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MANGALURU 575003 - INDIA

IN COLLABORATION WITH

ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (AADC)

UNDER ASSOCIATION OF INDIAN UNIVERSITIES

REPORT ON

A HANDS-ON FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

'From Networking to Knowledge Creation: Collaborative Research, Emerging Technologies and AI-Enabled Research'

10th – 14th August 2026 | 2:00 PM

Organized by

SCHOOL OF COMMERCE, FINANCE AND ACCOUNTANCY

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE – M.COM

REPORT ON FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

"From Networking to Knowledge Creation: Collaborative Research, Emerging Technologies and AI-Enabled Research"

Organized by	School of Commerce, Finance & Accountancy, Department of Commerce – M.Com, St Aloysius (Deemed to be University), Mangaluru
In collaboration with	Association of Indian Universities (AIU)
Programme Type	Five-Day Hands-on Faculty Development Programme
Training Dates	10–14 August 2026
Time	2:00 PM onwards
Mode	Hybrid (Online & Offline)
Resource Person	Dr S. M. Riha Parvin, Assistant Professor and Research Guide, Research Centre for Finance and Entrepreneurship Development, Yenepoya (Deemed to be University), Mangaluru

FDP OBJECTIVES

- To strengthen faculty members' understanding of collaborative research and research networking.
- To enable participants to identify research problems, research gaps and potential collaborative research opportunities.
- To develop participants' understanding of theoretical frameworks, conceptual models and hypothesis development.
- To provide practical exposure to scale development, validation and research instrument design.
- To strengthen skills in questionnaire development, ethical research practices and data collection preparation.
- To develop competencies in manuscript writing, quality publishing and grant proposal development.
- To introduce responsible, ethical and meaningful use of emerging digital technologies and Artificial Intelligence across the research process.

FDP OUTCOMES

- Participants developed a clearer understanding of the research journey from networking and problem identification to publication and funding.
- Participants gained practical understanding of theoretical framing, conceptualisation, constructs, hypotheses and research models.
- Participants were introduced to procedures for developing and validating scales for measuring research constructs.

- Participants gained knowledge of systematic questionnaire and research instrument design, including ethical considerations and informed consent.
- Participants developed greater awareness of manuscript preparation, journal selection, novelty, theoretical contribution and methodological rigour.
- Participants gained insights into collaborative research writing and the preparation of meaningful grant proposals.
- Participants developed awareness of the need to use AI critically, transparently, ethically and responsibly, with human verification of AI-generated outputs.

METHODOLOGY

The programme adopted a sequential and hands-on approach comprising lectures, presentations, demonstrations of digital and AI-enabled research tools, interactive discussions, practical research activities, question-and-answer sessions, feedback and a final assessment quiz. The sequence was designed to provide continuity across the five days, allowing participants to progressively connect research networking, theoretical framing, scale development, questionnaire design, manuscript writing and grant proposal development.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The Faculty Development Programme was designed as a structured research-development journey, moving from networking and collaborative research opportunities to theoretical and conceptual foundations, measurement and instrument design and finally research writing, publishing and grant proposal development. The programme also integrated emerging digital technologies and Artificial Intelligence into the research process. The inaugural proceedings highlighted the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration, continuous learning and responsible adoption of technology in contemporary higher education.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

