

Report on Career Guidance Workshop

Title: In-House Skill and Opportunity Workshop

Venue: Marian Hall, St Joseph's college, Irinjalakuda

Date: 7th February 2019

Preamble:

A One day career guidance workshop on the title 'In-House Skill and Opportunity Workshop has been organized by Department of Biotechnology on 7th February 2019, at St Joseph's College Autonomous, Irinjalakuda with regard to the functional MoU signed with Aeka Biochemicals Pvt Ltd, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

Participant's Profile:

A more than 100 students from Department of Biotechnology, St Joseph's college, registered for the in house workshop.

Description about the Program:

Speakers were formally introduced to the student participants following prayer and thereafter workshop soon proceeded to make effective utilization of one day schedule. Ms. Aardra Chandra Mouli, Founder and Managing Director of Aeka Biochemicals Pvt. Ltd., introduced the company. Aeka Biochemicals is the first fully women-owned environmental biotech company in India. Her session emphasized on skill development and essentiality of life Science skills and soft skills in today's job market.

Subsequent session was regarding study abroad opportunities and scholarships by Ms Parvathi Ramaswamy. Parvathi heads the production activities of Aeka's environmental biotech products. Eligibility criteria for enrollment to Masters and PhD programmes in countries like Germany, US, Canada, UK and Australia were suggested. Various top ranked Universities and website links were provided to students. Scholarships such as Novus Biologicals scholarships, British council IELTS award, DAAD, common wealth scholarship etc were introduced.

Next session followed by Ms Sinu Sunny, Head of Operations at Aeka which was a highly motivating class enabling students to realize life science professions in various sectors such as dairy, agriculture, pharmaceuticals etc. Scope of Biotechnology in government sectors and private sectors were also highlighted.

Lunch break followed resume preparation training by Ms Aardra Chandra Mouli. Participants were sorted into a group of 5 with 20 participants each. Students self-prepared resume were cross checked one on one basis and corrections were made. By 3.00 pm, a presentation on resume preparation guidelines and career websites such as Indeed.com, naukari.com etc was led by Ms Aardra Chandra Mouli. Biotechnika magazine and its usefulness grabbing latest news, jobs and events in Biotechnology were pointed out.

The whole day was interactive and the speakers replied to many queries raised by the participants.

Ms Ayesha Mohammed, proposed vote of thanks.

Feedback:

All the participants submitted the feedback forms which were collected by representatives from Aeka Biochemicals Pvt Ltd and assessed. As a matter of fact most of the positive responses were confined to the resume preparation session. Copies were provided to the department for internal assessment of the workshop.

Future Perspectives:

The department of Biotechnology is looking forward to organize such future collaborative events with Aeka Biochemicals Pvt Ltd. Internship programs for Post graduate students in Aeka Biochemicals has also been planned.

Photos:Session 1 : Skill developmentSession 2: study abroad, scholarships and job oppurtunitiesPost lunch session: Resume preparation session

