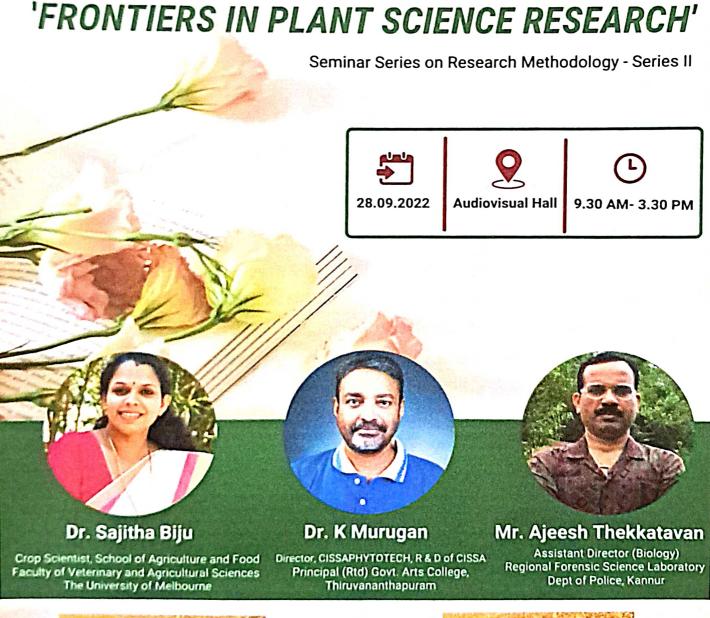


Department of Botany

in association with IQAC, All Saints' College

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR 'FRONTIERS IN PLANT SCIENCE RESEARCH'



Patron
Rev Mother Mary Frances
Director
Rev Sr. Belinda Perreira

Principal
Dr. Reshmi R ProspilINTS' COL

Coordinator

Dr. Nisha K K (Assistant Professor)

Organizing Committee

Dr. Cinthya Christopher (HoD, Assistant Professor)

Dr. Sr. Shaina T J (Assistant Professor)

Dr. Pressy P Prakasia (Assistant Professor)

Principal
All Saints' College

Thiruvananthapuram-7

PROGRAM

9.30 AM

- Registration

9.45 AM - 10.00 AM

- Inaugural Session

Prayer

Welcome

- Dr. Cinthya Christopher (HoD, Botany)

Presidential Address - Dr. Reshmi R Prasad (Principal)

Inaugural Address

- Dr. Sajitha Biju, Crop Scientist,

School of Agriculture and Food, FVAS

The University of Melbourne

Vote of Thanks

- Dr. Nisha K K (Coordinator)

10.00 AM- 11.15 AM

- Scientific Session I

Chair

- Dr. Sr. Shaina T J (Asst. Professor)

"Framing the future of sustainable agriculture"

Dr. Sajitha Biju, Crop Scientist,

School of Agriculture and Food, FVAS

The University of Melbourne

11.15 AM- 11.30 AM - Tea break

11.30 am- 12.45 PM

- Scientific Session II

Chair

- Dr. Cinthya Christopher (HoD, Botany)

"Plant taxonomy learning and research for hitting the right target of taxonomic challenges"

Dr. K Murugan, Director, CISSAPHYTOTECH Principal (Rtd) Govt. Arts College, Tvpm

12.45 PM- 1.30 PM

- Lunch

1.30 PM- 3.00 PM

- Scientific Session III

Chair

- Dr. Pressy P Prakasia (Asst. Professor)

"Role and Career Prospects of Biology in Forensic Science Aspect"

Mr. Ajeesh Thekkatavan

Assistant Director(Biology)

Regional Forensic Science Laboratory

Department of Police, Kannur

NATIONAL ANTHEM

All Saints' College Thiruvananthapuram.7

Report on the International Seminar on 'Frontiers in Plant Science Research'

Organized by
The Department of Botany, All Saints' College,
Thiruvananthapuram

Date 28.09.2022



International Seminar on the 'Frontiers in Plant Science Research' (second in the series on Research Methodology) was organized by the Department of Botany, All Saints' College on 28th September 2022. Dr. Sajitha Biju, Dr. K. Murugan, and Mr. Ajeesh Thekkatavan were the resource persons of the seminar.

The seminar was started by seeking the blessings of the Almighty by prayer song by the department choir. Dr. Cinthya Christopher, Head of the department of Botany welcomed the gathering. The seminar was officially inaugurated by Dr. Sajitha Biju, Crop Scientist in the School of Agriculture and Food, FVAS, The University of Melbourne. Dr. Nisha K K, Assistant professor and coordinator of the seminar delivered the vote of thanks.

