



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 !

It is once again a great privilege to express our sincere and heartfelt thanks to all. With the unstinting co-operation and association of numerous participants, all the scheduled courses are being conducted successfully with appreciable level of satisfaction. Bestowing best efforts, attempts are made at every point of action to improve and enrich the programmes to seemingly make them outstanding content-wise.

Among human activities, education is considered as the noblest one which helps to design and disseminate knowledge. Education determines the socio-cultural and economic development which ultimately leads to progress coupled with quality benchmarks. Teachers are the resource providers in the knowledge dissemination network where excellence in the activity undertaken can be accomplished only with professional excellence. Besides, the mindsets of the teachers are to be articulated in a way to imbibe the abrasions in the area of higher education pleasingly enough to supplement the stakeholder's needs. Moreover, teachers have to foster human values and inculcate the same into their disciples in the right perspective with energy undrained. Maintaining integrity of character, keeping up awareness regarding value education, readiness to uphold moral values and sincere adherence to self discipline will help teaching learning process to gain enviable altitudes.

Lamenting over erosion of values and diminishing quality of education is not at all a fraternized activity of the teacher community. Rising to meet the needs of the situation, we have to join hands firmly enough to better the situations hopeful of achieving the best in future. Let this be the right time for realising the facts for making dynamic and innovative attempts to move ahead and meet the brightest pastures in education.

With warm and pleasant wishes to all!

Dr. S. V. Sudheer
Professor Director

126th ORIENTATION PROGRAMME (IT ORIENTED)
[From 17.04.2012 To 14.05.2012]

COURSE REPORTS

The 126th Orientation Programme of the Academic Staff College, University of Kerala, commenced on the 17th of April 2012. The participants were teachers from different disciplines: Languages: (English, Malayalam, Hindi), Sciences: (Physics, Chemistry, Electronics, Maths, Statistics, Computer Science, Botany, Plant pathology, Veterinary and Animal Sciences and Natural Science) and Social Sciences: (Psychology, Commerce, Economics, History, Political Science and Education). The specialty of this batch was that all the participants were from Kerala.

Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Director, Academic Staff College, University of Kerala, Kariavattom welcomed all the participants. The participants formed a group of two each and introduced one another in a very innovative way and it helped in developing a cordial relationship among the participants. Dr. Poornima R, Assistant Professor, Department of Hindi, SSV College, Valanchirangara and Dr. Vinu T.P., Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, NSS College, Changanassery were bestowed with the responsibility of being the convener and co-convener respectively.

The post lunch session was handled by Mr. Shibu Albert, Programme Co-ordinator, TATA School of Vocational Education, Mumbai, who lectured on computer theory and its applications and on 18th April to 21st April held practical sessions. During the sessions he covered Introduction to Computers, Microsoft Word, Excel and Power Point. His informative classes provided an opportunity for the participants to get acquainted with the ever changing world and to acquire more and more improvement in our knowledge and skills.

The forenoon session of 23rd April was on Value Based Education by Dr. J. Dinakarlal Thavamony, Former Professor of English, Scott Christian College, Nagercoil. His inspiring lecture provoked a fresh lease of energy and enthusiasm among the participants. He stressed on the importance of value based education for human beings as a whole and a teacher in particular. He inspired the participants to become the role models of society. The afternoon session and 24th morning session witnessed a detailed study of Neuro Linguistic Programming on Mind Dynamics and Personal Excellence by Dr. A. Abraham, a renovated medical practitioner. According to him, flexibility is the capability and he stressed on the importance of looking at things in a different way and believing in the power of mind. In the afternoon Dr. Porgio, Controller of Examinations, St. Xaviers College

of Education, Palayamkottai, engaged the participants on Emotional Dementions of teaching. He stressed on the method of learning through interpersonal relationship and building up teacher student support. During the morning session of 25th April, Dr. Rosamma Philip gave an informative talk on micro teaching methods. In the afternoon session, Dr. James R. Daniel enlightened the participants on Higher Education Policy. On 26th of April, the morning session was devoted to a heated debate on whether there should be a Chief Education Commissioner or not and the Foreign Universities Act. The convener and Co-convener moderated the debate and most of the participants expressed their views on the subject. Dr. Sindhu Thulaseedharan, Assistant Professor, Department of Law, Kerala University gave a detailed talk on legislations of UPA government. Dr. K. P. Vijayakumar, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kerala gave an informative talk on Information Literacy Skill on the 27th morning and in the afternoon session Dr. Dev Das Menon gave a stress reducing talk on Stress Management. The 28th Saturday witnessed the video recording of micro teaching of all the participants where all the teachers presented a topic of their choice. On 30th Monday, the entire session was devoted to the participants for the preparation of project work. On the 2nd of May, Dr. Simon Thattil, Associate Professor, Department of Commerce, ICU gave a detailed lecture on the selection of major and minor projects. In the afternoon session Dr. G.P. Sudheer gave a talk on Health and Wellness. Thursday, the 3rd of May, an effective video analysis and evaluation of the micro teaching session was carried out by Dr. A. Theresa Susan, which helped the participants to identify and evaluate the positive and negative aspects of one's own teaching methods.

On the 4th of May, Dr. G. Gopakumar gave an extremely informative talk on Funding Agencies in the morning session and in the afternoon session Dr. Sangeetha Menon, Associate Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology gave an excellent lecture on the topic 'Women and Health' which initiated a discussion amongst the participants. On Monday, Dr. N. Sankaran gave an effective talk on 'Effective Communication' and in the afternoon Ambassador T. P. Sreenivasan gave an informative talk on Higher Education. The morning session of 8th May dealt with 'Counseling and Personality Development' by Dr. Joye James. The afternoon session was effectively handled by Dr. K. G. Thara with a wonderful power point presentation on the topic 'Disaster Management'. Prof. K. Kalyanaraman with ampler in the field of statistical

analysis, provided the hands on training in SPSS and urged the participants to take up research work along with appropriate statistical tools.

On 10th and 11th May, Dr. K. G. Gopchandran, Dr. Mathew Oommen, Dr. Sajeev Rose, Dr. Umakumari and Dr. Shaji Varkey spared their valuable time with the participants and evaluated their project reports and the topic presentation using power point slides. On 12th May, Mr. S. Manoharan Nair engaged the teaching community with the techniques of web designing. As a part of the evaluation process, an objective type examination was conducted on the concluding day ie on 14th May 2012. The ample experience they received from the programme proved to be the key factors for the value addition created by the entire programme.

This 126th Orientation Programme with its formal welcoming and thanking, the people responsible for the success of this entire course, photographic session and the common lunch session had a lot more memories to be taken away. Role models, aspirations to go ahead with the projects and extensional activities, resolutions to become an excellent teacher, the need to have an open mind towards learning and research building, interpersonal parallel way of looking up at problems, relationship with students etc. were instilled in the participants effectively. Thus the teaching community as a whole enjoyed the varied aspects of this programme and were made to feel at home and understand how to discover ourselves. This most important thing is that Orientation Programme inculcated in us the spirit of thinking critically and rationally.

