International Symposium on
“PLANT DEVELOPMENTAL PLASTICITY:
A MOLECULAR PERSPECTIVE”

PDPAMP 2020
28-30 December 2020

Director
Dr. K. MALLIKARJUNA
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Venue: Dr. H.H. Deichmann & Dr. S. John David Auditorium
Acharya Nagarjuna University

Jointly organized by
Department of Botany and Microbiology
Acharya Nagarjuna University
Nagarjuna Nagar-522510, Guntur, AP, INDIA

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Tirupati
Tirupati-517507 Andhra Pradesh, INDIA
The development of a multicellular plant is mediated by sophisticated and co-ordinated developmental events such as controlled cell division, cell differentiation and morphogenesis. These three events determine the architecture of an individual plant or its organs in response to intrinsic genetics factors and extrinsic environmental cues. During this process, complex regulatory networks control the spatiotemporal positioning of different cell types (cell fate determination and tissue pattern formation) to generate a fully developed whole plant. How plants integrate information from external factors to their internal genetic regulatory module to shape its architecture is the most intriguing question in plant developmental biology. Classical morphological observations revealed some information on morpho-histo-cytological changes associated with development of plants in various groups across the plant kingdom. Now, with the advent of latest technologies in biology and its allied fields, scientists have begun to discover the importance of transcriptional regulatory networks, intrinsic signals such as plant hormones and extrinsic signals like environmental stimuli and mechano-sensing in shaping the plant bodies. Thus, understanding how the ‘fittest plant’ evolved combining the two contrasting features such as “robustness” versus “plasticity” is an open question even today, which is the prime focus of the current meeting. Such developmental plasticity/robustness is mainly responsible for the adaptive nature of a plant, which in turn determines the plant productivity, the ultimate goal of any plant biologist. Hence, unraveling the plant developmental regulatory mechanisms, various signaling mechanisms involved thereof in shaping the elite and non-elite phenotypes could be very useful in the development of sustainable green technologies.

The present international symposium on “PLANT DEVELOPMENTAL PLASTICITY: A MOLECULAR PERSPECTIVE” stems from above observations with the following sub-themes.

Sub-themes:
- Seed development, dormancy and germination
- Cell fate and tissue patterning in development of shoot, root and leaf
- Shoot and root apical meristem activity and indeterminate growth habit
- Plant vasculature tissue patterning
- Cell fate and tissue patterning in flower and gametophyte development
- Evolution of MADS-box genes and flowering in plants
- Photoperiodism and long distance signal transduction
- Signaling and crosstalk in plant development
- Transcriptional and epigenetic regulation of plant development and senescence
- Developmental plasticity and environmental signals
- Cell-cell communication and cellular specialization

Objectives:
- To expose all latest R&D initiatives of plant development to students, scholars and professors.
- To develop R&D collaborations with several national and international laboratories.
- To know about molecular mechanisms underlying the developmental shaping of plant parts like seed, root, stem, vasculature, leaf and flower.
- Unraveling the cell-cell communication and cellular specialization events operating at shoot and root apical meristem.
- To gain knowledge about transcriptional and epigenetic regulation of plant development, senescence and photoperiodism.
- To elucidate the role of long or short distance signaling and cross-talk in plant development.
- To evolve strategies for development of sustainable green technologies out of knowledge gained from fundamental principles of plant development.
INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
- Prof. G. Venugopala Reddy, University of California, Riverside, USA.
- Dr. Suresh Kumar Balasubramanian, Monash University, Australia.
- Dr. Sridevi Suresh Kumar, Monash University, Australia.
- Prof. Chamari Hettiarachchi, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Prof. M. Megharaj, GCER, Collaghan NSW 2308, Australia.
- Dr. K. Thammasiri, Dept. of Plant Science, Mahidol University, Thailand.

NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
- Prof. BJ Rao, TIFR-Mumbai and IISER-Tirupati
- Prof. Usha Vijay Raghavan, IISc, Bengaluru.
- Prof. Sudip Chattopadhyay, NIT, Durgapur
- Prof. MV Rajam, Delhi University (SC), New Delhi
- Prof. P. Suprasanna, Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC), Mumbai
- Prof. Utpal Nath, IISc, Bengaluru
- Prof. Jitendra Khurana, Delhi University, New Delhi
- Prof. RP Sharma, University of Hyderabad

LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
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- Prof. K N. Ganesh, Director, IISER-Tirupati.

Patrons : Prof. Basuthkar. J Rao, Dean of Faculty, IISER Tirupati.
- Prof. K. Rosalath, Registrar (I/c), Acharya Nagarjuna University
- Prof. A. Vasudeva Rao, Vice-Principal, University College of Sciences, ANU.

