



UGC ASC News



Vol.15. No.2

April 2015



UGC - Academic Staff College University of Kerala

Thiruvananthapuram
Kerala, India

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UGC-ASC News is the half-yearly publication of the Academic Staff College, University of Kerala Thiruvananthapuram. This publication is meant for maintaining a constant dialogue between the ASC on the one hand and the University Departments, Affiliated Colleges and Alumni of the ASC on the other. Through this Newsletter we hope to establish meaningful contacts with a wider audience interested in the cause of higher education in this country. We submit the ASC News to the academic community and welcome their valuable suggestions about its form and content.

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From The Editor's Desk



Greetings from Academic Staff College !

The 20th Century gave much emphasis to education and was referred as the education Century. Being a catalyst to socio-economic growth, national prosperity and advancements including science and technology severely slant on Education. Education sector has to bear multi faceted challenges in coping with innovations and quality sustenance. The prominence of traditional system of education cannot be mitigated as India is one among the counties with expansive mass educational needs. The 21st century aims to promote borderless education capable of facing all the challenges posed by global system. Higher Education Institutions should turn up to be centres of excellence with qualified, skilled and trained teachers along with state of the art facilities.

The capacities and qualities of human capital invested in higher education has to be refined polished and fine turned to capacitate moulding of brighter young minds. The humble but most prominent objective of the HRDC is to effectuate this task.

Hearty thanks to all.

*Dr. S. V. Sudheer
Professor Director*

**139th ORIENTATION PROGRAMME (IT-ORIENTED)
[From 14-10-2014 To 10-11-2014]**

COURSE REPORTS

The 139th IT Oriented Orientation Programme was held from 14th October, 2014 to 10th November, 2014. In the inaugural address, the Honourable Director of Academic Staff College, Dr. S. V. Sudheer observed that the Orientation Programme is specially designed to help teachers to attain excellence in teaching and highlighted the achievements of ASC at the national level. The ice-breaking session was conducted by Dr. Sonny Jose, Loyola College of Social Sciences, Trivandrum.

Mr. Vinod, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Zoology, N.S.S. College, Pandalam and Ms. Rajani, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Environmental Sciences, All Saints' College, Trivandrum, were selected as the Convenors of the Orientation Programme.

The course comprised the following sessions:
Topic 1: Value Based Education: was a lecture which stressed on the importance of imparting values to the youth; Resource Person: Dr. Dinakarlal Thavamony. **Topic 2: Stress Management:** A lecture on how to avoid and manage stress in life; Resource Person: Dr. Dev Das Menon. **Topic 3: Research Methodology:** A lecture on how to write a research paper; Resource Person: Dr. Simon Thattil. **Topic 4: Allergy & Asthama:** A lecture on how to prevent allergy and asthama in our lives and surroundings; Resource Person: Dr. Sudheendra Ghosh. **Topic 5: Pesticides and residues in our food and their impact:** A lecture on how to avoid bad effect of pesticides and how to grow vegetable on our own; Resource Person: Dr. Thomas Biju Mathew. **Topic 6: Disaster Management:** A lecture on hazard identification, prevention of disasters and rehabilitation during calamities and accidents; Resource Person: Dr. K. G. Thara. **Topic 7: Interpersonal Relationship :** A lecture on how to maintain good relationship amongst our fellow beings; Resource Person: Dr. Justin Padamadan, **Topic 8: Academic Writing Skills :** A talk on how to write an academic paper; Resource Person:

Dr. K. P. Vijayakumar. **Topic 9: Service Rules :** A talk on Kerala Service Rules with special reference to rules pertaining college teachers; Resource Person: Sri. K. Natesan Asary. **Topic 10: Cyber Crimes:** An awareness of the various cyber crimes prevalent in the society and how to keep away judiciously; Resource Person: N. Vinayakumaran Nair. **Topic 11: Micro Teaching:** An inspiring class on the role of a teacher; Resource Person: Dr. Rosamma Philip. **Topic 12: Introduction to Computers:** The serious aiming to equip the participants to use Microsoft Word, Excel and Power Point; Resource Person: Sri. Shibu Albert. **Topic 13: Fire & Rescue:** An informative talk on how to react appropriately in the case of a fire; Resource Person: Sri. Prathap Kumar. **Topic 14: Self Awareness:** A discourse on how to know oneself; Resource Person: Fr. Joye James. **Topic 15: Health & Wellness :** A discussion on health and wellness followed by an aerobic session; Resource Person: Dr. Usha. S. Nair. **Topic 16: Web Designing:** imparted the preliminary knowledge on web designing; Resource Person: Mr. S. Manoharan Nair. **Topic 17: Music & Life :** An inspiring and interactive session on the role of music in life and its soothing effects; Resource Person: Dr. B. Arundhathi. **Topic 18: Human Rights:** The session familiarised the various articles regarding Human Rights and cited examples from day-to-day life; Resource Person: Justice Sreedevi. Video Analysis of the Micro Teaching by the participants was done and the evaluation was done by Dr. Theresa Susan. Power Point presentations of the Project work done by the participants and feedback given by Dr. Anirudhan, Dr. S. Resia Beegam and Dr. P P. Ajayakumar.

On 8th Nov, 2014, the participants went on a field trip to Neyyar dam. It was a very enjoyable experience. The programme came to a conclusion on 10-11-14. In the valedictory session, the participants observed with gratitude that the programme was highly successful and effective. They appreciated the commitment and whole-hearted dedication evinced by Dr. S.V. Sudheer in the successful conduct of the programme.

**SHORT TERM COURSE IN DISASTER
MANAGEMENT
[From 28-10-2014 To 01-11-2014]**

The Short-term Course in Disaster Management commenced on 28-10-14. The Course was inaugurated by Dr. S.V. Sudheer.

