To
The DPR, PU.

Please find the press note on Symposium and Alumni meet at Department of Biochemistry, PU.

Thanks

The Department of Biochemistry, Panjab University, Chandigarh organised a Symposium on "Novel Innovations in Biochemistry" on 22nd December, 2017. The Keynote address was delivered by a renowned biochemist Prof. D.P. Sarkar, Director IISER Mohali. Prof. Sarkar elaborated his "journey from a teacher to a researcher" and motivated the students to remain addicted to scientific exploration in order to make an impact on the society. Dr. Ashok Chauhan from University of South Carolina, USA delivered a talk on "Role of HIV in neuronal infections". The other invited speakers like Dr. Rachna Chaba (IISER, Mohali), Prof. Jyotdeep Kaur and Prof. Madhu Khullar (PGIMER, Chandigarh), Dr. Neeti Sanan Misra (ICGEB, New Delhi) and Dr. D. Datta (Ramalingaswamy fellow at Panjab University) highlighted the importance of Biochemistry in several applied fields such as crop improvement, nutrition and medicine. Participants exhibited their scientific research as posters at the symposium which was followed by a cultural program.

The department in its 55th year celebrated its Alumni meet on 23rd December, 2017. The day was exclusively dedicated for interaction of alumni with the students and faculty of the department. The program was appreciated by the alumni and they were enthusiastic about sharing their experiences at the department. More than seventy five alumni of Department of Biochemistry had travelled from far and near to participate in the program.

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Archana Bhatnagar
Professor
Department of Biochemistry
Panjab University
Chandigarh
Press release:

The Department of Biochemistry, Panjab University, Chandigarh is organizing a One day International Seminar on "Biosafety: Risks and Management" on March 19, 2018 at the Seminar Hall of the Department in Sector-25 campus. This is an initiative of the Institutional Biosafety Committee, PU to bring awareness about rules and regulations of Biosafety as informed by Professor Archana Bhatnagar, Chairperson, Department of Biochemistry and Member Secretary, IBSC, PU. The first of its kind, this seminar is supported by DST-PURSE Grant-II, PU as reported by Prof. Sanjay Chhibber, Coordinator DST-PURSE. Prof. Rakesh Tuli, Convenor of the Seminar and Chairman, IBSC, PU highlighted that the speakers, who are authorities in this domain will be delivering important talks and participants from University and neighbouring institutes have registered for the event. Dr. M. Rajalakshmi from Department of Biotechnology, New Delhi will deliver the keynote address on the Regulatory framework related to Biosafety in India. On the other hand, Dr. Bhatt from USA will share her experiences as a researcher working on microbes in labs, following regulations and discussing their benefits. Dr. Ambatipudi from IIT Roorkee will highlight how to achieve maximum benefits by following the regulations in a lab and minimize the risks.

Mr. T.C. Nautiyal, Indian Forest Services, Member Secretary, Chandigarh Pollution Control Board will highlight the issues pertaining to Biological waste management and disposal in local settings. Dr. Dipti Sareen from Department of Biochemistry, PU will speak on important facilities of biocontainment while Dr. Geeta Mehra, MCM DAV college for women, Chandigarh will focus on precautions to be taken while handling microbes. The seminar will conclude with a panel discussion to bring about recommendations related to the topic.
DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY, PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH  
(DST-FIST & UGC-SAP SUPPORTED DEPARTMENT)

Notice

Each year, 24 March is marked as the World TB Day.

TB remains the world’s leading infectious killer, causing death of nearly 1.7 million people each year globally. The day is an occasion to mobilize personal and social commitment for further progress towards eliminating TB as a public health burden. It is a reminder of the same day in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced that the discovery of the bacterium that causes TB. The emergence of multidrug-resistant TB poses a major health security threat and could risk gains made in the fight against TB.