XVII REFRESHER COURSE IN LIBRARY SCIENCE [From 16.05.2012 To 05.06.2012]

It gives us immense pleasure to present before you a brief report of the 17th Refresher Course in Library Science held at the Academic Staff College, University of Kerala, Kariavattom, Trivandrum from 16th May 2012 to 5th June 2012. There were 36 library professionals working in college and university libraries from different Universities and Colleges across India. Dr S.V. Sudheer, Director, Academic Staff College welcomed the gathering and Dr. K.P Vijayakumar, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kerala, the Coordinator of the Refresher Course briefed the curriculum of the course. The programme was formally inaugurated by Prof. C.A Augustine, Former Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kerala. In his inaugural address, he explained the transition from print to electronic medium. He also stressed the need for reengineering the library profession without neglecting the fundamentals of Library Science. The post lunch

session was set aside for ice breaking which was very effective in establishing a cordial relationship among the participants. To facilitate smooth conduct of the course, Dr. P. K. Suresh Kumar, Assistant Librarian, Kerala University Library, Trivandrum was elected as the Convener and Ms. Liz Jacob, Librarian, Newman College, Thodupuzha as the Co-convener. This was followed by a session handled by Dr. K.P. Vijayakumar, Course coordinator in which he explained the guidelines for project preparation by the participants.

On the second day, 17th May 2012, the formal sessions started with Dr. M.G. Sreekumar, Librarian, IIM, Kozhikode delivered a talk on Digital Libraries and Open Access. The afternoon session was engaged by Shri. V. Sriram, Librarian, Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, in which he explained on the various information services using web 2.0 technologies. The following days were enriched with many interesting, informative and innovative sessions handled by eminent and renowned faculty from Kerala and neighboring States such as Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Goa.

On May 18th, in the forenoon session, Dr. G. Devarajan, Former Professor and Head, Department of Library and Information Science narrated various facets of technical communication. In the afternoon session Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair explained the guidelines for the preparation of Abstracts in Scientific communication. It was followed by a lecture on Oral Communication Skills by Dr. K.P. Vijayakumar, Course coordinator.

On 19th May Shri. K. Rajasekharan, Librarian, Kerala Institute of Local Administration, Thrissur explained and demonstrated the development of website using Drupal, content management software. The afternoon session was devoted to library reference for project preparation. The forenoon session of the fifth day, 21st May witnessed an interesting lecture on Intellectual Property Rights by Dr. V. Ajit Prabhu, Joint Director Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment, Trivandrum. In the afternoon, Shri. M. Varghese, Associate Professor, Dept. of Library and Information Science, University of Kerala explained the various Metadata Standards.

The 22nd of May was engaged by Dr. Ally Sornam, Head, P.G Department, Library and Information Science, Bishop Herbor College, Trichy in which she made a brilliant exposition on Team Building and Best practices in LIS.

On 23rd May, the forenoon session started with a lecture on Web searching tools by Dr. M. Bavakutty, Head, Department of Library and Information Science, Kannur University. In the afternoon, Shri. Sainul Abideen, Librarian, ISER, Trivandrum made a presentation on Collection Building and Management of e-resources.

On 25th May, a field visit was conducted to Ponnudi Hill and Kallar waterfalls. The trip was memorable and

enjoyable. It helped to promote interpersonal relationships and it was a welcome relief to the participants.

On 26th May, Dr. Dinesan Koovakkai, Assistant Librarian-in-charge, Central University of Kerala, Kasaragode, explained the digitization of information resources using D-Space and the strategies for marketing information services in libraries.

On 28th May, Dr. Usha S. Nair, Associate Professor of Physical Education LNCPE, Trivandrum handled classes on Health and Wellness and also arranged a practical session on aerobics, which provided an energizing experience to all the participants. In the afternoon session Dr. K.S. Raghavan, DRTC, Bangalore gave an informative lecture on Ontology.

In the forenoon session on 29th May, Dr. K.S. Raghavan explained the concept of Semantic web and the afternoon session witnessed an informative presentation by Dr. T. D. Kemparaju, Professor and Head, Bangalore University on Strategic Advantages of Digital Libraries.

On 30th May, the forenoon session was engaged by Dr. Kemparaju by delivering a lecture on Information Audit. In the afternoon Mr. M. Vijayakumar, Librarian Senior Grade, Govt. Arts College, Trivandrum presented the idea of a consortium of Govt. College libraries in Trivandrum as part of the Cluster project.

On 31st May, Shri. K.P. Sadasivan, Manager, Infodynamics and Consultant IITMK, Trivandrum delivered a highly informative lecture on Competencies in LIS Profession in the Digital Era. The first of June 2012 was devoted for project presentations. The participants presented their project reports under the presence of Dr. C. V. Rajan Pillai, Former Professor and Head of the Department of Library and Information Science, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Shri. T. M. Vasudevan, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Calicut. and Dr. K. P. Vijayakumar, Co-ordinator and Head, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Kerala. It was a wonderful exercise and all the participants got a chance to self evaluation, regarding their research activities.

On 2nd June Dr. V. Gopakumar, University Librarian, Goa University, engaged a class on Reference Management Software, especially endnote and web endnote, a highly useful tool for all researchers. The afternoon session witnessed an informative presentation on Research Methodology by Dr. M. Lalitha, Librarian SCERT, Trivandrum.

On 4th June 2012, Dr. V. Gopakumar, engaged the participants with the technique of web designing and the application of Google drive.

An objective type examination was conducted on 5th June 2012, as a part of the evaluation process followed by a feedback session in which suggestions were sought for further improvement.

XIV REFRESHER COURSE IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION [From 12.06.2012 To 02.07.2012]

The 14th Refresher Course in Physical Education conducted by Academic Staff College, University of Kerala, Trivandrum was held from 12th June 2012 to 2nd July 2012.

On the first day the registration started at 9.30 am. 28 members got registered for the course. It was a diverse group with candidates from Kerala, Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Haryana. The co-ordinator for this course was Dr. Usha S. Nair, Former Dean of Physical Education, University of Kerala and Associate Professor, SAI, LNCPE, Trivandrum. After registration, the introductory session was taken by Dr. S.V. Sudheer, Director of ASC, for welcoming the participants.

The inauguration ceremony began at 11.30 am. Dr. G. Kishore, Principal, SAI, LNCPE was the Chief Guest. The Course Co-ordinator welcomed the gathering and presidential address was given by the Director, Academic Staff College. This was followed by the inaugural speech by the Chief Guest. The afternoon session was engaged by the course co-ordinator. He informed the participants about the schedule of the course, the area to be covered in the course period, the project preparation, selection of resource persons and about the office bearers. The office bearers were also elected in that session. Dr. Sosamma John was appointed as a Convenor and Jayaraj David as a Co-convenor.

On 13th, the morning session was handled by Dr. George Mathew, Associate Professor, SAI, LNCPE. He discussed on sports injuries and its management. The afternoon session was on cricket handled by Mr. Robin Menon, BCCI level cricket coach from LNCPE. He spoke on the construction of different types of cricket pitches and the recent changes.

On 14th, the first session was on applications, Analysis of exercises, the least way to do exercises for maximum effect taken by Dr. K.V.K. Reddy, Associate Professor, LNCPE, Trivandrum spoke about the office management. The 3rd, 4th & 5th sessions were done by Dr. Sadanandan C. S, Asst. Professor, SAI, LNCPE on the need for strength training for children and adolescents. He also discussed on the new modifications and changes in volleyball rules.