The following topics/areas were discussed during the duration of the programme: **Topic 1: Introduction to Disaster Management;** Resource Person: Shri. Amalraj M. **Topic 2: Disaster Risk Reduction in Kerala: Official Measures;** Resource Person: Dr. Sekhar L. Kuriakose. **Topic 3: Fire & Rescue Services in Disaster Management;** Resource Person: Shri. Prathap Kumar. **Topic 4: Landslide;** Resource Person: Dr. Sajin Kumar K. S. **Topic 5: Chemical Disasters;** Resource Person: Shri. Faisel T. Illiyas. **Topic 6: Nuclear Safety and Emergency Preparedness;** Resource Person: Shri. Harikumar. M. **Topic 7: Bomb Disposal;** Resource Person: Shri. Lawrence. **Topic 8: Psychosocial Management in Disasters;** Resource Person: Dr. Gireesh. **Topic 9: Recent developments in weather observations and its forecasting for disaster management;** Resource Person: Shri. S. Sudevan. **Topic 10: Climate and climate change scenario in disaster weather events;** Resource Person: Shri. N. T. Niyas. **Topic 11: First Aid Techniques in Disasters;** Resource Person: Shri. Arun. **Topic 12: Disaster Communications HAM operations etc;** Resource Person: Shri. Amalraj. M.

The programme came to a close on 1-11-14. The participants gave their feedback in the valedictory session which indicated that they appreciated the course contents as well as the efforts taken by the course co-ordinator Dr. A. P. Pradeepkumar, Dept. of Geology, University of Kerala and resource persons to drive home the idea of disaster management.

**XXV REFRESHER COURSE IN ECONOMICS
(From 06.11.2014 to 26.11.2014)**

The UGC sponsored 25th Refresher Course in Economics conducted by the Academic Staff College, University of Kerala, commenced 6th November, 2014. The course was attended by

37 participants from different colleges and Universities spread across the country. Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Director, ASC, inaugurated the Course and in his address, emphasised on the three-fold role played by a teacher in the class room, in the society and in research. He concluded his speech by giving a briefing on the course.

The ice-breaking session was conducted by Dr. A.K. Prasad, the Course Co-ordinator. Mr. Johnson T.T., Asst. Prof. College of Engineering, Trivandrum, and Ms. Valsa M. Kuriakose, Associate Prof. B.C.M. College, Kottayam, were selected as the convenors of the course respectively.

The following topics were discussed in the course: **Topic 1: State Finances in India: A case of Kerala,** Resource Person: Dr. B. Alwin Prakash. **Topic 2: Towards goods and Service tax Regime;** Resource Person: Dr. N. Ramalingam. **Topic 3: Federalism and Economic Development in India: Future Prospects;** Resource Person: Dr. G. Karunakaran Pillai. **Topic 4: Time Management and Team Building,** Resource Person: Dr. K. S. Chandrasekar. **Topic 5: Economics of Public Debt: an Inter-State Analysis;** Resource Person: Dr. K. Pushpangadan. **Topic 6: Methodological Foundations in Social Sciences Research;** Resource Person: Dr. K. Gangadharan. **Topic 7: Regression Analysis: Model Diagnosis & SPSS;** Resource Person: Dr. N. Nagarajan Naidu. **Topic 8: Indian Agriculture: Status, Challenges and Opportunities in the Context of Reforms;** Resource Person: Dr. K. P. Mani. **Topic 9: Macroeconomic Policies for Stabilisation: The Indian Experience;** Resource Person: Prof. S. Narayanan. **Topic 10: Capital Market Operations in India;** Resource Person: Dr. G. Raju. **Topic 11: The 1990 Macroeconomic Policy Consensus - Some Issues from Indian Economy;** Resource Person: Dr. Visakha Varma. **Topic 12: Econometric Modelling;** Resource Person: Dr. Manju S. Nair. **Living with Diseases,** Resource Person: Dr. Aswani Kumar. S. **Topic 13: Indian Economy and Global Economic Revival;** Resource Person: Dr. J. A. Arul Chellakumar. **Topic 14: Decentralized Economic Planning in India;** Resource Person: Dr. P. Krishna Kumar. **Topic 15: Inclusive Growth in India;** Resource Person: Dr. S. Iyyampillai. **Topic**

16: Stress Management; Resource Person: Dr. Dev Das Menon. **Topic 17: Applications of Mathematical Tools in Economics;** Resource Person: Dr. Abdul Salim. A. **Topic 18: Cyber Crimes;** Resource Person: Sri. N. Vinayakumaran Nair. **Topic 19: Tourism and inclusive growth;** Resource Person: Dr. B. Vijayakumar. **Topic 20: Health & Wellness;** Resource Person: Dr. Usha S. Nair. **SPSS,** Dr. N. Nagarajan Naidu.

Dr. S.V. Sudheer, Director, ASC, led an interactive discussion on the “Innovative Teaching Methods”. The participants presented their views and suggestions on the topic. Adding excitement to the whole course, the participants went on a one day tour to Varkkala on 18.11.2014. They visited Sivagiri and Papanasam Beach which tranquilised their minds. The trip fostered a sense of oneness which the participants had begun to experience at ASC.

The feedback taken from the participants was highly positive. An overwhelming majority agreed that their concerns and questions were effectively addressed by the resource persons. They expressed their warm appreciation for Dr. S.V. Sudheer, Director, ASC for being a brilliant facilitator and for encouraging and inspiring the teaching fraternity. They placed on record their gratitude for Dr. A.K. Prasad, the Course coordinator, who had been very supportive. Moreover, they appreciated the entire staff of ASC for sparing their invaluable time to address the concerns of each and every participant.

XXIX REFRESHER COURSE IN NANO-SCIENCES [From 11-11-2014 To 01-12-2014]

The XXIX Refresher Course in Nano-Sciences commenced on 11-11-14. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. S.V. Sudheer, Director, ASC. Dr. Sudheer talked at length about the importance of Nano-Sciences and exhorted the participants to update their knowledge about the field. Dr. K. G. Gopchandran, the course co-ordinator briefed the course curriculum and gave directions regarding the project work to be submitted as part of the course. Dr. Antony S., Assistant Professor in Physics, M. G. University, Kottayam and Dr. Preethi B., Assistant Professor in Chemistry,

University College, Trivandrum were selected as the convenors of the programme.

