



# IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar Updates

G. B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology  
Pantnagar 263145, Uttarakhand

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## An Initiative to Strengthen Research and Academics through Alumni Networking, BRAIN 2022 Organized

### 30 Alumni Corporate Leaders Lead the BRAIN Workshop

The IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar organized a two-days National Consultative Workshop on Boosting Research, Academics, Innovation and Networking (BRAIN 2022) with the mandate of strengthening the alumni network and enhancing the research and education ecosystem of the University. The BRAIN workshop was held on August 06-07, 2022. A group of 30 illustrious alumni of the University from 1970s to 1990s batch working at leading roles in prominent multinational organizations participated in the workshop.

The workshop witnessed the presence of Dr. R.C. Agrawal, DDG (Education), ICAR and National Director, NAHEP; Dr. A.N. Mukhopadhyay, Former Dean, College of Agriculture, GBPUAT, Pantnagar and Former Vice-Chancellor Assam Agricultural University; Dr. A.K.

Shukla, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, GBPUAT, Pantnagar and Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean, College of Agriculture GBPUAT, Pantnagar and PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar.

The workshop was divided into six consultative sessions to get the best outcomes in a short period of time. The first day of the workshop started with the two hour consultative session on the SWOT of College of Agriculture and Designing Alumni-led Interventions for Self-Sustainability. This session had inputs from the participating alumni, the faculty members and was moderated by Dean Kashyap. Crucial concerns and possible prospects of financial self-sustainability were addressed in this session.

The second consultative session focused on Structures of Research Funding to M.Sc and Ph.D students for Quality Enhancement through



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Alumni Partnerships. Dr. N.K. Singh, Professor, Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding shared the present situation of research funding, the existing gaps and the future possibilities. A committee of members comprising of eminent alumni and faculty members from the University was formed, who would be working on strengthening and promoting research funding for the University students.

Dr. R.M. Srivastava, Professor, Department of Entomology presented an overview of the International School of Agriculture in the third session on Structuring International School of Agriculture through Alumni Advisory Roles. A committee of members from leading sectors was formed for working in advisory roles for strengthening the International School of Agriculture.

An important consultative session was also held on the aspect of Infrastructural Upboosting for the 62 years old Setup: Conceptualizing Alumni-led Corpus Fund. Dr. J.P. Jaiswal, Professor, Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding presented the concept of corpus-fund. All the alumni unanimously agreed upon to establish the corpus fund and generate targeted

plans for reviving and modernizing the institutional infrastructure.

The workshop also had a session dedicated for student development with the theme Creating Opportunities for Industry Alignment through Alumni-Corporate Networks. The intensive discussions in the session led to the formulation of a strategy for short term exposure visits, compulsory internships, and better training opportunities.

A session was specifically dedicated to enhance the alumni involvement in the educational curriculum of the University. This session was titled as Generating Innovation based Ecosystem by Employing Alumni Expertise as Guest Faculty/Visiting Faculty. During the closing session of the workshop, all the participating alumni from different groups delivered their plan of action for the future. The alumni were presented with a token of appreciation by Dr. Mukhopadhyay. The eminent alumni of College of Agriculture also visited University Centre and College of Agriculture to look upon the endeavours and infrastructural development that have come up into the University.



## Orientation Workshop Organized by IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar Nurturing Youngsters to Prepare for Visit to IRRI Philippines

Success in life depends on maintaining a positive mindset and establishing a definite, attainable goal. IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar provided an opportunity to 20 undergraduate students from various degree programmes of GBPUAT, Pantnagar to have an international exposure visit to International Rice Research Institute, Philippines for a month from September 01-30, 2022, under the International Student Exchange Programme. To prepare the selected students to harness best learning from their visit, an orientation workshop was organised by IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar. The workshop comprised of various sessions headed by eminent scientists from around the world.

