



Christian Medical College Vellore

NEWSLINE

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Be not afraid, O land; be glad and rejoice. Surely the Lord has done great things. Joel 2:21

Dr. Debashish Danda retires



IN THIS ISSUE

Dr. Debashish Danda retires

First Prize Awarded to the Department of Bio-Medical Engineering at CAHOTECH 2023

Cochrane India CMC Vellore Affiliate Conducts Workshop in Commemoration of World Evidence Based Health Care Day

American Heart Association - Advanced Cardiac Life Support (AHA ACLS) Provider Level Course

World Diabetes Day Essay and Painting Competition Organised in Commemoration of World Diabetes Day 2023

Special Prayers

Welcome

Laurels and Recognitions

Obituaries

Upcomong Event

Notice

Situations Vacant

Dr. Debashish Danda, Senior Professor, Department of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology retired on 28th October 2023, after 27 years of dedicated service to the institution. After completing his M.B.B.S from JIPMER, Puducherry, M.D in Internal Medicine from GSVM Medical College, Kanpur and 3 year Post-Doctoral degree (DM) in Clinical Immunology from SGPGIMS, Lucknow, Dr. Danda joined as faculty in Medicine-II at CMC Vellore in 1996. He had 3 years of advanced training in Rheumatology at The Royal Adelaide Hospital, The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Flinders Medical Centre and The Repatriation Hospital, Adelaide from 2001 to 2004.

After coming back from Australia, he established the Department of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology at CMC Vellore in 2004 with out-patient, in-patient, consultations, procedures, teaching programmes, research facilities, faculty positions, basic scientist post and technicians position. He also created the infrastructure and services for comprehensive laboratory facilities for autoimmune rheumatic diseases. He introduced a dedicated extremity MRI machine, ultrasonography, nailfold capillaroscopy, real time PCR and several other advanced techniques within the department. The most important publication with 100+ citations include his work on designing the disease assessment instrument for Takayasu's Arteritis namely the ITAS (Indian Takayasu's Arteritis Score) 2010 and ITAS-A score.

Continued on Page 2 1

Dr. Debashish Danda retires

Continued from Page 1

He started a two-year Post-Doctoral Clinical Fellowship training and Medical Council of India approved 3 year DM programme under the Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR Medical University, Chennai. The department was also recognized by the National Board of Examinations for DNB training in Rheumatology and the Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR Medical University for Ph.D programme. Dr. Danda was also a recognised guide for this purpose in the department.

Dr. Danda conducted the Annual Conference of Indian Rheumatology Association at CMC in 2011 and the meeting was the first in the history of Indian rheumatology to have the President of the American College of Rheumatology as the guest faculty. He also organised a National Level Symposium on 12th December 2015 with the theme “Leaders in Rheumatology”. This was a meeting where India’s top senior most Rheumatologists were honoured.

Dr. Danda served two terms as Editor-In-Chief of International Journal of Rheumatic Diseases (IJRD) from 2012 to 2018 and was instrumental in bringing up the impact factor of the journal from 0.7 to 2.5. Dr. Danda was the President of the Indian Rheumatology Association from 2017 to 2019 and he initiated several new initiatives for the cause of Indian Rheumatology including formation of the education cell, Indian College of Rheumatology, research cell, patient cell, database cell, legal and ethic cell, media and communication cell etc.

He is currently the President of Asia-Pacific League of Associations for Rheumatology (APLAR). He earlier served one term each as Vice-President (2018) and Treasurer of APLAR. Dr. Danda has more than 255 peer-reviewed publications.

Dr. Danda has been honoured with several awards all these years. In 2023 he was awarded in the category of Distinguished International Rheumatology Professional Award by the American College of Rheumatology. In 2020, he was honoured with Guardian of health award by IHW council, New Delhi and ‘Chikitsa Ratna Samman’ award by Tripura government. He received CME excellence innovation award in CME Excellence Summit and Awards 2019 presented by IHW council. He was conferred with “Dynamic Indian of the Millennium” award by KG Foundation in 2019. He is currently the Course Director for PG Certificate Course for Primary Care Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Medicine being arranged by BMJ.

His wife, Dr Sumita Danda is the Head of Clinical Genetics Department at CMC Vellore and their son Mr. Asheerwad Danda is pursuing his college education.