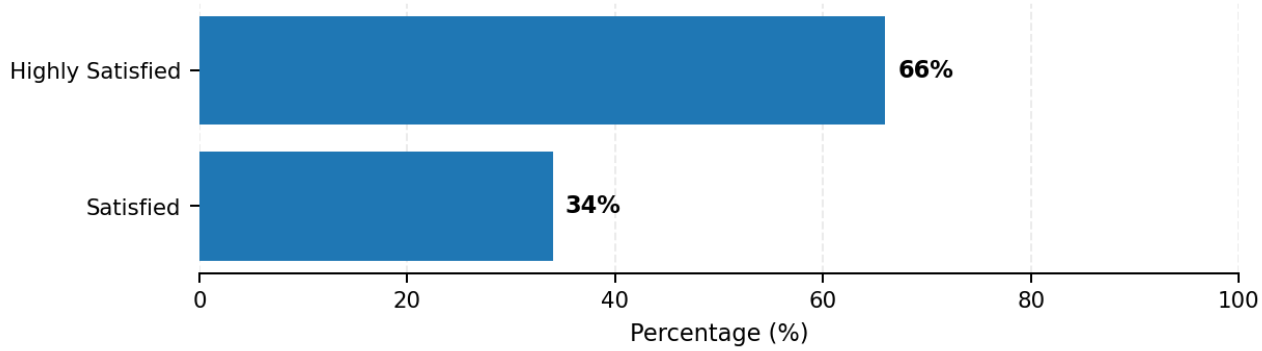
Day & Date	Theme	Session Highlights
Day 1 10 August 2026	Building Research Networks and Identifying Collaborative Research Opportunities	The programme commenced with research collaboration and networking. Participants explored the importance of building research networks, identifying potential collaborators and recognising collaborative opportunities. The session also introduced digital and AI-enabled tools that can support literature exploration, identification of contradictions and formulation of research questions. Participants were given a sequential homework activity: identify one research problem, draft one research objective, identify three recent supporting papers and one research gap, identify three potential collaborators and prepare one collaboration email draft.
Day 2 11 August 2026	Developing Theoretical Frameworks and Building Conceptual Research Models	The second day focused on the foundations required for theoretical framing and conceptualisation. The session connected research problems with theory, constructs, conceptual relationships and hypotheses. Participants were guided towards developing a coherent conceptual model and understanding how theoretical grounding strengthens research design and contribution.
Day 3 12 August 2026	Scale Development and Validation for High-Quality Research	The third day focused on the measurement of constructs in social science research. Participants were introduced to scale development and validation, including construct measurement, item development and refinement, reliability and validity assessment, exploratory and confirmatory approaches and the importance of establishing a sound measurement instrument before substantive analysis.
Day 4 13 August 2026	Questionnaire Development and Research Instrument Design	The fourth day continued the measurement discussion and focused on systematic questionnaire and research instrument design. The session covered the structure of a research questionnaire, participant information, informed consent, screening questions, demographic information, measurement scales and closing statements. Ethical requirements before, during and after data collection were also emphasised, including ethical approval, voluntary participation, privacy, confidentiality, data security, retention and appropriate disclosure.
Day 5 14 August 2026	Collaborative Research Writing, Publishing and Grant Proposal Development	The final day brought together the learning from the previous sessions and focused on manuscript writing, publishing and grant proposal development. The discussion addressed manuscript structure, novelty, theoretical

		contribution, methodological rigour, interpretation of findings, journal expectations and common reasons for rejection. Responsible declaration and disclosure of AI use, together with researcher responsibility to verify AI-generated content against actual evidence, were emphasised.