To commemorate the World TB Day, the Department of Biochemistry, Panjab University is organizing a talk on March 26, 2018 and the details are as follow:

Day and Date : Monday, March 26, 2018

Time : 3:00 pm

Venue : Seminar Hall, Department of Biochemistry, BMS Block-II, Sector 25 campus, Panjab University, Chandigarh

Speaker : Prof. S.K. Jindal

Title of talk : TB- Fighting against it as it emerges and re-emerges.

(Prof. Archana Bhatnagar)
Chairperson  
Department of Biochemistry  
Panjab University  
Chandigarh
Press release:

A talk was organized by Prof. Archana Bhatnagar, Chairperson, Department of Biochemistry, Panjab University, Chandigarh to commemorate the World TB Day. She added that "There is an intense need to bring about awareness regarding TB and we have planned a battery of activities". The speaker, Prof. S.K. Jindal, Pulmonologist, an emeritus Professor, PGIMER, Chandigarh spoke on "TB: Fighting against it as it emerges and re-emerges". He highlighted that TB, a very deadly disease for the last 10,000 years is responsible for daily 2 deaths every 3 minutes in India even today. Towards the end of last century when it looked as if it is going to disappear, but there was a resurgence due to emergence of HIV. WHO has declared TB as a global emergency and national strategies have been defined to control TB"he added as he mentioned that it poses major threat to health care infrastructure in India specially in view of multi drug resistant tuberculosis. He brought to light a very interesting note regarding contribution of India in terms of emphasizing importance of bacteriology, doing away with hospitalization and use of intermittent chemotherapy. Speaking about the current and future fight against this killer and consuming disease, he suggested many ideas, some of which are- an early and aggressive treatment and several preventive strategies such as improved diagnosis, development of vaccines and better ways of compliance. The questions from students and faculty showed their interest in the subject and the lucid manner in which Prof. Jindal delivered the talk.

Professor Archana Bhatnagar
Chairperson
Department of Biochemistry
Panjab University
Chandigarh
Press release:

The department of Biochemistry celebrated The World Immunology Day on April 27 by way of a talk on **Disorders of proliferation: Analysis of novel pathways and targets by Dr. Rahul Pal**. Dr. Pal, a very senior scientist at the National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi spoke on the link shared between Systemic autoimmune diseases and tumorigenesis, both of which are characterized by proliferative aberrance. The talk was attended by researchers, scientists and staff and had various questions that reflected their interests.

People nowadays are well informed but sometimes relevance to topics of scientific interest are missed out by general public. Today is the day to bring about awareness about immunological research, its impact and its importance in day to day life. Creation of a bridge is being attempted between growing understanding of the role of immune system and the general public, the patients, in order to improve health and well-being in general. Since 2005, the Day of Immunology has been the occasion to gather scientists to bring immunology to the public. Due to its great success, it has been celebrated worldwide since 2007.

Professor Archana Bhatnagar
Chairperson
Department of Biochemistry
Panjab University
Chandigarh
Press release:

A seminar on "Fire protection" held to bring about awareness regarding basics of fire, hazardous situations and prevention was attended by staff and students of Basic Medical Science Blocks-I & II, Sector 25 campus, Panjab University. Mr. M.L. Sharma, Fire Officer, Chandigarh Fire & Emergency Services, Chandigarh gave a simple but very meaningful description of sources of fire and methods to fight them in a logical manner. The audience later had a hands-on with the operation of fire extinguishers. Prof. Archana Bhatnagar, Chairperson, Biochemistry said that "Preparation is the key to effective response to workplace fires and such an exercise helps prepare employees to respond quickly, calmly and safely. The lesson learnt was- Never to run away from fire, rather, understand and participate in controlling it". Chairpersons from departments of Biophysics & Biotechnology also felt that such an exercise makes one feel responsible for such a situation to carry out emergency duties.

