



Miranda House

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

Internal Academic Audit

Observations & Suggestions

Department: Botany

Academic Year: 2022-23 (from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023)

Academic

1. In academic session 2022-23, the UGCF (NEP) was implemented in first year although second and third year was continued as per LOCF syllabus. The faculty members taught theory and practical classes as per new curriculum. The department executed well the new papers like VAC and SEC. The new practical guidelines of UGCF were followed by faculty with the continue support of lab staff. However, faculty gave all kind support to the students like Orientation for UGCF, Mentoring, sharing e-book along with recommended books. The department also bought UGCF referred books for both college and department library. Lesson plans were prepared. Class emails and class WhatsApp groups were created to facilitate communication with students. The Class Representatives were very helpful in coordination work. Teachers promptly answered questions posed by students on WhatsApp and email.
2. To meet the requirements of UGCF, several teachers participated in training programs to understand the various techniques available for direct teaching-learning. All teachers used ICT facilities, Videos, Group discussion, Projects for the benefit of all students.
3. For experiential learning, visit was organized to Indian Agriculture Research Institute, PUSA, New Delhi; Aravalli Biodiversity Park, New Delhi; Department of Microbiology, University of Delhi, South Campus and out station excursion National Herbal Museum, Dehradun and Musoorie.
4. There were a few students facing health issues like anxiety and other personal issues, and it was very difficult for the mentors to talk to them face-to-face. However, the mentors provided all possible support by talking to them regularly on the phone to counsel them and enquire about their welfare. This was extremely helpful and students were able to overcome their difficulties. Teachers ensured that tests were held again for students with problems, as well as retests were held for students who had scored below pass marks. Extra time for submission of routine theory and practical assignments was allowed. The Moderation Committee discussed all cases of students who were scoring less.
5. Several meetings were held by the Teacher-in-Charge to discuss various issues.



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Co-curriculum activities:

1. Sapana Maurya and Anagha Ann Jose were participated in Professor B .M .Johri Rolling Sheild Paper presentation competition, organized by Delhi University botanical society (Dubs).
2. Garima Rao Won 1st prize in "Dad of Ad"- Marketing competition, organized by Maths Department, Miranda House, DU
3. Poonam secured 3rd position in Sink or Swim your deal (Shark Tank) at ORREY'23, Department of Computer Science, Miranda House
4. Prateeksha Asati won 3rd Prize in "Saap sidi with twist of science", organised by the Department of Botany, Gargi college, DU.
5. Harsha participated in Pulse Arrangement Competition organized by Department of Botany, SGTB Khalsa College, DU.

The Department of Botany organized various events for students of Botany Hons. under the Botanical Society 'Antheia' such as Scientific talks, career counselling, Bridge course, Workshop for Composting, Mushroom Cultivation

Challenges

- The students who have studied in Hindi medium found it difficult to understand because the medium of instruction is English. Nevertheless, with the support of teachers and their own efforts, the students were able to fare well.
- Financial support for the purchase and maintenance of instruments is limited.
- The funds provided for educational trips and the Botany Museum are inadequate.
- The number of seats available for outstation students in the college hostel is limited. Therefore, most of our students have to stay in private hostels. Hence, they take more time to get accustomed to the new environment.
- Since the implementation of the OBC expansion, there has been a need for an extra laboratory for holding regular practical classes.
- Organization of various activities for students missed the teaching time. To compensate for the missed classes, teachers hold extra classes.

Future Plans

- To undertake research projects and involve undergraduate students in the projects. This will enable students to understand the importance of research and inculcate scientific temper in them, and encourage them to present their work orally and as posters in conferences.
- To increase the accessions in the Departmental Library to facilitate the learning process.
- To improve the documentation of various matters relating to the Department, such as syllabi, botanical society activities, other activities, specimens, permanent slides, ecology, and physiology experiments.



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- To include all the plants that are routinely required for taxonomy and systematics practical classes in the Botanical Garden.
- To offer garden-based internships to undergraduate students to introduce to them the basic understanding of gardening, development of rock garden and vermicomposting.
- To strengthen the alumni network of the Department will organize an Alumnae meet to celebrate 50 years of Botany (H) course establishment in Miranda House.
- The department is going to establish a new setup Hydroponics and Aeroponics setup for SEC paper.

Suggestions:

1. The Department should collect data on student progression and students qualifying in various competitive examinations annually. Any information received by teachers regarding progression of alumnae should be recorded and the proof should be collected.
2. To make students understand and appreciate the scope of the subject, lectures on opportunities available, for further studies as well as in careers, for students of B.Sc. (H) Botany should be organized. Our alumnae would be preferred for such career counselling sessions.
3. Records of all lectures, workshops, academic events and educational visits with photographs should be kept in the Department so that the data is easily available for future use.