The following topics/areas were discussed in the programme: **Topic 1: Nanoelectronics;** Resource Person: Dr. M. Abdul Khadar, **Topic 2: Fuel Cells;** Resource Person: Dr. K. S. Sibi. **Topic 3: Nanobiology;** Resource Person: Dr. R. S. Jayasree. **Topic 4: Nanoelectronics;** Resource Person: Dr. Premlet. **Topic 5: Microscopy;** Resource Person: Dr. Prabhakar Rao. **Topic 6: Stress Management;** Resource Person: Dr. Dev Das Menon, **Topic 7: Material Characterization;** Resource Person: Dr. Umesh R Kadhane, **Topic 8: Solar energy materials and solar cells;** Resource Person: Dr. K. P. Vijayakumar, **Topic 9 Polymer nanocomposites;** Resource Person: Dr. Honey John. **Topic 10: Microscopy applications;** Resource Person: Dr. M. Junaid Bushri. **Topic 11: X-ray diffraction;** Resource Person: Dr. Sudarsanakumar. **Topic 12: Magnetic materials;** Resource Person: Dr. Subodh. **Topic 13: Materials for energy storage;** Resource Person: Dr. M.K. Jayaraj. **Topic 14: Quantum mechanics-Fundamentals;** Resource Person: Dr. Sabir. **Topic 15: NMR spectroscopy;** Resource Person: Dr. Vinesh Vijayan. **Topic 16: Road map of nanotechnology;** Resource Person: Dr. K. B. Jinesh. **Topic 17: Organic solar cells;** Resource Person: Dr. Manoj A. G. Namboothiry. **Topic 18: Applications of Nanotechnology;** Resource Person: Dr. K. Nandakumar. **Topic 19: Scanning Probe Microscopy;** Resource Person: Dr. Joy Mitra. **Topic 20: Health Problems;** Resource Person: Dr. Joy Philip. **Topic 21: The rise of GaN;** Resource Person: Dr. K. G. Gopchandran. **Topic 22: Recent trends;** Resource Person: Dr. C. Vijayan. **Topic 23: Material frontiers for consumer electronics;** Resource Person: Dr. Surendran. **Topic 24: Computational Chemistry: Fundamentals;** Resource Person: Dr. E. Jayasree. **Topic 25: Organic Nanophotonics;** Resource Person: Dr. V.P.N. Nampoori. **Topic 26: From MOSFET to SPIN FET;** Resource Person: Dr. P. S. Anilkumar.

The programme concluded on 1-12-14. The participants gave a very constructive feedback about the programme in the valedictory session. They appreciated the course contents and the interest evinced by the resource persons in being

innovative in presenting the topics. They thanked Dr. S.V. Sudheer for making them feel at home at ASC with his kindness, generosity and friendly attitude.

**SPECIAL WINTER SCHOOL
[From 28-11-2014 To 18-12-2014]**

The Special Winter School Programme commenced on 28-11-14. Dr. S.V. Sudheer inaugurated the programme and in his address, he urged the participants to give their best as teachers to their students. Dr. Anilkumar M., Assistant Professor in Zoology, Sree Siddha Ganga College of Arts and Science, Tumkur and Dr. Roshni R., Assistant Professor in Hindi, Ekbal College, Peringammala were selected as convenors.

The following topics/areas were discussed during the duration of the programme: **Topic 1: Ice Breaking Session; Resource Person:** Sri. S. Suresh Kumar. **Topic 2: Stress Management; Resource Person:** Dr. Dev Das Menon, **Topic 3: Value Based Education; Resource Person:** Dr. Dinakarlal Thavamony, **Topic 4: Self awareness & Counseling; Resource Person:** Fr. Joye James, **Topic 5: Living with Diseases; Resource Person:** Dr. Aswini Kumar, S. **Topic 6: Greatness of Music; Resource Person:** Dr. B. Arundhathi, **Topic 7: Disaster Management; Resource Person:** Dr. K. G. Thara, **Topic 8: Health & Wellness; Resource Person:** Dr. Usha S. Nair, **Topic 9: Media & Human Rights; Resource Person:** Sri. Gouridasan Nair, **Topic 10: Communicative English; Resource Person:** Prof. K. Gopalakrishnan, **Topic 11: Service Rules; Resource Person:** Sri. Natesan Asary, **Topic 12: Higher Education; Resource Person:** Dr. Karpaka Kumaravel, **Topic 13: Time Managemet; Resource Person:** Dr. V. Reghu, **Topic 14: Concept Coaching (Faculty Devt. Programme); Resource Person:** Sri. Manoj A. S, **Topic 15: Pesticides and residues in food and their impact; Resource Person:** Dr. Thomas Biju Mathew, **Topic 16: Cyber Crimes; Resource Person:** Sri. N. Vinayakumaran Nair, **Topic 17: Fire & Rescue services in Disaster Management; Resource Person:** Sri. Prathap Kumar.

The programme came to a close on 18-12-14. In the valedictory session of the programme, the participants gave their feedback, which indicated the fact that the programme was very effective. They conveyed a deep sense of gratitude to Dr. S.V. Sudheer who took the time to address the concerns of each and every participant. They also thanked the staff of ASC.

**140th ORIENTATION PROGRAMME (IT ORIENTED)
(From 01-01-2015 to 28-01-2015)**

The 140th Orientation Programme commenced on 1st January, 2015 with 39 participants from diverse disciplines and belonging to different parts of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Director, Academic Staff College inaugurated the course and welcomed the participants to the programme. In his inaugural address he touched upon the changing trends in the field of education and enumerated on how a teacher should be a mentor and friend to the students rather than being a mere data bank.. He concluded his inspirational talk by quoting the following words of William Butler Yeats: " Education is not the filling of a pail but the lightning of a fire". Mr. Thomas P. John, Assistant Professor in History, St. Xavier's college, Thumba, and Mrs. Sreepriya R. S., Assistant Professor in Chemistry, Christian College, Kattakada, were selected as the convenors. Mr. Suresh Kumar led the ice breaking session that brought in an air of ease amongst all.

The following topics/areas were discussed in the programme: **Topic 1: Value Based Education - A vibrant session on the importance of inculcating values in students along with subject information; Resource Person:** Dr. Dinakarlal Thavamony. **Topic 2: Living with Diseases- An informative lecture on lifestyle diseases and precautionary measures to keep them at bay; Resource Person:** Dr. Aswini Kumar. **Topic 3: Stress Management-An effective class on managing stress in everyday life; Resource Person:** Dr. Dev Das Menon, **Topic 4: Introduction to Computers, Microsoft Word, Power Point and Excel- A complete theoretical and practical guidance on various aspects and use of computers; Resource Person:** Mr. Shibu Albert. **Topic 5: Service**