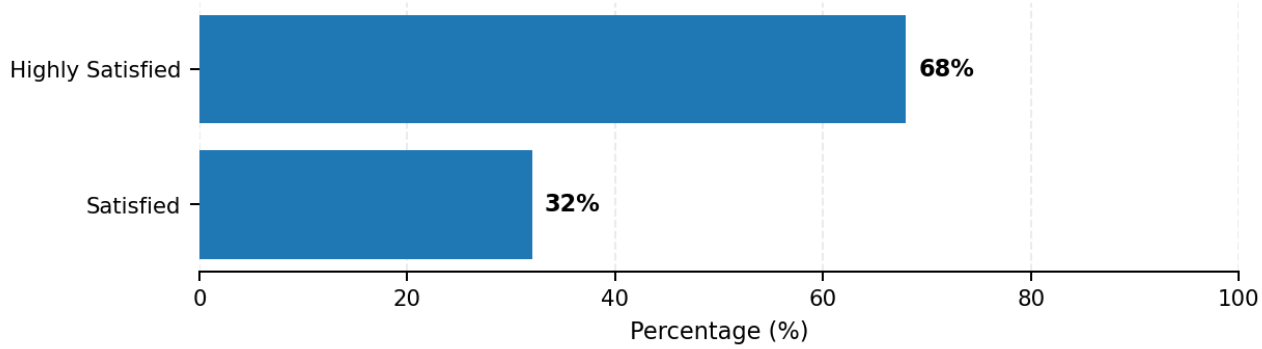
FEEDBACK ANALYSIS – FDP

Feedback distribution shown as percentages

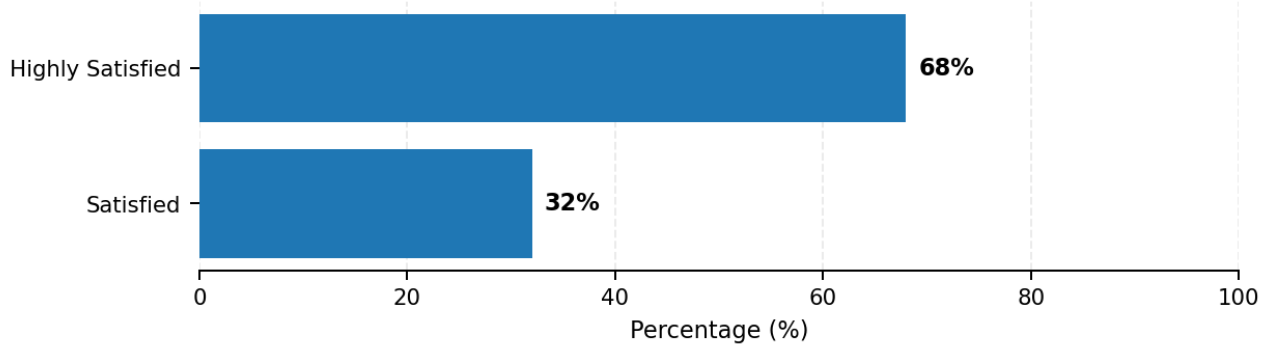
1. Overall academic quality and relevance of the 5-day FDP



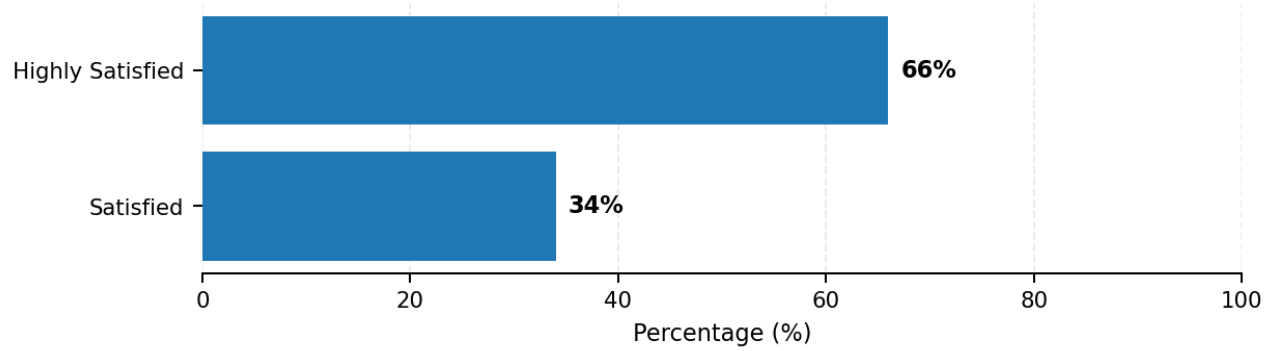
2. Quality of content, depth of coverage and progression of topics