Professor Archana Bhatnagar  
Chairperson  
Department of Biochemistry  
Panjab University  
Chandigarh
STEP UP and LEAD: *Education as an instrument of change for transformation*

The Department of Biochemistry, Panjab University, Chandigarh started an initiative "**Step up and Lead**" under the aegis of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, as conveyed by the chairperson, Professor Archana Bhatnagar. She emphasized that social responsibility has become an increasingly important concept and initiated this to foster personal development in students, help them find their role in society and stimulate social progress. Our students are so primed because of good education, hence they can go on to become active change makers in society. Professor Seema Kapoor, Coordinator Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Panjab University felt that one cannot be sustainable without being socially responsible and appreciated this idea.

The first interactive session was held in coordination with an "Chhoti si Asha", a non-profit organization working towards betterment of underprivileged children and women in the slums of Chandigarh. From Chhoti si Asha, Mr. Jatinder Maan and Mr. Gurjinder (both alumni of Panjab University) apprised the audience about the problems of children living in Khuda Lahora and what needs to be done in this direction. They requested the students to volunteer for mentoring the underprivileged school going children. They gave an example of an experiment initiated in Delhi where learning in underprivileged school going kids could be improved by involving students from University and colleges as mentors.

The students of the department showed keen interest and were happy to be a part of this activity. They had queries about activities that needed attention where they could contribute. Ms. Palkin Arora, a student commented "we want to undertake such activities as it is going to be learning for us too!" Another student remarked "what appealed was that it was not based on sympathy alone. The disadvantaged population wants their children to do better through education". Excited students have already come up for volunteering enthusiastically as mentors of the deprived students.

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Archana Bhatnagar
Professor
Department of Biochemistry
Panjab University
Chandigarh
Notice

Asthma is a chronic inflammatory condition of lungs that affects around 300 million people, globally and it is the most common disease among children.

World Asthma Day is a big event celebrated all over the world by the people to increase the awareness among public worldwide about the precautions and prevention of the asthma. World Asthma Day takes place on the first Tuesday of the month May that’s why May is known as the Asthma Awareness Month.

The Department of Biochemistry will be organizing a variety of programs with the help of asthma educators to encourage and motivate common public. The program is as follows:

1st May, 2018

Programme: Street Play and Quiz
Time: 9:00 am
Venue: G.S.S.S., Khuda Lahora

2nd May, 2018

Programme: Talk by Prof. D. Behera, Department of Pulmonary Medicine, PGIMER, Chandigarh.
Time: 2:30 pm
Venue: Seminar Hall, Department of Biochemistry, BMS Block-II, Sector 25 campus, Panjab University, Chandigarh

3rd May, 2018

Programme: Street Play
Time: 1:00 pm to 1:30 pm
Venue: Student Centre, PU Campus

Kindly make it convenient to attend this important event.

(Prof. Archana Bhatnagar)
Chairperson
Notice

Asthma is a chronic inflammatory condition of lungs that affects around 300 million people, globally and it is the most common disease among children. World Asthma Day is a big event celebrated all over the world by the people to increase the awareness among public worldwide about the precautions and prevention of the asthma. World Asthma Day takes place on the first Tuesday of the month May that's why May is known as the Asthma Awareness Month.

The Department of Biochemistry will be organizing a variety of programs with the help of asthma educators to encourage and motivate common public. The program is as follows:

1st May, 2018      Street play in P.U. Campus
2nd May, 2018      Talk by Prof. D. Behera, Department of Pulmonary Medicine, PGIMER, Chandigarh.
3rd May, 2018      Street Play and Quiz at G.S.S.S., Khuda Lahora.

Kindly make it convenient to attend this important exercise.

(Prof. Archana Bhatnagar)
Chairperson
Under the initiative “STEP UP and LEAD”, the students of Department of Biochemistry, Panjab University, donated sanitary pads to the underprivileged students at Government Senior Secondary School, Khuda Lahora, with the guidance of the Principal Mrs. Kiran Bala. Chairperson, Professor Archana Bhatnagar organized this as she felt about it as a major social challenge where empathetic interventions such as these can empower adolescent girls from low income background. “Our aim is to strengthen young minds to be critical towards social stigma related to girls, helping them realize their self-worth, improving education resulting in better economic opportunities” she said. The students of the department educated the girls about hygiene and awareness regarding health of adolescence so that shame about puberty is removed and they revalue menstruation as a clean, natural biological process, breaking the silence about menstruation. She emphasized that this will contribute to improvement of attendance in schools as.

