



Special Activities and New Initiatives

Monthly Report of May 2023

Doon University, Dehradun

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Blood Donation Drive Organized by Doon University Student Council

On **May 1, 2023**, the student council of Doon University organized a highly successful blood donation drive in collaboration with the IMA Blood Bank Dehradun. The event took place at the building of Dr. Nityanand Himalayan Study and Research Center, Doon University, and witnessed an overwhelming participation of more than 100 individuals. Notably, the drive highlighted the significant role of the student council in organizing and promoting the event, while also emphasizing the remarkable contribution of female donors.



The student council played a crucial role in organizing and executing the blood donation drive at Doon University. They served as the primary organizing body, responsible for coordinating with the IMA Blood Bank, managing logistics, and promoting the event within the university and beyond. The council members actively encouraged student participation, raised awareness

about the importance of blood donation, and ensured a smooth and efficient process throughout the event.

One notable aspect of the blood donation drive was the substantial participation of female donors. The majority of the donors were female students, showcasing their active engagement and commitment to making a positive impact on society. This contribution not only highlights the altruistic nature of the female students but also dispels common misconceptions about women's participation in blood donation drives.

Health Camp Organized by Doon University Student Council

On **May 2, 2023** The student council of Doon University organized a free health camp for the entire doon university members aimed at promoting health and well-being in the community. It was held in collaboration with Doon Government Medical College. This report provides an overview of the event, including the venue, participation numbers, health check services offered, and the significant role played by the student council.

The event witnessed an impressive turnout, with over 200 individuals getting themselves checked. The participants consisted of students from Doon University, as well as members of the faculty and staff. The event garnered significant attention due to its free-of-cost nature and the comprehensive range of health services offered.

It is worth noting that the majority of the donors who volunteered for this health check event were girls. This participation demonstrates the proactive role played by female students in taking charge of their health and well-being. It also highlights the importance of providing accessible healthcare services that cater to the specific needs of the student population.

The event aimed to provide a holistic health checkup experience to the participants. In this health camp Participants had the opportunity to assess their BMI (Body Mass Index) Measurement, which is an essential indicator of overall health and fitness services were offered, Participants could determine their blood group through a blood test. This information is crucial for medical emergencies and blood donations. The event included eye care services, such as vision screening and basic eye examinations, to detect any visual impairments and raise awareness about the importance of eye health. Participants received dental checkups, which included oral examinations, dental hygiene advice, and information on maintaining oral health. The event provided general medical consultations, allowing participants to discuss any health concerns or queries with qualified medical professionals. They could also receive guidance on various health conditions and preventive measures.

Research and Development Cell, Doon University

[1] On the occasion of celebration of G20 Presidency of India on **May 03, 2023**, Research and Development Cell of the University organized an interactive session of its students and faculty members with Dr. Rajesh S. Gokhale (Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India).



He was declared as the State Guest by the Government of Uttarakhand. Nearly 500 students and all the faculty members participated in this program. The theme of the session was '*Glimpses of Transformation in India through Science and Technology*'. Dr. Gokhale discussed how India can come out of the 'Middle Income Trap' with the help of progress in science and technology. He also highlighted that the G-20 leadership is all about how we can empower ourselves technologically. The world is looking at India for leadership in science and technology. The future belongs to Artificial Intelligence and bio-manufacturing. It is important to look at Science with simplicity so that we can connect society with scientific innovations.



Dr. Gokhale elaborated that research must move towards a more interdisciplinary approach. The country can do a lot of wonders in the next 10 years which can't be even imagined. It is time to have a centralised system with world class facilities to solve the complex problems of the country.



Dr Gokhale also detailed the Indian government's successful handling of the COVID-19 pandemic through the innovations in Science and Technology. He highlighted that post pandemic; India is manufacturing a lot of medical equipment which were never manufactured earlier. That's the reason that the bio-economy of India has increased from 70 billion US dollars to 80 billion US dollars in the last one year and that's why India is among those very few countries whose GDPs are growing post pandemic.

Doon University Vice Chancellor Professor Surekha Dangwal, while welcoming the guests, gave details about university's various programs being organised as part of youth connect program of G-20. She highlighted that Doon University was fortunate to host top and distinguished dignitaries from various fields, including the President of India, to this university in recent months. Stating that 'vasudhaiva kutumbakam' (one earth, one family, one future), the theme of India's G-20 Presidency given by our Prime Minister to the world to solve complex problems of our times,

she likened the sutra to 20th century English poet T S Eliot's famous concluding lines of 1920s - Datta, Dayadvam, Damyata. Shatih, shantih, shantih.

