

UGC-ACADEMIC STAFF COLLEGE

INTRODUCTION : The UGC-Academic Staff College, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar was established in 1988 following introduction of the scheme by the University Grants Commission in 1987. Since its inception, the Academic Staff College has been acting as a crucial link between teacher motivation and the quality of education. Our UGC-Academic Staff College is considered as one of the best amongst the 66 functioning Academic Staff Colleges in the country. Linked to professional and career development of College and University teachers, it runs various programmes to cater to the professional and academic development of teachers from a wide spectrum of disciplines from all over the country. On an average 15-18 programmes are conducted in a year, in which on an average 400 teachers including research scholars participate. The courses are conducted on the lines of participative and interactive learning style. Each programme has specific objectives and scientific mechanism for evaluation

FACULTY

Director : Prof. Avinash Kaur Nagpal

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Our ASC has been attracting teachers from all over India and has become a platform, where the Guru Nanak Dev University's academic community, various other renowned academicians and eminent personalities from other walks of life share their knowledge, insights and ideas with the larger academic community of the country on a participatory basis.

The ASC's philosophy is that the teacher is central to the system. While it is universally accepted that the teacher is the pivot of the educational system, our system does not provide adequate opportunities for their professional development. It is, therefore, necessary to develop inbuilt mechanisms to provide opportunities for teachers within the framework of knowledge society.

Our endeavour has always been to hone the pedagogical skills of the teaching community in addition to providing them opportunities for their professional and career development. In order to achieve these goals, interactions are arranged with the eminent Resource Persons pertaining to various disciplines.

All the courses envisaged under this Scheme are not rigid. They are intended to inculcate in young teachers the quality of self-reliance through awareness of the social, intellectual and moral environment. These courses aim to enable the teachers to rediscover themselves and their potential through a positive appreciation of their role in the total social, intellectual and moral environment, within which they function and of which they are an important part. Only in a country, where teachers are able to fulfill their responsibility with awareness and confidence, the educational system becomes relevant and dynamic.

Keeping the above objectives in view, the guidelines for the HRDC provide for following initiatives:

- To organize specially designed Orientation Programmes in pedagogy, educational psychology and philosophy, and socio-economic and political concerns for all new entrants at the level of Lecturers;
- To organize such Orientation Programmes and Refresher Courses for serving teachers, covering every teacher at least once in three to five years;

- To organize specially designed Orientation Programmes/Refresher Courses in IT for new entrants as well as for in-service teachers;
- To encourage teachers to participate in seminars, symposia, workshops, etc.
- To chalk out courses to give a bigger thrust to e-content development. In order to prepare Internet-savvy as well as computer literate teachers, to create e-content assemblers and creators, the University Grants Commission has launched specially designed Orientation Programmes/Refresher Courses in these subjects, to create Internet literate people from amongst new entrants as well as in-service teachers and to make them familiar with use of software tools irrespective of the subject/discipline they are teaching. Acquisition of knowledge is a two-way process between the teachers and the taught and, therefore, collectively they must advance the frontiers of knowledge.
- To organize Short-Term Special Course for the Professional Development of Senior Faculty Members and Non-teaching officers/employees.
- To encourage teachers to participate in seminars, symposia, workshops, etc.
- To enable newly appointed Lecturers to:
 - i) understand the significance of education in general, and higher education in particular, in the global and Indian contexts
 - ii) understand the linkages between education and economic and socio-economic and cultural development, with particular reference to the Indian polity where democracy, secularism and social equity are the basic tenets of society;
 - iii) acquire and improve art of teaching at the college/university level to achieve goals of higher education;
 - iv) keep them abreast with the latest developments in their specific subjects;
 - v) understand the organization and management of a college/university and to perceive the role of teachers in the total system;
 - vi) utilize opportunities for development of personality, initiative and creativity; and
 - vii) promote computer literacy as well as use of ICT in teaching and learning process.

The exponential growth of higher education in the country in the last few decades or so has not, unfortunately, kept pace with the quality of higher education. The dire need of the hour is to reverse this unfortunate trend and to restore the glory of higher education in the country in order to make our society really a knowledge based one in the true sense of word. Needless to say that the teachers of higher education will have to rise to the occasion and play a significant role in it. The HRDCs have to realize their onerous responsibility to make the teaching community realize their role.