Rules-An indispensable class on various service related rules; Resource Person: Sri. Natesan Asary. Topic 6: Self Awareness- An interesting interactive session on knowing one's own strengths and weaknesses; Resource Person: Fr. Joye James. Topic 7: Health and Wellness- A lively session on maintaining health with the aid of right diet and exercise; Resource Person: Dr. Usha S. Nair. Topic 8: Micro Teaching- An introductory lecture on micro teaching; Resource Person: Dr. Rosamma Philip. Topic 9: Disaster Management- An informative talk on natural and manmade disasters and how to tackle them; Resource Person: Dr. K. G. Thara. Topic 10: Interpersonal Relationship- - An engaging discussion on the importance of maintaining healthy relationships in life; Resource Person: Dr. Justin Padamadan. Topic 11: Time Management- An effective session on management of time; Resource Person: Dr. J. T. Hari. Topic 12: Music and Education- A highly interesting class on the importance of incorporating music in our everyday activities; Resource Person: Dr. B. Arundhathi. Topic 13: Emotional Dimension in Teaching- A lecture on strengthening the emotional quotient of students via teaching; Resource Person: Dr. G. Porgio. Topic 14: Fire and Rescue services in Disaster Management- An enriching talk on safety and tips to bear in mind to ensure safety; Resource Person: Sri. Prathap Kumar. Topic 15: Cyber crimes- A session replete with useful information about the virtual world and pitfalls behind the screen; Resource Person: Sri. N. Vinayakumaran Nair. Session 16: Micro Teaching- Video Recording, Topic 17: Micro Teaching- Video Analysis: A memorable session to identify one's ability as a teacher; Resource Person: Dr. Rosamma Philip. Topic 18: Communication Skills- A rewarding talk on enriching one's communication skills; Resource Person: Dr. S. N. Kumar. Topic 19: Mysteries of the Universe and Global Warming- A lecture on the unsolved mysteries of the universe and adverse effect of global warming; Resource Person: Dr. Prince P. R. Topic 20: Web Designing- A class on creating and maintaining websites; Resource Person: Mr. S. Manoharan Nair. Session 21, 22 and 23: Project presentation by the participants,

evaluation and feedback; Resource Person: Dr. P. P. Ajayakumar.

A one day trip to Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute in Palode and Mankayam waterfalls near Palode was arranged by the participants. The trip rejuvenated them and fostered a sense of oneness.

A feedback questionnaire covering all relevant areas like topics, content, effectiveness of the resource persons, activities etc. was distributed among the participants and an analysis of the feedback showed that programme was beneficial to them. In their valedictory comments, the participants expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Director, ASC, for the effective management and execution of the programme. They also appreciated and thanked the staff of ASC for being cordial and helpful.

XXIII REFRESHER COURSE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

[From 09.01.2015 to 29.01.2015]

The 23rd Refresher Course in Environmental Sciences was held at the Academic Staff College, University of Kerala, from 09.01.2015 to 29-01.2015. The course was inaugurated by Dr. S.V. Sudheer, Director, ASC. In his inaugural address, Dr. Sudheer discussed the significance of Environmental sciences in the present scenario of global environmental issues. He also motivated the participants to help their students to understand nature and to direct their love towards nature. The ice breaking session was led by the co-ordinator of the course, Dr. V. Salom Gnana Thanga, Department of Environmental sciences, University of Kerala. Dr. Mahesh Mohan, School of Environmental Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University and Ms. Sunitha Rani S.P., Department of Chemistry, Christian College, Kattakada, were chosen as the Convenors respectively.

The following topics were dealt with by the resource persons: *Topic 1: The Earth and natural resources and Anthropocene and Global Changes, Resource Person: Dr. K. Soman. Topic 2: Ethics and IPR patenting, Resource Person: Dr. G.M. Nair. Topic 3: Climate induced disasters, Resource*

Person: Dr. K.G. Thara. **Topic 4: Man, animal conflict and environmental issues of Kerala,** Resource Person: Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese. **Topic 5: Total Quality Management,** Resource Person: Sri. Venugopal. **Topic 6: Biodiversity of Western Ghats,** Resource Person: Dr. Kunjikirishnan. **Topic 7: River Management,** Resource Person: Dr. Peter Pradeep. **Topic 8: Remote sensing-applications;** Resource Person: Dr. A.R.R.Menon. **Topic 9: Environmental Impact of Mining;** Resource Person: Dr. Sabu Joseph. **Topic 10: Food Security;** Resource Person: Dr. G. Suja. **Topic 11: Time Management,** Resource Person: Dr. V.Raghu. **Topic 12: Renewable Energy Resources;** Resource Person: Dr. K. Premkumar. **Topic 13: Wetland ecology and Arctic environment Research;** Resource Person: Dr. Bijoy Nandan. **Topic 14: Health & Wellness;** Resource Person: Dr. Usha S. Nair. **Topic 15: The future we want: Options for Green economy and sustainable Future;** Resource Person: Dr. A. Bijukumar. **Topic 16: Environmental Law;** Resource Person: Dr. Sindhu Thulaseedharan. **Topic 17: Geological time scales and mass scale extinctions;** Resource Person: Dr. S.N. Kumar. **Topic 18: Ground water resources;** Resource Person: Dr.E. Shaji. **One Session on Mercury research in Arctic, India's Arctic environment Research** has been discussed by the Convener Dr. Mahesh Mohan. Last session was Project presentations and evaluation and the resource persons were Dr. Salom Gnana Thanga, Dr. Sabu Joseph and Dr. Jaya D.S.

As part of the course, the participants conducted a field study at Kallar, Near Ponmudi. The participants could enjoy a first-hand experience of the rich biodiversity of the evergreen forests, microclimatic conditions and forest hydrology of the region. A feedback questionnaire on various aspects of the programme was distributed to the participants. While giving their feedback, participants unanimously stated that the refresher course enhanced their knowledge about the environment and their roles in preserving the pristine features of the environment. The participants whole heartedly appreciated the excellent infrastructure facility at ASC. They also appreciated the support of Dr. S.V. Sudheer and the co-operation of the course

co-ordinator and all the staff members of the ASC.

141st ORIENTATION PROGRAMME (IT ORIENTED) (From 30-01-2015 to 26-02-2015)

The 141st Orientation Programme commenced on 30-01-2015. Dr. S.V. Sudheer, Director, ASC, inaugurated the programme. He briefed the participants on the programme and gave guidance for enhancing teaching effectiveness. The ice-breaking session was handled by Dr. Sonny Jose for the smooth conduct of the programme, Dr. Binu R., Assistant Professor in Commerce, Government College, Kottayam and Dr. Sushama Raj R. V., Assistant Professor in Botany, H.H.M.S.P.B. N.S.S. College for Women, Trivandrum.