On 15th, Dr. Anil Ramachandran, Associate Professor from PKM Training College, Kannur took all the 4 sessions with different topics such as effectiveness of a teacher,

effective teaching, CBCS grading and educational philosophies.

On 16th, the programme was continued with Psychological skill training and imaging in detail by Dr. Anil. The afternoon session was allotted for project preparation.

On 18th, the morning session was on Psychological skill training and a discussion on the importance of sports training by Dr. Shailaja Mohan, Associate Professor, LNCPE. The 2nd session was on Tennis Coaching and Skills in Lawn tennis by Mr. Biju Mani, Tennis Coach from T.T.C. Trivandrum. The afternoon session was taken by Dr. Usha S. Nair about Exercise Physiology and its importance. The last session was about Badminton game rules and regulations by Mr. Balachandran, Badminton Coach, LNCPE.

On 19th, the whole day was engaged by Dr. A.M. Antony, Associate Professor, MES College, Nikambur, who spoke on the life style diseases, exercises and its positive impacts on Hypo Kinetic Diseases. There was a group discussion and a practical session on certain types of exercises for specific group of muscles.

On 20th, Dr. Sethu took two wonderful sessions on U.G.C. grading, A.P.A score, Research Methodology, criteria, methods and the regulations of U.G.C for maintaining standard in Higher Education. The afternoon session was handled by Mr. Chandralal, the Dronacharya award holder. He discussed about Boxing Skills, equipments, rules and awards.

On the 21st, Dr. Pratip Dutta, conditioning Coach of National Team and Assistant Professor, LNCPE spoke on the changing concept of strength and conditioning. The afternoon session was engaged by Mohammed Sabith on Yogasanas. On 22nd, there was a visit to Kovalam, Vizhinjam etc.

On 23rd morning, Dr. Ann Varghese handled classes on the Physical Education Programmes for the Adapted group and the 2nd session was by Dr. Nandini, Sr. Professor, Vellayani College. She spoke on Nutrition and its importance. The last class of that week was by Dr. Sivasankaran, Department of Cardiology, Sree Chitra Medical Institute, Trivandrum. He discussed on the Life Style Diseases especially on Cardio Respiratory System.

On 25th, Dr. Suresh Kutty, Head and Associate Professor, School of Physical Education and Space Science, Kannur University handled the session with a talk on Psychological Skill for the success in sports and games.

On 26th, Dr. Joselet Charles, Associate Professor, LNCPE discussed on the importance of Anthropometry in sports and games. The afternoon session was on personality development by Dr. Dev Das Menon, Former Head and Professor, Department of Psychology, Kerala University. It was really a wonderful session with his simple and thought provoking class.

On 27th, Dr. Thirumalai Swamy, Former Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Physical Education & Sports University discussed on Sports Engineering. In the afternoon, there was an interactive session with the ASC Director. It was a wonderful sessions.

On 28th, Dr. Simon Thattil, Professor, Department of Commerce, University of Kerala, taught on Research and Research Methods. The afternoon session was on Departmental Accounting by Dr. Jayakumar, Associate Professor, V.T.M. N.S.S. College, Dhanuvachapuram. The last session of the day was handled by Dr. Premjith Lal, Assistant Director, SAI LNCPE on ground maintenance.

On 29th, the whole day was allotted for project presentation. Dr. Veena Dean of Physical Education, University of Kerala was the Evaluator. All the participants had really worked hard to present good projects which was really appreciated.

On 3rd, Dr. Chandra Prasad Sreedhar, Professor of Psychology, enriched the participants with a wonderful talk on Stress Management with examples from clinical background and daily life.

The Course was successfully completed on 2-07-2012 with evaluation and feedback session in which suggestions were sought for further improvement.

127th ORIENTATION PROGRAMME (IT ORIENTED) [From 14.06.2012 To 11.07.2012]

The UGC sponsored 127th Orientation Programme commenced on 14.06.2012 and concluded on 11.07.2012. There were 49 participants from Maharashtra, Uttaranchal and Kerala. Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Director of Academic Staff College in his inaugural address briefed about the course and asserted about the role of teachers and their commitment. The afternoon session was set aside for the ice breaking by Dr. Dinakaral Thavamony and making the participants introduce among themselves. He effectively placed them within the framework of the programme with his commendable pedagogical skills. Dr. Uthara Soman, Asst. Professor, S.N. College, Chempazhanthy was selected as the Convenor and Mr. Sameer S., Asst. Professor, University College, Thiruvananthapuram as the Co-convenor.

The classroom sessions were a sequence of highly structured and informative lectures by eminent resource persons from different parts of South India. The topics were relevant, content packed, up to date, innovative and meticulously presented with power point presentations. Some of the power point presentations were highly commendable and inspiring to the participants.

The first week of the programme exposed the concepts of teaching and research. The resource persons who guided the group were Dr. Simon Thattil (Research

Methodology), Dr. Gopchandran (Quality factor in Research) and Dr. K.P. Vijayakumar (Information Literacy Skills).

Followed by a holiday, the group again got engaged with the lectures by Dr. James Daniel (Higher Education Policy), Fr. Joye James (Counselling and Personality Development), Dr. K.G. Thara (Disaster Management), Dr. Dev Das Menon (Stress Management), Dr. A. Abraham (Neuro Linguistic Programming), Dr. James Vadakkumcherry (Human Rights in Educational Institutions) and Dr. Sivasnakaran (Life Styles). The Microteaching sessions by Dr. Rosamma Philip and the subsequent video recording and analysis sessions proved to be extremely helpful to the participants as they got the opportunity to self evaluate and mould themselves into eminent academic professionals.

This was followed by a week of intense training by Mr. Shibu Albert on Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point and Internet browsing which equipped the participants with technical knowledge and skill in computer. This helped them to make their project presentation more effective and interactive. The participants were further motivated and enlightened by Mrs. Veena S. Pillai who spoke on 'Creative Visualization', Dr. Usha S. Nair on 'Health and Wellness' and Mr. S. Manoharan Nair on 'Web Designing'.

A one - day tour was arranged to Neyyar Dam and Shangumugham beach on 05.07.2012 for the participants. The trip was memorable and enjoyable. It made the interpersonal relationships more warm and informal.

The last week of the Orientation Programme was packed with presentation of project work by the participants. Dr. Sajeev Rose, Dr. Mathew Oommen, Dr. Sajad Ibrahim and Dr. Razia Beegum effectively chaired the sessions with their relevant observations and valuable feedbacks. Academic discourses and debates made the sessions intellectually stimulating.

The course was successfully completed on 11.07.2012 with evaluation and feedback sessions followed by a valedictory session in which the certificates were distributed to the participants.

XVII REFRESHER COURSE IN LIFE SCIENCES [From 05.07.2012 To 26.07.2012]

The 17th Refresher Course in Life Sciences, sponsored by UGC was held from 5th July 2012 to 26th July 2012 with 43 participants from Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu & Kerala. The Programme was formally inaugurated by Dr. S.K. Chakrabarthy, Director, CTCRI, Trivandrum. Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Professor & Director, UGC-ASC, university of Kerala, welcomed the participants and briefed the profile of the programme.