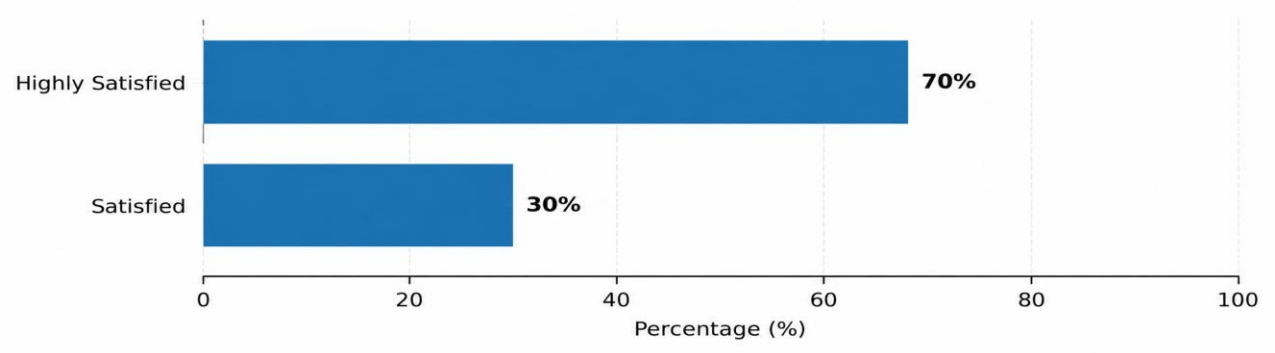
3. Resource person's expertise, delivery, participant engagement and facilitation



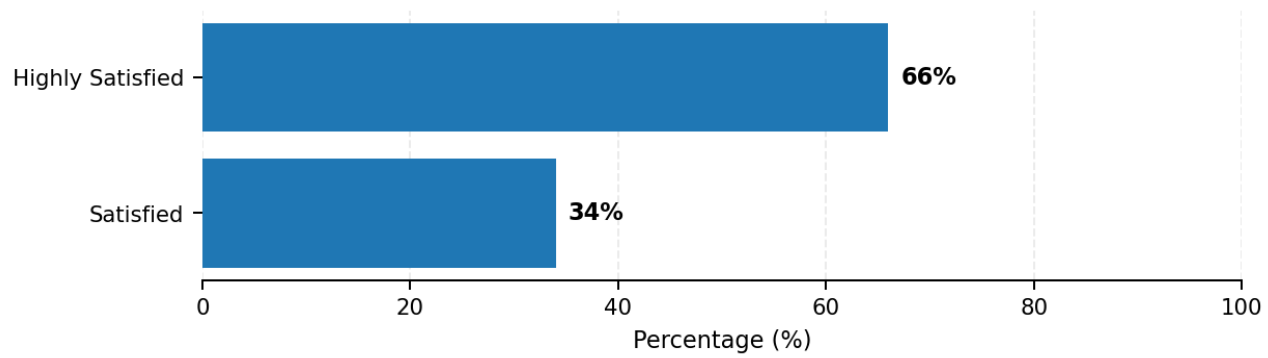
4. Opportunities for interaction, practical learning, discussion, reflection and application



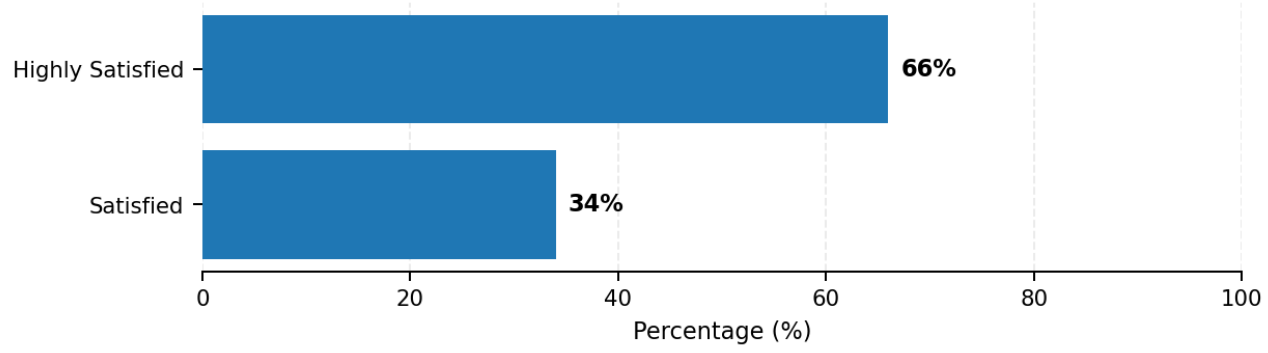
5. Overall organization and coordination, including scheduling, communication, resources and programme management