The following topics/ areas were covered in the programme: **Topic 1: Ice Breaking Session;** Resource Person: Dr. Sunny Jose, **Topic 2: Spark Yourself ;** Resource Person: Sri. Suresh Kumar. **Topic 3: Value Based Education;** Resource Person: Dr. Dinakaral Thavamony. **Topic 4: Cyber crimes- A session replete with useful information about the virtual world and pitfalls behind the screen;** Resource Person: Sri. N. Vinayakumaran Nair. **Topic 5: Living with Diseases;** Resource Person: Dr. Aswini Kumar. S. **Topic 6: Stress Management;** Resource Person: Dr. Dev Das Menon. **Topic 7: Communicative English;** Resource Person: Prof. K. Gopalakrishnan. **Topic 8: Self Awareness- An interesting interactive session on knowing one's own Strengths and weaknesses;** Resource Person: Fr. Joye James. **Topic 9: Time Management;** Resource Person: Dr. V. Reghu. **Topic 10: Disaster Management;** Resource Person: Dr. K. G. Thara. **Topic 11: Service Rules;** Resource Person: Sri. Natesan Asary. **Topic 12: Micro Teaching;** Resource Person: Dr. Rosamma Philip. **Topic 13: Introduction to Computers, Microsoft Word, Power Point and Excel;** Resource Person: Mr. Shibu Albert. **Topic 14: Fire and Rescue Services in Disaster Management-;** Resource Person: Sri. Prathap Kumar. **Topic 15: Impact of Film Music on Man;** Resource Person: Dr. B. Arundhathi. **Topic 16: Interpersonal Relationship;** Resource Person: Dr. Justin

Padamadan. *Topic 17: Web Designing- A class on creating and maintaining websites; Resource Person: Mr. S. Manoharan Nair.*

The programme concluded on 26-02-2015. Dr. S. V. Sudheer delivered the valedictory address. The participants gave their feedback which indicated that the programme was helpful in enhancing their teaching skills, communicative skills and interpersonal skills. However, they observed that a session on Gender Studies may be included. They thanked Dr. S.V. Sudheer for inspiring them through his presence and his words.

XVII REFRESHER COURSE IN EDUCATION [From 03-02-2015 To 23-02-2015]

The XVII Refresher Course in Education commenced on 3-02-2015. Dr. S.V. Sudheer, Director, ASC, inaugurated the proceedings. The Course was co-ordinated by Dr. Teresa Susan, Head Department of Education, University of Kerala, Trivandrum. Dr. Rajeswari K., Assistant Professor and Dr. A. B. Sujith, Assistant Professor, Government College of Teacher Education, Trivandrum were selected as convenors.

The following topics/areas were discussed in the programme: *Topic 1: Brain Compatible Teaching - Learning strategies; Resource Person: Dr. Jahitha Begum. Topic 2: National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education - Implications on Classroom Practices; Resource Person: Suresh Kumar IAS. Topic 3: Self & Time Management; Resource Person: Dr. Reghu V Marackal. Topic 4: E-learning Platform- Crisis, Opportunity Resources; Resource Person: Dr. K. Y. Benedict. Topic 5: Edumetry; Resource Person: Prof. K. Krshnah. Topic 6: Kinds of Variables; Resource Person: Prof. K. Krshnah. Topic 7: Academic Research Writing; Resource Person: Dr. K. P. Vijayakumar. Topic 8: Digital Learning - Teacher Education Perspectives; Resource Person: Dr. S. Senthil Nathan. Topic 9 : Technology Enhanced E-content Generation; Resource Person: Dr. S. Senthil Nathan. Topic 10: Statistical Procedures in Social Science Research; Resource Person: Prof. Immanuel Thomas. Topic 11: Communication Technologies for Teaching-Learning; Resource*

Person: Dr. G. Porgio. Topic 12: Cognitive Behaviour Therapy: An approach for re-Engineering Thinking and Behaviour; Resource Person: Dr. N. Arunachalam. Topic 13: Cyber Crimes and Cyber Ethics; Resource Person: Sri. N. Vinayakumaran Nair. Topic 14: Enhancing Teacher effectiveness through innovative techniques; Resource Person: Dr. Babu Kochamkunnel. Topic 15: Making Learning Interesting through Improvisation; Resource Person: Sri. Anandan Nambiar. Topic 16: Technology Integration and Value Development; Resource Person: Dr. Babu Kochamkunnel. Topic 17: Making Learning Interesting through Improvisation; Resource Person: Sri. Anandan Nambiar. Topic 18: Technopedagogy as a field of Research (Pedagogical Research); Resource Person: Prof. M. A. Sudhir. Topic 19: Emerging roles and Competencies for Teacher Educators; Resource Person: Prof. Prema. Topic 20: SPSS; Resource Person: Sri. Somasekharan Pillai. Topic 21: Techno Pedagogic Content Knowledge Analysis; Resource Person: Dr. Praveen C. Topic 22 : Curriculum Designing; Resource Person: Dr. Asha J. V. Topic 23: Sampling Techniques in Research; Resource Person: Dr. Bindu R.L. Topic 24: Qualitative versus Quantitative Research and its data analysis; Resource Person: Prof. Simon Gabriel Thattil. Topic 25: E-Assessment & Evaluation; Resource Person: Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair. Topic 26: Technology Assisted Education in Inclusive Classrooms; Resource Person: Dr. Geetha Janet Vitus.

The programme concluded on 23-02-15. The participants gave a positive feedback about the programme in the valedictory session. They expressed their deep sense of gratitude to Dr. S.V. Sudheer for his personal warmth and friendly approach.

TWO -DAY PRINCIPALS' WORKSHOP [From 19-02-2015 To 20-02-2015]

The Two-day Principals' Workshop was held at ASC from 19-02-2015 to 20-02-2015. The Workshop was inaugurated by Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Director, ASC, University of Kerala. In his inaugural address, he highlighted the crucial role

played by the Head of the Institution in bringing out the best from the teaching and non-teaching staff of the institution.

The following topics/areas were discussed during the duration of the programme: **Topic 1: Kerala Service Rules; Resource Person : Sri. K. Natesan Asari. Topic 2: Self & Time Management; Resource Person: Dr. V. Reghu. Topic 3: Financial Propriety; Resource Person: Sri. N. Sukumaran Nair. Topic 4: Logical Administration; Resource Person: Dr. S. V. Sudheer.** The programme concluded on 20-02-2015.