In the afternoon, there was an ice-breaking session in which the participants introduced themselves. Dr. Ashalatha S. Nair, Course Co-ordinator gave the guidelines for the course and assigned project work to the participants. To facilitate the smooth conduct of the course, Mr. Vinod Haridas, Assistant Professor of Botany, S.N. College, Cherthala was elected as the convenor and Dr. Valsala. A. D., Associate Professor, Sacred Heart College, Cherthala as the Co-convenor of the programme.

The subsequent days were enriched by a sequence of highly structured and informative lectures by eminent personalities. The resource persons who shared their expertise with the participants were Mr. A.R.R. Menon (Biodiversity evaluation using remote sensing) Dr. K. Rajeev (Gene Concepts) Dr. Sumalatha (Stress Management),

Dr. A. Jayakumaran Nair (Protein Interaction Techniques), Dr. Jayasree R. (Basis of Nano Technology), Dr. Binod Parameswaran (Microbial Polymer), Dr. Iype Joseph (Approach to a fever), Dr. Thulaseedharan (Promoter characterisation for transgenic plant production), Dr. P.R. Sudhakaran (Bio-signaling), Dr. Oommen V. Oommen (Curcumin and cancer), Dr. Joy Philip (Health problems of special interest to college teachers), Dr. K.P. Vijayakumar (Communication Skills), Dr. V.R. Prakasam (Bio-remediation), Dr. C. Sathish (Carnivorous Plants), Dr. G. Padmaja (Biotechnological process in food processing), Dr. Rajmohan T. (Coconut oil for health), Dr. Rajasekharan K.N. (Natural Products), Dr. Haridas (Bioinformatics Introduction & Application), Dr. K.G. Padmakumar (Conservation Management of Wetland Biodiversity), Dr. Tapas Manna (Microtubules. Potential in Skin Cancer), Dr. Omkumar (Drugdiscovery against neuro degenerative diseases), Dr. Sivasankaran (Life Styles), Dr. V.V. Asha (Plant Extracts), Dr. T.T. Sreelekha (An Introduction to Cancer), Dr. M. Banerji (Human genome Project), Dr. T.R. Santhosh Kumar (Recent Development in Cancer), Dr. Krishnakumar (Nano Science), Dr. K. Padmakumar (Harmful algae & seafood poisoning), Dr. Annie Abraham (Nano Biology), Dr. Sathish Mundayoor (Basic Bio Technology), Dr. Nishant K.T. (Genomics), Dr. Sumalatha (Stress Management).

The field trip to Neyyar Dam and visit to RGCB was really a refreshing experience to the participants.

All the participants prepared, presented and submitted project reports on the topic of their choice. They were evaluated by Dr. Bijukumar, Dr. Prasad. Dr. Siril, and Dr. Gangaprasad. Interaction of the participants with the experts was an added merits.

On 26th July, the final day of the course, an objective test was held based on the topics dealt with during the course.

The Refresher Course came to an end with the valedictory function. The Valedictory address was delivered by Dr. P. G. Latha, Director, JNTBCRI and the certificates of participation were distributed. The evaluation and feedback session provided opportunity for the participants to register their views and suggestions about the programme.

The dedicated & helpful attitude of the Director, the course Co-ordinator and the Administrative staff members made the programme a successful one.

XIV REFRESHER COURSE IN HUMAN RIGHTS [From 16.07.2012 To 06.08.2012]

The Refresher Course in Human Rights was started at the UGC-ASC, Thiruvananthapuram on 16th July, 2012. The morning session was spent on completing the intake formalities of 48 participants from the four southern states of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. The Human Rights Refresher Course was inaugurated by Justice. K. Sreedharan, Former Chief Justice, Punjab and Chandigarh. He espoused the group to the moorings of the Human Rights, and its transition over the years since the UDHR in 1948, the enactment of the Human Rights Act of 1993, and the constitution of the Human Rights Commission at two levels – Centre and state. The first session was handled by former Ambassador Shri T. P. Sreenivasan, who talked at large about the functioning of the UN and the incorporation of Human Rights as the core area of its functioning. His presentation portrayed human rights as a relative phenomenon and echoed on the negotiable nature of HR given to the vested interest of those who fund the UN especially the US. He answered to the numerous queries regarding international relations and the role of NGOs in moderating human rights.

The next presentation was by Dr. C.R. Rajagopalan, Director, International Centre for Kerala Studies, University of Kerala, portrayed the plight of the aboriginals. He screened three movies to portray the issues of the 'stolen generations' who were uprooted and displaced on grounds of colonisation.

The next was a brilliant and very breezy presentation on Human Rights and Industry by Dr. Simon Thattil. His talk was on the impact of globalisation and industrialisation and how it has exposed our investments in whatever form imaginable, and how the international economy could operate in a manner so as to dispose individuals of their life earnings.

The next presentation was on Climate Change and Food Security by Dr. A. Biju Kumar who challenged us to appreciate the fragility of our earth's climate and how it could drastically moderate food crop patterns, in turn affecting our global food security. The other aspects discussed covered changing consumption factors and how

temperature change would adversely affect availability of potable drinking water and increase vector borne diseases.

Shri. T. Peter, a renowned activist on the rights of Fisher folk presented a very convincing argument on how a group of innocent people engaged in traditional fishing have been systematically and technically driven out of their abodes and traditional catch practices to salvage their own environments. He also pointed out how non-sustainable eco-exploitation and development would affect the country.

Dr. V. S. Vijayan delivered a very informative presentation regarding biodiversity. He exposed us to the rich eco-diversity especially in India and Kerala in particular. The presentation highlighted the largely unnoticed services that nature does by way of the wetlands and forests in replenishing earth and restoring the balance in life sustaining resources especially air and water.

Dr. G. Gopakumar put up a beautiful, elegant treatise explaining globalisation as a process of exodus or mass migration. He grounded his presentation on the various theories to explain the global happenings and the creation of political fault-lines by way of Huntington's Theory and Wallerstein's World Systems Theory.

Dr. M.K. Prasad's Discussion on Environment and Human Rights convinced us how "homo-sapiens", the cultured organism as a part of his 'development' began disturbing and destroying the ecology eventually affecting its delicate balance. He explained how this realisation especially a growing concern about the green house gases culminated in the first Earth summit of 1992.

The next presentation was by Dr. Subhash Chandra Bose with regard to Water Rights. The talk highlighted the probable areas of violation in one of man's right to live, water being the most important aspect of it.

Fr. Eugene Pereira's discourse was related to the neo-liberalisation and the emergence of the instruments such as the WTO and IMF and how these bodies triggered and moderated migration. He exposed the group to the various conventions on the rights of the migrant labour – the right to organise, abolition of forced labour, equal remuneration, minimum age, decent work convention of 2011, etc. which are gaining currency even in the extremely rigid Middle East.

