Faculty Development Program Improving Teaching-Learning Process through Technical Interventions

The Academic and Administrative Development Centre (AADC) of Shri Vaishnav Vidyapeeth Vishwavidyalaya (SVVV) and the Association of Indian Universities, Indore jointly organized a Faculty Development Program on Improving Teaching-Learning Process through Technical Interventions, from January 9th to January 20th, 2023. In this FDP, 30 participants registered and 26 received the certificates. It was 10 days long faculty development program wherein eminent experts across the nation deliberated upon various topics on improving the teaching-learning process through technical interventions in a blended mode. There were 18 sessions wherein all experts shared their perspectives and knowledge with the faculty members.

The inaugural session began with the worship of Goddess Saraswati, followed by the welcome of the guests. Dr. Anand Rajavat, Dean Academic, SVVV, and Nodal Officer AIU-SVVV-AADC, introduced the First FDP, organized under the aegis of AIU-SVVV-AADC, and its objectives. He said, "Technology enhances learning, improves education by saving time" and hence ICT is primary catalyst of change in all the domains of modern society. He introduced the keynote speaker and the 18 eminent speakers of FDP who are from renowned institutions across the country. Dr. Upinder Dhar, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, stated in his welcome address that continuous faculty development is required for the overall development of students and to do justice to teaching and learning through advanced technologies. He shared his view on the transformation of teaching methodology from chalk and duster to online teaching and the importance of the student-centric classroom. The guest on the occasion, Dr. Suranjan Das, President AIU, and Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Jadavpur University, delivered the presidential address. He expressed his sincere thanks to SVVV for establishing AIU-SVVV-AADC. He said, there is a paradigm shift in the education system in India as well, as it is a necessity for effective mapping of teaching pedagogy. The use of educational technology is important to enhance the teaching-learning process. Additionally, he cited constructivism, social contrarianism, behaviouralist, and emancipation as four well-known pedagogical approaches.

Dr. Jigyasu Dubey, Head of the IT Department, read the citation of the Chief Guest. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dr. Upinder Dhar presented the citation to the Chief Guest.

The chief guest on the occasion was Dr. D.B. Phathak (a recipient of Padma Shri), Professor Emeritus, Department of CSE, IIT, Bombay. His keynote address was based on storytelling pedagogy. He explained the importance of qualitative lecture delivery focusing on hard work, face-to-face learning, and counselling.

The inaugural session concluded with words of thanks by Mr. Premansh Sharma, Assistant Registrar, Academic Section, SVVV.

The first session of the FDP was conducted by Dr. Upinder Dhar, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, SVVV, Indore, on "Innovative Pedagogy for Improving the Teaching and learning process. He said, "It's time to be innovative" as there is a paradigm shift from teacher-centred learning to student-centred learning. He also suggested that enlivened classroom should be adopted as it makes the difference between hearing and listening. He also talked about innovative teaching methods.

Mr. Tuhin Kundu, Head of Governance Analytics at TCS, spoke about context setting, technologies enabling change, reasons for non-adoption, tenets of digital learning, digital transformation across ecosystems besides, smart campuses, leveraging technology in the ecosystem, digital programs in our country, perceived ROI, platforms for digital education, and digital dexterity. He concluded with "nothing can replace human touch and the physical environment."

Dr. Rajeev Shukla, Professor, School of Management Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi, delivered a session on "Blended Learning and Media Strategy". He highlighted the importance of blended learning and the correlation between the concept and the practices. He said that one should adapt to have an impactful face-to-face learning environment. Blended learning has created an opportunity to rethink, plan, and design, how to deliver higher-quality content.

Dr. Maya Ingle, Professor, School of Computer Science and IT, DAVV, Indore, presented a session on "Strengthening Teaching and Learning by Up-Skilling the Workforce". She highlighted that a stable T-L system with a perfect balance of opportunities and challenges can help to improve the quality of the teaching-learning process. She also said that quality teaching, quality tools for teaching and learning, and a quality environment are the three important pillars of quality education. She insisted on the incorporation of MOOCs in the higher education system. Dr. Vineet Sahula, Professor, MNIT, Jaipur, delivered his session on "Design of Assessment on

LMS-Canvas and Moodle". He provided his insight on learning in the 21st century with MOOCs, and assessment design, along with a hands-on session on LMS and Moodle.

Dr. Santosh Dhar, Rector & Dean, Faculty of Doctoral Studies and Research, Shri Vaishnav Vidyapeeth Vishwavidyalaya, Indore, delivered a session on "Challenges for Improving Teaching and Learning Process in Higher Education Institutions". She said that innovative pedagogy needs to be adopted in content delivery to upgrade students' engagement. The institutions need to focus on three shifts: operational efficiency, agility, and workforce development.