SHORT TERM COURSE IN SOFT SKILL DEVELOPMENT [From 24-02-2015 To 28-02-2015]

The Short-term Course in Soft Skill Development commenced on 24-02-2015. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. S.V. Sudheer, Director, ASC, University of Kerala. The Programme was successfully co-ordinated by Dr. J. Dinakarlal Thavamani.

The following topics/areas were discussed during the duration of the programme: **Topic 1: Ice Breaking ; Resource Person: Dr. J. Dinakarlal. Topic 2: Self Confidence, Self Esteem, Integrity and Clean Habits Ice Breaking , Interpersonal Skills & Motivation; Resource Person: Dr. C. D Lethi. Topic 3: Team Work & Games as Methodology for imparting Soft Skills; Resource Person: D. Arun Gladwin. Topic 4: Leadership Skills & Time Management; Resource Person: Dr. Santhosh V. M. Topic 5 Effective Visual Presentation Skills & Conflict Management and Decision Making Skill; Resource Person: Dr. Santhosh V. M . Topic 6: Positive Thinking & Values; Resource Person: Dr. J. Dinakarlal. Topic 7: Communication Skill; Resource Person: Sri. S. Suresh Kumar.**

The Course came to a close on 28-02-2015. The participants, while giving their feedback, observed that the Course facilitated the enhancement of soft skills and that they were very satisfied with the course content. However, they pointed out that the duration of the course may be increased as it would help the inclusion of more areas in soft-skills.

XXVII REFRESHER COURSE IN CHEMISTRY [From 26-02-2015 to 18-03-2015]

The UGC sponsored 27th Refresher Course in Chemistry was conducted by the Academic Staff College from 26th February 2015 to 18th March 2015. The Co-ordinator of the course Dr. T. S. Anirudhan, Dean of Sciences, University of Kerala, Kariavattom Campus, Trivandrum, inaugurated the programme. He encouraged the participants to widen their knowledge through research. His enthusiastic discussion about research inspired the participants to dedicate themselves to research activities.

Dr. P. Venugopalan, Assistant Professor, Sree Neelakanda Govt. Sanskrit College, Pattambi, and Mrs. R. Gladis Latha, Assistant Professor, Holy Cross College, Nagercoil, were selected as the convenors of the course.

The topics discussed in the course include: **Topics 1: Stain Release as Fuel for Complex Synthetic Transformation; Resource Person: Dr. K. V. Radhakrishnan. Topic 2: Spectroscopy - I; Resource Person: Prof. S. Sugunan. Topic 3: Spectroscopy - II; Resource Person: Prof. S. Sugunan. Topic 4: A Journey to the fascinating world of starch; Resource Person: N. N. Jyothi, Topic 5: Group Theory-I; Resource Person: Dr. A. Salaluddin Kunju, Topic 6: Group Theory-II; Resource Person: Dr. A. Salaluddin Kunju, Topic 7: Bio Inorganic Chemistry; Resource Person: Dr. M. P. Padmanabhan. Topic 8: Combinatorial Chemistry; Resource Person: Dr. K.G. Sreejalekshmi. Topic 9: Advanced Functional Materials; Resource Person: Dr. S. Ananthakumar. Topic 10: Crystalline State; Resource Person: Dr. G. Krishnan. Topic 11: Electronic Spectra of Transition metal Complexes; Resource Person: Dr. G. Krishnan, Topic 12: Smart Lubricants through Chemistry; Resource Person: Dr. G. Unnikrishnan. Topic 13: Diffraction Techniques; Resource Person: Prof. Iswar Bhatt. Topic 14: Mass Spectrometry; Resource Person: Dr. Jobin Cyriac. Topic 15: Electroanalytical Techniques; Resource Person: Prof. K. Girish Kumar. Topic 16: Polymer based Nano materials; Resource Person: Dr. Bhoje Gowd. Topic 17: Spectroscopy- Quantum Mechanical Approach, Resource Person: Dr. R S. Swathi, Topic**

18: Smart Polymers; Resource Person: Dr. Santhosh K. Shankar. **Topic 19: Conducting Polymers- An Introduction;** Resource Person: Prof. E. Subrahmanian. **Topic 20: Polymers for Space Research;** Resource Person: Dr. Dona Mathew. **Topic 21: Supra Molecular Chemistry;** Resource Person: Dr. M. R. Sudharsana Kumar. Session 22,23,24: Project Presentation by the participants, Evaluation and feedback by Dr. T. S. Anirudhan

As a part of the refresher course, the participants had an opportunity to visit the instrumentation facilities in Geology, Physics and Opto Electronics Departments. Overall, it was an amazing and informative experience for them. In the valedictory session, the participants give their feedback. All of them expressed their satisfaction over the contents of the course. The participants suggested that proper seating arrangements may be made whenever there are parallel courses. They thanked the Director, Dr. S.V. Sudheer for his invaluable contribution to the course and the Co-ordinator Dr. T. S. Anirudhan for his enthusiastic support throughout the programme.

142th ORIENTATION PROGRAMME (IT ORIENTED) [From 03-03-2015 To 30-03-2015]

The 142nd Orientation Programme was launched by the Academic Staff College, University of Kerala, on 3rd March 2015. The Programme concluded on 30th March 2015. Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Director, Academic Staff College, University of Kerala inaugurated the programme. In his speech, the Director motivated and urged the participants to open their students' minds to the vast vistas of knowledge. Mr. Linu T. James, St. George College, Aruvithura, and Ms. Ruksana Sulthana A. H, Assistant Professor, Commerce, were selected as the conveners of the programme.

