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# **ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES**

## **2022-2023**

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**PG & RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY**



# **PG & RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY**

## **ACTIVITIES – 2022 – 2023**

*(Conferences, Seminars, Webinars, Workshops, Industrial Visits, Field Trips, Talks, Campaigns, etc.)*

### **1. Two Day International Conference On Environmental Sustainability & Social Responsibility**

The Centre for Environmental Studies and the PG & Research Department of Biotechnology Women's Christian College, Chennai are jointly organizing a **two day International conference on Environmental Sustainability and Social Responsibility on the 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> of January 2023.**

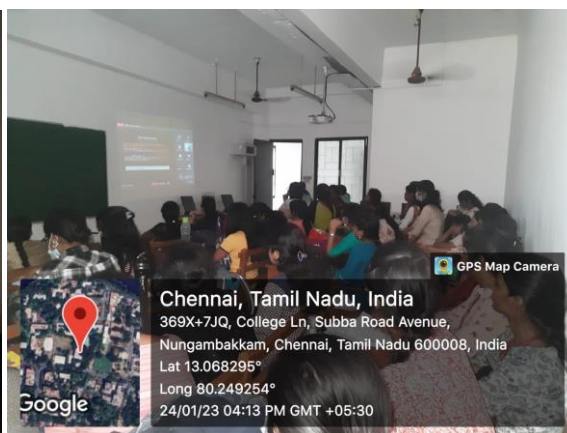
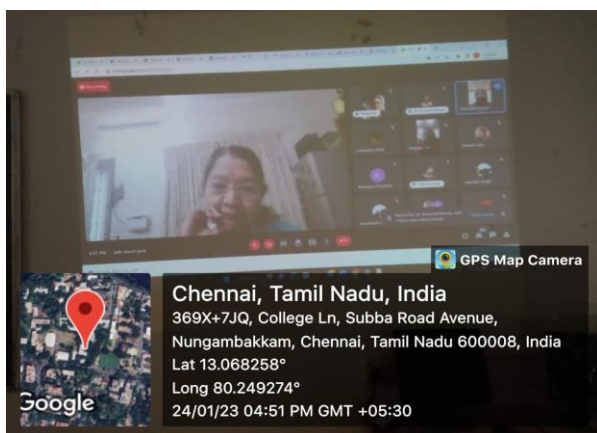
The Inauguration of this two day international conference was held on 10<sup>th</sup> January between 9 am & 10.45 am in the College Main auditorium. The program commenced with a prayer song and the Tamizh Thai Vazhthu rendered by the students. The Principal of WCC, Dr. Lilian I Jasper welcomed the gathering. The chief guest for the event was Mrs. H.D. Varalaxmi, Regional Director, Central Pollution Control Board, Government of India. In her inaugural address she emphasised on the importance of environmental sustainability. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Sudha Nair, former Senior Director of M.S Swaminathan Research Foundation & former Founder Member of Biotech Park for Women, Chennai. She enlightened the students with an interactive session on the importance of their role in protecting the environment. The proceedings of the conference with the abstracts received for oral and e- poster presentations was released by the Chief Guest. The inaugural programme ended with the Alma Mater.



## 2. WEBINAR ON MICROBIOME & PCOS

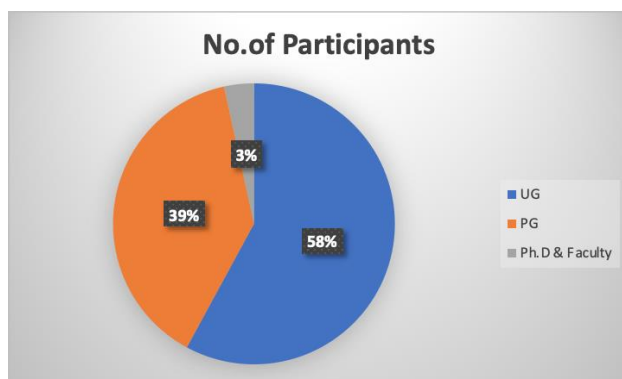
A webinar on Microbiome and PCOS was organized by PG & Research Department of Biotechnology in association with Microbiologists Society of India on January 24<sup>th</sup> , 2023 through Google meet between 4pm -5.30pm. I & II year M.Sc students and staff members attended the program.

The speaker, Dr T.Ramani Devi, addressed the students on the topic 'An Awareness on Endometriosis'. She has over 33 years of medical practice experience in Gynaecology. She has received various national and International awards to her credit. She has visited many countries to deliver lectures on reproductive wellness for women. She has published approximately 50 research articles in the refereed national and international journals. She has authored various chapters for books and been an editor for quite a few books .Dr.T.Ramani Devi, gave an insight on the role of Microbiome in PCOS. She explained about how lifestyle modifications can promote a good gut health and help to prevent PCOS. Overall it was very useful information on PCOS, which is considered to be on the higher rate among the reproductive age group of Women.