Dr. Faizi's, presentation echoing Dr. Vijayan's presentation, discussed environment and human rights. The presentation centred around the Ramsar Convention and the international understanding on the need to protect wildlife and wetlands by way of CMS (for birds and marine life) and CITES (flora and fauna). He also expressed his concern about India adopting the Yellowstone Model of conservation which as history has

proved only resulted in "Savage Invasion" by the cultured oppressors.

Dr. K. C. Sunny introduced Human Rights analogising it to the paradoxical conflict between 'Devils' and 'Angels' happening deep with the "collective consciousness" of mankind. He described the fundamental realisation of this struggle, finding form in the formation of the UN following the hue and cry over war crimes on the magnitude in the Nazi concentration camps. The second part of the presentation was on Law, Public Policy and Human Rights and it exposed to the clash of interest within values and practice in at least 12 domains ranging from dogmatism v/s liberal thinking, social rights v/s market, development v/s environment, sovereignty v/s international interests.

Teesta Setalvad did a very bold presentation on her struggle against the state sponsored violence against minorities. She talked about how her role of facilitator has paid off with people especially women standing up against the dominant state. She also explained the dynamics of how the state can be a dominant, violator of HR.

There was a panel discussion on "Women and Human Rights" featuring Dr. Saraswathy Nagarajan, Dr. Parvathy Devi, and Dr. Meena Pillai. The concern was raised regarding the rising crimes against women. This was largely abetted by tradition, cultural beliefs as well as practices. The group was exposed to the CEDAW, and the rights of women to be free of discrimination, and the reproductive rights.

There was a wonderful presentation by Mr. Bhadra Kumar M.K., who talked about Human Rights in a Bilateral Perspective of International Relations. He very subtly led the participants onto a journey into the inner world of political and world history. The journey exposed to the dilemmas that the career diplomat encountered in his career. Given his broad experience in dealing with Pakistan, we were treated with the numerous instances of practising the delicate art of pushing but not shoving. He demonstrated tremendous wisdom in dealing with the most contentious issues and was candidly honest about the brazen diplomatic mistakes India has made whether it be in Lanka or Bangladesh, or closer home in Pokhran or with the Maoists along the Red Corridor. He exposed his clear vision regarding the judicious stances taken by Iran and Egypt with regard to West Asia debacle. The audience were thrilled to ask many questions which he answered balancing with wit and wisdom.

Dr. C.A. Josekutty made a brief lecture regarding the concept of human rights, its history beginning with the Magna Carta, the sources of HR and the broad approaches – liberal, socialist, solidarity and identity. He argued strongly regarding the universality of HR, which evoked a very strong debate.

The next presentation was a very compelling yet heart rendering story-telling by Shri. Jayakumar of Thanal. He began his picturesque tale describing the lethal impact of Endosulphan. The story of Leelakumari's struggle remains etched in our minds. The presentation was replete with scientific citations to each argument. It also described the operational manner of classification and banning of persistent organic pollutants.

The next presentation was by Dr. Rajaram Tholpady who discoursed on Human Rights from the Perspective of Political Ideologies. He attempted to describe the evolution of politics as a dialogue between the individual, group and communities on one side and the state on the other.

The next presentation was an elaborate case on Social Movements in South Asia by Ramu Manivannan. He began his journey tracing the transition from primitive society to the modern day political system illustrating with arguments based on "Social Contract Theory" which advocates that civil society or polity evolved as a means to tame the always erring 'uncivil' man. He basically premised his thesis that social movements were spontaneous responses to human misery caused by subtle and mindless violation of human rights. But ultimately, it is an attempt at political discourse or a negotiation. The forenoon session was a debate moderated by Dr. Manivannan and a panel consisting of Dr. Biju and Mr. Geo Joseph, who argued about the emergence and direction of social movements on contemporary issues.

The Interaction with ADGP A. Hemachandran IPS on Policing and HR discussed the numerous forms of violations happening in society all under the pretext of necessarily upholding the 'integrity and unity of the nation' which goes against the dignity of the individuals involved.

The presentation by Justice K.T. Thomas was very much enriching and evoked many questions. He was very pleasant and took pains to illustrate his points especially revealing the wisdom that could only emerge from a clear conscience. He talked at length on the need to highlight human dignity in the decisions pertaining to human life.

The next presentation that evoked interest was Mr. T.V. Sajeevan's presentation on Ecosystem people. He too convincingly argued about the cruelty of treating ecosystem people as squatters and evicting them from their homelands. He argued that with each run we climbed in the ladder of development the more uncivilised our actions became, perhaps most measureable in terms of the carbon print we leave behind.

Dr. P. J. Alexander talked at length about State and Violence. In his presentation he highlighted the role of the state in preventing human rights violation, even at the expense of constraining individual rights.

The presentation on the Fallacy of Kudamkulam by Prof. K. Ramachandran was a clear case to illustrate the violation of Human Rights of the people of Kudamkulam village. He systematically presented on how little role nuclear power plants contribute to the total pool of energy needs of the country.

Mr. Ambujakshan did a presentation on the importance of mainstreaming the Dalit community. He described how alienated and battered a community the Dalits have become and attributed it to be the product of what he termed graded inequality. He cited numerous examples and some statistics to illustrate how the executive, the judiciary and the law enforcers themselves were bent on repressing the Dalit community.

The Course was evaluated by Dr. S.V. Sudheer, the Director –ASC, during the morning session on the 6th of August. First there was a Test, followed by a feedback discussion of the evaluation sheets. The Valedictory function began with an invocation by Prof. Catherine. Dr. Sajeev welcomed the gathering and the report on the proceedings was presented by Dr. Sonny. Dr. S. V. Sudheer during his Presidential address felicitated the ‘team’ thanking the group for their cooperation contributing to the grand success of the Refresher Course. Following this Dr. J. Prabhash, Pro-vice Chancellor, University of Kerala delivered the Valedictory Address. In his address he observed how globalisation had induced a subtle ‘marketisation of the economy,’ yet had a profound impact on the most vulnerable – the indigenous people, and socially challenged. This resulted in gross violation of Human Rights. Dr. Prabhash also distributed the certificates. Dr. Shaji Varkey summarised the objectives behind Human Rights being normative, value orientation, human dignity, and international relations. Dr. S. Bismi and Paulose felicitated the gathering thanking them for their unity and team-spirit. The meeting was adjourned with a rendition of the national anthem on the flute by Mr. K.P. Satheeshkumar.

128th ORIENTATION PROGRAMME (IT-ORIENTED) [From 27.07.2012 To 23.08.2012]

The 128th Orientation Programme (IT-Oriented) commenced on the 27th of July 2012. A total of 52 participants from various disciplines, and from different universities, across the State successfully attended the programme. Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Director of Academic Staff College, University of Kerala, cordially welcomed the participants and gave a brief introduction on the agenda, time schedule and programme profile in accordance with the specific guidelines laid down by the UGC. Also, the set rules and regulations to be duly followed were conveyed to the participants concisely and with utmost precision.

