



**GKU TIE-UP WITH CANADIAN INSTITUTES TO BE
A MILESTONE FOR STUDYING ENVIRONMENT
AND HUMAN HEALTH IN COTTON BELT:
GURLABH SIDHU**



July 3: Guru Kashi University (GKU) is well known for its educational programs. It has positively impacted the regional educational scenario. Although it has developed state-of-the-art facilities in need-based areas, yet wherever needed the GKU has made collaborative arrangement with other reputed organizations.

Recently it has improved its outreach globally by recently fostered an academic tie-up with two globally reputed organizations, namely McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada and Toronto Institute of Pharmaceutical Technology (TIPT).

The Cancer, endemic in South-Western (SW) districts in the cotton belt of Punjab, is an alarming problem affecting the masses and merits holistic investigation. In collaboration with top ranking McGill University, the GKU will study the factors for higher risks of cancer in the region. The McGill University is known for its research on various aspects of water in relation to agriculture, domestic use and human health. In this context, the GKU Chancellor, Dr J.S. Dhaliwal, visited the McGill University, Montreal,

Canada and discussed the problem from different dimensions with team of scientists led by Dr Shiv.O.Prasher, the James McGill Professor. He also held meetings with the Department Chair Dr Valerie Orsat and Dean, Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and Associate Vice-Principal of Macdonald Campus, Dr Anja Geitmann.

Based on the joint inputs, a research project to study the problem of cancer holistically in the Talwandi Sabo block, that will involve sampling of groundwater, surface water, soil, air and the agricultural produce in the pre-monsoon, monsoon and post-monsoon period, was proposed. All samples (soil, water, air and plant) will be analyzed for pesticides, fertilizers, heavy metals, uranium, and tri-chloro-ethylene. A remediation/ precautionary/mitigation plan will be devised to help the community deal with the deadly exposure from environmental contamination, to be identified in the study.

Enthusiastic about the project entitled “Environmental causes of higher risks of cancer in South-Western Region of Punjab”, Dr Dhaliwal expressed: “this is my dream project which Dr Shiv O. Prasher (McGill) has also laid emphasis on. The project completion will involve multi pronged strategy and approaches and will have literature review, priority setting, sampling, analytic studies and awareness campaigns as vital components.

On yet another academic side, GKU and the Canada based Toronto Institute of Pharmaceutical Technology (TIPT) have also signed an MoU for academic cooperation. The MoU was signed by Dr Alexander MacGregor, President, on behalf of TIPT and S. Gurlabh Singh Sidhu, Chairman, on behalf of GKU. The agreement will be valid for five years and can be renewed further upon mutual consent.

As per the signed MoU, a Joint Masters Course in Pharmaceutical Technology has been started from 2017-18 wherein the students will study for one year each at GKU and TIPT. The MoU will facilitate students in getting the benefit of advance infrastructure and facilities both at GKU and TIPT, besides having hands-on learning experience, thorough education and training.



The candidates, who have completed a Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) or Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech) or B. Pharma or B.Sc (Non–Medical) or B.Sc (Medical) in designated disciplines will complete Part-I of the course at GKU and attain an average Grade B+ in Part-I at GKU and also achieve English Language Proficiency (IELTS) of minimum 6.00 or equivalent before commencement of Part-II at TIPT. Welcoming the collaborations, the GKU Chairman, S. Gurlabh Singh Sidhu said that the international project involving joint efforts by experts of GKU and McGill University and GKU and TIPT will go a long way in understanding the problem to create awareness among the people. Punjab needs such projects, he said, adding that signing of MoUs between well reputed Universities/Institutes provides opportunities of mutual benefit of each other's expertise and scientific facilities..

The Managing Director, S. Sukhraj Singh Sidhu, congratulated the scientists for having arrived at a single platform to address the suffering of masses by taking on to the need-based international project on cancer and hoped that the outcome will benefit people in the long run.

The GKU Vice Chancellor, Col Dr B.S.Dhaliwal said that the ultimate outcome of the research project will be advantageous to the state.

NEW ADMISSIONS IN NEED-BASED PROGRAMMES AT GKU SPEAKS VOLUMES OF ITS SUCCESS

July 6: Having fathomed unparalleled heights in the field of professional and technical higher education, GKU has made a mark in delivering quality education and training in upcoming areas to its students and research scholars. It has fostered strong international linkages in need-based research programmes, especially the Environmental Studies (Mc Gill University, Montreal), Pharmaceutical Research (Toronto Institute of Pharmaceutical Technology, Canada), etc.

The credibility of the university is reflected in the ongoing admissions which are taking place at a massive scale in the campus. An incredible response of aspiring new students in the upcoming departments of the university such as Law Studies, Animation, Pharmacy, Education, Fashion Technology and Cosmetology, etc. is seen. The GKU has

has added another feather in its cap by placing maximum number of students in renowned companies and institutes. The Managing Director, Mr Sukhraj Singh Sidhu, congratulated all concerned with University admissions and well planned academic programmes that made it an attractive destination.