Initially, the selected students got a chance to interact with the Deans and faculty members of the University, including Dean, College of Agriculture & PI, IDP-NAHEP, Dr. S.K. Kashyap; Dean, College of Home Science, Dr. Alka Goel; Dean, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities, Dr. Sandeep Arora; Dean Students Welfare, Dr. Brijesh Singh; Prof. & Head, Plant Physiology & Nodal Officer (Academics), IDP-NAHEP, Dr. S.K. Guru; Associate Professor, College of Fisheries, Dr. Vipul Gupta; Assistant Professor, College of Agriculture, Dr. Amit Kesarvani on August 24, 2022. The students got advice to adapt to new surroundings, had professional guidance, and life learnings from the experiences of the distinguished Deans and faculty



members.

On August 25, 2022, Mr. Froilan Fule and Ms. Eliza Aquino, Scientists from IRRI gave a detailed presentation regarding the plan of student's stay at IRRI, Philippines and things to be kept in mind. They gave information about accommodations, food services, health and medical services, climate and other essential thing needed to be taken care of while the stay at IRRI. They also gave virtual tour of IRRI campus followed by detailed information on Covid and security protocols to be followed while staying at IRRI. All the doubts of the students were clarified by the scientists. Thereafter, the students interacted with Dr. U.S. Singh, Asia and Africa Advisor for Research and Partnerships, International Rice Research Institute in online mode. He gave a brief introduction about the geography, agriculture, industries, culture, and other important facts related to the Republic of Philippines.

The congenial work culture and profitability of corporate sector makes it one amongst the highly demanded workplaces by the graduates. Moreover, there lies immense scope of collaborations between corporates and university. Before heading towards Phillippines, the students were also briefed towards the working of agricultural industries in India and the specific skills which market demands. The selected students were provided a chance to listen to the insights of some of the corporate leaders namely Mr. Shishir Saxena, Business Lead at Advanta Seeds, South Asia; Mr. Sanjay Srivastava, National Sales Manager, UPL group; Mr. Kaushlesh Kushwaha, Regional Sales Manager of UPL group.



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Mr. Saxena provided an overview of the scope and prospects of agricultural industries. Additionally, he briefed the participants about the seed industry and the new technologies that were being developed in it. After that Mr. Kushwaha elaborated the eleven steps to take before applying for a Job in the corporate sector. He emphasised being realistic and honest with yourself before applying for a job and making sure it's something you really, truly want. Then, Mr. Srivastava discussed the core concepts that were concentrated on planning, creativity, and effort to justify the role of any sector. He motivated the students to maintain a spirit of ambition and to have faith in the value of rigorous academics and real-world application. They congratulated the students for getting the rare opportunity and advised them to observe the work etiquettes of the institute and get aware about the agricultural industries and advancement in Philippines.

In order to prepare the students mentally for the fruitful visit to attain the best learning possible, an interactive session was held with Dr. Sushant Kumar, Post-doctoral Researcher, Van Andel Research Institute, USA on August 27, 2022. In a participatory and interesting way, the expert discussed essential tips with the participants on ways to Follow 3 E's in life i.e. explore, experience and enjoy. He gave the advice to acquaint with the location by researching that institution beforehand, to engage in as much conversation with others as possible, and to free their minds to explore new areas and take advantage of various opportunities.

Dr. S.K. Kahsyap and Dr. S.K. Guru also graced the session with their presence. Dr. Kashyap suggested asking as many questions as possible while their visit. He suggested to gain experience rather than knowledge and try to observe the different and unique things. Concluding the orientation workshop, Dr. S.K. Guru stated that setting goals keeps you on track to achieve the things in life that you want and therefore IDP-NAHEP takes it as its top priority to provide opportunity to the young minds. Varied sessions organized by IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar to orient the students made them feel positive, insightful, inquisitive, and confident regarding their visit to a foreign land.