Professor Durgesh Pant, Director General of Uttarakhand State Council for Science and Technology (UCOST) highlighted several initiatives taken by the state of Uttarakhand towards promoting innovations in science and technology. Shri Shailesh Bagoli, IAS, Secretary, Science and Technology, Government of Uttarakhand highlighted the initiatives of Government of Uttarakhand towards promoting S&T in the state. He said that despite Uttarakhand being a relatively much younger state, it has achieved substantive progress in the development of S&T. He underscored the need to focus S & T on creating remunerative self-employment opportunities in coming years.

Professor R P Mamgain, Dean of School of Social Sciences and Coordinator for the G-20 Connect programme, summed up the presentations and said that the developments in science and technology are important drivers for economic performances.

[2] The University hosted a highly ambitious iRISE Program at Doon University. It was a state level 03-days residential training for the School teachers of Uttarakhand under the aegis of iRISE (Inspiring India in Research Innovation in STEM Education). Indian Institute of Science and Education Research (IISER) Pune is the national level coordinator of iRISE program. This training was completed successfully today on 12th May 2023 (Friday) when 75 teachers of Dehradun and Haridwar districts accomplished the training. In the valedictory ceremony, Shri Ravinath Raman (Secretary of Department of School Education in Government of Uttarakhand) was the Chief Guest. Prof. Harinath Chakrapnai, the national coordinator of the i-RISE program, was also present.



iRISE program is the joint initiative of Department of Science and Technology (Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India), the Royal Society of Chemistry, the British Council, and Tata Technologies. This workshop, conducted in Doon University by IISER Pune in collaboration with State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) Uttarakhand for the science and mathematics teachers of the state, may pave the way of development and transformation of the teachers in adopting new, innovative and activity-based methodologies of teaching. Such methodologies may help the teachers to inculcate interest among the students in mathematics and science. Uttarakhand is the third state after Maharashtra and Bihar where this program has been launched.

Under the aegis of iRISE, a total of 500 teachers will be trained in Uttarakhand in the first phase. Thereafter, some of the teachers (trained in the first phase) will be selected for second phase on the basis of their activities in the classroom. Under the second phase, selected teachers will receive 10-day residential training at the Indian Institute of Science and Education Research, Pune or at Doon University. Teachers who receive 10 days training will be known as Innovation Champions. In the third phase, all the Innovation Champions will organize cascade workshop in their respective district with the help of I-RISE. Under this program, a kit will also be made available to all the schools which will prove to be very helpful for the teachers to conduct the activity-based learning sessions in the schools.

iRISE program has four strands and one of them is the Teacher Development Strand, under which this workshop was organized to train the teachers. This project is being funded mainly by the Department of Science and Technology (Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India), the Royal Society of Chemistry, the British Council, and Tata Technologies. The iRISE program has different phases. The objective of this program is to enhance innovation and creativity among teachers and students. The objective of this program is to get more and more nominations of the students of the state in the Inspire Awards – Manak, which is a scheme of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, to encourage the children of the country to innovate. In training, priority has been given to the tendency to understand instead of rote learning. The teachers learnt how to teach science and mathematics to the young students by connecting them with the surrounding environment and giving examples of daily life incidents. Teachers also acquired innovative approaches to make inquiry and activity-based methods of teaching-learning in the interdisciplinary fields of science and mathematics. For this three-day programme, separate sessions will be conducted on Science and Mathematics by Prof. Harinath Chakrapani, Shraddha Bhurkunde, Mohd. Taqi, Zahida Shaikh, Harsha Kulkarni and Sanket Raut from Pune.

State Coordinator of Inspire Award Uttarakhand Dr. Avneesh Uniyal, Deputy Director of SCERT Uttarakhand Kiran Bahukhandi, and Dr. Umesh Chamola were also present on this occasion. Prof. R.P. Mangain, Prof. H.C. Purohit, Dr. Arun Kumar, Dr. Charu Dwivedi, Dr. Preeti Mishra, Dr. Rajesh Bhat, Dr. Vipin Kumar, Dr. Anuj Kumar and Mr. Suraj Purohit were present from Doon University.

