



Activities Organised by the Department in 2016-2017

International Conference

October 6- October 8, 2016

- A three day International Conference was organized by Department of Zoology and Botany of St. Bede's College, Shimla from October 6-8, 2016 on the topic Biodiversity: Current Scenario and Future Strategies sponsored by the State Council for Science, Technology and Environment, Himachal Pradesh. The chief guest for the first day inaugural session was Mr. Tarun Kapoor, Principal Secretary, Environment, Science and Technology.
- The event began with the lighting of the Panchdeep by the chief guest, Principal Dr. (Sr.) Beena John and the organizing team of the conference. This was followed by an introductory speech by Ms. Shweta Thakur, the Organizing Secretary of the conference. Ms. Shivani Chauhan invited the dignitaries on the dais for the release of the Abstract booklet which was a reflection of hard work done by the delegates. Then the Convenor of the conference Prof. V. K. Mattu addressed the audience and welcomed everyone. The Chief Guest appreciated the college for maintaining a high standard of education and also called St. Bede's an Island of Excellence. He also assured the college of financial support for organizing any conference in future. Mr. Ajay Kumar Lal, Director Environment, Science and Technology made the audience aware about the diverse ecosystem. The key note speaker Mr. P.L. Gautam, Vice Chancellor, Career Point University, Hamirpur presented a PPT on Biodiversity explaining its value, importance and conservation. He said that India was a storehouse of biodiversity and we must protect and preserve it. Dr. Shramja Munjal, Co-Convenor of the conference gave a presentation about the college, its history and achievements. The Vote of thanks was given by Dr. Neha Gautam.
- In the second session, the Panel discussion began at 1 p.m. wherein the experts from various fields of diversity shared their views. The panelists for



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the discussion were Dr. B.K Tyagi, Dr. S.P. Bhardwaj, Dr. Nivedita Sharma, Dr Kamlesh Asotra and Dr. A.D Ahluwalia. The chairperson was Dr. S.P. Bhardwaj, former Vice Chancellor, Manav Bharti University, Kumarhatti. The rapporteur for the discussion was Dr. Vinod Kumari. Dr. S.P. Bhardwaj gave a PPT on Insect Biodiversity. He emphasized on the importance of pollination. Dr. B.K. Tyagi gave his presentation on Insect Biodiversity and Conservation Policy in India. Then, Dr. Nivedita Sharma spoke about microbes, being integral part of the biodiversity. The next panelist was Dr. A.D Ahluwalia who put forth few pertinent, concise points on biodiversity. Dr. Kamlesh Asotra further gave interesting examples of how humans are using insects as a biocontrol. The panel discussion came to an end with Dr. Shramja Munjal inviting the dignitaries to be felicitated. This was followed by lunch break.

- The Technical session-I comprised of an invited talk by Dr. A.D Ahluwalia and Dr. Prakash Lohar as the Resource persons. The Chairman of the session was Dr. B.K Tyagi and the rapporteur was Dr. Meenakshi Nandal. Dr. Ahluwalia spoke on 'A Palaeontological Perspective of Excitement and Challenges of Story of Life on earth'. He focused on beauty, grandeur, mysteries and history of life on mother earth. He said that the earth does not belong to us but we belong to the earth. The precious species are becoming extinct. Dr. Prakash Lohar explained the importance of Molecular Markers in the Calibration of Species Diversity among fresh water fish of Northern Maharashtra'. He talked about different types of markers, randomly amplified polymorphic DNA and electrophoresis.
- The Technical session-2 dealt with oral and poster presentations by the delegates on biodiversity conservation, sustainable agriculture and forestry and desertification. There were lot of discussions and inputs provided by the delegates.
- The second day of the International Conference on October 7, 2016 began with Dr. Shweta Thakur's brief introduction about the first day proceedings of the conference. The Technical Session-3 in the started at 10.30 a.m by the Chairperson of the session, Prof. S. P Bhardwaj, former Vice-Chancellor, Manav Bharati University, Kumarhatti who invited the dignitaries to give their presentations. The rapporteur was Dr. Tanuja Buckseth. The resource



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persons for this session were Prof. Waykar from Department of Zoology, Baba Saheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad and Dr. Neelam Mattu, Department of Bio-Sciences, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla. Prof. Wayker gave a presentation on 'Bee keeping and Bee Products: Boon for Human Health and Wealth'. He emphasized on bees being the best pollinators and said that if there were no bees there will be no life on earth. This was followed by a presentation on 'Bee products and importance of Beekeeping' by Dr. Neelam Mattu was of the viewpoint that with every species being extinct we are losing a part of ourselves. The next resource person for this session was Dr. Kamlesh Asotra who gave a presentation on 'Sustainability of Freshwater Sport Fish Species in North-western Himalayas', where he emphasized on the importance of Fish sports. The session came to an end with felicitation of the delegates by Dr. Shramja Munjal.

