

Internal Academic Audit

Department: Zoology

Academic Year: 2021-22 (from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022)

STRENGTH

- Mental health awareness programme, mentor mentee programme. Peer mentoring is also included in the programme.
- The Department teachers always show keen interest and participate in syllabus restructuring and econtent generation.
- Teachers provide research guidance to undergraduate and Ph. D.
- Department organized training programmes for laboratory staff to equip them with the knowledge to recent techniques and instruments used in the lab.
- Faculty enthusiastically participate in various faculty enrichment programme.
- All the guidelines related to lab hazards and safety protocols as per ICMR and DBT are followed in our laboratories.
- Good Department library with rich collection of books and e-books, museum with 560 specimen, vertebrate skeletons, histology slides.
- Department has digitized e-museum.

WEAKNESS

- Laboratories facilities need to be scaled-up as per the increase in the strength of the students.
- Limited industry-academia interactions.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Opportunities to pursue Ph.D.
- Workshops, conferences, symposia to update and exchange the knowledge and ideas amongst teachers, scientists, researchers and students.
- Skill oriented Add-on Courses for students.
- Bridge Courses for first year students to familiarize them with instrumentation usage.
- Career counseling and Interactive sessions with the distinguished speakers, alumni and personalities to broaden their perspectives and to help them to draft their future plans.

CHALLENGES

- Upgradation of the existing infrastructure and expansion of research labs to accommodate more students and projects.
- An effective mechanism of tracking student progression is lacking.
- Imparting knowledge of anatomy and physiology of animals to students due to 'no dissections policy.

FUTURE PLANS

- To strengthen existing research facilities.
- To seek industry-academia collaboration.
- To organize training programmes for Laboratory staff (First session held on 20-21 December, 2022-Capacity building workshop for laboratory staff on lab instrumentation and techniques).
- To strengthen mechanism to procure data for student progression in an efficient manner
- To focus on more collaborative research.
- To organize nature walks/trails as a regular practice each day to connect students with nature, to study the biodiversity on campus, initiate student activity projects on animal behaviour, taxonomy, etc. (Three sessions held on 14th September 2022, 21st September, 2022 and 12th October, 2022 on themes- Pond Ecosystem, Lepidoptera and Insect diversity on campus).

Dr. Nisha Vashishta

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