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Archana Bhatnagar
Professor
Department of Biochemistry
Panjab University
Chandigarh
The student volunteers and Professor Archana Bhatnagar, Chairperson, Department of Biochemistry, Panjab University, Chandigarh spent some quality time at Chhoti si Asha workshop in Khuda Lahora. Women working here have emerged empowered as they weave, create designs, stitch and earn! The student volunteers heard stories of these young women, their fight against poverty to make it a better world for themselves. The student volunteers came forth to become mentors for the children of these women who visit the Library, so that studies become interesting and they can be encouraged to follow their dreams. Weekends will be used for this noble cause and help will be provided to the children (on assessing their needs) by means of counselling, free coaching, exposure to cultural events, any other resources. This might be most effective in families suffering a sudden loss of work or other life-altering event that affects the family's ability to provide for the needs of the children.

A talk on health and hygiene was delivered by Prof. Archana Bhatnagar where she emphasized that a healthy woman is responsible for a healthy society. The audience were advised about maintenance of daily hygiene so that the woman can ensure good health for her family. Cultivating habits such as when and how to wash hands, cutting nails regularly and clean clothes could help maintaining a good hygiene every day and specially during her menstrual cycle. She suggested that cooperation and willingness can bring about a sea change in the society. Special importance was given to bring about awareness in women related health issues (Anemia, irregular cycle, nutrition, etc.) and that they should not shy away from visiting a physician at a slightest doubt. The women were made aware of healthy diet which is easily available, physical fitness and exercise and to stay away from addictions. The women were very happy with the session and have requested for a monthly session to help them cope with various issues.

The focus of the team from the department of Biochemistry was on equipping the women and children with the necessary tools (quality education, healthcare, safety and security) so that they can attain personal growth and in turn contribute to their own & society’s growth through a selfless exercise. The team will continue to visit the women and children so as to strengthen the community in the social system.

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Panjab University
Chandigarh
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Archana Bhatnagar
Professor
Department of Biochemistry
Panjab University
Chandigarh
Notice

The Department of Biochemistry, Panjab University is organizing a talk on April 27, 2018 on the occasion of World Immunology Day and the details are as follow:

Day and Date : **Friday, April 27, 2018**

Time : **11:30 am**

Venue : **Seminar Hall, Department of Biochemistry, BMS Block-II, Sector 25 campus, Panjab University, Chandigarh.**

Speaker : **Dr. Rahul Pal, Scientist, National Institute of Immunology.**

Title of talk : **Disorders of Proliferation: Analysis of Novel Pathways and Targets.**

(Prof. Archana Bhatnagar)
Chairperson
DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY, PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH
(DST-FIST & UGC-SAP SUPPORTED DEPARTMENT)

Notice

Fire drills are not just for fires but more than fires. A fire drill ensures that occupants of the building exit in a timely fashion, help in rescue efforts and learn to handle a situation.

The Department of Biochemistry will be organizing a seminar cum mock drill for all the occupants of the BMS Blocks-I and II as per the program outlined below:

12:00 noon-12:25 pm  Talk by Mr. M.L. Sharma (Fire officer)
12: 25 pm - 12: 45 pm  Mr. M.L. Sharma and his team of fire officers will give a Demo of functioning of Fire equipment in the building
12:45 pm - 1:00 pm  Use, maintenance, up keep and care of Fire equipment

Seminar : Fire protection and mock drill
Day and Date : Tuesday, April 24, 2018
Time : 12:00 noon till 1:00 pm
Venue : Seminar Hall, Department of Biochemistry, BMS Block-II, Sector 25 campus, Panjab University, Chandigarh.

Kindly make it convenient to attend this important exercise.