- The Technical session-4 was held at 11.30 p.m. in which the delegates gave their oral and poster presentations on Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry/ Global Warming and Climate Change/water related issues/Wildlife and animal ethics. This was followed by Technical session-5 with an invited talk by Dr. S.S Hundal who presented his PPT on 'Biodiversity Conservation and Livelihood Security'. He talked about sustainable development and environment. The Chairperson for the session was Prof. Waykar from Department of Zoology, Baba Saheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad and the rapporteur was Dr. G. Vanishree, Scientist CPRI, Shimla. The session ended with the felicitation of the delegates by Dr. Shweta Thakur.
- The Technical Session-6 started at 2.30 p.m. in which the delegates again gave their oral and poster presentations on Biodiversity conservation/global warming and climate change. The chairperson in the session was Dr. Pradeep Srivastava and the rapporteur was Dr. Orus Illyas. Another topic which was discussed in the parallel technical session was Role of Women in Biodiversity Conservation/ Wild Life and animal Ethics. The Chairperson for this Technical Session was Dr. Neelam Mattu from the Department Bio Sciences, H.P.U and the rapporteur for this session was Dr. Anjali Dewan,



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Associate Professor, Department of Home Science, St. Bede's College, Shimla.

- The third day of the International Conference on October 8, 2016 began at 10.30 a.m. with the presentation by Prof. Predep Srivastva, Vice Chancellor, Y.S Parmar University, Nauni, Solan who gave a PPT on 'BIONICS: Learning Science from Nature'. He talked about 'Scientoon' which means cartoons based on Science. He also discussed about how different creatures in the environment motivate the scientists to make new discoveries. Prof. S.P Bhardwaj, Ex-Vice Chancellor, Manav Bharti University, Kumarhatti, was the chair person for the session and Ms. Meenkashi Sharma, Assistant Prof., Govt. College, Theog was the rapporteur in the session.
- The Valedictory Function started at 11:45 p.m. Prof K. R. Dhiman, former Vice Chancellor, Y.S Parmar University, Nauni, Solan gave the Valedictory Address. He emphasized on rural empowerment through introduction of income generating activities in the farming sector. He also talked about various varieties of fruits, vegetables and flowers grown in Nauni University. This was followed by overview of the three day conference by Ms. Shweta Thakur. She informed that over 123 Presentatons (Oral/Poster) were delivered during the conference. Prof V.K. Mattu, Convener of the conference was then invited to present the recommendations. He emphasized on the involvement of young generation to bring the change in the society and requested then to come forward and participate in such conferences. Following this was the address of the Chief guest Prof. V.P. Tiwari, Director, H.F.R.I, Shimla who appreciated the efforts of the Principal Dr. (Sr.) Beena John and the staff to organize such successful events. Mr. Anshul Sharma from Y.S Parmar University, Nauni and Dr. Sapna Sharma, Associate Professor, Department of Physics, St Bede's College, got the prize for best poster presentation. The conference came to an end with the Vote of Thanks by Dr. Shramja Munjal. Certificates were distributed to all the delegates after the Valedictory Session.



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Training Program

August 29 - August 31, 2016

Zoology students attended a training program under the research project “Ecological studies on distribution patterns of food plant resources of butterflies along altitudinal gradients in different ecosystem of Western Himalayan Sub-Alpine Forests of Himachal Pradesh:” at HFRI w.e.f. 29th - 31st August, 2016.



Training program

December 6- December 8, 2016

Zoology students attended a training program under the research project “Management of insect-pest and diseases in the nursery” at HFRI w.e.f. 6th -8th December, 2016.



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Department Achievers

Research Internships

Summer Training

July 6 - July 24, 2016

Zoology students had undergone a Summer Training in Basic Course in Taxonomy for two weeks w.e.f. 6-24th July 2016 at Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla . Reports of the same had been submitted in their respective departments.





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National Seminar Attended

December 9- December 11, 2016

Two Zoology students attended National Seminar on Current Issues and Challenges in Contemporary World (December 9- December 11, 2016) at Rajiv Gandhi Govt. Degree College.

