



### **American Chemical Society Awards Ninth Irving S. Sigal Postdoctoral Fellowship**

The American Chemical Society, the world's largest scientific society, has awarded the 2012-2014 Irving S. Sigal Postdoctoral Fellowship to Dr. Siddhesh S. Kamat, who will conduct his postdoctoral studies in the research group of Prof. Benjamin Cravatt, at the Department of Chemical Physiology, The Skaggs Institute of Chemical Biology, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, CA. Dr. Kamat just completed his doctoral studies, under the supervision of Professor Frank M. Raushel, in the Department of Chemistry, Texas A&M University.

Dr. Kamat's doctoral dissertation is titled "Functional Annotation and Mechanistic Characterization of Enzymes with Unknown Functions: Studies on Adenine Deaminase, N-6-methyladenine Deaminase and the C-P Lyase Pathway". For his Irving S. Sigal Postdoctoral Fellowship, Siddhesh will advance lipidomic and functional proteomic methods to identify the major reactive oxygen species (ROS)-generated lipid products, as well as the enzymes that regulate their metabolism, in cell types that are especially susceptible to oxidative stress. Hopefully, these studies will reveal the composition and metabolic regulation of ROS-modified polyunsaturated fatty acid (PUFA) lipids.

The fellowships are named for Irving S. Sigal, a chemist who applied site-directed mutagenesis to study the structure and function of proteins and enzymes. Dr. Sigal died in a 1988 plane crash and the fellowships were established in 1995 by his widow, Catherine T. Sigal, Ph.D., herself a biochemist. The fellowships provide a stipend, currently valued at \$50,000 a year, for two years of research at one or more nonprofit institutions in any nation.

There are no restrictions on the age or nationality of the Irving S. Sigal Fellow. However, the recipient should be a scientist beginning his/her career that has earned or will earn a doctoral degree from a graduate chemistry department in the United States and proposes to investigate a significant problem at the chemistry/biology interface during the Fellowship.

The American Chemical Society is a nonprofit organization, chartered by the U.S. Congress, with a multidisciplinary membership of more than 161,000 chemists and chemical engineers. ACS publishes numerous scientific journals and databases, convenes major research conferences and provides educational, career, and science policy programs in chemistry. The main offices of ACS are in Washington, D.C., and Columbus, Ohio.