

TERMIS

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Dr. Chandra P. Sharma
Division of Biosurface Technology
SCTIMST
BMT Wing, Poojapura
Trivandrum 695012
India

Dear Dr. Sharma,

The TERMIS Executive Committee recently convened to discuss the formation of the TERMIS-AP India chapter. The Committee feels that it would not be appropriate for a country-specific entity to collect membership dues on behalf of TERMIS. As such, membership in TERMIS-INDIA or a similar organization would not include membership in the larger society and would not entitle members to any benefits thereof.

With further discussion by the TERMIS Executive Committee in regards to the establishment of the TERMIS-AP India Chapter, the Committee felt that rather than just say no we should offer some options for how you might proceed with your important ideas. We ask that you consider the following options and let us know if either helps you achieve your ultimate goal of clustering scientists in India around the field of regenerative medicine:

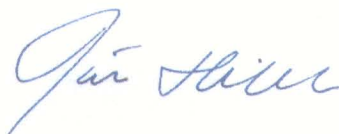
1. The creation of a separate organization within India, possibly named the Indian Society for Tissue Engineering. The Indian Society for Tissue Engineering would be a separate entity than TERMIS, but the Indian Chapter could then submit a proposal to host an annual TERMIS-AP Chapter meeting to the council for consideration. Moving forward in this manner will maintain coordination with the timing of the meeting amongst the three regional chapters. In addition, that society and TERMIS could develop some appropriate relationships that mirror those with, for example, the Korean Tissue Engineering Society.
2. Work within the framework of TERMIS-AP and arrange a meeting in India for your scientists that are endorsed by the society. In the process of budgeting for that meeting you would negotiate a fee that would be paid to TERMIS-AP in exchange for negotiated memberships in TERMIS-AP.

We ask that you please provide us with your thoughts on these options and other as soon as possible. If we can come to agreement soon we can describe the relationship in the TERMIS newsletter. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Regards,



Alan J. Russell, PhD
President of TERMIS



Jöns Hilborn, PhD
President-elect of TERMIS