The themes and topics covered in the programme were as follows: **Topic 1: Ice breaking session & Value Based Education;** Resource Person: Dr. Dinakaral Thavamony. **Topic 2: Spark Yourself;** Resource Person: Sri. Suresh Kumar. **Topic 3: Stress Management;** Resource Person: Dr. Dev Das Menon. **Topic 4: Team Work for Teachers;** Resource Person: D. Arun Gladwin. **Topic 5: Living with Diseases;** Resource Person: Dr. Aswini Kumar. S. **Topic 6: Introduction to**

Computers: Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Powerpoint; Resource Person: Mr. Shibu Albert. **Topic 7: Interpersonal Skills for better classroom atmosphere;** Resource Person: Dr. C. D. Lethi. **Topic 8: Disaster Management;** Resource Person: Dr. K. G. Thara. **Topic 9: Micro Teaching.** Resource Person: Dr. Rosamma Philip. **Topic 10: Cyber Crimes;** Resource Person: Sri. N. Vinayakumaran Nair. **Topic 11: Communication Skills;** Resource Person: Dr. V. M. Santhosh. **Topic 12: Ground Water Resources;** Resource Person: Dr. E. Shaji. **Topic 13: Teacher Competency;** Resource Person: Dr. Joju John. **Topic 14: Fire & Rescue Services in Disaster Management;** Resource Person: Sri. Prathap Kumar. **Topic 15: Self awareness & Counselling;** Resource Person: Fr. Joye James. **Topic 16: Health & Wellness;** Resource Person: Dr. Usha S. Nair. **Topic 17: API Score;** Resource Person: Dr. S. V. Sudheer, **Topic 18: Web Designing;** Resource Person: Mr. S. Manoharan Nair. **Topic 19: Funding Agencies,** Resource Person: Dr. G. Gopakumar. **Topic 20: Service Rules;** Resource Person: Sri. Natesan Asary. **Topic 21: Video Analysis;** Resource Person: Dr. Theresa Susan.

The training session started with an ice-breaking session which was led by Dr. Dinakaral Thavamony. The classes followed were innovative and good enough to impart professional skills. The participants went on a one-day tour to Veli on 20th March 2015. It proved to be a rejuvenating experience to them and added a dash of warmth to their inter-personal relationships.

Feedback from the participants indicated a high level of satisfaction with the programme. In their valedictory messages, the participants conveyed their deep sense of gratitude to Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Director, ASC, whose perspective insight and meticulous planning contributed greatly to the adept execution of the programme. They also appreciated the staff of ASC for their affable attitude and cordiality.

XV REFRESHER COURSE IN HISTORY [From 11-03-2015 to 31-03-2015]

The 15th Refresher Course in History commenced on 11th March. The course was inaugurated by Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Director, ASC, University of Kerala. He addressed the participants on the relevance of History in the

present scenario and the need for multidisciplinary approach in History.

The ice-breaking session was led by the coordinator of the course Dr. Suresh Jnaneswaran, HOD, Department of History, University of Kerala. Fr. Dr. Thomson Roby, Assistant Professor in charge of HOD, Department of History, Baseliros College, Kottayam, and Sajna. A, Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Kerala, were the convenors of the 15th refresher course.

The following topics were discussed in the Course: **Topic 1: Empiricism and the use of Archives in the Doing of History;** Resource Person: Dr. B. Sobhanan. **Topic 2. History of Honography & History of Iconography;** Resource Person: Dr. Preeta Nayar. **Topic 3. Professor Bipin Chandra and the doing of History;** Resource Person: Prof. V. Karthikeyan Nair. **Topic 4. Relevance of field work / field trip in History & Archeology;** Resource Person: Dr. P. Rajendran. **Topic 5. Stress Management;** Resource Person: Dr. Dev Das Menon. **Topic 6. Pattanam Excavation and constructing the History of Kerala;** Resource Person: Dr. P.J. Cherian. **Topic 7. Theories and Methods of Historical Research;** Resource Person: Prof. Burton Cleetus. **Topic 8. Medicine & Colonialism: New ways of engaging with Modernity;** Resource Person: Prof. Burton Cleetus. **Topic 9. Writing Essay;** Resource Person: Prof. S. Sivadasan. **Topic 10. History and Social-Science points of differentiation - convergence;** Resource Person: Prof. K. N. Ganesh. **Topic 11. Dalit Bhahujan Historiography;** Resource Person: Prof. Satyanarayana Adapa. **Topic 12. Literature and History: From Modern to Post Modern;** Resource Person: Dr. V. J. Varghese. **Topic 13. Doing History - The search for New sources on the 16th century;** Resource Person: Dr. K. Gopalan Kutty. **Topic 14. Paradigm shift and the writing of History;** Resource Person: Dr. C. Haridas. **Topic 15. Complicating the Dominant and Alternate Narratives: Positing a Contested Region in History;** Resource Person: Dr. M. M. Khan.

As part of the course, the participants went on a memorable trip to historical monumental places such as Chitharal, Padmanabhapuram

Palace, Tripparappu, Mathur hanging bridge, Ambasamudram and Kolachal.

Feedback taken from the participants indicated a high level of success of the course in terms of introducing and familiarizing the participants with new concepts and challenges in the discipline of History. The valedictory session of the programme was held on 31st March 2015. The participants emphasized that all the resource persons were fantastically innovative in the presentation of their respective topics. However, they suggested that the programme could be improved by the inclusion of areas like archaeological studies, new trends in History, Library facilities, internet facilities etc. They expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Director, who ensured the impeccable conduct of the course. They also appreciated the support of the staff of ASC.

Alumni Meet

The participants of 134th Orientation Programme organized an Alumni Meet at this ASC on 11.10.2014. The meet commenced at 11.00am. Ms. Latha Joseph, one of the participants, who was selected through lots, inaugurated the Meet. The purpose of the meet is to create social awareness and close collaboration among teachers. All the participants shared their views and experiences. A cultural programme is also included as part of the meet. The lead role for the efficient coordination and to conduct the meet was taken by Dr. Anas, Assistant Professor in Chemical Sciences, M. G. University, Kottayam and Dr. Biju R. I, Assistant Professor in History, M.S.M. College, Kayamkulam. The whole group joyously celebrated the get together by sharing and refreshing their sweet memories at this ASC. A photo session and a delicious lunch was also arranged at the end of the meet. Cherishing memories, the participants disbursed with the strong pledge to reunite every year.

A Brief History of UGC-Academic Staff College

Higher Educational Institutions were established in this country during the British regime to provide liberal education. This enabled the British Government to democratize and popularize collegiate education. However, the objectives of higher education were not made clear, the content and methodology of higher education remained almost static even in independent India till the Kothari Commission (1964-66) recommended substantial overhauling of the system. The Govt. realised the challenges in education and introduced the National Policy on Education (NPE) in 1986. The NPE recognized the need for improving the quality of teaching and proposed to provide opportunities for professional and career development so that teachers may fulfill their role and responsibility within the system of higher education.