## Writing Studio Nurtured Students for International Exposure Visit

The 17<sup>th</sup> edition of the Writing Studio workshop was organized during August 22-26, 2022 by IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar. The Writing Studio workshop is one of the flagship events of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar with tremendous impact on the students in terms of enhancing the writing skills, communication skills and overall personality. The 17<sup>th</sup> edition of the Writing Studio workshop was held on the topic *Gaining Proficiency in Professional Writing Skills: Getting Ready for International Exposure Visit* and was specifically organized for undergraduate students of Pantnagar University who have been shortlisted for the International Student Exchange Programme of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar. Dr. Shweta Gupta, an alumna of Pantnagar University who is currently serving as the Director of Arohana Management Solutions, mentored the students in the five days workshop.

The workshop provided a holistic, hands-on experience to the students. They were made to understand the purpose of international student exchange programme. Students were detailed on various important topics like setting personal

objectives, expressing about the self, stating academic goals, and aligning it with the international exchange programme. The students acted and reflected throughout the session and practised different tasks in written as well as verbal form. Also, the students got an insight of observation skills, questioning skills, presentation skills and documentation skills which were necessary for them to emerge as effective communicators.

It was a fulfilling and an extremely relevant workshop for the students as they were given a multidimensional preparation to make the most of their international visit. During the closing session of the workshop, Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean, College of Agriculture and PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar addressed the students and emphasized that reportage, documentation, and presentation are the most important skills to be learned professionally. Getting expertise in these skills can make one's professional life successful. Overall, the workshop was a beneficial learning experience for the students with utmost positive responses from their side as well.



## 7 Days Online Training Held on Python Programming Language: Making Students Future Ready

Technology interventions are taking place in all possible fields and new trends are being explored in all directions. IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar is consistently involved in arranging training and workshops on the usage and implementation of technologies in the field of agriculture and allied sciences. This time IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar organized a seven-days hands-on workshop on *Fundamentals of Programming Language using Python* from August 16-22, 2022.

The workshop was conducted by Ms. Pratima Tewari and Mr. Nikhilesh Kumar, both serving as programmers at IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar. The workshop was focused on the basics of all programming languages with coding practice in Python. The workshop was initiated with a brief review of programming language, compiler, interpreter, etc.,



and the introduction of Python language, type, origin usage, and advantages over other programming languages. Throughout the workshop participants were doing everything on their end and did the real-time installation and

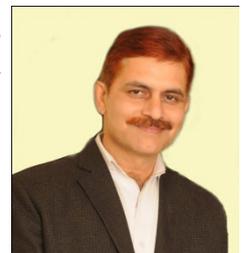
coding practices. In the workshop participants got a chance to learn some advanced concepts of data handling, string manipulation, conditions, operator, functions, loops, modules, etc. The workshop was attended by 45 participants from the University student fraternity. The participants coordinated actively with the IDP Team experts in all sessions and completed all the assignments enthusiastically.

## IDP-NAHEP Made Efforts to Popularize Agricultural Education Interactive Session Organized for Prospective Students

Career planning and visioning is less about a rigid plan and more about having the tools you need for the journey of navigating your career. An interactive session on the significant topic *Career Path in Agriculture* was organised on August 03, 2022, by IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar. The expert of the session was Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Dean, College of Agriculture, GBPUAT, Pantnagar and PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar. Initially, Dean Kashyap highlighted the perspective of agricultural education and explained in detail about the existing educational opportunities. He even stated the significance and contextual relevance of agricultural education and its growing importance in a developing nation like India.

Sharing the success case of Pantnagar University as a hub of agricultural education and success stories of Pantnagar alumni, Dean Kashyap shed light upon the various career opportunities available for the students after graduating from agriculture. According to Dean Kashyap, being motivated and focussed is essential for advancing in a

bright career. He put a strong focus on altering one's outlook and perspective towards life and encouraged the participating prospective students to have optimistically ambitious dreams. He educated the participating students



Dr. S.K. Kashyap  
Dean, College of Agriculture and  
PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar

about the advantages of starting their own business and entering in the corporate and private sectors of agriculture. Dr. Kashyap encouraged the students to develop sensible plans and get started on them right away with complete devotion. He cited instances of inspired professionals from the same industry. 54 students showed up for the session and interacted with Dean Kashyap to ask questions and get answers on the options available to graduates in agriculture. The session's attendees expressed confidence and promised to develop plans for their career strategy in a more poised and focussed manner with a versatile outlook.

