Editorial

The Office of Publication and Creative Writing Society at SBSPGI is always working to improve how we communicate with our student, staff and alumni. The journey of smooth riding is now well evident with the tenth issue of SBS TIMES in our tenure. We look back when the new publication team started with the coverage of the induction and fresher’s party of the new students and its altogether a mixed emotions as we feature farewell parties where juniors bid adieu to the seniors in style.

In today’s environment, hoarding knowledge ultimately erodes your power. If you know something very important, the way to get power is to actually sharing it. We Invite Eminent personalities from various Industries and Institutions to lend valuable information from their experiences to our students. The tradition continued in the month of April too with the conduction of lectures and workshops by the eminent speakers. The other features of this issue includes the achievements of the staff, students and the progressive legacy of our alumni. The dialogue column, deals with the role of natural products in drug discovery that may generate interest among the readers and we encourage more and more staff members to come and interact.

I look forward to hearing from you. For now, happy reading!

Editor

The 29th April 2014, MATA GUIRI GIRLS HOSTEL, S.B.S.P.G.I, Balawala, witnessed another well organized farewell party on the theme of ‘MEDIA PARTY’ where students of all the intermediate years bid a good-bye to the outgoing batches with great enthusiasm and off course nostalgia.

The function began with warm welcome of Capt. Nalini Mehrishi, Warden, Mata Gujri Girls Hostel. All the hostellers dressed up to their glamorous best and the girls of outgoing batches were draped in gorgeous saris and other dresses brought for the occasion.

The Title of "Miss MGH" was bagged by Ms Kshipra, M.Sc. Microbiology IInd year.

The "Miss Hosteller (P.G.)" award was given off to Ms Deepika Khanna, M.Sc. Biotechnology IInd year.

The "Miss Hosteller (U.G.)" award was given off to Ms Geetanjali Bohra of BPT IVth year.

The "Best Hosteller" title was given to Ms Neelam Sharma of B.Pharm IVth year.
Faculty news & publications

Prof. Sanjay Gupta was invited as a resource person & expert to deliver the lecture on a topic Scientific and Technological Interventions in Water Auditing in a Water Auditing Training Workshop sponsored by National Council for Science & Technology Communication (NCSTC), DST, Govt. of India, organized by Uttarakhand Science Education and Research Centre (USERC) and UCOST, Govt. of Uttarakhand, Dehradun, at Swami Ram Himalayan University (HIHT), Jolly Grant, Dehradun on 22/03/2014.

Prof Sanjay Gupta is associated with an International Journal Analytical Chemistry Letters published by Taylor & Francis as an Associate Editor.


ROLE OF NATURAL PRODUCTS IN DRUG DISCOVERY

Cells of organisms - plants, fungi, bacteria, lichens, insects, animals - produce a large variety of organic compounds. Many substances were obtained anciently, e.g. foodstuffs, building materials, dyes, medicinal, and other extracts from nature. Plants and animals have provided substances used for their biological activity, to heal or to kill, and form the foundation for folk medicine. Most natural products have usually come from plants and microorganisms due to practical difficulties in extracting them from animals. Natural extracts were subjected to separation into component compounds, which were then purified and analyzed. In the late 1800's, synthetic methods were being developed for some of these natural compounds. The first commercial pure natural product introduced for therapeutic use is generally considered to be the narcotic morphine, marketed by Merck in 1826. The first semi-synthetic pure drug based on a natural product, aspirin, was introduced by Bayer in 1899. New separation techniques, spectral methods of identification and new synthetic tools led to major advances in the analysis of Bioactive Compounds. Plant derived drugs represent stable markets amounts to billions of dollar. Recent approval by US of several plant based drugs/semi synthetic/synthetic drugs is based on plant secondary metabolites e.g compounds taxol from Taxus brevifolia nutt for treatment of refractory ovarian cancer etoposide a semisynthetic drug as antineoplastcagent based on podophyllotoxin from Podophyllum peltatum – may apple, synthetic Δ9-tetrahydrocannabinol(originally derived from Cannabis sativa L) and some analogues (e.g nabilone) for treatment of nausea associated with cancer chemotherapy. Natural products is still a field of interest in this era of modern medicines because of easy of availability of plants, less toxic, low molecular weight as compared to recombinant proteins & peptide drugs. Therefore it still remains the predominant choice for therapeutic intervention. Novel biologically active natural products will continue to serve as lead compounds for drug development and is biochemical probes for the discovery of pharmacological and biochemical process by combining the strengths of the knowledge base of traditional systems such as ayurveda with the dramatic power of combinatorial chemistry.