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Treasurer : Dr. V. Umanaheswara Rao
Vice-chair : Dr. M. Raghuram

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- Prof. SM. Khasim
- Dr. A. Amrutha Valli
- Dr. J. Madhavi
- Dr. YRKV Tirupati Rao
- Dr. P. S. N Raju

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Dr. ESWARAYYA RAMIREDDY
IISER TIRUPATI
eeswar.ramireddy@iisertirupati.ac.in
Cell: 08374573719
LIST OF SPEAKERS CONSENTED FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

1. Prof. B J Rao, IISER- Tirupati
2. Prof. Usha Vijay Raghavan, IISc- Bengaluru.
3. Prof. Sudip Chattopadhyay, NIT- Durgapur.
4. Prof. MV Rajam, Delhi University (SC), New Delhi.
5. Prof. P. Suprasanna, BARC- Mumbai.
6. Prof. G. Venugopala Reddy, University of California, USA.
7. Prof. Utpal Nath, IISc-Bengaluru.
8. Prof. Jitendra Khurana, Delhi University, New Delhi.
9. Prof. RP Sharma, University of Hyderabad.
11. Dr. Suresh Kumar Balasubramanian, Monash University, Australia.
12. Dr. Anjan Banerjee, IISER- Pune.
13. Dr. P. V. Shiva Prasad, NCBS (TIFR) - Bangalore.
14. Dr. Sunil Kumar Singh, MS University of Baroda.
15. Dr. Eswarayya Rami Reddy, IISER- Tirupati.
17. Dr. Kishore Panigrahi, NISER- Bhubaneswar.
18. Dr. Sridevi Sureshkumar, Monash University, Australia.
19. Dr. C. Rajanikanth, BARC- Mumbai
20. Dr. Swarup Roy Choudhury, IISER- Tirupati.
22. Dr. Manoj Majee, NIPGR- New Delhi.
23. Dr. Ram Yadav, IISER- Mohali.
24. Dr. A. Annapurna Devi, IISER- Tirupati.
25. Dr. C. Sreenivas, IISER-Tirupati.
26. Dr. Aashish Ranjan, NIPGR- New Delhi.
27. Dr. Apama Singh, CCMB- Hyderabad.
28. Dr. Ashish Kumar Shrivastava, BARC- Mumbai.
29. Dr. Rachna Agarwal, BARC- Mumbai.
30. Dr. Sreeramaiah N. Gangappa, IISER-Kolkata.
CALL FOR REGISTRATION AND ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The organizing committee cordially invites registrations from all the participants for the International Symposium. All participants are requested to register to the symposium by sending the filled-in registration form along with prescribed fee payable at PDPAMP2020, SBI A/C No. 38996568321 (IFSC Code: SBIN0004793, State Bank of India, Nagarjuna University Campus) on or before 5th November, 2020 to the Director, E-mail: pdpamp2020@gmail.com, mallikarjunaanu@gmail.com.

Very limited spot registrations will be entertained. The organizing committee also extends a warm invitation for abstracts (on the above specified sub-themes only) from students, research scholars and young faculty members from across the globe to the symposium for poster presentations. The abstracts can be mailed to the director along with registration forms. As all kinds of oral talks and speakers are finalized, there will not be any oral presentations for students and research scholars. PDPAMP2020 website with all details of the symposium and online registrations will be launched very soon.

REGISTRATION

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<td>(Up to 5th November, 2020)</td>
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<td>Foreign delegate</td>
<td>225 US $</td>
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<td>International accompanying person</td>
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*Registration fee covers symposium kit, breakfast, lunch and dinner, coffee and snacks during technical sessions.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation will be provided in local hotels like the Fortune Murali Park, The Gateway Hotel, Manoj Grand and Hotel Sindhuri. Limited accommodation is available in the University Campus; therefore, it will be provided on first-come and first-serve basis. Those who need accommodation are requested to contact the Director, E-mail: pdpamp2020@gmail.com, mallikarjunaanu@gmail.com and mobile: 9866402962 for advance booking.

ABOUT THE HOST INSTITUTION: https://nagarjunauniversity.ac.in/

Acharya Nagarjuna University is one of the fastest developing universities in the State of Andhra Pradesh, India and is named after the great Buddhist philosopher, Acharya Nagarjuna. Acharya Nagarjuna University has been grown into a large university with 58 academic departments and 67 courses of study covering the colleges of Guntur and Prakasam districts. Now, the University has 341 affiliated colleges offering undergraduate and postgraduate courses in various disciplines of biological, physical and sports sciences, planning and architecture, engineering, pharmacy, mathematics, social sciences like rural development, commerce and hotel management, education, legal studies, oriental languages and buddhist philosophy. The University has one PG Centre at Ongole in Prakasam district.
ABOUT THE COLLABORATIVE INSTITUTE, IISER-Tirupati: http://www.iisertirupati.ac.in/

It was established by The Government of India through Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD). IISERs represent a unique initiative in India where teaching and education are integrated with state-of-the-art research, nurturing both curiosity and creativity in an intellectually vibrant atmosphere of research. Each IISER is an autonomous institution awarding its own Masters and Doctoral degrees.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY AND MICROBIOLOGY