First Prize Awarded to the Department of Bio-Medical Engineering at CAHOTECH 2023

The Department Bio-Medical Engineering, CMC Vellore has secured the first prize at CAHOTECH 2023 – the Hospital Innovations Showcase and Early Adoption of Technology Awards. Among 56 contestants from across the country, BME emerged as one of the 24 shortlisted hospital departments for online presentations and one of the final eight selected to present at the CAHOTECH 2023 conference held on 7th October in New Delhi.



BME team showcased their fully automated calibration process with OneQA software from Fluke Biomedical thus becoming Asia's first fully automated calibration Lab. They highlighted its advantages over manual processes and by embracing cutting-edge technology, they are now able to calibrate over 6,000 biomedical equipment annually, adhering to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 NABL standards. The outstanding achievement of automating the calibration of in-house biomedical equipment earned them the first prize at CAHOTECH 2023."

Cochrane India CMC Vellore Affiliate Conducts Workshop in Commemoration of World Evidence Based Health Care Day

The Clinical Epidemiology Unit and Cochrane India CMC Vellore affiliate conducted a half day workshop on “A Primer to Convert a Dissertation into Manuscript” for the faculty in the Department of General Medicine. The workshop was conducted on 20th October, 2023 in commemoration of World Evidence Based Health Care day at the Clinical Epidemiology Unit. The session was attended by the junior faculty of the department who recently completed and submitted their dissertation. The sessions consisted of lecture and hands-on practical session for participants to create a skeletal structure of their manuscripts. The feedback from the participants was positive.



American Heart Association - Advanced Cardiac Life Support (AHA ACLS) Provider Level Course

The AHA- ACLS provider level course was held on the 20th and 21st October 2023. This course is designed for healthcare providers (doctors, nurses, paramedics) who initiate advanced life care in acutely ill adults, beyond basic life support, through the stabilization or transport phases of adult emergency. This well Advanced Cardiac Life Support Course is accredited by the American Heart Association and is valid internationally. The number of participants is strictly restricted to 24 as per AHA guidelines. The ACLS faculty are Dr. Ekta Rai, Dr. Anand Babu Medidi & Dr. Bernice Theodore from Department of Anaesthesia, Dr. Priya G from Emergency Medicine and Dr. Jonathan J & Dr. Divya from Medicine. Twenty-four delegates had actively participated in this ACLS course.



World Diabetes Day Essay and Painting Competition Organised in Commemoration of World Diabetes Day 2023

In commemoration of World Diabetes Day 2023, the Department of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, organised an Essay and Painting contest for school students from 8th to 12th grade and a Quiz competition for teachers. Participants came in from across Vellore and Ranipet District. The event was held on 21st October 2023, Saturday between 9.00 am to 2.00 pm at Darling Residency, Vellore. The aim of the event was to pique the students' interest in all aspects of a healthy lifestyle, and the systemic and interpersonal challenges facing our citizens as they pursue better health. By educating and empowering the students we hope to educate and empower their families and the community at-large.

The Essay competition saw 76 English entries and 64 Tamil entries. It was wonderful to witness the enthusiastic effort of the students who compiled and clearly presented their thoughts, opinions and ideas on the topic "Management of Diabetes in Marginalised and Underprivileged population."

The painting competition was a visual treat, the students excelled in producing some brilliant artwork using a variety of techniques. The competitors performed a remarkable feat translating the theme "How can the government influence the long-term policies in diabetes care and prevention" into a tangible display, crafted with pencils, sketch, crayons and water colours. The Judges for the event were, Dr. Srujan Sharma, Assistant Professor from Trauma Surgery, Dr. Jessica Vaddeswarapu, Radiologist from Radiology, Dr. Priya, Associate Professor from Pulmonary Medicine and Mrs. Alice Suresh, Nurse Manager, L Ward, CMC Vellore.

The judges were very generous in their praise of the students' talents, noting that any one of the 79 entries could have been the winner. Miss. Irene Jasmine Joshua from Pincushion Montessori International School secured a deserving victory, second place was shared by Miss. Sadhana from DAV Bhel and Jayashree S. from Pincushion Montessori International School. Miss. Mithra Devi, Pincushion Montessori International School, Miss. Jaishree from Ida Scudder School and Master. Prasad from Vellammal Bodhi campus took the joint third place. Consolation Prizes were also awarded.

The Chief Guest for the event was Dr. Priya Abraham, Professor in Virology, Christian Medical College, Vellore & Former Director, National Institute of Virology, Pune (NIV). Dr. Priya Abraham graced the occasion and delivered an outstanding address, highlighting the health crisis that India is currently facing as the 'Diabetic Capital' of the world, and the public health burden that threatens to overwhelm our health care system.

