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Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath
Hon.Vice Chancellor, CUSAT

Organizing Secretary

Prof. (Dr.) N. Chandramohanakumar
Rajiv Gandhi Chair Professor, CUSAT

Convener

Dr. Suguna Yesodharan
Director, School of Environmental Studies, CUSAT.

Prof. (Dr.) P. Natarajan

Environmental Science & Director, CATER, Ambo University, Ethiopia

Co-conveners

Prof. (Dr.) C.S. Paulose

Director, Centre for Neuro Science & Head, Dept. of Biotechnology, CUSAT.

Prof. (Dr.) I. S. Bright Singh

Director, NCAAH & Dean, School of Environmental Studies, CUSAT.

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President, Doerenkamp Zbinden Foundation, Switzerland

Dr. Massimo Tettamanti, I-CARE, Italy

Prof. Charles Twesigye, University of Kampala, Uganda

ADVISORS (NATIONAL)

Prof. (Dr.)A. Mohandas

Emeritus professor, School of Environmental Studies, CUSAT

Prof. (Dr.) Susheela Jose

Kerala Agriculture University, Cochin - 682 508

Prof. (Dr.) K.V. Jayachandran

Kerala Agriculture University, Panagad, Cochin - 682 506

Prof. (Dr.) Ammini Joseph

School of Environmental Studies, CUSAT.

Dr. S. Bijoy Nandan

Dept. of marine biology, microbiology & Biochemistry, CUSAT

Members

Arun Augustine, Rajiv Gandhi Chair in Contemporary Studies, CUSAT

Pillai Raji K., Rajiv Gandhi Chair in Contemporary Studies, CUSAT

Abesh Reghuvaran, Rajiv Gandhi Chair in Contemporary Studies, CUSAT

Kala K. Jacob, Rajiv Gandhi Chair in Contemporary Studies, CUSAT

M. Anand, School of Environmental Studies, CUSAT

Dr. S. Rajathy Sivaligam, School of Environmental Studies, CUSAT

Dr.V. Sivanandan Achari, School of Environmental Studies, CUSAT

Dr. M.V. Harindranathan Nair, School of Environmental Studies, CUSAT

PROGRAMME

- 9:00 - 10:00 am : INAUGURAL FUNCTION
- Welcome address : **Prof. Dr. N. Chandramohanakumar**
Rajiv Gandhi Chair Professor, CUSAT
- About the program : **Dr. P. Natarajan**, Professor, Env.Sci,
Director CATER, Ambo University, Ethiopia
- Presidential address : **Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedathu**
Vice Chancellor, CUSAT, Cochin
- Chief Guest address : **Justice K. Sukumaran**
Former Judge of Kerala & Bombay High court
- Key-note address &
Message from the : **Prof. M.A. Akbarsha**,
Doerenkamp Director and Chair MGDC,
Zbinden Foundation Tiruchirappalli, India
- Felicitation : **Dr. Roy Abraham Kallivayalil**
Principal, Co operative Medical College, Cochin
- : **Prof. (Dr.) C.S. Paulose**
Head, Dept. of Biotechnology, CUSAT.
- : **Shri. Baby Chakrapany**
Hon. Syndicate Member
- : **Prof. (Dr.) K.P. Sreekumar**, Head, Dept.
Vet. Physiology, Veterinary College, KAU, Thrissur
- Vote of thanks : **Dr. Suguna Yesodharan**
Director, School of Environmental Studies, CUSAT.
- 10:00 - 10:15 am **Tea Break**

TECHNICAL SESSION CONCEPTS IN ALTERNATIVES

- 10:15 - 12:30 pm
- Chairman : **Prof. (Dr.) A. Mohandas**
Emeritus professor, School of Environmental Studies, CUSAT
- Dr. Shiranee Pereira**, Scientist, ICAR
Animals are sentient beings
- Dr. M.C. Sathyanarayana**, A.V.C. College, Tamil Nadu, India
Dissection alternatives
- Prof. M. A. Akbarsha**, Director, MGDC, BU, Tiruchirappalli, India
In vitro & In silico alternatives
- Prof. S. Thilagar**, M. V. College, Chennai - 7
Alternatives in Veterinary Sciences.

12.30 - 1:30 pm **Lunch**

DEMONSTRATION & TRAINING

- 01:30 - 4:15 pm
- Trainers : **Dr. M. C. Sathyanarayana**
Prof. S. Thilagar
- 4:15 - 5:00 pm : **CLOSING CEREMONY**
- Feedback from participants, resolutions, distribution of certificates and complimentary materials.