(Prof. Archana Bhatnagar)
Chairperson

For wide circulation:
Chairperson, Department of Biophysics, Biotechnology, Microbiology, Chief of University Security
NOTICE

Department of Biochemistry is organizing Annual Sports meet according to following details:

**INDOOR SPORTS MEET:**
Date: 07.04.2018
Venue - Common Room Student Centre
Timing - 9:30 a.m. onwards

**OUTDOOR SPORTS MEET:**
Date: 09.04.2018
Venue - University Sports Ground
Timing - 9:30 a.m. onwards

(Prof. Archana Bhatnagar)
Chairperson
This is to notify that our department is taking an initiative towards improvement of health status of young underprivileged girls. So, on the behalf of our ‘STEP UP and LEAD’ campaign, we are initializing a Pad Bank, kept in the Room No. 214 on first floor of our department. Kindly, give your contribution in this campaign by donating the sanitary napkins and let the girl child towards a healthier tomorrow.

Chairperson
Department of Biochemistry
DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY, PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH
(DST-FIST & UGC-SAP SUPPORTED DEPARTMENT)

LITZEAL-2018

Litzeal- The literary Fest 2018 is scheduled to be held from March 14, 2018 to March 16, 2018. The intra-departmental fest consists of the following seven events:

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<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Spell Bee</td>
<td>14.03.2018</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Phone-o-Graphy</td>
<td>14.03.2018</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Cartoon Art</td>
<td>14.03.2018</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Poster Making</td>
<td>15.03.2018</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Declamation</td>
<td>16.09.2018</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Pictionary</td>
<td>16.03.2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The details of each event will be put up soon. For registration contact Ms. Ayushi Goyal, Mobile No. 8699500681.

(Prof. Archana Bhatnagar)  Prof. Sukesh Chander Sharma
Chairperson              President
Biochemical Society
Notice

Swachh Bharat, Swasth Bharat- Department of Biochemistry, Panjab University, Chandigarh

Department of Biochemistry, Panjab University, Chandigarh is organizing a “Cleanliness and welfare Drive” at Khuda Lahora on 16th February 2018. The student volunteers of the department will be educating the women of the area who learn stitching and tailoring. The students will also adopt children to be their Mentor so as to counsel them from time to time.

A talk on "एक स्वस्थ जीवन शैली में नियमित शारीरिक गतिविधि के बारे में जागरूकता" will also be delivered by Prof. Archana Bhatnagar to bring about awareness of importance of regular physical activity in a healthy lifestyle. The target audience will be the women of the area.

This activity will be carried out as a voluntary contribution towards Swachh Bharat , Swasth Bharat Abhiyaan as started by Hon’ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi, to achieve a clean & green India.

Assembly point: Lobby of the department of Biochemistry, Sector 25 campus, PU, Chandigarh.

Time: 1 - 2 pm

All those willing to participate can give their names to the DR, Ms. Lipsy Goyal, Ms.Sc. I.

(Prof. Archana Bhatnagar)
Chairperson
The Department of Biochemistry is organizing a "Cleanliness and Welfare Drive" at Kuda Lahora on 16th February 2018. The student volunteers of the department will be educating the women area who learn stitching and tailoring. They will hold an interactive session with an NGO to understand their needs and partner with them in upheaval of the needy children.

Let us make a difference through socially responsible actions.

**Date: 5th February 2018.**

**Time: 1 to 2 pm**

**Venue: Lecture hall 1 on the 2nd Floor**

All are invited to this exciting and transformational activity.

**Chairperson**

**Department of Biochemistry**
STEP UP and LEAD

Let us be socially responsible!!

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Department of Biochemistry
DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY, PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH
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Special Lecture

Topic : Promises of targetted Nanomedicine in cancer.

Speaker : Dr. Jagat Kanwar
Deakin University
Australia

Date : November 13th, 2017 at 3.00 p.m..

Venue : Seminar Hall, BMS Block II, Sec-25
Department of Biochemistry,
P. U., Chandigarh

All the faculty members and research scholars are cordially invited to attend the seminar.

(Prof. Archana Bhatnagar)
Chairperson