[3] Dr. Arun Kumar (Coordinator, Research and Development Cell) was invited by the Royal Society of Chemistry to meet Mr. Paul Lewis, Chief Operating Officer Execution and Governance, Royal Society of Chemistry.



Dr. Arun Kumar attended this meeting at JW Marriott Hotel, Aerocity, New Delhi on 24th May 2023 (Wednesday). This was an opportunity for the University to know their plans and programmes in India and also to share and highlight Doon University activities.

G-20 University Connect—Engaging Young Minds

04th May 2023 Doon University, Dehradun is one of the 75 institutions selected across the country for organizing G-20 University Connect—Engaging Young Minds programme. The University organized various activities under the programme including lecture series and inter-university quiz and essay writing competition.

On 04th May 2023, the University organized a lecture series under the broad theme of Empowering Women and Youth in India". The programme was attended by over 470 participants, including students and faculty of Doon University and over 45 other invited guests.

In her welcome address, Professor Surekha Dangwal, Vice-Chancellor, Doon University emphasised that Indian thinking is rooted in ancient Indian philosophy of ‘Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam’, which is also rightly reflected in the G-20 theme during Indian Presidency.



The lead speaker of the programme Ambassador Preeti Sharan, Former Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India shared her views on women empowerment and role of different government schemes in their upliftment. She also highlighted India's stand on climate change and the importance of theme of the G-20 to showcase our unique cultural and spiritual heritage, diversity of all sorts and development potential of an emergent India. Former ONGC Chairperson, Dr. Alka Mittal highlighted the technological advances made by India and how it has led to positive social transformations. Changes have been evident in the leadership of women over the last 10 years whereas the number of women leaders in diverse fields is increasing rapidly. A renowned cardiologist and an expert on science and spirituality, Dr. Mohit Gupta of G. B. Pant Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education and Research, New Delhi delivered a series of powerful messages to a captivated audience in pin drop silence. Triggering sparks in young hearts and minds, he highlighted the importance of recognising the inherent self-strength and inculcating

a deep sense of confidence and personal power which he said is inherent in the soul of Indian cultural and civilisational heritage.

Speaking on the origin, context and significance of the emergence of G-20 multilateral forum and India's Presidency, Dr. Anshuman Gupta, Consultant, RIS for Development Countries explained the relevance of 'University Connect Programme. The Program Coordinator and Dean of School of Social Sciences Professor Rajendra P. Mamgain said that the University Connect programme is unique and students are not only getting exposed to global issues, challenges and opportunities but they are actively participating in a series of related activities such as debates, quizzes, seminars and other competitions.

In a Q&A session, participants particularly students asked questions about the challenges of global



recession, changing geopolitics, impact of climate change on livelihoods, youth unemployment, regional development and rising inequality. Their queries were responded by the speakers.

As a part of the celebrations of the G-20 University Connect Programme, Doon University organized inter-university bilingual essay writing competition and quiz competition on 1st and 3rd May 2023. In total six universities/institutions and 30 students participated in the competition. The winners were Ashish Kumar from UPES in English Essay Competition, Manisha Bisht from DBS PG College in Hindi Essay Competition and Shubranshu Kala & Rohan Binjoa of Doon University in Quiz Competition. The prizes were distributed by distinguished speakers.

Analytical geochemistry laboratory visit at Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology

4th May, 2023 This analytical geochemistry laboratory visit involving explanation of principles and detailed mechanism of XRF, XRD, and LA-MC-ICPMS was really constructive as noted during the student feedback program at Doon University, Dehradun.

International Book and Copyright Day as *Día del Libro*

4th and 6th May, 2023 The Department of Spanish Studies, School of Languages at Doon University observed International Book and Copyright Day as *Día del Libro*.

Día del Libro is the annual fest organised by the Department since its inception in the academic year 2010-2011. This day has been celebrated collectively in Doon University that the UNESCO observes every year to promote reading, publishing and copyright in honour of the great literary master from Spain, Miguel de Cervantes.



This year on the first day of the event the students, teachers and alumni of the Department honoured the Spanish and Latin American cultures by setting up art galleries and food stalls that represented the Hispanic World.