Seminar & Workshop On

The Use of Alternatives to Animals in Life Science Education

09 March, 2010

Circular cum Invitation



Organized By

Rajiv Gandhi Chair in Contemporary Studies
CUSAT, Cochin-682 022

Mahatma Gandhi Doerenkamp Center for
Alternatives to Use of Animals
in Life Science Education, India
&
Ambo University Ethiopia

in collaboration with



Doerenkamp Zbinden
Foundation
(Switzerland)



I-CARE
Italy

Venue:

Polymer Science and Rubber Technology (PSRT) Auditorium
Cochin University of Science and Technology

GOING THE GANDHIAN WAY

"I abhor vivisection with my whole soul. All the scientific discoveries stained with innocent blood I count as of no consequence"

M. K. Gandhi

The Rajiv Gandhi Chair in Contemporary Studies, CUSAT, is organizing an one day seminar and workshop on the use of alternatives to animals in life science education in collaboration with The Mahatma Gandhi Doerenkamp Center for Alternatives to the Use of Animals in Life Science Education (India), Ambo University Ethiopia, Doerenkamp Zbinden Foundation (Switzerland) and I-CARE (Italy). The workshop will introduce the new socio -scientific concept of "Ahimsa" or 'non violence' in teaching/research in Life Science education and the concept of 'Humane education'. For decades what behavioral research revealed was violence against animals is a prelude to violence against human beings and that vivisection/ dissection of animals in a classroom only served to legitimize death / violence in students mind. But these findings went ignored. Today the question posed is 'to a students mind is the life science class his/her first lesson to violence?'. This seminar /workshop will be a unique insignia of the Gandhian philosophy of 'non-violence' or 'Ahimsa'. It will promote this philosophy in the teaching of Life Sciences and will help educate teachers/students the concept of "Humane education" or the "Concept of the 3R's"- Replace, Reduce and Refine (Russel and Burch, 1959) the use of animals in education, research and testing. For Mahatma Gandhi 'non-violence' was the discovery of a new kind of power and he taught this philosophy which has universal applicability. The core of that philosophy is the search for truth through non-violence or 'ahimsa'. Gandhi taught respect for animals as well as humans, a non-exploitative relationship to the environment, the elimination of poverty, the limitation of personal wealth and possessions, and non-violence applied at all levels of relationships, be it man to man, man to animal or man to environment. This idea of 'Humane education' whilst promoting a "no kill" philosophy also helps promote the quality and excellence in life science education/ research by introducing value-based / value-added pedagogy / research systems / tools based on computer aided learning (CAL), virtual labs, self testing apparatus, models /manikins and in the use of *in vitro* and *in silico* methods. The concept of 3Rs had its origin in a project initiated by UFAW, UK in 1954 which led to the publication of the 'Principles of Human Experimental Technique' by WMS Russel and RL Burch in 1959. In 1978 David Smythe used the word 'Alternatives' to define the

'3R's". In their book Russel & Burch stated that 'The greatest of scientific achievements have always been the most humane and the most aesthetically attractive, conveying a sense of beauty and elegance which the essence of science at its most successful". They defined Replacement Alternatives as 'methods which permit a given purpose to be achieved without conducting experiments or other scientific procedures on animals'. Reduction Alternatives are 'methods for obtaining comparable levels of information from the use of fewer animals in scientific procedures or for obtaining more information from the same number of animals'. Refinement Alternatives are 'methods which alleviate or minimize potential pain, suffering and distress which enhance animal wellbeing.' The International Declaration of Bologna of 1999, is further binding on the scientific/teaching community in all nations and states that the concept of 3R's should be seen as a unifying concept, and as a challenge and an opportunity for reaping benefits of every kind - scientific, economic and humanitarian and all countries should have a legal framework which actively incorporates the Three R's into all animal-based research, testing and education. Today humane science and the use of alternatives is recognized universally, by the scientific and teaching community, that it is not just better science/ pedagogy and a legal choice but also an imperative psycho-social, ecological and economic need to adopt the same. The seminar will include hands on training in the use of virtual labs, computer simulations and models/manikins by experts. Participants will also receive gratis a copy of the CD 'ProDissector Frog' and a copy of the book 'The Three R's and the Humanity Criterion' by Dr. Michael Balls, FRAME, UK the abridged version of the classic "The Principles of Humane Experimental Technique" of WMS Russel and RL Burch.

RAJIV GANDHI CHAIR IN CONTEMPORARY STUDIES SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, CUSAT

The Ministry of Human Resources Development (MHRD), Govt. of India has established 10 Rajiv Gandhi Chairs in Central and State Universities all over the country to implement the dream projects of Sri. Rajiv Gandhi, the former Prime Minister of India. Cochin University of Science and Technology was identified as one among the prestigious ten Universities in the country to hold the Chair and the thrust area identified for the Chair at CUSAT is on Ecosystems and Sustainable Development. We would very much appreciate if you could kindly attend the seminar and make the programme a grand success.

by
Rajiv Gandhi Chair Professor

The Use of Alternatives to Animals in Life Science Education

9 March 2010

REGISTRATION FORM

Name.....

Designation.....

Institution.....

Mailing Address

Phone:.....E-mail.....

Accommodation required: Yes/No

Place:

Date:

(Signature)

Mail to :

Organising Secretary

Rajiv Gandhi Chair in Contemporary Studies
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Cochin University of Science & Technology,
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