Sohur Receives Alpha Chi’s Highest Member Honor

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—Dr. U. Shivraj Sohur, an alumnus of the Texas Alpha Iota chapter at Angelo State University, has been chosen to receive Alpha Chi’s 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award at the Society’s national convention to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, April 4-6.

Dr. Sohur grew up in Espérance Trébuchet, on the Indian Ocean island of Mauritius. In addition to speaking French and English as a Mauritius native, he is also fluent in the Hindi and Urdu languages. After completing his secondary schooling at Royal College of Port-Louis, he received his bachelor’s in chemistry and biology in 1992 from Angelo State University, San Angelo, Texas, where he was inducted into Alpha Chi and graduated summa cum laude. Sohur completed his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, on a full scholarship. He now serves as a faculty member at Harvard Medical School and is an attending neurologist in the Division of Movement Disorders at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH).

Despite a busy professional life, Dr. Sohur has remained dedicated to service. He shares his expertise on Parkinson’s disease with various support groups, has a strong focus on education and recruiting students into medical research, visits schools to give science and medicine career pathways presentations, and supervises internships for undergraduate students in his neurology lab at Harvard Medical School. He has been published in numerous medical and scientific journals and has presented his research at professional conferences and seminars all over the world.

In April 2018, he transitioned to Alkermes Inc. Research and Development, where he is helping conduct clinical trials in neuropsychiatric disorders. He is also the founding president of the 5-2035 Global Foundation for Community Health (5-2035.org) whose mission is to decrease the high rate of type II diabetes in Mauritius to only 5% prevalence by the year 2035. Its goal is to empower communities to work together with experts and the government in the fight against chronic non-communicable disease (CNCD). The hope is to facilitate a health care revolution in Mauritius through integrated health care as a model for the world.

According to his nominating chapter, “Dr. Sohur has certainly distinguished himself throughout his career. He has been a model of scholarship and character—the tenets of Alpha Chi.”

Alpha Chi National College Honor Society invites to membership juniors, seniors, and graduate students from all disciplines in the top ten percent of their classes. Active on nearly 300 campuses nationwide, chapters induct approximately 11,000 students annually. Since the Society’s founding in 1922, Alpha Chi members have dedicated themselves to “making scholarship effective for good.” Alpha Chi is a member in good standing of the Association of College Honor Societies, the only national accrediting body for collegiate honor societies.

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