



Venture Center

NCL Innovation Park
Pashan road, Pune-08

BIOPUNE SEMINAR SERIES

Bio Pune Seminar Series presents talks in the area of Bio Technology, Biomedical Engineering, Bioinformatics, Biomass value addition and related areas which are of interest and relevance to the bio sciences based technology and entrepreneurship community in Pune.

DBT-BIRAC supported



BioIncubator

BioPune Seminar # 13

On

Challenges and Opportunities in Neglected Tropical Diseases

By

Dr. Sunita de Souza

on

Friday, 15 December 2017

Time: 4 pm ó 5.30 pm

Venue: Lecture Theatre, Venture
Center

100, NCL Innovation Park

Dr. Homi Bhabha Road, Pune ó 411008

Register here

<http://bit.ly/2B4bGcD>

**Registrations and networking tea will
begin at 3.30pm**

This is a free event, but registration is required



Dr. Sunita de Souza

Abstract

Leishmaniasis, Chagas disease, Human African Trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness), dengue, malaria and tuberculosis cause significant morbidity and mortality, causing close to 2 million deaths annually in different parts of the world. Each disease brings a different challenge. Are current therapies for these diseases satisfactory? Is there a need for a new drug, or would a vaccine be more appropriate? Some of the factors that would influence a big pharma company's decision to invest in these disease areas will be discussed.

About the speaker:

Sunita de Souza is a biologist with 23 years of small molecule drug discovery and research experience in AstraZeneca R&D, India. Dr. de Souza earned a PhD in molecular biology from the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research and then a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Washington, Seattle, USA. Over her career she held many positions of responsibility, the last being Associate Director and Manager of AstraZeneca's External Collaborations in the Neglected Diseases Area. In this role, she managed over 100 external collaborations for AstraZeneca, executing two deals with an Indian pharmaceutical company and 5 with WIPO Re:Search users. Prior to this she managed a portfolio of drug discovery projects in the middle phase of drug discovery, delivering two project transitions to the final, lead optimization stage. While heading the biochemistry section of the unit, she developed a collaborative and transparent work culture and introduced data storage systems that improved efficiency and quality. For many years she was part of the Bangalore unit's research management team, formulating strategy and shaping the research portfolio for the unit. She led a team that delivered innovative assays for the discovery of new antibiotics, resulting in 5 patent applications. In 2014 she did a Project Management Professional (PMP) certification.