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ST ALOYSIUS

(DEEMED TO BE **UNIVERSITY**)
MANGALURU 575003 - INDIA

Faculty Development Programme

Research Excellence through Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools

Organized by

Academic and Administrative Development Centre (AADC)
In Collaboration with School of Life Sciences St Aloysius (Deemed to be University), Mangaluru

In association with Association of Indian Universities (AIU)

Mode: Online

Duration: Five Days

Dates: 31 August 2026 to 4 September 2026

Time: 2.30 PM to 4.30 PM

No of Participants: 70+ faculty members and research scholars from various institutes

Introduction

The Academic and Administrative Development Centre (AADC), in collaboration with the School of Life Sciences, St Aloysius (Deemed to be University), Mangaluru, organized a five-day Online Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on **"Research Excellence through Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools"** from **31 August 2026 to 4 September 2026**.

The programme was organized in association with the **Association of Indian Universities (AIU)** with the objective of strengthening the research capabilities of faculty members, research scholars and postgraduate students. The FDP was designed to address the growing need for researchers to effectively integrate modern research methodologies, intellectual property protection, innovation and Artificial Intelligence tools into their academic and research activities.

The programme brought together experts from diverse areas of research, intellectual property, emerging technologies, scientific writing and research ethics. Through a series of expert sessions, participants were introduced to contemporary approaches that can enhance the quality, impact, originality and societal relevance of research.

Objectives of the Faculty Development Programme

The FDP aimed to:

1. Strengthen research capabilities by providing insights into research methodology, grant proposal preparation, and effective research practices.
2. Enhance awareness of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), including patents, copyrights, trademarks, technology transfer, and commercialization of research outcomes.
3. Familiarize participants with Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools for literature review, data analysis, academic writing, reference management, and improving research productivity.
4. Promote ethical and responsible research practices, with emphasis on research integrity, authorship, data privacy, and responsible use of AI.
5. Encourage innovation and interdisciplinary research by integrating emerging technologies, IPR, and contemporary research approaches to enhance the impact and societal relevance of academic research.

Target Audience

The Faculty Development Programme was intended for:

- Faculty members of higher education institutions.
- Research scholars.
- Postgraduate students.

The programme provided a common platform for participants from different academic and disciplinary backgrounds to understand the changing landscape of research and innovation.

Resource Persons and Technical Sessions

A major strength of the FDP was the participation of distinguished experts representing research, intellectual property, biomedical sciences and AI-enabled academic practices.

Day 1 – 31 August 2026

Dr Praveen Shetty

Professor and Director, Research, Nitte (Deemed to be University), Mangaluru

Topic: "Research Methodology: Tips for Successful Grant Application"

The inaugural technical session focused on the importance of a strong research foundation and the essential elements required for developing successful research proposals. The session emphasized the role of systematic research methodology in identifying relevant research problems, developing clear objectives and designing scientifically sound studies.

Particular attention was given to the preparation of competitive grant proposals. Participants were expected to gain insights into:

- Identification of meaningful and fundable research problems.
- Development of clear research objectives.
- Formulation of appropriate methodology.
- Importance of innovation and originality.
- Alignment of research proposals with funding priorities.
- Preparation of realistic work plans and budgets.
- Presentation of expected outcomes and societal impact.

The session was particularly useful for young researchers and faculty members seeking to strengthen their research proposal and grant-writing skills.

Day 2 – 1 September 2026

Dr Babitha Pais Tharappan

IP Consultant, Registered Patent, Design and Trademark Agent / IP Facilitator for Startups, Bengaluru

Topic: "From Research to Innovation: Protecting Intellectual Property and Commercialising Research in the AI Era".

The second day focused on the transformation of research findings into innovative products, technologies and commercially viable outcomes. The session highlighted the importance of protecting intellectual property generated through academic and scientific research.

The discussion covered important areas such as:

- Introduction to Intellectual Property Rights.
- Patents and their importance in research.
- Copyright protection.
- Trademarks and branding.
- Design protection.
- Identification of potentially patentable research outcomes.
- Technology transfer.
- Innovation and commercialization.
- Intellectual property considerations in the AI era.

The session emphasized that academic research should not remain limited to publication alone but should also explore opportunities for innovation, entrepreneurship and technology translation. Participants were encouraged to recognize the commercial and societal potential of their research outputs.