There were 19 teams who took part in the preliminary round of the teacher's quiz, with the top 4 teams progressing to the live final round. The teachers' eager participation was well-received by the students who kept cheering them on. The team from St. Mary's, Ms. Joice Immaculate and T. Roseline Sheeba took the crown, with the teachers from Ida Scudder school: Ms. Jaya Ruby Helkal and Ms. Gabriel Mary, and Vani Vidyalaya CBSE: Ms Sathya Sheela and Mr. Jagadish, sharing the second place, the third place went to Mr. Nandakumar and Ms. Sarala from Om Shakthi Narayani Matriculation School.

The prizes will be distributed at the grand valedictory function to be held at a later date.

Click the link below for pictures and videos of the event :

<https://www.cmcendovellore.org/world-diabetes-day-celebration-2023/>

World Diabetes Day Essay and Painting Competition Organised in Commemoration of World Diabetes Day 2023



November 05 -11, 2023

Special Prayers This Week



Nephrology and AK Lab :

Dr. Vinoi George David and Staff
Dr. Santhosh Varughese and Staff
Dr. Suceena Alexander and Staff
Mrs. Anandha Ruby Jacob and Staff
Mrs. Reena Santosh and Staff

Hospitals : The Duncan Hospital, Raxaul
Makunda Christian Hospital,
Herbetpur Christian Hospital, Prem
Jyoti Community Hospital, Chinchpada
Christian Hospital and others.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Madhya Pradesh

Council Members: Dr. Rajiv Choudhrie
Dr. Deepa Choudhrie

Hospital : Padhar Hospital, Betul and others.

Emmanuel Hospital Association

Council Member : Dr. Saira Paulose

Welcome

Dr. Henry Prakash, Professor, PMR Unit-II, on his return from sabbatical leave.

Laurels and Recognitions

- **Dr. P.V. Sudarshan**, Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery, has been awarded the Thiru C.V. Chary Memorial Prize and Medal for 2022 for being placed first in an Essay competition held for final year Neurosurgery Postgraduates by Institute of Neurology, Madras Medical College, Chennai".
- **Dr. Jayakrishna A.**, Senior Resident, Department of Dermatology has been awarded 2nd prize for the free paper titled 'Mucocutaneous manifestations in inflammatory bowel disease - A cross sectional study from a tertiary care centre' presented at the Dermazone South 2023 & Cuticon Puducherry 2023 held on 13th and 15th October, 2023 at IGMC & RI, Puducherry.
- **Mrs. Naomi Nancy S.W.**, Assistant Professor Gr.I, who has been awarded "Global Frontier Award" for the best paper presentation during 7th International Tracheostomy Symposium at Johns Hopkins University, USA".

Obituaries

• **Dr. Vasantha Cecilia Orocofsky** (nee David) (MBBS batch of 1959-60) passed away on 6th October, 2023. Dr. Vasantha Orocofsky, aged 83, died on Friday, October 6, 2023, from complications caused by a stroke. She was born on 27th January, 1940, in Bangalore, India, and was the second child and only daughter of Albert Clarence David and Laura David, nee Lawrence. Dr. Vasantha attended Christian Medical College Vellore and completed psychiatry training at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, where she met her husband, Dr. Morris Orocofsky. They were married in 1979.



The Orocofskys moved to Houston, Texas, where she worked at Houston Veterans clinic as a psychiatrist, and then to Rusk, Texas, where she was the director of Skyview Prison State Hospital. The Orocofskys later moved to the Woodlands, Texas, where Dr. Vasantha worked for MHMRA in Harris County. Throughout her career, she taught medical students and residents. She finally retired at the age of 80! At her retirement party she received a plaque that reflects what she meant to them: "For all your years of dedication, compassion, sharing of ideas, wisdom, and more importantly, your laughter, you passed through too quickly, yet a part of you will always remain."

Dr. Orocofsky is survived by her husband, Dr. Morris Orocofsky, and her niece and family: Robina, Kendal, Ben (YooJin) & Priya Sommers, and her sister-in-laws, Phiroza and Rajini David. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brothers, Citranjan "Ranji" and Gunaratnam "Rathnu" David. Cremation has taken place, and the memorial service will be held at 2.00 pm on Friday, January 26, 2024, the day before her 84th birthday, at the Robb Chapel in Woodlands Methodist Church, 2200 Lake Woodlands Dr. Spring, TX 773880.

