

## Report on National Seminar

**Title: New Frontiers in Biotechnology**

**Venue:** MMT Hall

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018

**Preamble:**

A One day seminar on ` New Frontiers in Biotechnology ` has been organized by Department of Biotechnology on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018, at St Joseph's College Autonomous, Irinjalakuda in order to provide a unique platform to learn the recent developments in the field of Biotechnology for students, research scholars and faculties.

**Participant's Profile:**

A total of 57 delegates from various colleges (including student and faculty) and more than 100 students from Department of Biotechnology, St Joseph's college.

**Description about the Program:**

Spot Registration was until 10.00am. Inaugural function began with prayer. Dr. Viji Mary Varghese represented the department and welcomed the gathering. On the inaugural function, Dr Haris Parengal, Director, Centre for tropical Biodiversity Conservation emphasized the requisite of collaborations , multidisciplinary research and opportunities in emerging areas of Biotechnology. Dr. Lissy Anto, Principal presided over the function.

Subsequent session was undertaken by Dr Haris Parengal, Director, Centre for tropical Biodiversity Conservation spoke on the topic: Microbes and mental Health. It was fascinating to participant to know that the fluctuations of the gut microbial community have been implicated in multiple host diseases such as inflammatory bowel diseases, obesity, diabetes and inflammation. Furthermore, his findings provided recent evidence suggesting a potential role of the microbiota-gut-brain axis in neuropsychiatric disorders, such as depression and anxiety.

Short tea break followed the second session by Dr Shiny P J, Research coordinator Guru Nanak College, Chennai. Potential scope of nanotechnology in therapeutics and its applications were discussed. Nano particle analysis techniques were familiarized drawing attention of post graduate students. Session was followed by lunch from 12.45 to 1.30 pm

Dr. Beena P S, handled the first post luch session focusing on Genomics and Sequencing.

Dr Leon Ittiachen, spoke on "Re-engineering Biological research in the 21st Century. Highlighted facts included the advent of synthetic biology, CRISPR and Artificial Intelligence.

The entire session was interactive and the speakers answered many queries raised by the participants. At the end of each session speaker were honored with a memento as a token of gratitude from the department.

Association secretary, proposed vote of thanks.

The entire programme was co-ordinated with the support of the Principal, faculty and students of the Department of Biotechnology, St Joseph's College, Irinjalakuda

**Feedback:**

All the participants expressed their gratitude to organizing committee and submitted the feedback forms which were analyzed and suggestions accepted.

**Future Perspectives:**

The department of Biotechnology is looking forward to organize future conferences on various disciplines of Life Sciences

**Photos:**InaugurationSession 1 : Dr Haris ParengalSession 2: Dr Shiny P JSession 3: Dr Beena P S

Session 4: Dr Leon Ittiachen

