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ENHANCING PRACTICAL EXPERTISE: GCU'S IMMERSIVE SUMMER PROGRAMME IN PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES



AZARA, August 10: A Six-Day Summer Immersion Programme was organized by the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Girijananda Chowdhury University, Guwahati, Assam from 29th July to 2nd August 2024. The program aimed to bridge the gap between academic learning and the practical demands of the pharmaceutical industry. It focused on developing essential skills in three key areas: Solid Dosage Form Development, Laboratory Animal Handling, and Experimental Techniques, Analytical Instrument Handling. The Inaugural Session was hosted by Dr. Anupam Sarma, who extended a warm welcome to the dignitaries, coordinators, and participants. In his opening remarks, Dr. Sarma emphasized the objectives of the program, highlighting the importance of developing hands-on skills in the specified areas. He expressed his gratitude to the participants for their enthusiasm and dedication to the program. Prof. (Dr.) Kandarpa Das, Vice Chancellor of GCU, delivered an inspiring address during the session. Dr. Das also emphasized that the program aligns with the University Grants Commission (UGC)'s outcome-based education initiatives designed to provide students with practical skills. He underscored the significance of such initiatives in attracting more students to the pharmaceutical profession.



Prof. Kandarpa Das delivering the welcome address.



Prof. Bhanu Pratap Sahu and Dr. Anupam Sarma highlighting the objectives of the program.

The training in solid dosage form development was led by Coordinators Dr. Anupam Sarma and Dr. Nikhil Biswas. Participants were given hands-on experience in the development of tablet dosage forms, which are among the most common and significant pharmaceutical products. The training covered various aspects, including formulation techniques, processing methods, and evaluation strategies. Participants were actively involved in the entire process, from selecting raw materials to testing the final product, giving them a thorough understanding of the complexities involved in solid dosage form development. The practical sessions provided participants with an opportunity to apply their theoretical knowledge in a real-world context, thereby enhancing their technical skills and confidence.



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Dr. Bhrigu Kumar Das and Mr. Sanswrag Basumatary coordinated the training on laboratory animal handling and experimental techniques. The sessions focused on the ethical handling of laboratory animals, an essential aspect of pharmaceutical research. Participants were trained in proper care, handling, and experimental techniques, with a strong emphasis on ethical considerations. An invited resource person from IASST, Guwahati, delivered a specialized talk on the ethical aspects of laboratory animal handling, further enriching the participants' understanding of both the scientific and moral responsibilities involved in animal research. The training gave participants the necessary skills to conduct preclinical studies accurately and responsibly.



Dr. Sunayana Baruah, being felicitated by Mr. Jasoda Ranjan Das, President, SSA.



Dr. Sunayana Baruah demonstrating expert techniques in laboratory animal handling.

The training on analytical instrument handling was led by Coordinators Dr. Jun Mani Kalita and Mr. Sushankar Kushari. This part of the program focused on the operation and handling of sophisticated analytical instruments such as High-Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC), High-Performance Thin-Layer Chromatography (HPTLC), Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy (AAS), and Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS). These instruments are crucial for ensuring the accuracy and reliability of data in pharmaceutical research and product development. Participants received hands-on training in the use of these instruments, learning how to calibrate, operate, and troubleshoot them. On the final day of the program, participants were taken on a field visit to Bio Tech Park, Guwahati. This visit was designed to expose participants to the research culture in a real-world setting and to provide them with insights into the advanced instruments used intensively in pharmaceutical research.



Hands-On Learning: Students Engage in Practical Skill Development.

The program saw the active participation of over 24 students from GCU University, who engaged enthusiastically in all sessions. The success of this Summer Immersion Program underscores the importance and value of skill development initiatives in fostering the next generation of pharmaceutical professionals. It highlights the crucial role that such programs play in bridging the gap between academic knowledge and industry needs, ensuring that participants are well-prepared to meet the demands of their future careers.



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BUILDING CONFIDENCE: D. PHARM STUDENTS GEAR UP FOR PCI EXIT EXAM 2024 AT SCHOOL OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES, GCU

AZARA, August 10: The School of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Girijananda Chowdhury University (GCU), Assam, recently organized a 15-day crash course to assist D. Pharm students in preparing for the upcoming PCI exit examination in 2024. The first phase of the program was conducted from July 15th to July 31st, 2024, across both the Guwahati and Tezpur campuses.

During this intensive period, two mock tests were conducted that were designed to simulate the conditions of the actual examination and provide valuable feedback. Participants from both the Guwahati and Tezpur campuses took advantage of this preparatory initiative, aiming to strengthen their knowledge and examination strategies.

The second phase of the course, extending over a month, has started from August 01, 2024. This phase will continue to provide focused training and support, helping students from GCU and other institutions enhance their preparation and boost their confidence ahead of the exit examination.



Focused preparation.