Day 3 – 2 September 2026

Dr Rajendra Pilankatta

Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology, Central University of Kerala, Kasaragod

Topic: "Emerging Viral Diseases: Inspiring Research Excellence for the Future"

The third session explored the growing significance of research in emerging and re-emerging viral diseases. The session highlighted the need for preparedness, interdisciplinary collaboration and innovative research approaches in addressing future public health and scientific challenges.

Dr. Rajendra Pilankatta provided an overview of the **COVID-19 pandemic and the scientific approaches used for its detection and diagnosis**. The session discussed the importance of accurate and timely testing during infectious disease outbreaks and highlighted the role of molecular diagnostic techniques in identifying viral infections. The discussion provided participants with an understanding of how diagnostic strategies evolved during the COVID-19 pandemic and the importance of reliable testing in disease surveillance and public-health management.

A significant part of the session was also devoted to **Dengue**, an important mosquito-borne viral disease. The resource person discussed the challenges associated with Dengue diagnosis and management, emphasizing the complexity of the disease and the need for effective preventive strategies.

The presentation provided an opportunity for participants to understand:

- The changing landscape of viral diseases.
- Emerging challenges in infectious disease research.
- The importance of molecular and biochemical research.
- The need for surveillance and preparedness.
- Opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration.
- Identification of future research priorities.

The session encouraged researchers to develop research questions that address contemporary scientific challenges and contribute meaningfully to global and regional health concerns.

Day 4 – 3 September 2026

Dr Shamprasad Varija Raghu

Associate Professor, Yenepoya Research Centre, Yenepoya (Deemed to be University), Mangaluru

Topic: "AI-Assisted Manuscript Preparation: Editorial Expectations and Best Practices"

The fourth-day session focused on the increasing role of Artificial Intelligence in scientific writing and research communication. Participants were introduced to the opportunities offered by AI tools in improving research productivity and manuscript preparation.

The session highlighted important aspects including:

- AI-assisted literature exploration.
- Organizing and synthesizing research information.
- Improving scientific writing.
- Language refinement and manuscript structuring.
- Preparation of abstracts and research summaries.
- Understanding journal and editorial expectations.
- Responsible use of AI in academic writing.
- Avoiding plagiarism and maintaining research integrity.

A major emphasis was placed on the fact that AI should function as an **assistive tool rather than a replacement for scientific thinking and researcher responsibility**. The session also highlighted the importance of verifying AI-generated information and maintaining transparency, originality and ethical standards in scholarly communication.

Day 5 – 4 September 2026

Dr Prithvisagar K S

DST – Technology Enabling Centre, Nitte (Deemed to be University), Mangaluru

Topic: "AI in Research: Beyond the Data – Challenges, Ethics and Responsible Innovation"

The concluding session addressed the broader implications of Artificial Intelligence in research and innovation. The discussion moved beyond the technical applications of AI and focused on ethical, societal and responsible innovation dimensions.

Important themes included:

- AI applications in research.
- Data-driven scientific discovery.
- Bias and limitations in AI systems.
- Ethical use of AI.
- Data privacy and security.
- Transparency and accountability.
- Responsible innovation.
- Challenges associated with AI-generated research content.
- The need for human oversight and scientific validation.

The session provided an important concluding perspective by emphasizing that the future of AI-enabled research must be guided by ethical principles, responsible decision-making and academic integrity.

Overall Significance of the Programme

The FDP was structured to provide a comprehensive understanding of the complete research ecosystem. Rather than focusing on a single aspect of research, the programme connected several important stages of the research journey:

Research Problem Identification → Research Methodology → Grant Application → Intellectual Property Protection → Innovation → Commercialization → Scientific Communication → AI Integration → Research Ethics and Responsible Innovation

This integrated approach was one of the major strengths of the programme.

The combination of sessions on research methodology, IPR, emerging scientific challenges, manuscript preparation and AI ethics ensured that participants were exposed to both the traditional foundations and emerging dimensions of modern research.

Expected Outcomes

The FDP was expected to enable participants to:

1. Enhance their **research methodology and grant-writing skills**.
2. Develop awareness of **IPR, innovation, and commercialization**.
3. Improve **scientific writing and AI-assisted research practices**.