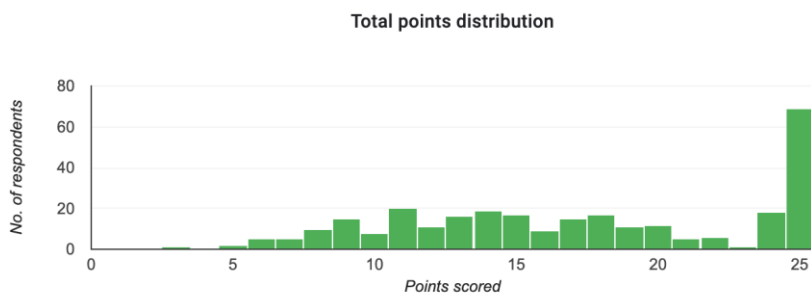
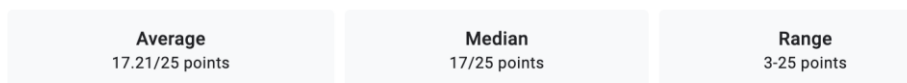


### 3. WORLD BIOFUEL DAY NATIONAL E-QUIZ

With regard to World Biofuel Day which is observed on August 10<sup>th</sup> every year, Microbiologist Society , India and the Student's Unit of PG and Research department of Biotechnology, Women's Christian College conducted a National E-Quiz from August 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The aim to conduct such a quiz was to raise awareness among students about the importance of unconventional fossil fuels that can serve as alternatives to conventional fossil fuels. Totally 292 responses were received and E-certificates were issued to participants who scored 50% and above. Five student volunteers under the guidance of Dr. Anchana Devi organized the event and the outcome of the online event is graphically represented below. Students from all over India from nearly 20 colleges across different states participated in the quiz. There was approximately an average level (17/25) of awareness which prevailed among the participants. The outcome of the quiz emphasis on the need to educate young minds about the importance of biofuels for sustainable development for future needs.



#### Insights



#### 4. ORGAN DONATION AWARENESS & PLEDGE DRIVE

A seminar on **ORGAN DONATION AWARENESS** was organized by PG & Research Department of Biotechnology along with NCC COY of Women's Christian college and MOHAN foundation , Chennai on 27<sup>th</sup> August , 2022 from 12.30 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. at Bamford Hall , CB Block .The programme began with a Prayer by Dr.Preethi Jeyakumar , Welcome address by Dr.Priya Iyer, The speaker was introduced by Dr. Anita RJ Singh , Associate Professor , PG & Research Department in Biotechnology.178 students and faculty members participated in the program.

The speaker, **Dr. HEMAL KAVINDAE, MOHAN FOUNDATION, CHENNAI**, addressed the students on the topic 'Organ Donation awareness'. She is a certified transplant counsellor who has an experience of nearly 20 years, counselling the families to come forward for organ donation. In her talk she shared real life experiences and addressed about the myths which prevails in our society about organ donation. She also explained about the protocol of organ donation and how to enrol for the same. Overall the session was productive for the students and they clarified the doubts about organ donation. At the end of the session there was a small open quiz to the participant to kindle their curiosity on organ donation. As an outcome of the program, 55 participants registered and pledged for organ donation after the event. At the end of the program vote of thanks was rendered by Dr.Anchana Devi, Assistant Professor PG & Research Department of Biotechnology.



## **5. POSTER COMPETITION EXHIBITION**

The P.G & Research Department of Biotechnology (Shift II), conducted its annual intradepartmental Poster and Model competition for the II M.Sc. students on 5.11.2022 in the department. Like the previous years the theme of the posters was on Environmental awareness. All the students of the class actively participated in the same. The objective of conducting this competition is to create awareness on the depleting natural resources of our planet Earth and to educate the college community about the ways in which each individual is responsible and plays a vital role in the preservation of Mother Earth. The entries were judged by Dr. Preethi Metha, Department of Plant Biology and Plant Biotechnology, Faculty Coordinator of Centre for environmental studies, WCC. The posters were displayed for all the staff and students (both Shift I & Shift II) of the college.







