

- ❖ Name & Designation : Mr. Himanshu Joshi, Ph.D. Scholar.
- ❖ Address : Dept. of Neurosciences, NIMHANS, Bangalore.
- ❖ Name of the International Conference/ Seminar/Symposium/ Workshop : The Forth Biennial Conference on Resting State/Brain Connectivity-2014.
- ❖ Title of the abstract accepted : Functional connectivity at rest in amnesic mild cognitive impairment- A functional magnetic resonance study and Resting state fMRI functional connectivity in schizophrenia an independent component analysis (ICA)-based approach.
- ❖ Date & Venue : 11-13<sup>th</sup> September 2014, Boston, USA.
- ❖ Money sanctioned : Rs 1,00,000/-
- ❖ Money reimbursed : Rs 1,00,000/-

### Participation Report

#### **Organization of Conference**

I am Himanshu Joshi, a PhD scholar from Department of Psychiatry NIMHANS has successfully attended the conference organised by MIT conference services at MIT, BOSTON, USA. This conference accommodated approximately 500 conference attendees and more than 300 poster presentations from approximately 50 countries around the globe. This conference continued for 12 sessions with 50 speakers covering technical advances and methodological issues regarding resting state functional magnetic resonance imaging, structural brain connectivity, multimodal approaches and animal models with its applications in neurological and psychiatric disorders. The posters on the above topics were also displayed in one of the sessions daily.

#### **Academic highlights of conference/workshop**

People from various academic institutions across the globe shared their works, advancements and ideologies through sound interactions. The subject itself was reinvented by presenting significant innovations and developments at this conference. These developments carries large potential to further understand brain in a more significant way. Various techniques and methodologies implemented during the resting state/brain connectivity conference were unique and promising. Few of these advances include emerging technologies during acquisition and analysis to understand complex networks of brain using multimodal brain imaging approach. Newer techniques discussed in order to implement ultra-high resolution imaging through currently available machinery. Various tools were also introduced to overcome flaws in current measurement techniques for brain mapping in a more precise way. This conference also provided the new implementation strategies to look at brain connectivity in psychiatric, neurological and developmental disorders. I also got acquainted with different strategies which can also be implemented with various analytical measures. My presentations also got significant appreciations and recommendations, as one of these works entitled "Exploration of structural and functional connectivity aberrations in mild cognitive impairment" is sent for a review. I would like to implement these discussed recent developmental strategies/techniques to add strength and scientific value to my research.

## **Participant's contribution**

I presented two of my recent works at the Resting state/ Brain connectivity conference through poster presentations. Both the works were highly appreciated and a lot of suggestions were also noted down to overcome major challenges in order to improve further. The strategies on how to find out differences in brain connectivity in various psychiatric disorders such as Schizophrenia and amnesic mild cognitive impairment were highly admired. The presentations were highly appealing to all, resulted in interactive sharing and understanding the basis of connectivity in brain. This, followed by appropriate discussions contributed to recent advances in a more scientific manner.