The ice-breaking session was initiated by Dr. Dinakaral Thavamony followed by a session on Value Education. Within a day’s session, Dr. Dinakaral rendered a serene and education friendly ambience to the participants. Each participant was given an opportunity to interact with each other, and was constantly encouraged to blend into the group, and learn more about one and all. Dr. Pradeep Kumar C, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Malayalam, M.G. College, Trivandrum was chosen as the Convenor & Dr. J.K. Reshma, Asst. Professor and HOD, PG Dept. of Environmental Sciences, All Saints’ College was chosen as the co-convenor for the programme. The ensuing days were further enriched by means of a sequential and adeptly structured, knowledge packed, and informative sessions, rendered by various eminent personalities. All of them were adept resource persons, who have proved their excellence, and have been greatly acclaimed for their exemplary work, in their respective streams. The eminent personalities, who shared their expertise, with the participants of the 128th Orientation Programme comprises Mr. Shibu Albert (Introduction to Computers), Dr. Simon Thattil, (Research Methodology), Dr. A. Abraham, (Neuro Linguistic Programming), Dr. Dev Das Menon, (Stress Management), Fr. Joye James, (Counseling and Personality Development), Dr. Usha S. Nair, (Health and Wellness), Dr. Rosamma Philip, (Micro Teaching), Dr. E. James R. Daniel, (Higher Education Policy), Mr. Gouridasan Nair, (Political Communication and the Media), Dr. C. Sudheendra Ghosh, (Preventing Allergy and Asthma), Prof. Kalyanaraman, (SPSS), Dr. G. Porgio (Emotional Dimension in Teaching), Dr. K.G. Thara, (Disaster Management) , Dr. Alexander Jacob IPS, (History of Education) and Mr. S. Manoharan Nair, (Web Designing).

Then, to effectively enhance the teaching abilities and skills of the participants, a micro teaching session was conducted, wherein the participants were duly prepared and instructed on how to take a class within a strict timeline not exceeding 5 minutes. The 5 minutes session rendered by the respective participants were recorded on video for further assessment and evaluation purposes. Dr. Rosamma Philip analyzed each session and evaluated the teaching methodologies and techniques adopted by each participant during the microteaching session. Valuable tips clubbed with ample explanation on how to adhere to the various techniques were concisely conveyed to the participants so as to elevate and refine their teaching performances, methods and skills in the near future.

All the participants presented their projects on the topic of their choice and promptly submitted their projects to the respective subject evaluators prior to their project presentation. The topics selected were diverse in nature owing to the presence of participants from different

disciplines. The presentations were evaluated by Dr. Resia Beegam, Professor, Dept. of Commerce, University of Kerala, Trivandrum, Dr. P. P. Ajayakumar, Professor of English, Institute of Distance Education, University of Kerala, Trivandrum and Dr. Mathew M. Oommen, Former Professor & Head, Department of Zoology, University of Kerala, Trivandrum respectively.

As a part of the programme, one day field visit was arranged on 17.08.2012 to Sanghumugam beach, Kuthirmalika, Art gallery and Kovalam beach. It was indeed a memorable, enjoyable and refreshing experience. The trip brought the participants into closer relationship with each other.

The Orientation Programme concluded on 23.08.2012, with an evaluation and feedback of all the topics dealt in the programme. The participants expressed their opinion about the programme, its organization, content and administration and also gave valuable suggestions for further improvement.

The valedictory address was delivered by Dr. S.V. Sudheer, Director of Academic Staff College and certificates of participation were distributed. The whole hearted dedication and responsibility of the Director in rendering high standard infrastructural facilities and the co-operation of the administrative staff and participants led to the success of the programme.

SHORT TERM COURSE FOR RESEARCH GUIDES IN SOCIAL SCIENCES [From 30.07.2012 To 03.08.2012]

The short term Course for Research Guides in Social Sciences was held at Academic Staff College, University of Kerala from 30-07-2012 to 03-08-2012. The course started with a registration session held on 30-07-2012. The programme was formally inaugurated by Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Honourable Director, Academic Staff College. He wished a useful, fruitful and meaningful learning experience to the participants through this course.

Dr. Simon Thattil, Professor, Department of Commerce, University of Kerala, officiated as the Co-ordinator of the programme briefed the curriculum of the course. Research guides from different disciplines registered for the course.

On 30.07.2012, the morning session started with the introductory remarks by the course Co-ordinator and the Professor, explained the rules and regulations to be followed during the course. Dr. Muhammed Maheen, Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Calicut was selected as Convenor and Prof. Vijayamma A.N, Department of Management, Sankar Institute of Science, Technology and Management, Chathannor, Kollam as Co-convenor respectively. The remarks of the Coordinator was followed by a useful lecture by Dr. Gopakumar, Professor of Emeritus UGC Perspective

on Quality Research and shed light on various funding agencies at National – International level for the preparation and submission of project.

On the second day, Dr. Victor Louis, LIBA, Chennai delivered a wonderful and innovative talk on ‘Research Design’. In the afternoon session we had a nice presentation on ‘Review of Literature’ by Dr. K.P. Vijayakumar, H.O.D, Department of Library & Information Science, University of Kerala, Trivandrum.

On the Third day, the forenoon session was engaged by Dr. S. Kevin, Former Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of Kerala, enjoyed everyone with his class on ‘Designing and Executing Questionnaires’ in Research Methodology. In the afternoon session Dr. Hariharan, Department of English, University of Kerala, engaged a class on ‘Writing Research Problems’ in Research Methodology.

‘Writing a research paper’ and ‘Use of Excel in Research’ were the two other areas engaged by two eminent Professors Dr. B. Hariharan & Prof. N. Hariharan that we had on the fourth day of the course.

On the concluding day, Prof. Somasekharan exposed the device – SPSS in Research Methodology. He was quite successful in imparting his knowledge on a particular area which was most useful to us.

An evaluation and feedback session was also included as the last item of the course. The programme was concluded with a valedictory function chaired by the Honourable Director, Academic Staff College. Though a Short term course, it was a grand success only because of this Prestigious Institution, Academic Staff College and its dedicated and enthusiastic staff, particularly on the top its Honourable Director, young and dynamic Dr. S. V. Sudheer.

XXVIII REFRESHER COURSE IN COMMERCE AND MANAGEMENT [From 04.09.2012 To 25.09.2012]

The UGC sponsored 28th Refresher Course in Commerce and Management was held from 4th September to 25th September 2012 with 26 participants from the disciplines of Commerce and Management. The participants were from different states Viz; One from Manipur, One from Uttar Pradesh, Two from Maharashtra, Three from Karnataka, 9 from Kerala and 10 from Tamil Nadu state. Dr. Simon Thattil, Professor Department of Commerce, University of Kerala was the Coordinator of the programme. Mr Biju S K, Assistant Professor, KNM Government College Kanjiramkulam, Trivandrum and Mrs Anu Vargheese, Assistant Professor, St. Johns College Anchal, University of Kerala were selected as convenor and co convenor respectively.

In the forenoon of 4th September Dr. Sudheer, Director, Academic Staff College, University of Kerala welcomed

the gathering and made a brief introduction about the course. The course was formally inaugurated by Sri Salim Gangadharan, Regional Director, RBI, Trivandrum. He explained the dynamic role of RBI in the current scenario. He said that the RBI is not only the initiator of monetary control but also the advocate of fiscal control, which is essential for inflation control and macro growth and development. A self introduction by the participants took place as a part of ice breaking session under the chair of Dr. Simon Thattil, which enabled the participants to get to know each other.