On the second day, the students orchestrated numerous performances during the event such as poem recitations, followed by a variety of folk dance performances such as Flamenco from Spain, Bachata from Dominican Republic and another Latin dance form, Salsa. The students also showcased the cultural uniqueness of various countries of Latin America by organising a fashion parade to exhibit the national dresses of countries such as Panama, Mexico, Cuba, etc. A quiz was also organised on the general awareness about the Latin world for the audience. A compelling work of Miguel de Cervantes, *El Retablo de Las Maravillas*, a famous play with a message on reality vs illusion in the 17th century Spain, relevant even today, was performed by the students of the Department.

The event was even more memorable as the students of Spanish from Shyam Lal College, University of Delhi also took part in the event by singing Spanish songs and performing traditional dance. The event was concluded by a delightful performance of the song “Sofia” that was sung by all the student-performers together.

Dr. Mala Shikha, Head I/c of the Department expressed gratitude to all the guests, students, faculty members and alumni of the department of Spanish Studies as well as Shyam Lal College, University of Delhi for taking part in the two-day festivities. Swagata Basu, Sushil Kumar, Shreya Rawat, Seema Kumari and Ana Rived Singh were present among the participants.

IPR Awareness Program “NIPAM”

12 May 2023 The students and faculty members of Department of Computer Science, School of Physical Sciences, Doon University successfully organized a program on IPR awareness “NIPAM” (National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission) through Patent Office of India from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM. Assistant Controller of Patents and Design Mr. Divyanshu Mishra was the main speaker from the Patent Office of India.

Mr. Divyanshu Mishra guided the faculty and students for filing the patents in Indian patent office, and he tells about all the technical details of the patent filing including trademarks, copyrights, design, and Electronic Circuit filing.

Total Number of 125 participants took participation in this workshop from the different departments / schools of the University.

This program will do a great impact on research scholars and may be fruitful for the future growth of the University in the field of patents award.

Frühlingsfest 2023

The Department of German Studies, School of Languages organized a two day cultural programme *Frühlingsfest* on **16th and 17th May 2023**. Being a students' event happening once in a year, the students of the department participated in the events with great interest and enthusiasm.

The first day of the programme took place in the Lecture Hall Complex, room 205 with various stalls on German cultural themes. There were stalls on typical German beverages and desserts, e. g. *Orangenschorle*, *Schwarzwaldkuchen* (black forest pastry) and lemonade was offered to the



visitors. There were also stalls on various game, such as dart throwing, arcade game, ping pong, lift the bottle etc., which students from different schools and departments enjoyed a lot. A stall for colorful face painting was made which was another highlight of the event. Apart from that upbeat German music was played which helped the atmosphere to become youthful and lively.

The second day of the programme took place in Senate Hall and Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Doon University was invited as the chief guest for the day. The programme started with an introductory speech by the Dr. Vipul Goswami, Head of the Department of German Studies who emphasized on the value of such cultural events in the holistic development of the students. The students presented folk dance, traditional waltz dance, group songs and a short play by famous German playwright Bertolt Brecht. The events pulled crowd in large numbers which again shows the popularity of the cultural fest from the Department of German Studies.

Brainstorming Panel Discussion on Reimagining Positive Peace in the Context of Climate Change, Health and Social Issues in Uttarakhand

In a one-day panel discussion organized by the Department of Economics, Doon University, experts discussed in detail the topic of global peace and social and economic development. Elaborating on positive and negative peace, the experts said that an ideal society can be called only where there is an abundance of positive peace and for this it is necessary that the criteria of economic development should be centered on positive peace.

The keynote speaker at the panel discussion, Dr. Mahesh Bhatt, Secretary, MMBSHS Trust, Dehradun emphasized on the importance of peace, saying that peace is a fundamental requirement for the development and prosperity of individuals and communities. He highlighted the pioneering work of the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), a research organization dedicated to studying issues related to peace. Dr. Bhatt introduced the concept of positive peace, originally propounded by Johann Galtung. He explained that positive peace refers to the presence of desirable conditions, while negative peace focuses on the absence of undesirable elements.



He elaborated on the eight pillars of peace, which include factors such as low levels of corruption, a conducive business environment, effective governance, fair resource distribution, unrestricted flow of information, harmonious relations with neighboring countries, a highly educated population, and more. and respect for the rights of others.

He also highlighted the Global Peace Index, which assesses negative peace through 23 indicators, and the Positive Peace Index, which considers 24 indicators. On these indicators, India ranks 135 negative in negative peace, indicating room for improvement in peace. But having a Positive Peace Index score of 85 shows that India has a surplus of positive peace.