The Department of Botany had its humble beginning in 1967 as one of the science departments of erstwhile Andhra University Post-Graduate Centre, Nallapadu (Guntur, Andhra Pradesh). Subsequently, this PG Centre was elevated as Nagarjuna University in 1976. The strong foundation for the Department of Botany in terms of its strength in teaching and research were laid down by former professors viz., A.S. Rao, Ph.D.(Cantab), P. R. Mohan Rao, Ph.D.(Delhi), Post-doc(Cambridge; Sydney Sussex Fellow), P N Rao, N. Lakshmi, D. Santha Kumari, T N Mary, K V Mallaiah, K Rayapu Reddy, and Z.Vishnuvardhan. The legacy of the Department has been kept up through recruitment of highly qualified staff, succession of successful Heads of the department with efficient administrative activities and research scholars and students of outstanding quality. In 1992, Microbiology course was offered by the department and subsequently department was renamed as Botany and Microbiology in 2008. The departmental faculties are specialized in areas like Food, Environmental and Agriculture Microbiology (Profs. M. Vijayalakshmi, K. Amman), Plant Physiology (Prof. G. Rosaiah and Dr YRKV Rao), Environmental Microbiology and Bioactive Molecules (Dr. V. Umamaheswara Rao), Plant Pathology (Dr M. Raghuram), Industrial and Microbial Biotechnology (Dr. A. Amrutha Valli and Dr. J. Madhavi), Plant Biotechnology and Molecular Biology (Dr.K.Mallikarjuna), Orchid Biology, Taxonomy and Biodiversity (Prof.SM Khasim and Dr. PSN Raju). Several research projects funded by CSIR, UGC, DNES, APSEB, ICAR, DAE, BSI, SERB, DBT and DST have been successfully completed by the faculty and many projects are ongoing in the department. Our departmental R&D activities are supported by UGC Non-SAP, SAP & DST- FIST. Further, Herbal Garden with nearly 300 species of medicinal plants is maintained in our Botanical Garden, serving the needs of researchers and professionals.

LOCATION AND PLACES OF TOURIST INTEREST

Sprawling about 300 acres of area in serene environment with lush-green vegetation, Acharya Nagarjuna University is located 22 km from the south of Vijayawada and 5 km from the north of Guntur. It is now in New Amaravathi, the capital region of Andhra Pradesh. Vijayawada and Guntur are well connected by rail and road from all capital cities of India. Both the cities are roughly 280 km from Hyderabad and 400 km from Chennai. Vijayawada with a domestic airport, is well connected with Hyderabad, Chennai, Delhi and Bangalore by air. The nearest International airports are Hyderabad, Chennai and Bangalore. Reception counters will be put up at the exit point of airport in Vijayawada as well as at railway stations in both Vijayawada and Guntur cities.
Both Vijayawada and Guntur cities are known for their cultural importance, business and education. Famous places of religious, archaeological and tourist interest are also located in these cities.

**VIJAYAWADA**

**Kanakadurga Temple:** Famous temple situated on Indrakeeladri hill. Dasara festival is colorfully celebrated every year.

**St. Mary’s Church, Gunadala:** Famous church is situated on a hillock--venue of a grand faire very year.

**Victoria Museum:** Contains well preserved collection of ancient sculptures, paintings, idols, weapons, cutlery and inscriptions.

**Bhavani Island:** Situated in the river Krishna at the entrance of the Vijayawada city- a picturesque holiday resort.

**GUNTUR**

**Amaravathi:** Located on the banks of river Krishna about 35 km from Guntur, Amaravathi is an ancient Buddhist centre and is famous for the Amaralingeswara Swamy Temple and Museum. Amaravathi was the venue of Kalachakra-2006 attended by Dalai Lama and Buddhist monks from several countries. New Amaravathi, a world class capital city of Andhra Pradesh State is coming up in between the Vijayawada and Guntur.

**Mangalagiri:** Located 12 km from Vijayawada is famous for the Panakala Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple on the hill-top and other ancient temples with mythological significance; also known for cotton textiles.

**Kotappakonda:** Located 63 km from Guntur is noted for the ancient Shiva temple situated on cliff-top; the Mahashivarathri Jatara (Lord Shiva festival) in the month of February every year is celebrated on a grand scale.

**Nagarjuna Sagar Dam:** Located 150 km from Guntur, it is the largest masonry dam in the world, stretching across the river Krishna. It has created the world’s largest man-made lake, the middle of this lake contain an island called ‘Nagarjunakonda’ with invaluable archaeological relics housed in a museum.

**IMPORTANT DATES TO BE REMEMBERED**

- **Deadline for early registration:** 5th November, 2020
- **Deadline for late registration:** 20th December, 2020
2nd ANU- Guntur and IISER Tirupati joint initiative
1st International symposium on
“PLANT DEVELOPMENTAL PLASTICITY:
A MOLECULAR PERSPECTIVE”

28-30 December 2020
Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur, India

REGISTRATION FORM

Title : Prof./Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms.
Name :
Affiliation :
Address :
State :
Phone: Fax: Mobile:
Email :

State whether the registration fee paid or not :
State whether accommodation needed or not :

Filled-in Application form along with abstract and registration fee receipt should be sent through email attachment to pdpamp2020@gmail.com or mallikarjunaanu@gmail.com