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**Anindya Dutta, MD, PhD, Receives the
2015 ASIP Outstanding Investigator Award**



Dr. Anindya Dutta, Chair of the Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics Department at the University of Virginia, is the recipient of the 2015 ASIP Outstanding Investigator Award. This prestigious award recognizes mid-career investigators with demonstrated excellence in research in experimental pathology.

Dr. Dutta is a leading investigator in two separate fields of molecular biology, according to Dr. Christopher Moskaluk of the University of Virginia. Dr. Moskaluk and Dr. Abul Abbas of the University of California at San Francisco highlight Dr. Dutta's impressive authorships, with 112 publications, most in high quality scientific journals. Dr. Dutta has also received over \$117 million in grant funding and is currently the primary investigator on multiple NIH grants. Dr. Dutta has "identified several DNA replication initiating factors (Orc3-6, Cdc6, Cdt1, geminin, Cdc45, Mcm10 and And1/Ctf4) and characterized their roles in DNA replication." The biological processes that he helped discover were to decipher "how some of these proteins interact to prevent re-initiation of DNA replication during a single cell cycle and how checkpoint proteins sense such abnormal re-initiation during DNA damage." Dr. Dutta has also served as a frequent reviewer of grants and papers and has chaired a Gordon Conference on cell growth and proliferation.

Dr. Peter Howley of Harvard Medical School highlights Dr. Dutta's emphasis on siRNAs and microRNAs for the study of mammalian cell proliferation once he moved to the University of Virginia. Dr. Dutta used targeted siRNA based screens to discover E2 in the Fanconi anemia pathway. Dr. Dutta has found "the best examples of the important role played by specific microRNAs to prevent cell proliferation in the context of differentiation and tumor suppression."

Dr. Dutta received his MBBS from the Christian Medical College in India. He then came to the United States to continue his studies and received his PhD from the Rockefeller University in New York in 1989.

Dr. Dutta presented his award lecture, "High Throughput Sequencing for Discovering New Biology," on Saturday, March 28, 2015 at the ASIP 2015 Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology in Boston, Massachusetts. He received the Outstanding Investigator Award on Monday, March 30, 2015 at the ASIP Membership Business Meeting and Awards Presentation.