6. Extent to which the FDP enhanced knowledge, skills and professional competencies



7. Overall learning experience and value gained from participating in the 5-day FDP



OVERALL FEEDBACK

Programme Quality and Value: Participants found the sessions highly informative, enriching and well-organized, with many describing the content as excellent, practical and beneficial for researchers.

Resource Person Effectiveness: The resource person was widely commended for her extensive knowledge, conceptual clarity and ability to deliver complex topics in a simplified, engaging and insightful manner.

Content and Practical Application: Attendees appreciated the focus on AI-enabled research, collaborative networking and ethical research practices, specifically highlighting the value of the hands-on sessions.

KEY LEARNING FROM THE PROGRAMME

- Research is increasingly collaborative and effective networking can create opportunities for interdisciplinary research, co-authorship and knowledge creation.
- A strong research problem must be supported by a clear research gap, appropriate theory and a logically developed conceptual framework.
- Measurement is central to social science research; constructs need carefully developed and validated instruments.
- Questionnaires should be designed systematically and should incorporate ethical safeguards, informed consent and appropriate participant protection.
- High-quality publication requires novelty, theoretical and methodological contribution, critical interpretation and alignment with the existing literature.
- AI can assist different stages of research, but it should support rather than replace researcher judgement, critical thinking and verification.

VALEDICTORY & FEEDBACK

The five-day programme concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session and a final feedback and quiz. Participants were encouraged to reflect on the research skills gained across the programme and to carry the learning into their ongoing research work. The concluding message emphasised that research should not be undertaken merely for publication, but should aim to create meaningful academic, institutional and societal impact. The organising team also expressed appreciation to the resource person and participants for their active engagement throughout the programme.

The Faculty Development Programme ‘From Networking to Knowledge Creation: Collaborative Research, Emerging Technologies and AI-Enabled Research’ provided a structured and practical overview of the contemporary research process. The five-day sequence enabled participants to move progressively from research networking and problem identification to theoretical framing, conceptualisation, scale development, questionnaire design, manuscript writing, publishing and grant proposal development. The integration of digital technologies and AI further enhanced the relevance of the programme to current academic practice. The programme reinforced the importance of methodological rigour, collaboration,

critical thinking, research ethics and responsible use of AI in strengthening the quality and impact of academic research.