ACTIVITIES AT ACADEMIC STAFF COLLEGE

During 01.01.2014 to 31.12.2014, following General Orientation/ Refresher/Short Term Courses were conducted by the Human Resource Development Centre, Amritsar:-

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Name of Course (RC/GOC /STC)</i>	<i>Dates</i>
1	Advanced Workshop on Research Methodology and Statistics for Ph.D Scholars, Assistant Professors and Associate Professors	February 10-12, 2014
2	Workshop for Teaching Faculty on Higher Education and Administration	January 21-23, 2014
3	Refresher Course in Teaching of English Language & Literature	March 4-24, 2014

4	General Orientation Course-94	March 3-31, 2014
5	General Orientation Course-95	May 13 to June 9, 2014
6	Refresher Course Pure Sciences (Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics)	May 15 to June 4, 2014
7	Refresher Course in Health & Life Sciences (Food Technology, Nutrition, Home Sciences, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Sports Medicine, Physiotherapy, Bio-Sciences & Physical Education, Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Biotechnology, Human Genetics)	June 5-25, 2014
8	Special Summer School	June 10-30, 2014
9	Workshop for Ph.D/Post Doctoral Scholars/Research Scholars on basic Statistics/Teaching Faculty	July 2-8, 2014
10	Refresher Course in Social Sciences (History, Sociology, Economics, Anthropology, Political Science, Geography, Psychology, Philosophy, Public Administration & Law)	July 10-30, 2014
11	Workshop for Ph.D./Post-Doctoral Scholars on basic Research Methodology and Research Ethics	August 6-12, 2014
12	Interaction Programme for Ph.D Scholars	September 2-22, 2014
13	Workshop on advanced Research Methodology, Statistics and Patents for Ph.D/Post Doctoral/Research Scholars/Teaching Faculty	September 23-29, 2014
14	Principals' Meet	September 26, 2014
15	Refresher Course in Computer Science, Electronics, Information Technology & Engineering Applications	November 25 to December 15, 2014
16	Refresher Course in Disaster Management (ID)	November 17 to December 8, 2014
17	Special Winter School	December 12, 2014 to January 1, 2015

Apart from the above-mentioned courses, a special Orientation Programme for teachers of Meritorious Schools of Punjab (October 4-8, 2014) was also conducted in which 58 teachers of Meritorious Schools participated.

Some of the eminent scholars and resource persons who interacted with the participants of Refresher/General Orientation and Short Term Courses are given below :

- Prof. R.K. Kohli, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Punjab, Bathinda
- Prof. A.D.N. Bajpai, Vice-Chancellor, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla
- Prof. Rakesh Mudgal, Vice-Chancellor, Teerthankar Mahavir University, Moradabad
- Prof. Mohd. Muzammil, Vice-Chancellor, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Agra
- Dr. Roshan Sunkaria, Principal Secretary, Higher Education & Languages, Punjab

- Prof. Jairup Singh, Former Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Punjab, Bathinda
- Prof. S.S. Chahal, Former Vice-Chancellor, Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur
- Dr. Kaustubh Sharma, IPS, Amritsar
- Sant Balbir Singh Seechewal, Sultanpur Lodhi
- Prof. S.P. Gautam, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
- Prof. Rounki Ram, Panjab University, Chandigarh
- Prof. Bijay Singh, INSA Scientist, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana
- Prof. P.S. Ahuja, Former Director General, CSIR, New Delhi
- Prof. Sudhanshu Bhushan, Head, Deptt. of Higher & Professional Education, NUEPA, New Delhi
- Prof. K. Ramachandran, NUEPA, New Delhi
- Prof. Balwinder Singh Tiwana, Director, UGC-Human Resource Development Centre, Punjabi University, Patiala
- Prof. Karamjit Singh, Director, UGC-Human Resource Development Centre, Panjab University, Chandigarh
- Dr. Inderjit Kaur, President, Pingalwara Society, Amritsar
- Prof. Chandra Prakash Gupta, Deptt. of Financial Studies, Delhi University, Delhi
- Dr. Rakesh Bhalla, Surgeon, Civil Hospital, Amritsar
- Prof. R. Baskar, Guru Jambheshwar University of Science & Technology, Hisar