One of the panelists, Dr. K.R. Nautiyal, former Additional Director General of Coast Guards highlighted the challenges that arise after receiving education and training, especially in the context of the limited employment opportunities available in the job market. He also addressed the issue of climate change, which has resulted in changes in water flow patterns in the agriculture sector. Additionally, he expressed concern about animals encroaching on human habitats. Drawing conclusions from his research findings, Dr. Nautiyal raised important questions about governance. In particular, he highlighted the absence of teachers in the remote hilly areas of the state, thereby depriving the students of quality education. In addition, he pointed to the shortage of doctors in hospitals, indicating a significant gap in the healthcare system.



Another panelist Prof. SP Sati, associate Professor at VCSG Uttarakhand University of Horticulture and Forestry, Ranichauri Campus emphasized the importance of scientific temper as a fundamental aspect of society. He also discussed the concept of positive peace, considering it an idealistic notion. According to him, the work of maintaining peace is mainly done by the army. He pointed out that countries with high levels of positive peacefulness tend to have less reliance on the military and minimal interference by the police. The credit for this goes to the moral values inculcated in the people of such countries. He addressed the high vulnerability of a specific state, which is prone to disasters and faces increased risks in this regard.

Prof. HC Purohit highlighted the importance of skilling the youth and enhancing their capabilities in line with the principles propounded by Mahatma Gandhi. He emphasized on the transformation of India's economy from agriculture to industry and later to Industry 4.0. Apart from this, Prof. Purohit stressed the need for adopting a human resource development strategy.

Presenting the outline of the program, Prof. Rajendra P Mamgain, Head of the Department of Economics and the organizer of the programme said that with economic development and global peace brings prosperity and peace in the society. However, structural deficiencies such as inefficient functioning of institutions, infrastructure, work culture, unequal access to resources and associated socio-economic discrimination often block the process of happiness and peace. And the possibility of economic and social discrimination is more likely to arise. He also highlighted the limitations of global peace index in capturing the larger picture due to paucity of data. For permanent peace and prosperity in Uttarakhand, it is necessary that more attention should be paid to institutional reform and development.

The programme was well attended by the faculty of Doon University, students and more than 50 other guests.

Revisiting Premchand's Idgah Touches Innermost Core of Human Soul

Doon University school going students perform 'Hamid Ka Chimta'

23 May, 2023: Enthralling audiences to a scintillating performance, school going children of faculty and staff of Doon University today showcased a theatrical performance of "Hamid Ka Chimta" based on Munshi Premchand's iconic story 'Idgah'.

The performance was the culmination of an exclusive two-week theatre workshop program for school going children of all faculty and non-teaching staff, a distinct initiative of its kind to expose young children to different situations.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Surekha Dangwal, Registrar Dr. Mangal Singh Mandrawal, Prof. H.C. Purohit, Prof. Harsh Dobhal, and Dr. Chetana Pokhriyal inaugurated the theatrical function by lighting the lamp. The workshop organized under the aegis of Women's Cell, IQAC, School of Languages and Department of Folk and Performing Arts, is part of a series of initiatives aiming at holistic as well as personality development of the children through theatre, where children will learn to overcome inhibitions, be socially inclusive and cooperate with others with confidence, Doon University Vice Chancellor Professor Dangwal said.

"Theater is a suitable medium to awaken the imagination of children. It is also a way of exposing children to difficult situations and prepare them to handle various situations in life," she said adding that theatre is an apt medium for firing a child's imagination, and it helps the children articulate themselves holistically. These kinds of activities are essential for the psychological and social growth of the mind, and the developing children stand most to benefit from them.

The play was directed by Dr. Ajit Panwar of the Department of Folk and Performing Arts, and the workshop was coordinated by Dr. Chetana Pokhariyal of Doon University of School of Languages.

“Such exercises are crucial in the psycho-social development of children and this workshop has been a wonderful initiative in the community outreach efforts of the university, where the children



of the faculty, staff and supporting staff share the same platform and put up a joint performance, as a team,” Dr. Pokhariyal said.

Dr. Panwar said that giving information about Angik, Vahik, Aharya and Satvik acting to the children makes them comfortable and confident on stage. “Theatre opens up a child’s mind to creative and imaginative possibilities. Dr. Panwar has conducted such workshops in the past at different places.