Obituries

Continued from Page 6

Below is a tribute from one of her batchmates:

During her years at CMC, Vasantha was affectionately known as "Bava" and that is how her classmates and friends at the college remember her. We spent many happy hours listening to her beautiful singing and she often regaled us with her skill at mimicry. Our thoughts and prayers are with the bereaved members of the family at this time.

• **Mrs. M. Vijayalakshmi**, Sel. Gr.III Microbiologist, Department of Clinical Microbiology, passed away on 28th October, 2023. Let us uphold her husband Mr. S. Sudhakar, son Rithul and all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.

• **Mr. Mohanraj P.**, retired staff of Medical Records Department, passed away on 28th October, 2023. Let us uphold his wife Mrs. Shyamala M, son Mr. Balaji M, Housekeeping Attendant, CMC and daughter Ms. Vijayalakshmi, Staff Nurse, 'O' block and all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.

• **Mrs. Sarasa Bhaskar**, mother of Dr. Srisudha B, Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry Unit-III and mother-in-law of Dr. Manjunath K, Professor, Community Health Department, passed away on 3rd November, 2023. Let us uphold her husband Mr. Bhaskar and all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.

• **Mr. Buvan Kumar K**, Hospital Attendant Gr.IV. 'K' Ward passed away on 5th November, 2023.

Let us uphold his father Mr. Kalaivanan, mother Mrs. Regina, sister Ms. Buvaneshwari, brother Mr. Balachandar and all the bereaved members of the family in our prayers.



Upcoming Event

COLLEGE DAY PLAY - 2023

SA presents-

RASPUTIN

Nov 11th, Sat
7pm
Scudder Audi

Save the Date

Produced by- Mounish M
Directed by- Jeyanth Rose

VOLUME 1: 1976-1980

Ultimate **Boney M.**
Long Versions
& Rarities



Notice

American Heart Association – International Training Centre (CMC, Vellore) American Heart Association – Basic Life Support Course (AHA-BLS) Provider level course

American Heart Association -Basic Life Support (AHA-BLS) provider level course will be held on the **5th December 2023 at the Jacob Chandy Hall, Paul brand building, CMC, Vellore**. This one day course is designed for healthcare providers (Doctors, Nurses and Paramedics) and the curriculum consists of video based, interactive lectures and skills training in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), use of Automated External Defibrillator and relieve choking in a safe, timely and effective manner to **all ages – Adult, Pediatric and Infants**. The number of participants is strictly restricted to 18 per course as per AHA guidelines. **The registration fee is Rs.3,500/-** (cost of study materials included) and the last date for registration is 23th November 2023. **For registrations, Please contact Mrs.Nitha Cathuan or Mr. Ganesh, Paediatric ICU (Phone No.0416-228-3366).**

Situations Vacant

- 1(a) Assistant Professor with DM (Medical Oncology)** for the **Department of Medical Oncology**
Salary : As per institutional rules. Accommodation Provided (Partly furnished, depending on availability).
- 1(b) Associate Professor with DM (Medical Oncology)** for the **Department of Medical Oncology**
Experience : Should have two years teaching experience as (Asst. Professor) in any NMC recognised teaching institution with atleast 2 papers published as per current NMC guidelines.
Salary Scale : As per institutional rules. Accommodation Provided (Provided (Partly furnished, depending on availability)).
- 2. Lecturer Gr.II (Embryologist)** for the **Department of Reproductive Medicine Surgery**
Qualification : As per Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART), law 2021. MBBS or BVSc. with M.Sc. in clinical embryology, with two years' experience in IVF lab, B.Sc. in life sciences or Bio Technology with M.Sc. Clinical embryology with three years' experience in IVF lab, / Ph.D in Reproductive Biology / clinical embryology with at least one year experience in clinical embryology / Postgraduate in life sciences or Bio Technology with one-year certified course in Embryology along with four years' experience in IVF lab. The candidate should be able to perform independently ICSI and trouble shoot in IVF lab.
Salary : As per institutional rules. Accommodation not Provided.
- 3. Senior Resident with MS (ENT)** for the **Department of E.N.T. Unit - II**
Salary Scale : As per institutional rules. Accommodation Provided (Partly Furnished, Depending on availability).

Applications are to be done only through the online application system.

