

Faculty Development Program

Academic Integrity and Professional Ethics

The Academic and Administrative Development Centre (AADC) of Shri Vaishnav Vidyapeeth Vishwavidyalaya (SVVV) and the Association of Indian Universities, Indore jointly organized a Faculty Development Program on “Academic Integrity and Professional Ethics”. from June 20–24, 2023. In this FDP, 44 participants were registered. It was 5 days online Faculty Development Program Eminent experts across the nation deliberated on academic integrity and professional ethics in 08 sessions. All the experts shared their perspectives and knowledge with the faculty members.

The inaugural session began with the worship of Goddess Saraswati, followed by the welcome of the guests. Dr. Anand Rajavat, Dean Academic, SVVV, and Nodal Officer AIU-SVVV-AADC, introduced about the FDP, and its objectives. He informed out the different organizations and cities, where the participants have registered from. He introduced the speakers who are from renowned academic institutions. Dr. Rajavat also explained the importance of academic integrity as the moral code or ethical policy of academia. Dr. Upinder Dhar, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, stated in his welcome address about role of academic integrity, ethics, and values in academics. Dr. Dhar said that SVVV is one of the University amongst 10 Universities in India, selected by AIU for organizing such Faculty Development Programs. Dr. Dhar said that for institutions, it is a matter of creating an environment that promotes responsible conduct by embracing standards of excellence, trustworthiness, and lawfulness. The chief guest and keynote speaker on the occasion was Dr. P.B. Sharma, Vice Chancellor, Amity University, Gurugram (Haryana). Dr. P. B. Sharma said that academic integrity and ethics in professionalism is the prime need of society. He emphasized on the importance of academic conduct and shares his experiences of ethical misconduct in report writing. He also focused on professional integrity which involves behaviour's that are consistent with professional and ethical expectations of one's field. Dr. Sharma emphasized mostly on the four basic acts of morality i.e., Moral is reasonableness; respect for persons; tolerance of diversity and moral hope. The inaugural session concluded with words of thanks by Dr. Rakesh Kumar Malviya, Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering Department, SVITS, SVVV, Indore.

The first session was conducted by Dr. Ravi Shankar, Professor (HAG), Department of Management Studies, IIT Delhi on “Academic Integrity and Professional Ethics: Guidelines and Few Suggestions”. He emphasized on the independence and reputation of the University rest in the hands of those who are scrupulous in their search for truth. Dr. Shankar said that pressures that cause academic misconduct are deadlines, productivity and competition, collaborative and individual work, criticism and trust, multiple roles, lack of information etc.

The next session was conducted by Dr. Balkrishna E. Narkhede, Professor, NITIE, Mumbai on “Essence of Academic Integrity& Professional Ethics for performance excellence of an educational institute” Dr. B.E. Narkhede said that performance excellence is a multidimensional concept, and its different dimensions call for different forms of recognition and reward. If teaching quality is to be maintained and enhanced, teaching excellence must be recognized and rewarded. He emphasizes that the criteria for individual teaching excellence

are no more difficult to enunciate and to evaluate than those for research excellence to achieve overall institutional performance excellence. Dr. Narkhede also suggested that there must be excellence at departmental and institutional levels. They can however be developed on the foundation of individual excellence.

The session third was conducted by Dr. Premanand S. Chauhan, Director & Professor, S.D. Bansal College of Technology, Indore on “Academic Integrity & Professional Ethics: Social Implications”. Dr. Chouhan discussed about the social implications of academic integrity and professional ethics. He emphasizes on the brain functioning system and IQ measurement test. He said that personal and professional ethics should be governed properly as personal ethics were learned from home and professional ethics were learned from management.

Next session was conducted by Dr. A.C. Shukla, Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, UEC Ujjain on “Ethics in research publications”. Dr. A.C. Shukla suggested that the researchers should follow ethics in research publications. He pointed out that accurate and ethical reporting is crucial to the quality of scientific research that is published. Unethical practices such as falsification of data and plagiarism cause long-term damage to the dependability of published literature. He said that publication and research ethics involves systematizing, defending, and recommending concepts of right and wrong conduct in the scientific research experiment. Knowing and following ethical guidelines while conducting research is very essential.

Session fifth was taken by Dr. G.S. Dangayach, Professor HAG, Dept. of Mechanical Engg. NIT Jaipur on “Student Centered Teaching Methods”. Dr. G.S. Dangayach discusses about the various student-centered teaching methods. He also highlighted how educational resources for academic integrity should be engaging to students and designed so that they can be effectively embedded in the curriculum. Dr. Dangayach said that the development of a teaching and learning approach has implications for institutional initiatives that will entail promoting academic integrity education, supporting students’ academic writing development, and employing assessment practices that are integral to student learning.

Next session was conducted by Dr. Santosh Dhar, Rector & Dean (FDSR) SVVV Indore on “Academic Fraud and Quality Assurance”. Dr. Santosh Dhar suggested that academic integrity is essential to avoid academic frauds like in the form of academic dishonesty or misconduct in academic exercise/activity. She emphasized on the role of faculties and teachers to avoid various academic frauds. Dr. Dhar also discussed in detail the various types of academic fraud such as fabrication, cheating, deception, plagiarism, impersonation, bribery, sabotage, and professional misconduct.

The session seventh was conducted by Dr. Upinder Dhar, Vice Chancellor SVVV Indore on “Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions” Dr. Upinder Dhar has immensely emphasized on higher education rules and regulations on academic integrity to generate awareness, development of institutional mechanisms and develop systems to detect plagiarism. Dr. Dhar stressed towards the conduction of awareness programs and training for the promotion of academic integrity in research and amongst staff. He said the researchers should not be involved in any unethical

activities that cause hindrance to the harmony of the Institution. Dr. Dhar also discussed about the different levels of plagiarism and various penalties of plagiarism.

Last session was taken by Dr. P.C. Tewari, Professor, Mechanical Engineering Department, NIT Kurukshetra on “Academic Integrity, Values & Ethics”. Dr. P.C. Tewari said that academic integrity is a way to change the world. Change the university first; then change the world. Dr. Tewari said that honesty is an indispensable foundation of teaching, learning, research, and service, and a necessary prerequisite for full realization of trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. It is essential that academic policies and community practices send a clear message that falsification of data, lying, cheating fraud, theft, and other dishonest behaviors are unacceptable. He also believed that many teachers, students, and administrators embrace the principles of academic integrity because they know that the goals of teaching, learning, and research can only be accomplished in environments in which ethical standards are upheld.

The FDP ended with the valedictory session on June 24, 2023. After welcoming guests, Dr. Rakesh Kumar Malviya, Coordinator, FDP, AIU-SVVV-AADC, presented the FDP report. The welcome address was delivered by Dr. Upinder Dhar, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, SVVV. Feedback of the FDP was given by participants of the FDP. Dr. Anand Rajavat proposed the words of thanks. The session concluded with the National Anthem.