## IDP Remedial Classes: Addressing the Critical Needs of Competitive Examination Aspirants

The remedial classes of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar have been one of the most popular student activities. IDP-NAHEP frequently organises remedial classes for clarity of the fundamental concepts of the students and preparations for competitive examinations in various disciplines. Looking into the dire need of students for strategic preparation and tips and tricks when the exam date for various competitive examinations was knocking the doors, at that crucial time, IDP-NAHEP launched a 30-hour remedial crash course in Agriculture and Home-Science subjects. The objective of the remedial classes was to help students to develop speed, accuracy, and capability to answer all types of questions promptly in ICAR- JRF and other competitive examinations.

The inaugural session of a 30-hour remedial crash course on Agriculture for aspirants of JRF and other competitive examinations was organised under the Academic Component of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar on August 01, 2022, which was graced by the presence of Dean, College of Agriculture and PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar, Dr. S.K. Kashyap. Assistant Professor, Agronomy and College Coordinator (Agriculture), Dr. Amit Kesarvani was also present during the programme. Dr. Kashyap encouraged the participants to take classes with utter seriousness and get prepared

for the examinations ahead. The classes were conducted for various disciplines namely Horticulture, Genetics and Plant Breeding, Extension Education, Agricultural Economics, Statistics, Agronomy, Soil Science, Entomology and Plant Pathology. A total of 156 students participated in the lectures conducted on various important topics. Likewise, remedial classes for the aspirants of Home Science discipline were also organised.

The inaugural session of a 30-hour remedial crash course on Home Science for aspirants of JRF and other competitive examinations was organised under the Academic Component of IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar on August 08, 2022. Dean, College of Home-Science, Dr. Alka Goel and Assistant Professor, Clothing and Textiles and College Coordinator (Home-Science), Dr. Shefali Massey were present during the programme. The classes were conducted for five disciplines namely Foods and Nutrition, Clothing and Textiles, Extension Education, Human Development and Family Studies, Family Resource Management. A total of 56 students participated in the lectures conducted in this week on the topics including fundamentals of design and decoration, building materials and work simplification, resource management and consumer education. Students got an opportunity to revise and learn tricks necessary before the main examinations.





## The Main Events of September 2022

S.No.	Event	Proposed Date	Venue	Nodal Unit	Convener
1.	Webinar on Financial Planning for College Graduates: A Path towards Financial Literacy and Better Future	08-09-2022	Online	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences & Humanities
2.	Workshop on VR Headsets	09-09-2022 to 15-09-2022	University Centre - NAHEP Building	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences & Humanities
3.	Webinar on A Journey of Passion and Perseverance: Entrepreneurial Experiences of Founder of Simply Natural Foods	15-09-2022	Online	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences & Humanities
4.	Guest Lecture on Innovative Technologies for Agribusiness Risk Management	21-09- 2022	Online	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences & Humanities
5.	Workshop-Cum-Interactive Session on Unconventional and Lucrative Career Options	24-09-2022 to 25-09-2022	University Centre - NAHEP Building	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences & Humanities
6.	Mass Scale Skilling Programme on Hi-Tech Agriculture	27-08-2022	College of Agriculture	Innovation cum Incubation Centre Team	Dr. A.K. Upadhyay, College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences
7.	Valedictory Session of One-month Internship at IRRI Philippines	29-09-2022	Online	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences & Humanities
8.	Writing Studio on Learn to Design and Defend your Resume	26-09-2022 to 30-09-2022	University Centre-NAHEP Building	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences & Humanities
9.	Museum Quiz Competition	30-09-2022	University Centre-NAHEP Building	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences & Humanities

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