In the workshop, children aged 5 to 14 years participated. The aim of the workshop was to develop the personality of children and to express their hidden talents. Various activities were conducted for the instilling in them the confidence to present themselves on stage. The initiative aimed at personality development through theatre by which the children learn to overcome hesitancy and collaborate confidently with others. The children were motivated to make the society beautiful by working together. The colourful play they presented on a vibrantly decorated stage by the students of Department of English, was attended by their parents, the students, faculty, and staff of Doon University.

On this occasion Dr. Smita Tripathi, Dr. Rashi Mishra, Dr. Preeti Mishra, Dr. Gazala Khan, Dr. Aditi Bisht, Dr. Tanvi Negi, Dr. Rakesh Bhatt, Anuradha Singh, Reena Pawar, Deepa Devi, Trilok, Amit Kumar, Shobha Ram Nautiyal, Vipin Naithani, Mehul Rawat and Ayush Kurian amongst others were present.

Cast of the Play: Divyansh Dobhal- Hamid, Shaurya Nautiyal- Teacher, Veer Srivastav- Friend, Reyansh Dobhal- Friend, Yash Kumar- Student, Kavya Srivastav- Friend, Neha Kumari- Grandmother, Avi Kumar - Friend, Divyansh Joshi - Student, Jyoti, Lakshya Dixit - Constable, Tanish Prakash - Shopkeeper, Kartik Naithani - Friend, Ravi Kumar - Friend, Khushi Panwar - Student, Tatsav Mala - Student, Vaityali Tiwari - Student, Vivek Semwal – Student.

Report of Dept. of Physics, School of Physical Sciences

Webinar on “Raman Effect: From Scattering to Spectroscopy and Beyond”

The Department of Physics organized a webinar on “Raman Effect: From Scattering to Spectroscopy and Beyond” on May 24, 2023. The speaker of the seminar was **Professor Rajesh Kumar**, Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology Indore (IITI). The objective of the seminar was to understand the Raman effect in science and technology.

- Dr. Priyanka, Scholar of Dept. of Physics, Doon University got the postdoctoral position in UNAM Mexico (National University of Mexico).
- Acceptance of research paper in **Surfaces and Interfaces** entitled “**Role of Defects and Interfacial Interactions in Ion Irradiated Noble Metal Based TiO₂ Hybrid Nanostructures for Improved Photocatalytic Investigation**”.
Authors: Priyanka Bamola, Saurabh Rawat, Stuti Dhapola, Manushree Tanwar, Razia Nongja, Kandasami Asokan, Rajbeer Sharma, Archana Mishra, Charu Dwivedi, Rajesh Kumar, Himani Sharma (IF-6.137)
- Acceptance of research paper in **Nanotechnology** entitled “Interdigitated electrodes-based Au-MoS₂ hybrid gas sensor for sensing toxic CO and NH₃ gases at Room temperature”
Authors: Saurabh Rawat, Priyanka Bamola, Chanchal Rani, Vishakha Kaushik, Ujjwal Kumar, Charu Dwivedi, Rekha Rattan, Mohit Sharma, Rajesh Kumar and **Himani Sharma (IF-3.953)**
- Acceptance of research paper in **Journal of Alloys and Compounds** entitled “**Enhanced Piezoelectric Response Using TiO₂/MoS₂ Heterostructure Nanofillers in PVDF Based Nanogenerators.**”
Authors: Abhinav Bhatt, Vishal Singh, Priyanka Bamola, Deepali Aswal, Saurabh Rawat, Shilpa Rana, Charu Dwivedi, Bharti Singh, Himani Sharma (**IF-6.371**)
- Two BSc students (Himadri Tripathi and Sakshi Pujari) presented their research work entitled “2D-1D WS₂-TiO₂ based Heterostructures for Enhanced Visible Light Driven Photocatalytic activity” in an international hybrid conference on “Nano Structured Material and Polymers” . The conference was organized by Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala, India in collaboration with Gdansk University of Technology, Poland, Wroclaw University of technology, Wroclaw, Poland, University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg, South Africa and University of Lorraine, Nancy, France.
- One MSc student (Hritik Kala) presented his research work entitled “Plasmonic Au-WS₂ based gas sensors for detecting toxic environmental gases” in the same conference. The students presented their work under the supervision of Dr. Himani Sharma.