Though the college teachers are expected to perform multiple functions like teaching, research, student evaluation, administration and extension, the University Grants Commission suggest that the teaching abilities of the teachers be improved first. Accordingly the Academic Staff Colleges were constituted with the objective of enabling newly appointed lecturers to understand the significance of education in general and higher education in particular and to acquire and improve basic skills of teaching at the College/University level. At present the UGC has been funding 66 Academic Staff Colleges all over India to organize Orientation Programmes, Refresher Courses, Short-Term Courses etc. so that the teacher ultimately benefits by these programmes and ensure standards of higher education.

UGC-Academic Staff College, University of Kerala

The UGC-Academic Staff College, University of Kerala was started in 1987 and it is among the first batch of ASC's in India and the first in Kerala. Since then, we have conducted a total number of 589 courses with total participant strength of 21,566 teachers.

In addition to this, we have conducted Principals' Workshop, Workshop for University Department Heads, Short-Term Courses on different topics for University/College teachers including Research Guides, Training Programme for University Administrators, Computer Training Programme for University / College Teachers, Interaction Programme for Research Scholars, Stimulating teachers through Advanced Training Programmes (STAT) sponsored by the Govt. of Kerala etc. and more than 5,000 teachers attended these programmes.

We have a well established and well equipped University with a surrounding area of 350 acres. We are blessed with good number of qualified faculty in different disciplines, good laboratory facilities, library facilities in all departments and a big central library within the campus. The University has been accredited with 'A' Grade by NAAC.

A major achievement of this ASC is the availability of good number of participants for all the courses. The service of Senior Professors from various Universities, High Court & Supreme

Court Judges, Senior Scientists from different national level institutions like ISRO, IIST, TBGRI, CTCRI, etc. and IAS, IFS, IPS officers are profusely utilized at this ASC.

The ASC is functioning at the Golden Jubilee Building, University Campus, Kariavttom, with a splendid array of infrastructural facilities including air-conditioned and multimedia enabled classrooms, a well equipped Computer Lab with EDUSAT, INFLIBNET, DELNET and Video Conferencing facilities. University of Kerala is the first University in the State and it is one of the biggest Universities in South India. Ours is the first Academic Staff College in Kerala.

A proposal for changing the name and nomenclature of UGC-Academic Staff Colleges in India is under review by the UGC. Let us hope for the best.

S. Hari
Administrative Co-ordinator of Programmes
UGC-Academic Staff College, University of Kerala

Inauguration of UGC-ASC Guest House.

UGC-ASC, University of Kerala, has constructed a new Guest House on the sprawling campus of 350 acres at Kariavattom, for accommodating the participants attending Orientation/ Refresher Courses at this ASC. The Guest House was inaugurated by Dr. P. K. Radhakrishnan, the Honourable Vice-Chancellor, University of Kerala on 12.12.2014 at 10.00am. Dr. Varghese Perayil, Member Syndicate, Dr. Muhammed Basheer, Registrar, University Engineer and other statutory officers of the University of Kerala and the participants attending Orientation/ Refresher Courses at this ASC attended the function. In this occasion, we remember with gratitude the sincere efforts taken by Dr. Jacob John Kattakayam, the former Director of this ASC for initiating the construction of the Guest House. Dr. M. K. Ramachandran Nair, the then Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kerala laid the foundation stone of the Guest House and entrusted the construction work to CPWD. After his term, Dr. A. Jayakrishnan, the succeeding Vice-Chancellor, gave his full support and played a leading role in the stages of construction of the Guest House.

After the inauguration of the guest house on 12.12.2014 at 10.00am, full-fledged functioning was also initiated. Till now, we were able to accommodate more than 300 participants in our guest house gathering excellent performance feedback. We sincerely thank the Honourable Vice-Chancellor, University authorities, Engineering unit and Participants for the support extended to us.



Dr.P.K.Radhakrishnan,Vice-Chancellor,University of Kerala,inaugurating the UGC-Academic Staff College Guest House on 12th December 2014



Vice-Chancellor cutting the ribbon



Vice-Chancellor lighting the lamp



Director lighting the lamp



**Dr.Varghese Perayil (Member Syndicate)lighting the lamp
Present : Dr.Muhammed Basheer(Registrar),Smt.Sobha
(University Engineer),Mr.R.Dilip (Deputy Registrar)**



Our new Guest House....



Alumni Meet - Participants of 134th Orientation Programme reunited on 11.10.2014

PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED FROM DECEMBER 1987 TO MARCH 2015

Sl. No.	Year	Number of Courses	Number of Participants
1	1987 ~ 1988	03	94
2	1988 ~ 1989	08	281
3	1989 ~ 1990	10	337
4	1990 ~ 1991	12	405
5	1991 ~ 1992	16	482
6	1992 ~ 1993	18	493
7	1993 ~ 1994	19	583
8	1994 ~ 1995	15	459
9	1995 ~ 1996	12	381
10	1996 ~ 1997	11	408
11	1997 ~ 1998	11	449
12	1998 ~ 1999	13	572
13	1999 ~ 2000	22	960
14	2000 ~ 2001	27	1104
15	2001 ~ 2002	28	1202
16	2002 ~ 2003	32	1294
17	2003 ~ 2004	33	1108
18	2004 ~ 2005	33	1296
19	2005 ~ 2006	36	1180
20	2006 ~ 2007	33	1002
21	2007 ~ 2008	36	1094
22	2008 ~ 2009	32	1104
23	2009 ~ 2010	34	1049
24	2010 ~ 2011	32	985
25	2011 ~ 2012	30	1093
2	2012 ~ 2013	27	1014
7	2013 ~ 2014	29	1125
2	2014 ~ 2015	28	1202
Total		640	22,756

Applications may reach this office 30 days prior to the commencement of each course
Application forms can be downloaded from the website: www.keralauniversity.ac.in/ugcasc

For Private circulation only
 Edited and Published by Prof. (Dr.) S. V. Sudheer, Director, UGC-ASC
 Text Editor: Dr. Sumithra Devi S., Assistant Professor in English,
 T.K.M.College of Arts & Science, Kollam
 Associate Editors : Mr. V. S. Ajith & Mr. Hari S.
 Editorial Assistant & Designs : Mr. J. V. Rajasekharan Nair
 Printed at Prasanth Printers, Ambalathinkara, Kazhakuttom