Prof. Versha Parcha
Professor & Head,
Dept. of Applied Chemistry
GUEST LECTURES & WORKSHOPS

Dr. D.N. Rao
Professor, Deptt of Biochemistry
AIIMS, New Delhi

Enriching the knowledge base of the students of a guest lecture was organized in the Department of Biotechnology and Biochemistry by Prof. D.N. Rao, Department of Biochemistry, AIIMS, New Delhi. Presently Dr. D.N. Rao is working as Professor in Dept of Biochemistry at All India Institute of Medical Sciences. New Delhi, he is elected as General Secretary of India Immunology Society, President of FIMSA and recipient of Dr. Pran Nath Chhuthani Oration Award 2013 by National Academy of Medical Sciences.

Delivering his talk on Immunological diagnostics “ Dr. Roa appraised students about the modern diagnostic methods for the detection of chronic diseases. He focused on the development of peptide based immunogens for vaccine design and immuno- diagnostics for diseases like malaria, HIV & plague. Around 100 post graduate students of various streams attended the guest lecture. The students had a healthy interaction, discussing various queries about the topic. The guest lecture was a continued effort of the department, for which the eminent speakers from reputed research institutes were invited and same will be done in future.

GUEST LECTURES & WORKSHOPS

Seminar organized on “Awareness for seeking admission in various Canadian universities” at SBSPGI, Dehradun.

A Seminar was organized on “Awareness for seeking admission in various Canadian universities” by Training & Placement cell, SBSPGI on 25th April 2014 for Nova Edu, Kerala. The invited speakers were Mr. Inder Mohindra and Mr. Ankit Mohindra who acquainted the students with the various aspects regarding admission in Canadian universities for pursuing higher education. They had shared their personal experience related to overseas education leading to job opportunities, especially for Canada. The session was very interactive and fruitful. SBSPGI provide platform to the students who are keen and curious for seeking admission in various Canadian universities.

Workshop on Modern Analytical Techniques –Spectroscopy and its Applications

A workshop on “Modern Analytical Techniques –Spectroscopy and its applications” was organized by the Department of Applied Chemistry in association with The Training and Placement Cell on 28th April 2014. Dr. D.S Rawat, Professor, Department Of Chemistry, was key note speaker of the workshop. Professor Rawat is an eminent personality with 88 publications, 7 patents, reviewer of 1600 indexed journals, associated with number of Government sponsored projects and bodies.

Students of M.Sc. Chemistry, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Microbiology, Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Sciences attended the workshop. Students were given insight of the problem and also trained for solving numerical problems based on spectral techniques. Students showed keen interest and expressed their gratitude for such a wonderful workshop. Dr. D.S Rawat was felicitated by a memento by Brig PPS Pahwa Additional Director (Admin) and Prof Versha Parcha HOD, Chemistry & Convener T&P Cell.
“Being an SBSite, it taught me to be strong enough to face the difficulties of life with patience, hard work and passion. **Patience** to wait for the appropriate time i.e. my time to come, **Hard work** to deserve what you achieve (Which I learnt with quality teaching and expert guidance and the zeal to treat each patient with same dedication) and **Passion** for your profession to be honest to yourself. These three pillars have made me to achieve where I am today. Being in SBSPGI for 4 years changed my life. The faculty so close to my heart, the place, the people, warden ma’am (For putting me in NCC), my batchmates, my roommates, seniors, juniors, Gulati Aunty, Savita Aunty, mess people, laundry people, guards, canteen staff & in all my lovely college which makes me smile every time I think of it and I proudly say **“I WALK AHEAD COS I AM AN SBSITE”**. These are the memories of a lifetime and I miss my college like anything. Those long evenings, Sports Day, NCC Days, College trips, VIVAs, Early morning walks, mess time, Hostel days.. So Nostalgic :) It made me who I am today !!

**Dr. Khyati Sharma BPT, Class of 2006.**

She completed her MPT (Neurology) in 2009 and is a Certified Kinesio Taping Practitioner (CKTP) from Singapore. Currently she is working with DDCA (Delhi & District Cricket Association, Feroz Shah Kotla Grounds) for last 4 years. Previously she was associated with AIFF (All India Football federation) as Team Physiotherapist with Indian Women’s Football Team.

Now she is going for U-19 Zonal Camp organized by BCCI for team selection. She also own her clinic with the name ' Physio Pain Solutions”.

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**Dr. Shashi Ranjan, M.Sc. Biotechnology, Class of 2006, Head, International Business, Natural Herbs and Formulation, received the Outstanding Performance Award at the 12th AGM of the company at Hyderabad on April 17, 2014.**