Report on the ninth event organized by ACTREC Alumni Association 'AAA Colloquia & Symposia Series' talk at ACTREC on 12th March, 2013

The ninth AAA event 'AAA Colloquia & Symposia Series' talk was held at ACTREC on 12th March, 2013. The talk by Dr Manoj Rajadhyaksha (Director, Bioanalytical Science Department, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals Inc, Tarrytown, NY, USA) was arranged by an ACTREC Alumnus Dr Surendra Chavan. On this occasion, as a token of appreciation he gave generous donation of Rs 5000/- as Well Wisher to AAA. This event was sponsored by QuantImmune Solutions, Navi Mumbai. At the onset, Dr. Manoj and Dr Surendra were welcomed by Director ACTREC and Deputy Director CRI-ACTREC. They exchanged their viewpoints on current status of academia-industry interaction. During the main event in Khanolkar Auditorium, Dr Jyoti Kode, Secretary, AAA welcomed all the participants of the event including ACTREC staff/ students and visiting guests from QuantImmune Solutions Inc., US Vitamins Ltd, NCRD's Sterling College of Pharmacy, Ayurvision, Ramanarain Ruia College, etc. She requested Dr Surendra Chavan to introduce the theme for organizing such a event and to introduce the speaker. Dr Surendra Chavan, currently CTO & Founder of QuantImmune Solutions addressed the gathering and mentioned about the emerging trends in Biotherapeutics Market. He requested Prof Rajiv Sarin, Director ACTREC to felicitate the guest speaker with Flower bouquet and a special memento. Dr Sarin in his short speech congratulated this initiative of AAA and alumnus Surendra to arrange a talk on Research Institution-industry interaction to undermine the need for strengthening academia-industry tie up. This was followed by formal seminar by Dr Manoj Rajadhyksha on topic "Biotherapeutics- A Scientific and Industry Perspective". He gave an overview of Biotherapeutics history, current market and key issues in making a product successful in terms of regulatory issues and financial gain. He introduced the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) Focus group and Therapeutic Protein Immunogenicity Focus Group and their activities. He added that the participation in these groups can possibly assist students, post-docs and faculties build further collaboration at other universities worldwide and global industry teams. His talk was attended by around 80 participants of which 20 were from industries/ institutions/ colleges outside ACTREC. The talk was followed by discussion on related issues. Outside visitors introduced themselves for benefit of students so that student could interact with them during post-seminar session. Dr Manoj along with visiting guest faculty interacted in a Tête-à-Tête session with students of ACTREC and Ruia college visiting students. The discussion of guest speaker continued over lunch with actrec authorities and visitng guests. Dr Manoj had individual discussion with few scientists at ACTREC. The event ended at 3.15pm.