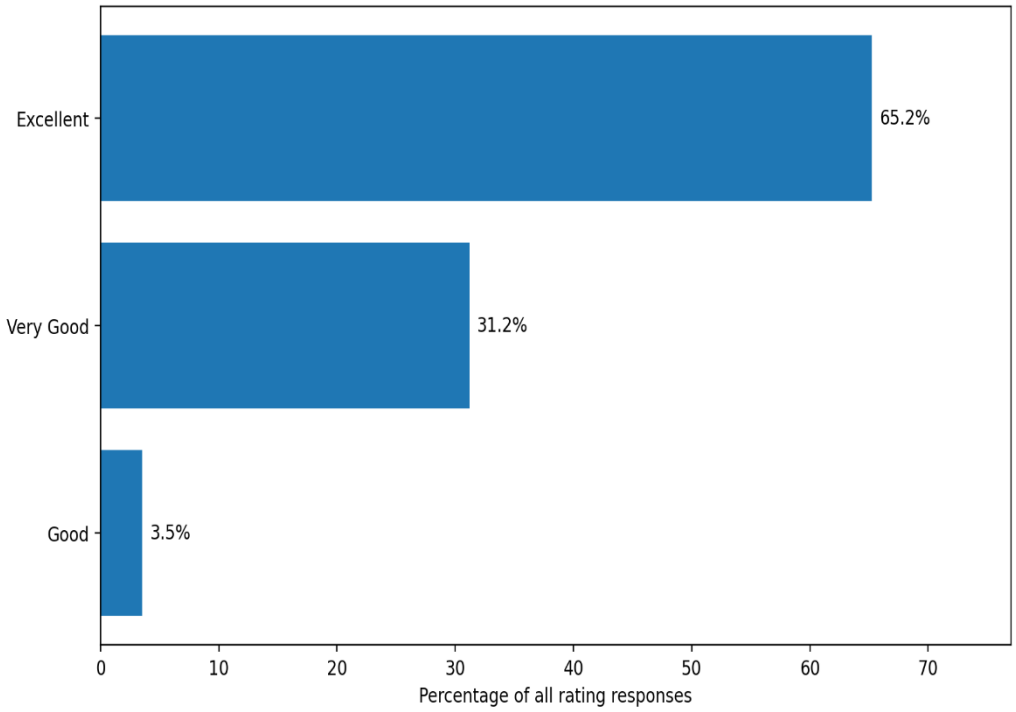
4. Understand **ethical and responsible use of AI in research**.
5. Promote **interdisciplinary research, innovation, and research excellence**.

Conclusion

The five-day FDP on **"Research Excellence through Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools"** provided valuable insights into research methodology, IPR, innovation, AI-assisted research, and responsible research practices. Expert sessions enhanced participants' understanding of emerging research trends and technologies.

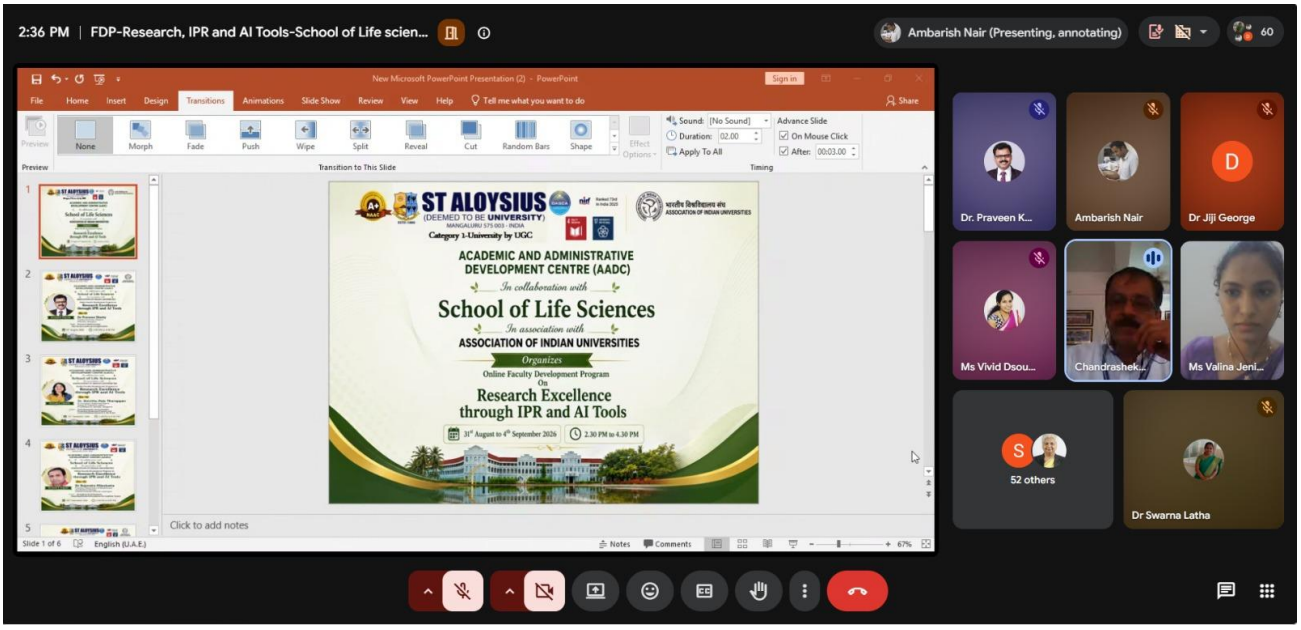
Overall, the programme served as an effective platform for **research capacity building, innovation, and skill enhancement**, preparing faculty members, researchers, and postgraduate students to address the evolving demands of contemporary research.