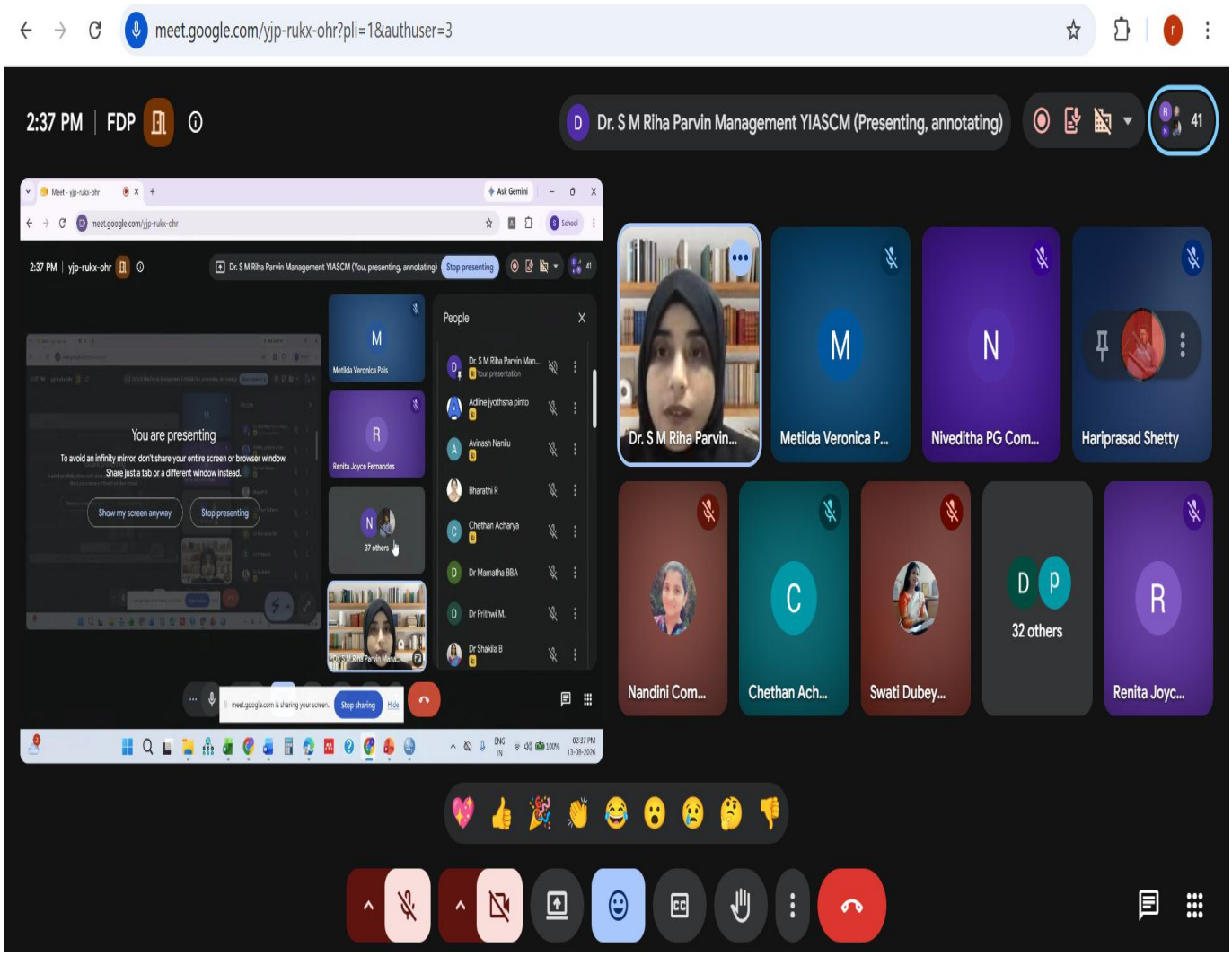
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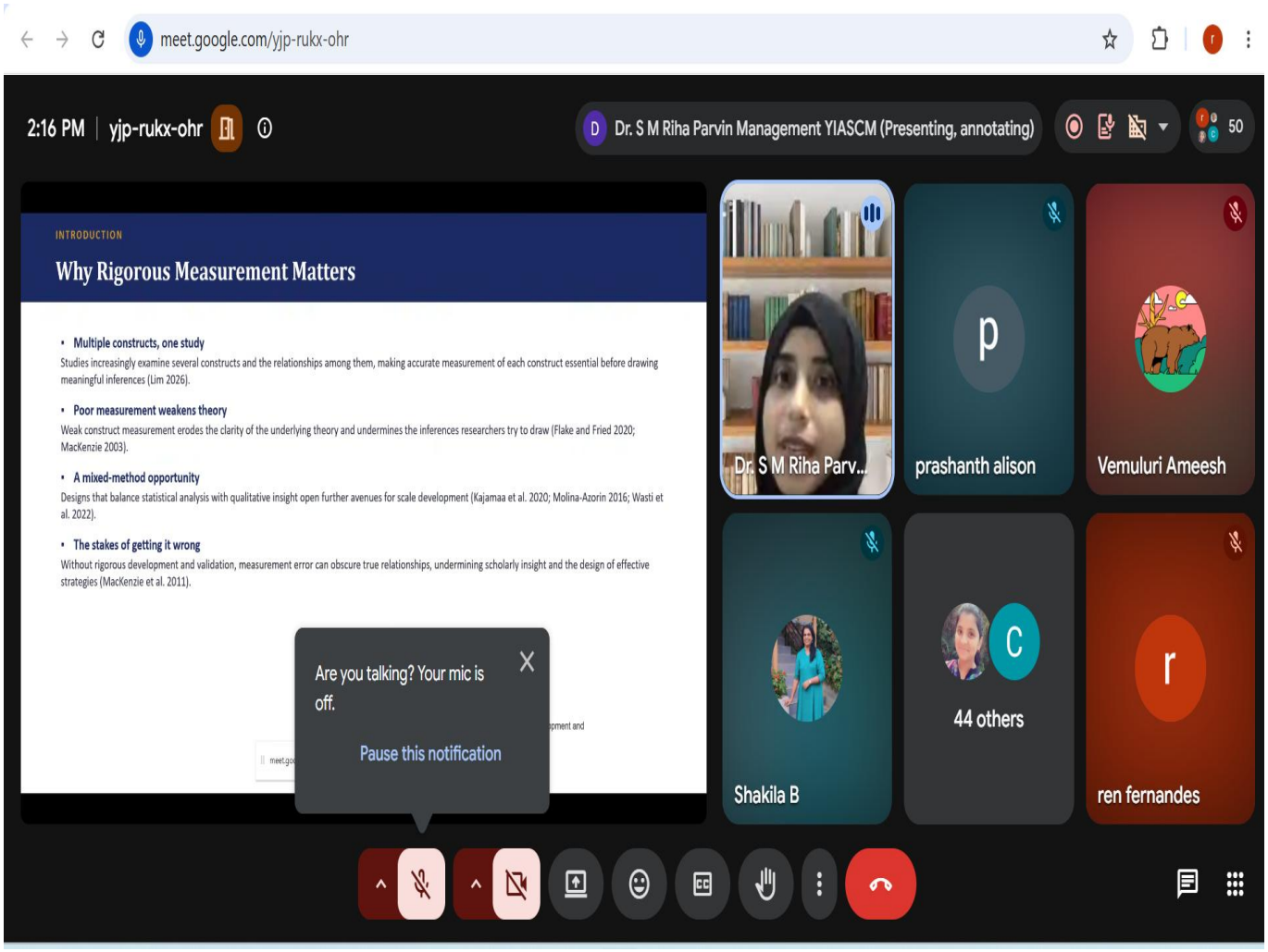
The organisers place on records their sincere appreciation to the Association of Indian Universities, the university leadership, the resource person, faculty members, research scholars and all participants for their valuable contribution to the successful conduct of the five-day Faculty Development Programme.