Report of Dept. of Chemistry, School of Physical Sciences

- Prof. Pankaj Sharma (Instituto de Quimica, National Autonomous University of Mexico) visited Department of Chemistry for 20 from 13th May 2022 to 5th June 2022).
- Ravi P. Singh (Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi) visited Chemistry Department on 22nd May 2022 (Monday) and conducted an interactive session on “*Organic Molecules: Drugs, materials and Beyond*”



- Ms. Charu Negi (the student of the very first batch i.e., 2015 batch of integrated M.Sc. Chemistry of Doon University) became the recipient of internationally competitive and highly prestigious fellowship viz. Marie Skłodowska-Curie PhD fellowship for pursuing her Ph.D. in RMIT Australia jointly with Max Planck Institut für Eisenforschung, Düsseldorf, Germany. She was an extremely meritorious and bright student. When she was pursuing B.Sc. (Hons) at Doon University, she was also associated with Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education- Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (HBCSE-TIFR) Mumbai for research activities.
- Avantika Rawat, 3rd year student in B.Sc. Chemistry Hons. programme won 1st prize in debate competition organized by Vigilance Establishment Sector, Uttarakhand, under the ambit of G20 Summit, Uttarakhand.
- A. Bhatt, V. Singh, P. Bamola, D. Aswal, S. Rawat, S. Rana, C. Dwivedi, B. Singh, H. Sharma. Enhanced Piezoelectric Response Using TiO₂/MoS₂ Heterostructure Nanofillers in PVDF Based Nanogenerators., Journal of Alloys and Compounds, in press, May 2023, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jallcom.2023.170664>
- D. Sharma, A. Bahuguna, S. Rawat, A. Kumkar, A. K. Singh, Organosulphur and organoselenium ligands in designing metal-based catalytic systems for C-H arylation of imidazole, in press May 2023, <https://doi.org/10.1002/aoc.7106>

Fervour- The Media Fest 2023

26-27 May 2023 School of Media and Communication Studies, Doon University organized a two-day- '*Fervour- The Media Fest 2023*'. The theme of this year media fest was — Digital Media & Media Ethics.

The fest was inaugurated on 26th May 2023 at 2:30 pm by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Doon University Prof Surekha Dangwal, Head of the School of Media & Communication Studies Dr. Rajesh Kumar and invited guests on the occasion Mr. Ajeet Kamboj, Digital Head of Navodaya Times & Mr. Suraj Negi, Director, Viralbug Films.

On this occasion, The Vice Chancellor Prof Surekha Dangwal guided and inspired students by talking about New Digital Trends and emerging Technology & exhorted the students to convert their passion into hard work.

Mr. Ajeet Kamboj, Digital Head of Navodaya Times delivered a lecture on “Behind the Scenes: Expert Advice for Media Enthusiasts” and gave insights into media industry and enlightened the students about various aspects of digital media including the phenomena of fake news, misinformation and disinformation on digital media platforms.

Mr. Suraj Negi Director, Viralbug Films made an interesting presentation on “Lights, Camera, Action: Unveiling the Magic of Films”

DR. Rajesh Kumar, Head of the School of Media & Communication Studies discussed as to how the media has turned into an industry thereby compromising ethics. He also emphasized that understanding the media and message therein is the need of the hour for which an extensive media literacy programme should be launched.



Dr. Harsh Dobhal, Dr. Surendra Singh Suthar, Dr. Nitin Kumar, Dr. Rashi Mishra, Juhee Prasad, Aabshar Abbasi and other faculty members were present there during the fest.

First Gaura Devi Memorial National Debate Competition

In a befitting tribute to environmental icon Gaura Devi, Doon University organised first Gaura Devi Memorial National Debate Competition where students from 28 universities across India fiercely debated on the topic ‘Only an Ethical Relationship with Nature in the Present World Can Help Mitigate Climate Challenge.’

Organised by “VATSALYA: The Literary and Debating Club” of Doon University, the students and the participants enthralled the audiences with their remarkable speaking, argument constituting and critical engagement skills while passionately making deliberations for and against the motion.

“This is a befitting tribute to Gaura Devi, who is the first global eco-feminist and thus the icon of bravery of heroic women who defied the government and its powerful bureaucrats to conserve tress,” Vice Chancellor Prof. Surekha Dangwal, the main inspiration behind organizing this national debate said, “Doon University attempts to integrate Gaura Devi’s persona, Chipko women’s images and their message as part of university’s several activities on relevant themes of women, environment, social movement, gender justice and social change,” she added.