Dr. Rishi Dubey, Professor, and Principal, Indore Institute of Management and Research, Indore, delivered a session on "Audio-Visual Effects: The Best Way of Using Technology for Teaching and Learning". He discussed the Johari Window model to enhance the individual's perception for others.

Dr. Prasun Kumar, Scientific Officer, DBT-IOC, Bioenergy Research Centre, Faridabad, delivered a session on "Common Techniques and Software used to Communicate Academic Works". He provided insight on research funding, finding journals for articles, manuscript preparation and submission, how to get copyright permission from publishers, publication ethics and issues that can arise, submitting a manuscript to the journal, the review process, reasons for rejection, and post-publication. He suggested, "Think like an editor."

Dr. Ramesh Kothari, Professor, Saurashtra University, delivered a session on "Integration of ICT in Pedagogy". He talked about the extensive use of technology in teaching and learning, removing language barriers, increasing access for Divyang students, and educational planning and management. He said that physical, ethical, moral, and emotional development is not possible through a virtual laboratory system.

Dr. Manoj Kr. Tripathi, Professor, ICAR-Central Institute of Agriculture Engineering, Bhopal, delivered a session on "A Guided Approach to Successful Research Grant Proposal Writing". He spoke about writing research proposals, types of grants, and approaches to acquiring a grant. He suggested that Indians should focus on R&D as there is a lot of funding available, so a lot of opportunities.

Dr. Meenakshi Mahan, Former Head of the Department of Foods and Nutrition at the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, discussed about how technology can be used to improve educational outcomes.

Dr. Rakesh L. Shrivastava, Professor, The Institution of Engineers, and Indian Institution of Industrial Engineering delivered a session on "Technological Interventions and Blended Learning in the Digitized World: An Opportunity to Excel". He emphasized on the shifting of teaching methods from traditional face-to-face to online and blended learning. He said, e-learning is not just trendy but a necessity.

Dr. Vijay Singh Rathore, Professor and Director – Outreach, Jaipur Engineering College & Research Centre, Jaipur, delivered a session on "Challenges and Limitations in Teaching - Learning Process through Technical Interventions". He said that technology brings its outcome when it is pervasive, natural to use, effortless, and easy to use along with a security blanket.

Dr. Archana Ranka, Professor, School of Law-DAVV Indore, delivered a session on "Academic Integrity and Plagiarism UGC Regulation 2018". She talked about intellectual theft, how to deal with it, and the laws and punishable offences applicable to intellectual theft.

Dr. Mona Purohit, Dean, Barkatullah University-Bhopal, provided insight on "Contemporary Teaching Methods and Challenges", the holistic purpose of education, and education and the future as per NEP 2020.

Dr. M. M. Pant, Professor and Former Pro-VC, IGNOU, Bhopal, talked on "Artificial Intelligence and Education". He suggested, "Don't wait for someone to teach, just learn on your own."

Dr. K.N. Guruprasad, Director, Shri Vaishnav Institute of Science, Shri Vaishnav Vidyapeeth Vishwavidyalaya, Indore, delivered a session on "Technological Tools for Teaching Science". He said, "Application of Science can be useful or harmful," as the amount spent on defence systems is much higher than that of education systems.

Dr. D. K. Sharma, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, SRM University, Lucknow, delivered a session on "Effective Teaching and Learning: A Management Approach". He explained that effective teaching is one's approach or creativity that cannot be taught to a teacher by others.

The FDP ended with the valedictory session on January 20, 2023. After welcoming guests, Ms. Sukrati Agrawal, Coordinator, FDP, AIU-SVVV-AADC, presented the FDP report. The welcome address was delivered by Dr. Upinder Dhar, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, SVVV. Chief Guest Dr. Avinash C. Pandey, Hon'ble Director, Inter-University Accelerator Centre (IUAC), New Delhi, distributed the certificates to the participants.

Special guest of this session, Dr. Amarendra Pani, Joint Director and Head of Research at the Association of Indian Universities, said that the higher education system has undergone a paradigm shift over the decades, which has led to significant changes in all areas such as instruction, pedagogy, assessment, and administration. He advocated that for continuous learning using R&D to develop the abilities necessary to deal with the paradigm shift, teachers need to be powerful knowledge repositories. Chief Guest, Dr. Avinash C. Pandey, Hon'ble Director, Inter-University Accelerator Centre (IUAC), said that the "train the trainer" method is not systematized in India, despite India having the world's third-largest higher education system. Further, he said, "To appreciate teaching, a teacher must always be a learner". Dr. Anand Rajavat proposed the words of thanks. The session concluded with the National Anthem.