Guru Kashi University Vice Chancellor, Dr Jagpal Singh said that the lofty academic standards of the University coupled with the hard work and dedication of all the teaching and non-teaching staff are responsible for the heavy footfall for new admissions.

The University, besides its progressive educational programmes also provides a vibrant learning environment coupled with a mosaic national culture and heritage and huge placement opportunities in the corporate sector, said the Registrar Dr Jagtar Singh Dhiman, adding that GKU prepares its students to face the world in a better way.

The Admission Coordinator, Dr. Vijay Laxmi told that admissions in most of the departments like agriculture, pharmacy, education are already full. There is still huge response from parents and students of not only Punjab but also of other states and adjoining countries such as Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, etc. The arrangement has been made to guide the visitors to choose the best programmes in view of their educational qualifications and aptitude, she said.

NATIONAL LEVEL FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AT GKU

July 21: Guru Kashi University, Talwandi Sabo is organizing one week National Level Faculty Development Program from 24th of July to 29th of July, 2017. The main objective of the workshop is to impart Data Analytical Capabilities to the project leaders, business

analysts, faculty and research scholars, who want to enhance their ability of data analysis and research potential. Honourable Chairperson of the University, S. Gurlabh Singh Sidhu will be the chief guest in the inaugural session of FDP. All preparations for the programmes are going on wide basis. There is huge response from participants from different states. Young Researchers and faculties from different universities and colleges are sharing interest in this FDP from Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and many more. The faculty of Guru Kashi University is working enthusiastically to make this event a big success. The Managing Director of the University, S. Sukhraj Singh Sidhu motivated and appreciated the organisers for initiating such an academic endeavour.

GKU FDP EMPHASIZES R&D COMPONENT FOR KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY



July 25: The weeklong National Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on “Basic understanding of research methods and data analytical tools” that started at Guru Kashi University (GKU), Talwandi Sabo, yesterday, had expert presentations by eminent scientists. The program shall continue till July 29 and is open all educationists and researchers who can participate after getting themselves registered for it.

Dr Amardeep Kaur Paul deliberated on the concept of Triangulation that facilitates the simultaneous use of multiple techniques and tools in research. She highlighted that this helps in multitasking, the growing need of corporate world. The GKU Director, Dr Narinder Singh, delved on the importance of sample designs for drawing logical research inference from experimentation. In yet another technical

session, Dr Nidhi Suthar, explained the importance of ethics in research, adding that morals and ethics, on the part of researcher, are of utmost importance as science is a sacred field of activity. Dr Gaurav Kumar, spoke on data collection from research experiments and apprised the audience with some modern tools which are available for this purpose.

Earlier, the GKU Vice Chancellor, Prof Jagpal Singh expressed that the faculty and the research scholars ought to keep pace with the research progress and keep themselves abreast with latest advancements in Research Methodology and endeavour to apply these in their area of research.

The GKU Registrar, Dr. Jagtar Dhiman, highlighted the significance of R&D for national development. Since India has a majority of young population, the R&D institutes should endeavor to focus on them; he said that research-academia-industry nexus should be strengthened.

The Chairman, S. Gurlabh Singh Sidhu congratulated the organizers for holding the FDP in GKU which would benefit the participating young scientists.

The Managing Director, S. Sukhraj Singh Sidhu said that the University will also organize similar scientific programmes in the times to come.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDES AT GURU KASHI UNIVERSITY



July 28: The four day Faculty Development Programme (FDP) successfully concluded at Guru Kashi University. Today renowned education experts from North-Western India participated in the different sessions of the programme and delivered highly important scientific content among the participants



which is demand of the time for higher education and research.



S. Gurlabh Singh Sidhu, Chairman, graced the valedictory function with his esteemed presence. S. Sidhu in his address stated that the advance techniques which were delivered in the FDP by the experts are in of great need. Just before the start of the new session the Programme is going to be very much fruitful for the participant faculty and research scholars as well.

Dr. Sunita Sukhija, Convener of the FDP stated that the keynote speakers Dr. Mani Jindal, Dr. Vijay Shankar Prashad, Dr. Rajinder, Dr. Vikasdeep and other major content deliverer were honoured with the GKU mementos of Guru Kashi University along with letters of appreciation.

Dr. Jagtar Singh Dhiman, Registrar stated that in the near future some more such programmes will be organized in campus as per the University Calendar, which will definitely help in effective teaching and inculcating scientific temperament in the society. Dr. Amardeep Kaur and Dr. Nidhi Suthra, Organizing secretaries of the FDP expressed gratitude to the

Management, which is extending every sort of help and support for organizing such programme. They also extend their thankful words to the speakers who introduced with new research tools and techniques. The work of public relation & IT dept. during the Faculty Development Programme was also appreciated. The successful participants were awarded certificates by S. Gurlabh Singh Sidhu.

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