The first scientific session was by Dr. Sajitha Biju and was chaired by Dr. Sr. Shaina T J, Assistant professor, Department of Botany, All Saints' College. Dr. Sajitha Biju is a Crop Scientist in the School of Agriculture and Food, FVAS The University of Melbourne. She was also a former faculty at All Saints' College. The topic for the first session was "Framing the Future of Sustainable Agriculture". Dr. Sajitha Biju talked about the aspects of sustainable agriculture. She introduced modern techniques of agriculture like hydroponics, microgreen farming, organic farming, sensors used in agriculture, artificial intelligence in agriculture, etc. Hydroponics is a type of agriculture in which crops are grown using waterbased mineral nutrient solutions in aqueous solvents and not in soil. Hydroponics systems can be set up indoors in places that would normally require more space. Microgreen farming is growing tiny edible greens at home. These microgreens have more nutrients than mature plants. Organic farming is an agricultural system that uses biological fertilizers. Sensors are used in agriculture, it enables the farmer to get a wide range of data points from various inputs and factors that determine crop yield, ad turn that data into an actionable plan to detect patterns. It helps to detect stress in plants. Thermal sensors, multispectral imaging sensors, hyperspectral sensors, and LiDAR are the various sensing devices used. Artificial Intelligence in agriculture helps in improving the overall harvest quality and accuracy. She also mentioned the 'OMICS' and 'Genome Editing' approaches for stress tolerance in plants. Sustainable agriculture eradicates hunger, malnutrition, poverty, etc. Global tensions, policies, demographics, and natural resource changes affect sustainable food production and distribution. She said that lack of food (bio)diversity is a threat. Everyone should have a sustainable menu. Food loss and waste must be stopped. She mentioned the new approaches for reducing the wastage of food like the Y Waste app, synthetic meat, climate-resilient



practices, dietary changes, digital technologies, and eating insects. She spoke about her journey to becoming a crop scientist. It really inspired the students. She also mentioned the scholarship programs at the University of Melbourne. The session was very informative to the students. The first session ended by 11.30 am.

The second session was by Dr. K. Murugan, Director of CISSAPHYTOTECH and retired Principal of Govt. Arts College, Trivandrum. The scientific session started around 11.40 am and the session was chaired by Dr. Cinthya Christopher, Head and Assistant professor, Department of Botany, All Saints' College. The topic of the session was "Plant Taxonomy Learning and Research for Hitting the Right Target of Taxonomic Challenges". He first suggested two books - "Are We Losing the Science of Taxonomy" by Lisa. W. Drew and "Plight of Plant Taxonomy and Taxonomists In India; What, Why And How? By Ramamoorthy Siva - for the students to read. He mainly focused on the scope in Botany. He mentioned the websites like Biotechnika, Tair, Pathway to Science, Ambitious Researchers, I Dream Career, etc. He commented on how algal biofuels are turned into petroleum fuels. He talked about the hydroponics market, Arpeggio Bio, Biomanufacturing, etc. He mentioned the Tree Ambulance. The Tree Ambulance is an initiative that has been initiated to protect the tree by Chennai-based environmentalist K. Abdul Ghani in Tamil Nadu. He mentioned the rediscovery of plants. He briefly spoke about Posidonia australis, Septemeranthus, Himalayan trillium, Coccolithophores, and Pinanga andamanesis. He talked about D. Vasini Bai, an innovator from Kerala, who developed Anthurium as a natural air purifier. He talked about his visit to a Kudumbashree unit and an Ayush Ayurveda outlet. He mentioned how taxonomy is becoming endangered and how it failed to attract the youth generation. He said taxonomy is removed from Botany texts to add "more important topics". For taxonomy, the most important scientific instrument is one's eyes and brain. He said that curiosity and critical thinking make the subject interesting. The session was very interactive and it made the students interested in taxonomy.

The third scientific session was in the afternoon and was chaired by Dr. Pressy. P. Prakasia, Assistant professor, Department of Botany, All Saints' College. Mr. Ajeesh Thekkatavan, Assistant Director (Biology) of the Regional Forensic Science Laboratory, Department of Police, Kannur was the resource person. The topic for the session was "Role and Career Prospects of Biology in Forensic Science Aspect". He talked about the relevance of science in criminal investigations. The principles of Forensic Science are the law



of individuality, the principle of exchange, the law of progressive change, the principle of comparison, and the law of probability. How a biology student has more opportunities in the forensic field were also mentioned. Forensic Biology plays a very important role in forensic science. Through science better evidence can be produced. He talked about Edmond Locard, the father of the crime lab, and Arthur Cohler. He shared his personal experiences working as a forensic officer.

The event concluded at 3.30 pm. The students found the session very interesting, interactive, and informative.







International Seminar

Tronhers in Plant Science Research

Scripar Series on Research Methodology - Series I

In Ausociation with IQAC

Dale: 28.09.2022

Venue: Audio Visual Ital)

Resource Persons

- 1. Dr. Sajitha Biju Crop Scientist, School of Agriculture and Food
 FYAS, The University of Melbourne
 - 2. Dr. K. Munugan Director, CISSAPHYTOTECH R + D Q CISSA
 - 3. Mr. Ajeesh Thakkatavan Assistant Director (Biology) Dept 9 Police ASAMISTO

International Seminar on Frontiers in Plant Science Research. Seminar Series on Research Methodology- Level 13

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All Saints' College, Thiruvananthapuram

Affiliated to the University of Kerala and Re-accredited by NAAC with 'A+' Grade

Certificate of Participation

organized by the Department of Botany and IQAC, All Saints' College, Thiruvananthapuram, participated in the International Seminar on 'Frontiers in Plant Science Research' This is to certify that Dr. Dhanalekshmy T J, Head and Asst. Prof. of Zoology, has Kerala on 28th September 2022

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Dr. Nisha K KCoordinator

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Dr. Cinthya Christopher Head, Department of Beleny

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Dr. Reshmi R PrasadPrincipal

All Saints' College Thiruvananthapuram - 7

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Certificate of Participation

September 2022 This is to certify that Ms. Haifa S. Ashraf, Research Scholar, has participated in the Department of Botany and IQAC, All Saints' College, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on 28th International Seminar on 'Frontiers in Plant Science Research' organized by the

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Dr. Cinthya Christopher Head, Department of Botany

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Dr. Reshmi R Prasad
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