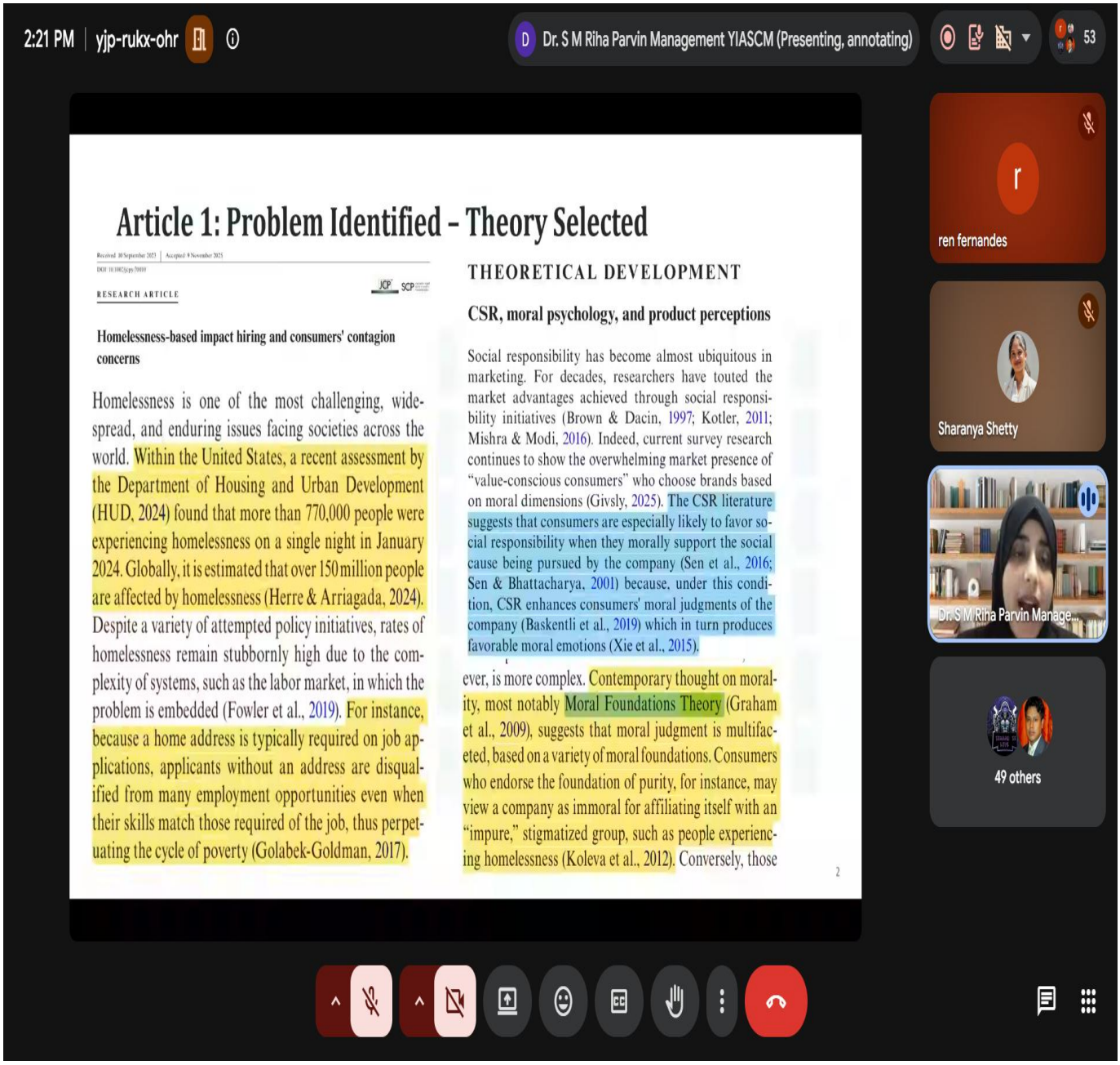

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Dr. S M Riha Parvin Management YIASCM (Presenting, annotating)
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Dr. S M Riha Parvin Management YIASCM (Presenting, annotating)
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INTRODUCTION
Why Rigorous Measurement Matters
• Multiple constructs, one study
Studies increasingly examine several constructs and the relationships among them, making accurate measurement of each construct essential before drawing meaningful inferences (Lim 2026).
• Poor measurement weakens theory
Weak construct measurement erodes the clarity of the underlying theory and undermines the inferences researchers try to draw (Flake and Fried 2020; MacKenzie 2003).
• A mixed-method opportunity
Designs that balance statistical analysis with qualitative insight open further avenues for scale development (Kajamaa et al. 2020; Molina-Azorin 2016; Wasti et al. 2022).
• The stakes of getting it wrong
Without rigorous development and validation, measurement error can obscure true relationships, undermining scholarly insight and the design of effective strategies (MacKenzie et al. 2011).
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