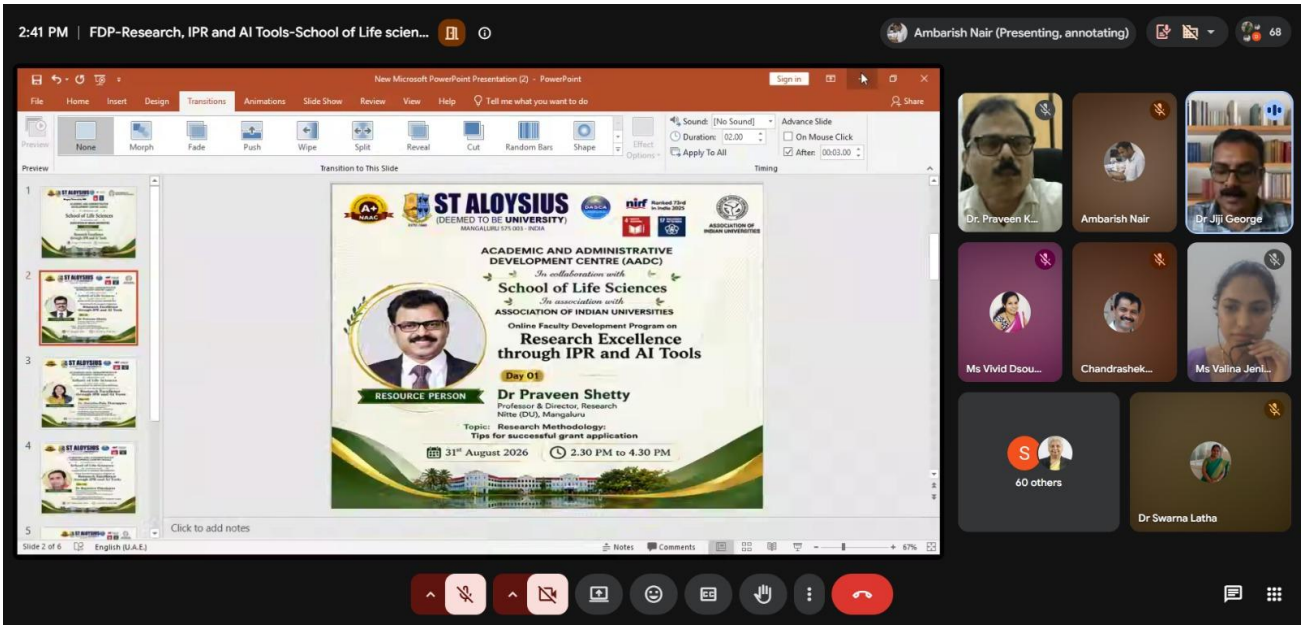
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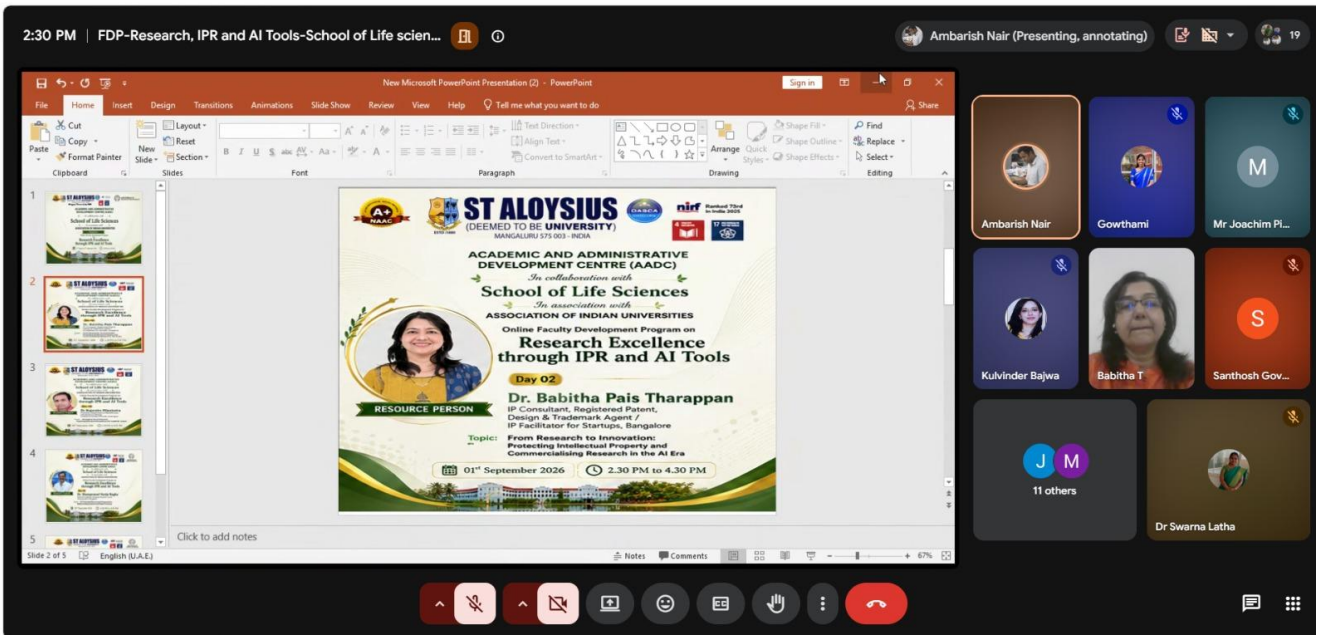
Photos