Professor Dangwal said that the university is organising a series of activities as part of G20 presidency of India and while organising such events are important for learning and awareness, such competitions also help students boost their level of confidence and remove the hesitation of public speaking while enhancing their capacities to engage critically and constitute powerful and logical arguments.

In order to pay true homage to Gaura Devi, Doon University will organize this national debate every year on themes relevant to the issues Gaura Devi symbolizes.

This debate is part of a series of activities Doon University is organizing as part of 76 universities identified by Ministry of External Affairs to spread awareness among youth and academic community in the country about the G20 Presidency of India.

A total of 28 universities from all over the nation participated in the competition coming from various institutions including Jamia Millia Islamia, Banaras Hindu University, Aligarh Muslim University, Delhi University, Indraprastha University, Graphic Era University and many others.

Under the Hindi category the First Prize was bagged by Mehek of DAV PG College (Dehradun), the Second prize to Nishanth of Aligarh Muslim University, while the Third Prize was bagged by Shivani of DAV PG College (Dehradun).

Among those making their presentations in English, first prize was bagged by Sudeep Krishna of Jamia Millia Islamia, second prize by Divyajyoti Tripathi of Jamia Millia Islamia while third prize went to Jaya Sharma of Doon University. Jamia Millia Islamia was declared as overall champion by the jury.

The panel of jury consisted of Dr. Anjali Verma, an accomplished academician and social worker, Dr. Anju Bhatt, Associate Professor at Government Degree College, Barkot and journalist Rahul Kotiyal, founder and editor of baramasa.in, a media house based in Uttarakhand.

Professor Durgesh Pant, Director General of UCOST, while gracing the occasion as Chief Guest said that climate Change is no more an academic debate. “It is now a worrisome fact and severe reality in which extreme climate conditions are now being accepted as new normal. The debates and churning today over this issue should mean a miniscule but important positive step towards mitigation,” Professor Pant said.

Professor H.C. Purohit, Dean Students Welfare, said that the Doon University is committed to organise events on themes that are critical and relevant. Environmental ethics have to be taken into consideration in the context of a variety of activities such as manufacturing, housing, agriculture and energy production and consumption,” Professor Purohit said.

Dr. Chetana Pokhriyal, Coordinator of Cultural Committee and Dr Arun Kumar, Head of Department of Chemistry guided the Vatsalya team in their endeavour.

Tanisha Rawat, the convener and Maneesha Negi, the co-convener of Vatsalya Society organised the event and was assisted by their team members Sneha Kothiyal, Nidhi, Sanjana, Komal, Sanyam, Prakhar, Aman, Sneha Maithani, Aryan, Om and the NCC cadets.

World No Tobacco Day Celebration at Doon University, Dehradun

On **May 31, 2023** the **World No Tobacco Day** celebration was held at Doon University, Dehradun. The event aimed to raise awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco use, educate the public, especially the youth, about tobacco industry practices, and promote healthier lifestyles. Esteemed guests, including Mr. Dhan Singh Rawat (Education Minister of Uttarakhand), Mr. Naresh Bansal (Member of Parliament), Mr. Sunil Uniyal 'Gama' (Mayor of Dehradun), and Professor Surekha Dangwal (Vice Chancellor of Doon University), along with faculty members and students, attended the event. Students from nearby schools also participated in the movement. Prof. Surekha Dangwal,

emphasized the importance of raising awareness about the ill-effects of tobacco and the need for collective action to combat this global issue.

Prominent figures such as Mr. Dhan Singh Rawat, Mr. Naresh Bansal, and Mr. Sunil Uniyal 'Gama' shared their insights on the adverse consequences of tobacco consumption and stressed the significance of adopting a tobacco-free lifestyle.



The nukkad natak performed by students from the Drama Art and Society department was a highlight of the event. Through their creative performance, they effectively portrayed the health hazards associated with tobacco use, aiming to raise awareness among the audience and promote positive behavioral changes. The play received an overwhelming response from the attendees and succeeded in conveying the intended message. Additionally, students from nearby schools actively participated in the event, demonstrating their commitment to creating a tobacco-free society. As a symbolic gesture of their commitment to a tobacco-free life, all attendees, including the esteemed guests, faculty members, students, and participants from nearby schools, took a pledge never to use tobacco on World No Tobacco Day. This pledge ceremony aimed to instill a sense of responsibility and encourage everyone present to become advocates for a healthier society.