Dr. K Aiyadurai highlighted the quality of higher education system by stating that quality is a concept to be assessed and not to be quantified. He expressed that self evaluation, peer review; bench marking, survey of students and professional bodies and testing the knowledge of professors are needed to ensure quality in higher education. He also discussed the different types of research. The afternoon session was handled by the course coordinator on research for knowledge society, where he explained with illustration about the way of developing a research problem by following funnel and balloon model.

The Refresher programme became much fruitful because of the following Resource persons who proved their authority in their respective topics.

Dr. Ramalingum Professor from GITS, (Dual GST in India), Sri. B V Subramaniyan (Time Driven Activity Based Costing), Dr. Johny Johnson Associate professor, School of Management studies, MG University, (Ambush marketing), Sri. Harish Krishnan, Company Secretary (The Companies Bill 2011), Dr. Manikkavasagam, Professor of Corporate secretary ship, Alagappa University (CSR), Dr. Simon Thattial (Management thought), Sri. Hariharan N (Use of Excel in Data analysis for Research), Dr. T Asokan (E- Commodities), Dr. K. Sasikumar (Research Project Proposal), Dr. Hariharan B (Cautions to be taken while writing research article) Dr. Rajesh (Tally), Usha S Nair (Health and Wellness) Dr. J L Gupta (Difficulties in measurement of Income), Dr. Mallikarjunappa (IFRS), Dr. James (Derivatives), Dr. Krishnakumar (E- Organisation and Politics in Organisation), Sri. Rajesh Ramakrishnan (Banking and personal finance), Sri. Subhash Parameswaran (Banking Strategy), Dr. Jayamony (Excellence through health and wellness), Dr. Benny Joseph (Corporate expectations from today's Graduates).

A session organized by the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry at the Mascot Hotel, gave the participants an exposure to Indian American Business Opportunities, which also benefited the participants immensely.

An Industry visit to HLL Life Care at Peroorkada, Trivandrum provided great exposure to the participants.

A brief presentation about the company was made by the CEO and the discussion that followed with all the functional managers gave the participants a broad outlook about the different policies that the company followed. That was a great experience to the participants that could connect the theory professors with the practices followed by the practitioners of Commerce and Management. After the field visit, a panel discussion was held at IMK, Trivandrum where Dr. Baiju Ramachandram, the Director, Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Trivandrum Chapter, chaired the discussion, and the panel included, Mr. Nelson Gomez, Chief Manager, Indian Overseas Bank, CA. R. Ravikumar, Chartered Accountant, Sankar & Murthy, Tvm, CMA. H. Padmanabhan, Secretary, SIRC of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India, Chennai. Mr. Vinod Narayanan, Director, Pargon Bio-Medicals Pvt. Ltd, Technopark, Mr. Visakh M. S, HR Consultant. It highlighted the skills and qualities required to obtain employment and also the opportunities available to the students of Commerce and Management.

The participants presented their project paper based on their research work. The evaluation of the project was done by Dr. Rasia Beegam. She gave valuable comments on the qualitative preparation and presentation of projects. The photo session was held on 14th September 2012 and on the last day of the course, a written examination and feedback session was conducted.

XXII REFRESHER COURSE IN MATHEMATICS [From 05.09.2012 To 26.09.2012]

The 22nd Refresher Course in Mathematics commenced with the registration session on 05/09/2012. In a simple yet elegant ceremony, the Director of the Academic Staff College, Dr. S.V. Sudheer formally inaugurated the course. He advised the participants to make the most of their participation and wished them a fruitful and useful time at the Academy.

There were participants from colleges across India who introduced among themselves during an enjoyable ice-breaking session handled by the Director, UGC-ASC himself. Dr. Ramesh Kumar, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Mathematics, University of Kerala and Ms. Pramada Ramachandran, Asst. Professor, St. Paul's College, Kalamasserry were selected as the convenor and co-convenor of the course respectively. The co-ordinator of the course, Dr. G. Suresh Singh, briefly discussed with participants the rules and details of the course and the project work to be submitted as the part of the course.

The academic sessions began with a talk by Dr. Yageen Thomas, Formerly Head of the Dept. of Statistics, University of Kerala on the various applications of 'Order Statistics' in genetics and even social sciences. This was

followed by two crisp and interesting sessions on conformal mappings and their applications by Dr. V. Karunakaran, Former Professor & Head, Dept. of Mathematics, Madurai Kamaraj University.

The next day Dr. K.S.S. Moosath of IIST, Trivandrum introduced the participants on the intricacies of affine geometries. An interesting session on Human Rights led by Dr. Bismi Gopalakrishnan of the Dept. of Law, University of Kerala reminded the participants on the awareness of their rights and duties as citizens of this great nation.

Dr. M.I. Jinnah, Former Professor & Head, Dept. of Mathematics, University of Kerala handled two informative sessions on Algebraic Topology. Next two sessions on Unit and Unitary Cayley Graphs handled by Dr. T. Tamizh Chelvam of the Dept. of Mathematics, Manomonian Sundarananr University, Tamil Nadu led the participants on the intricacies of the subject in a simple yet effective manner.

The participants were excited by the informative sessions on Mathematics in ancient world civilizations and the effective use of technology in teaching Mathematics by Dr. E. Krishnan, Former Professor of Mathematics, University College, Thiruvananthapuram. In a hilarious yet thought provoking session handled by Dr. Dev Das Menon, Former Head of the Dept. of Psychology, University of Kerala reminded the participants of the need to develop and improve their personalities. Dr. P. Veeramani of the Department of Mathematics, IIT Chennai gave an interesting talk on topologies and metric spaces while Dr. Manoj Changat of the Dept. of Futures Studies, University of Kerala spoke on Transit Functions and Convexity.

Dr. J. R.V. Edward of the Dept. of Mathematics outlined the fundamentals of Unbounded Operators while Dr. N. Sridharan, former faculty member of the Dept. of Mathematics, Alagappa University gave a structured talk on Compact Linear Operators. The participants were introduced to the concepts of Biotopologies and Homologies by Dr. Lellis Tiwagar of the Dept. of Maths, Madurai Kamaraj University. Dr. C. Selvaraj, Head of the Dept. of Mathematics, Periyar University, Salem spoke on Representation Theory. Dr. T.R Sivakumar of Mar Ivanious College, Trivandrum spoke on Differential Equations and their applications to the participants.

A session on Health and Wellness by Dr. Usha S. Nair of the Dept. of Physical Education, who gave useful tips to the participants on keeping both their minds and bodies fit. Dr. P.T. Ramachandran of the Department of Mathematics, Calicut University gave a detailed lecture on Topology.

The participants presented their projects with interest and enthusiasm. The sessions were chaired by Dr. G. Suresh Singh, Course Co-ordinator and Dr. C. Jayasri,

Professor & Head, Dept. of Mathematics, University of Kerala.

The field trip to Kovalam and Veli came as a welcome and refreshing break from academic rigorous, cementing the bonds of friendship between the participants. The final session was an evaluation and feedback session. The course ended with a valedictory function presided over by the course co-ordinator who distributed certificates of participation.