Day 01 31/08/2026

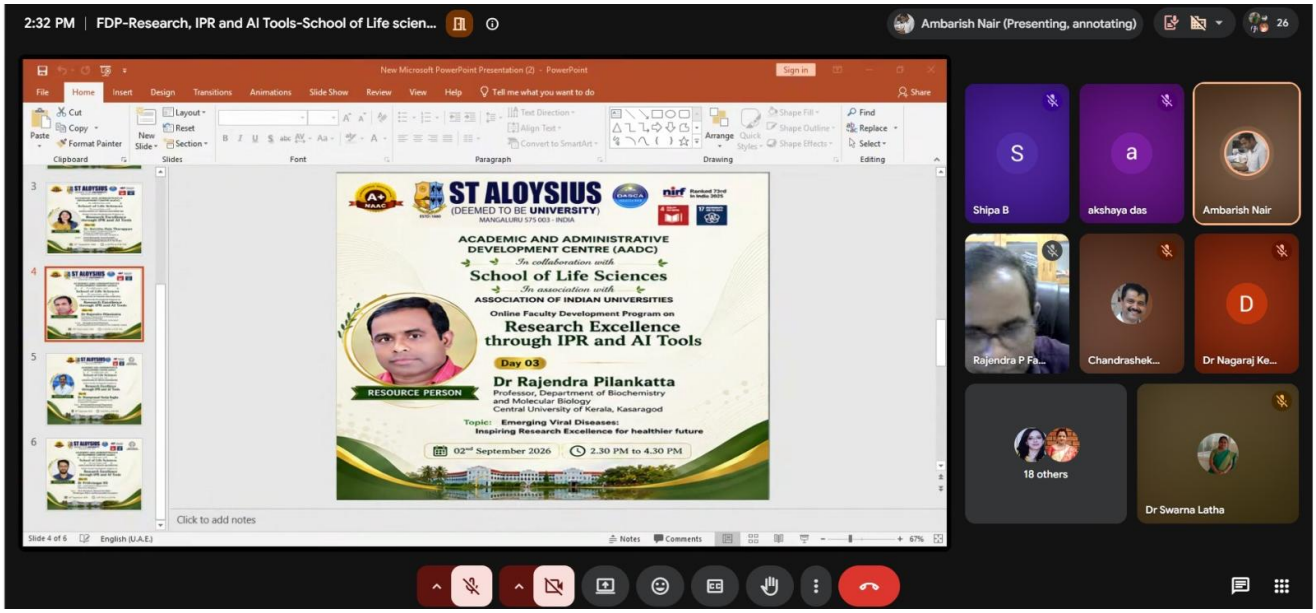




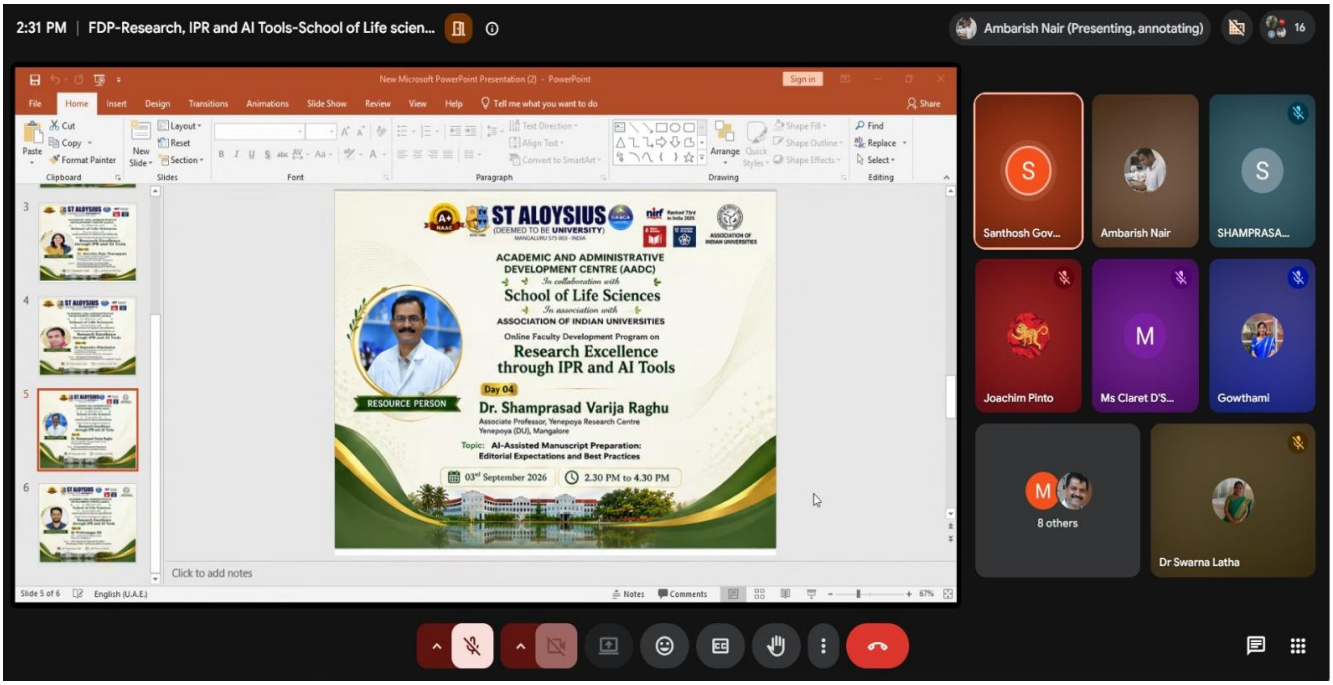
Day 02-01/09/2026



Day 3-02/09/2026



Day 4-03 /09/2026



Day 5-04 /09/2026