Please log on to <https://www.cmch-vellore.edu/JobVacancy.aspx?jtype=ALL> Link : "Vacancies".

Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted.

Applications will close by **November 18, 2023** for Items 1(a) 1(b), 2 and 3.

- 4. Training Officer (Admin)** for the **Distance Education Unit** **Job Code : 1502**
Qualification : Any Post Graduate with minimum one year of relevant work experience in online and blended learning distance courses coordination and administration, preferably in a higher medical / distance educational institution. Job involves management of online / onsite contact programmes for blended learning courses, student support and reply to student queries through email / phone calls, liaising with departments course faculty / other department medical faculty and overseeing contact programme arrangements, effective organizing and team interaction skills with online course website and contact programme management team, good written and verbal communication skills in English, needs to travel within the country during onsite contact programmes, familiarity with Google drive, maintenance of Google Sheet Databases for online / blended learning courses data management, coordinating enrolling candidates for convocation and registration. Preference will be given to candidates with experience working in any blended mode of medical learning; must be aware of hosting online meetings using platforms such as Zoom, Google Meet, etc.,

Salary : As per institutional rules. Mode of Appointment : Project Mode. Accommodation not Provided.

Applications to be done only through online application system. Please log on to <http://www.cmch-vellore.edu>

Link : “Vacancies”. **Hard Copies and emails will not be accepted.**

Applications will close by **November 18, 2023** for Item 4.

5. Asst. Social Worker (External - Project) for the Department of Pulmonary Medicine

Qualifications : M.S.W / M.A., (Social Work / Sociology) / M.Sc., (Medical Sociology).

Consolidated Pay : Rs.24,129/-. Age Limit : 35 Years.

Note : Only Regular mode will be accepted, Private or correspondence will be not accepted.

6. Programmer Trainee for the Department of Neurological Sciences (CMC Vellore, Ranipet Campus)

Qualifications : B.Tech / BE (Computer Science) / MCA / MCS / MS (Computer Science) / M.Sc. (Computer Science). Stipend : Rs.15,435/-. Age Limit : 30 Years.

Note : Only from Recognized University / Regular mode will be accepted, Private or correspondence will be not accepted.

Job Description : Wanted computer programmer for Cognitive Neuro Science Lab in the Department of Neurological Sciences with expertise in developing behavioural tasks and experience in Advanced Neuro image processing using Python, MATLAB, FAL and Free surfer.

Applications to be done only through online application system. Please log on to <http://www.cmch-vellore.edu>

Link : General - “Vacancies”. **Note : Only online applications will be accepted; Hard copies will not be accepted.**

Applications will close on **November 20, 2023** for Items 5 and 6.

7. Jr. Administrative Assistant (Term) for PMR (Prosthetics & Orthotics services)

Qualification : Graduate + 1 year PGDHA. Salary : As per institutional norms. Age : 30 years and below.

Job Preference : Preference will be given to those who have completed Diploma in Materials Management.

Please log on to <http://www.cmch-vellore.edu/> Link : “Vacancies”.

Icon : “**Jr. Administrative Assistant (Term) for PMR (Prosthetics & Orthotics services)**”.

Apply on or before **November 15, 2023** for Item 7.

Note : Only regular mode will be accepted, private or correspondence will not be accepted. Final year students are not eligible. Applications should be made online. Applications through other job portals will not be considered. Existing Staff (term or project or permanent) can apply after getting approvals from Head of the Department.

8. Non-Technical Assistant (Term) for Personnel Department

Qualification : Any degree + 1 year CMC training passed.

Salary : As per institutional norms. Age : 35 years and below.

Job Preference : Those who have completed one year training programme in CMC & Typewriting passed.

Note : Only Regular mode will be accepted, Private or correspondence will be not accepted.

Please log on to <http://www.cmch-vellore.edu/> Link : “Vacancies”. Icon “**Non-Technical Assistant (Term)**”.

Apply on or before **November 11, 2023** for Item 8.

Applications should be made online. Applications through other job portals will not be considered.

9. Driver (Project) for LCECU

Qualification : H.Sc. (+2) with Heavy Motor Vehicle License. Consolidate Salary : As per institutional norms.

Please log on to <http://www.cmch-vellore.edu/> Link : “Vacancies”. Icon “**Driver (Project) for LCECU**”.

Apply on or before **November 11, 2023** for Item 9.

Applications should be made online. Applications through other job portals will not be considered.