The dedication, concern and friendliness expressed by the Director, Dr. S.V. Sudheer, the hands on attitude and directions of the course co-ordinator and the sincere co-operation of the administrative staff of the Academic Staff College, all combined and led to the successful completion of the course. The participants returned to their respective institutions with renewed vigour and refreshed minds.

XXXVII REFRESHER COURSE IN ENGLISH [From 28.09.2012 To 19.10.2012]

A Refresher course in English was conducted by the Academic Staff College, University of Kerala from 28.09.2012 to 19.10.2012. The Co-ordinator of the programme was Dr. P. P. Ajayakumar, Professor, Department of Distance Education, University of Kerala. The participants were from different states of India, including Maharastra, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Andra Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa and Kerala. Overall 48 teachers participated. The course was formally inaugurated by Dr. G. Balamohan Thampi, Former Professor of English, Banaras Hindu University and Former Vice- Chancellor, University of Kerala. On 28.09.2012, Mr. Subramony, Assistant Professor of English, The Madura College (Autonomous), Madurai was selected as Convenor and Smt. Sarbijit Cheema, Assistant Professor of English, Arts & Commerce College for Women, Deopur Dhule, as the Co-Convenor.

In the following days, the participants were enriched with scholarly sessions from the following Resource persons: Dr. Dev Das Menon (Stress Management), Prof. K. Gopalakrishnan (Introduction to Visual Culture), Dr. Lal (ELT an Integrated Skills Approach), Dr. B. Hariharan (Canada: Writing from the Artic), Prof. C. C. Thomas (Early British Theatre), Dr. P. P. Raveendran (Michael Foucault), Dr. Jayathasri Balakrishnan (Soft Skills), Dr. Bennet (Space as Critical Category in Contemporary Critical Discourse), Dr. V. Rajakrishnan (Romanticism the Concept and the State of Mind), Dr. Muraleedharan (Gender Studies), Dr. Jamuna, Dr. K. M. Sheriff (Translation Studies), Dr. Saji Mathew (Multiculturalism: Contemporary Debates), Dr. Meena T. Pillai (Film & Literature), Dr. A. S. Dasan (Postcolonialism), Dr. Susie Tharu (Rethinking Practices), Dr. Scaria Zacharia (From

Literary Theory to Critical Theory), Dr. Narayanan M. V (Culture Studies), Dr. Chitra Panicker (Feminisms & Judith Butler), Dr. C. S. Jayaraman (Painting & Literature) and Dr. P. N. Prakash (Representation of Sainthood in 20th Century Western Literature).

The participants presented papers based on their project work. There was a field trip to Veli and Kovalam beaches. The participants also went to see the Aqua Museum at Vizhinjam and the harbor there. It was a refreshing experience to the participants.

The Refresher course came to an end with a valedictory function on 19th October. The participants shared their experiences and also gave useful suggestions during the feedback session. The Refresher Course was a success chiefly due to the herculean efforts taken by Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Director, UGC – Academic Staff College and Dr. P. P. Ajayakumar, Co- Ordinator of the course.

XXI REFRESHER COURSE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES [From 01.09.2012 To 22.09.2012]

The 21st Refresher Course in Environmental Sciences commenced on 1st October 2012 and concluded on 22nd October 2012. There were 62 participants representing a multitude of disciplines from various universities and colleges across the country.

The course was coordinated by Dr. Salom Gnana Thanga, Assistant professor, and Head, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Kerala. Dr. Maya S., Assistant Professor, Mar Theophilus training college, Thiruvananthapuram was selected as the convenor and Mr. Laji Varghese, Assistant professor, Mar Theophilus Training College, Thiruvananthapuram as the co-convenor of the course.

Following the registration of the participants, Dr. S. V. Sudheer, Director of the UGC – Academic Staff College, extended a warm welcome to one and all and gave a narration on the various aspects of the course and the procedures to be followed. The coordinator gave directions regarding the project work to be submitted as part of the course.

There was an ice -breaking session where each participant was introduced by his or her friend and that session helped to foster a sense of intimacy and cooperation among the participants.

The regular academic session started on the 2nd day in which the first session was handled by Dr. V. R. Prakasam, Former HOD, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Kerala, on the topic “Environmental Concerns” which was highly informative. In the afternoon session Dr. J.G. Ray, Professor & Director, M.G. University, delivered a lecture on Soil fertility and Phyto-remediation. The other resource persons who delivered

their lectures as per the schedule is as follows. Dr. A.R.R. Menon (Forest Resources), Dr. Thrivikramji (Green gases-mitigation), Dr. Biju Kumar (Biodiversity Informatics), Dr. G. M. Nair (Environmental Biotechnology), Shri. Venugopal (Total Quality Management), Smt. Sindhu Thulaseedharan (Environmental Law), Dr. S. Sreekumar (Disaster Management), Prof. Balasubramaniam Nagarajan (Environment and Cancer), Dr. Dev Das Menon (Stress Management), Dr. T. S. Anirudhan (Chemical Toxicology), Dr. Usha S. Nair (Health and Wellness), Dr. E. Shaji (Water Resource Management), Dr. James R. Daniel (Environment and Literature), Dr. Bijoy Nandan (Wetland Ecology and Arctic Biodiversity), Dr. Biju Thomas (Adverse effect of Pesticides), Dr. Jaikiran (E- learning) and Dr. Kurian Joseph (Municipal solid waste and hazardous waste). A ‘thought for the day’ session was organised and the participants shared their thoughts and views on different aspects of environment. A field trip was organised on 12th October to the places of environmental significances like the effluent discharge site of Travancore Titanium, polluted river at Thiruvallam, Sankumukham Beach, Vizhinjam harbour, CMFRI Aquarium and Kovalam beach.

The participants prepared, presented and submitted project reports and these were valued and assessed. There was a feedback session on 22nd October in which the participants shared their experiences. The members who attended the course are indebted to the immense valuable support of Dr. S.V. Sudheer, Director, UGC-ASC, for his friendly, empathetic attitude and timely directions, the course coordinator, Dr. Salom Gnana Thanga, who was always with us in all our activities and also the administrative staff members of the Academic College.





Shri. Salim Gangadharan, Regional Director, RBI, Trivandrum
Inaugurating Refresher Course for Commerce Teachers.
Dr. Simon Thattil and Director on the dias.



Inauguration of one session by Justice K. Sreedharan
(Chief Justice (Retd.))



Shri. M. K. Bhadrakumar IFS in a discussion
prior to a lecture



Dr. Shashi Tharoor (Minister of State HRD)
Dr. S. V. Sudheer (Director) and
Justice K. T. Thomas (Justice (Retd.) Supreme Court of India)
in a dialogue



Dr. Shashi Tharoor Intracting with participants



We..... the listeners

**PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED
FROM DECEMBER 1987 TO MARCH 2012**

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	33	1094
22	2008-2009	32	1104
23	2009-2010	33	1049
23	2010-2011	32	985
24	2011-2012	29	1033

Total

551

19,355

Applications should reach this office 35 days before 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

Editorial Assistants: Mr. V. S. Ajith & Mr. Hari S.

Layout : Mr. J. V. Rajasekharan Nair

Printed at St. Joseph's Press, Thiruvananthapuram - 14