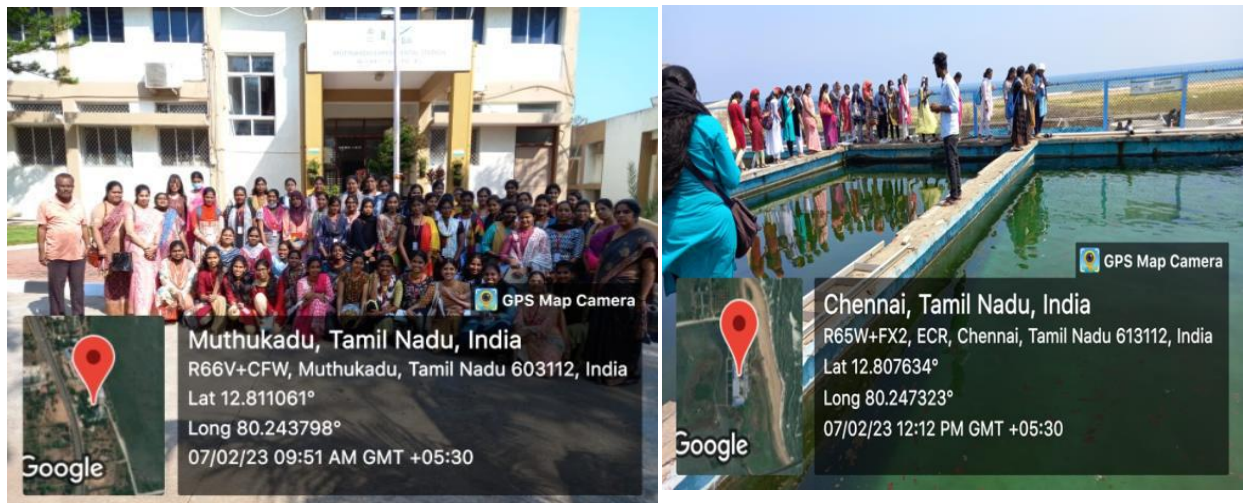
## **6. BIOINSTRUMENTATION MODEL COMPETITION- 2023**

The P.G &Research Department of Biotechnology (Shift II), conducted an intradepartmental Bioinstrumentation model making competition for the I M.Sc. students on 6.02.2023 in the department. The model making competition was based on the different types of instruments used in the laboratory. All the students of the class actively participated in the same. The objective of conducting this competition is to enhance better understanding on the principle and working mechanisms respectively. The entries were judged by Dr.Priya R Iyer. The outcome of the event helped the students to better understand and actively participate and come up with innovative ideas of working models.



## 7. INDUSTRIAL VISIT TO Central Institute of Brackish water Aquaculture (CIBA)

The faculty members –Dr. Priya Iyer (Head of the Department), Dr. Anita Singh, Dr. Anchana Devi, Dr. Preethi Jeyakumar and Lab Assistant – Rekha, along with 54 students including visited Central Institute of Brackish water Aquaculture (CIBA) on 07<sup>th</sup> February, 2023 .The objective of the visit is to observe and learn on techniques involved in Aquaculture. Dr M Jayanthi, Principal Scientist and acting HOD of ICAR-CIBA and S Rajamanickam, Assistant Chief Technical Officer of the division of Crustacean culture guided throughout the visit.



Techniques involving in feed mill which was equipped to produce formulated feeds for all the candidate species in brackish water aquaculture as well as for all the life stages. The institute developed cost-effective, environmentally sustainable, efficient, and indigenous feed processing technologies for all the shell and finfish species. The development of comprehensive hatchery technology for seed production and larval rearing of economically important brackish water candidate fin fishes: Asian seabass (*Lates calcarifer*), Milk fish (*Chanos chanos*), Grey mullet (*Mugil cephalus*), Pearl spot (*Etroplus suratensis*), Mangro red snapper (*Sciaenar gentimaculata*) were demonstrated. Micro and macro algae culture techniques floating basket and hanging rope culture method were observed. The outcome of the Iv trip gave an insight on aquaculture techniques. Students were able to comprehend their understanding and apply this knowledge in future research endeavours.

## 8. INDUSTRIAL VISIT TO JSS PHARMACY COLLEGE, MYOSRE

PG and Research department of Biotechnology, Women's Christian College visited the site on 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 along with two faculty members – Dr. Priya Iyer (Head of the Department), Dr. Anchana Devi, 43 students including first years and second years.

The visit started with a brief talk by Dr Pramod Kumar, Principal of JSS Pharmacy college, Mysore and Dr B M Gurupadayya, Professor and HOD of the college guided throughout the visit. After introduction we are separated into batches of 2 guided by different faculty members and we headed to various departments namely, Pharmacology, Pharmaceutical, Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Pharmacognosy . Various instruments such as HPLC, GCMS , Extraction units , etc. the working demo were explained in detailed.

