

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

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The Institute has been continuing the academic activities with the same tempo and enthusiasm during the year 2005-06.

DNB programme

National Board of Examinations has introduced CME programmes for DNB candidates as well as DNB teachers. In order to derive the benefit of CME programmes to be broadcast the satellite based transmission facilities by the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) covering common topics in general and specialty in pathology in particular, the Institute has installed Ethernet interface based receiver T at its premises. No doubt that this step will keep the students updated with the current information relevant to their academics. It is expected that not only the DNB scholars but also the DNB teachers will be greatly benefited by this step. Further, the National Board of Examinations have introduced a new system of half yearly review of students performance since January 2006. This review is of great help in the pursuit of academics of DNB training. Students get a chance to know their performance and helps in improving their theoretical as well as practice knowledge.

The postgraduate level training programme, *i.e.* Diplomate National Board in the specialty of Pathology is being continued at the Institute. During the year 2005-06, four students were admitted to the DNB course / training program. Out of four, the following two students have been registered for DNB (*Primary*) program:

Dr. Mallika Dixit
Dr. Punita Rao

The remaining two DCP students have been registered for DNB (*Secondary*) program :

Dr. Kavita Jain
Dr. Himanshu

Dr. Rekha Ghai has successfully completed her theory as well as practical exam in June 2005.

As per the new guidelines of the National Board of Examination, the Institute has started conducting review exams of the DNB students and the first such review was held in end of January and first week of Feb. 2006 with the examiner nominated by the NBE. Further, Dr. Sujala Kapur and Dr. Usha Burra also attended three-day seminar conducted by NBE at MAMC for improving the teaching to DNB students from 26th-28th August 2006.

Ph. D. programme

As per the MOU signed between IOP and Jiwaji University, Gwalior, the Institute has been imparting training to the final year M. Sc. students in Life Sciences of Jiwaji University. Under this training program, six students deputed by the Jiwaji University started their six-months project work in Feb. 2006. These students have been doing their project work in different labs of IOP. At the end of the six months, the students will submit their project report. The details of the students are given below:-

Sl.No	Name of the student	Deptt.
1	Mr. Ankit Mahendra	Biochemistry
2.	Ms. Umang Srivastava	Biochemistry
3.	Ms. Arpita Kathil	Biochemistry
5.	Ms. Jyoti Sharma	Biochemistry
6.	Mr. Vibuthi B Mishra	Microbiology
7.	Mr. Sunil Verma	Microbiology

Under the Off-campus PhD program of BITS, Pilani, eight students have successfully cleared their Ph.D. qualifier and registered for Ph.D. Course. Besides, the Institute has attracted young research scholars with UGC, CSIR, and ICMR Junior Research Fellowships.

Training

At a meeting of the Principal Investigators held during the course of a 2-day Workshop (27th –28th June, 2005) organized at IOP, New Delhi, it was decided that three

of the centers (Aizawal, Gangtok and Guwahati) would initially send the tissue and blood samples to IOP and the other three (Silchar, Dibrugarh and Imphal) to ICPO. All the centers will send urine and blood samples to NIOH for analysis of tobacco and pesticide content. Procedures involved in collection and dispatch of tissues to IOP, ICPO and NIOH, without contamination and a detailed list of plastic ware and consumables required for the project were explained. A short summary of the project with explanation as to the possible outcome of the project was discussed and the participants were helped with a list of materials required to start the pilot project scheduled for July 2005.

Demonstration to familiarize Investigators with consumables and equipment necessary for obtaining, handling and packaging of the tissue, blood and urine specimens were done in the Meeting held at IOP and ICPO, June 2005.

- Technical Officer from Dr. Bhubaneshwar Borooah Cancer Institute, Guwahati, Assam spent one week in November 2005 at our Institute. During this period, he was trained for the following procedures:
 - 1) Collection and storage of normal tissues and tumor in cryovials containing RNA later.
 - 2) Collection and storage of blood in EDTA in 15 ml tube.
 - 3) Transportation of tissue and blood in ice pack.

Visit of Research Scholars to PBCRs at Guwahati, Aizawal and Gangtok from 30.03.2006 to 12.04.2006.

Indranil Chatterjee, SRF of Tobacco related oesophageal malignancies, Mishi Kaushal, JRF of Pesticide Project, Regina, JRF of Tobacco Project visited the three PBCRs for two weeks. The aim was to understand the difficulty that the Investigators were facing in proper collection of tissue and blood samples from patients at the PBCRs. This was an extremely useful visit since it helped us to understand the exact working conditions at the PBCRs and we were able to take corrective measures for future so that given the circumstantial constraints, the sample collection would not suffer.