden (1963) as Vice President Extramural for a period of 3 years (from 2018 – 2021).

Appreciation was recorded for the outgoing members of the Executive Committee:
- Vice President Extramural Dr. Ajit Butt - for his keen interest in and constant support for the activities of the Alumni Association.
- Vice President Intramural Dr. Ramani Manoj – for her ever willingness to help and step in and for facilitating the improvement of the PG database.
- Editor Dr. Kishore Pichamuthu for his help at the time of initiation of the new alumni website.

The alumni proceeded to the Men’s and Women’s Hostels, where the current students, along with the alumni, entertained the crowd.

At the Thanksgiving Service in the Scudder Auditorium, Dr. Felsie Daniel (1978) gave the message. The newest batch of alumni (the present interns), were given the charge to serve and not to seek to be served. Dr. Thomas Sen Bhanu (1956) and Dr. Stanley Cecil Macaden (1963) passed on the torch of light to the representatives of the batch of 2013.

Later that evening, Drs. Ashita Singh (1993) and Deepak Singh (PG Alumnus) were honoured with the College Motto Award for their life of faith and commitment, effectively translated to one of service in the spirit of our alma mater. This was followed by the informal entertainment, which had the packed Scudder auditorium in splits of laughter. The alumni left with loads of photographs and memories of happy times spent in Vellore.
Dr. Aravindan Nair received the *Alumni Award of Distinction*

Drs. Ashita Singh (1993) and Deepak Singh (PG Alumnus) receiving the College Motto Award – 2018.

**Batch Group Photos – Reunion 2018**

*Various batches of alumni*
COLLEGE DAY AND GRADUATION 2018

The Graduation Ceremony for the Medical Postgraduates was held on November 5, 2018 in the Scudder Auditorium. The Chief Guest of the occasion was Prof. Errol D’Souza, Director, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.

A solemn, dignified and celebratory ceremony marked the Medical Graduation for undergraduates held at Scudder Auditorium on November 12, 2018. The Chief Guest for this august function was Mr. Ravi Zacharias, Ravi Zacharias International Ministries.

The following alumni received awards during the College Day and Graduation Ceremonies:

**Paul Harrison Award**

Dr. Moji Jini (1977)

**25 Years Meritorious Service Award**

Dr. Nirmala Sarah Tharien (1977)
Dr. Tarun Kumar Biswas (1981)

**Dr. Emmanuel Sunder Raj Memorial Award**:

Dr. Samuel Satyajit Jiwanmall (1991)

**Drs. Molly Thomas and Thomas Bhanu award for the best teacher**:

Dr. Margaret Shanthi (PG alumnus)
UPCOMING ANNUAL ALUMNI REUNION MEETINGS- 2019

1. India: August 8, 9 & 10
For further details, contact:
CMC Alumni Association: email: alumni@cmcvellore.ac.in

2. North America-USA and Canada (GOTC):
Venue: Washington DC
For further details, contact: vellorealumni@doctor.com
Dates: June 27, 28, 29 & 30

3. Australasia
Venue: Bali, Indonesia
Dates: September 27, 28 and 29
For further details, contact: isaacmuthiah@gmail.com
The Australasian CMC Alumni Association would like to extend a special invitation to all the Alumni in Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei and Indonesia to join them at the event. More details about the venue, scientific program, accommodation, etc. will be circulated soon.

4. United Kingdom
Venue: Holiday Inn, Coventry
September 27, 28 and 29
For further details, contact: zachariah_sunil@hotmail.com
**Condolences and Remembrances**

Our prayers and condolences to the families of the following alumni who passed away in 2017-18:

Dr. Lessel H. David (1951) on November 24, 2017.

Dr. Felix Prakasam (1965) on December 26, 2017.

Dr. Lily Din (1945) in 2017.


Dr. Agnes Leslie (nee Camoens), (1949) on March 3, 2018.

Dr. Jeyamohan S.D (1965) on May 9, 2018.

Dr. R.V. Suresh (1976) on May 12, 2018.

Dr. Sant Singh Shama (1955) on May 25, 2018.


Dr. Gracy Mathew (nee Thomas) (1960) on May 26, 2018.

Dr. John T. Thambidurai (1949) on June 28, 2018.

Dr. M.E. Vijayasenan (1957) on July 26, 2018.

Dr. Violet Rajagopalan (nee Sudarsanam) (1947) on August 7, 2018.

Dr. Prakash Shetty (1961) on September 3, 2018.

Dr. K. Simon Abraham (1952) on October 12, 2018.

Dr. Alice Abraham (nee Thomas) (1949) on October 30, 2018.

Dr. Johnson G (1965) on November 16, 2018.
ALL OF US HERE IN THE ALUMNI OFFICE

TRUST THAT YOU WILL HAVE A

JOYOUS CHRISTMAS

AND TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO

WISH YOU A BLESSED AND HOPE-FILLED

NEW YEAR 2019!

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