

# **Faculty Development Program**

## **Innovative Teaching Strategies and Tools in Digital Age**

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 “Innovative Teaching Strategies and Tools in Digital Age”, from August 14<sup>th</sup> to August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023. In this FDP, 64 participants were registered.

The online faculty development program spanned 5 days and featured distinguished experts from across the nation. Through a series of 10 online sessions, these experts explored various tools and inventive teaching approaches tailored for the digital era. These sessions not only enabled the experts to share their insights and expertise but also facilitated an exchange of knowledge between them and the attending faculty members.

The Inaugural program was commenced on 14th August 2023 at 11:30 AM with the blessings of Maa Saraswati, followed by the welcome of the guests. The session began with the welcome address by Vice Chancellor, SVVV Dr. Upinder Dhar. Dr. Dhar addressed participants by saying that teachers being the role models and warriors have the ability and responsibility to change themselves to changing technology.

Dr. Anand Rajavat, Dean Academic, SVVV, and Nodal Officer AIU-SVVV-AADC, had briefed about the FDP and its relevance, He gave brief outline of program and requested all the participants to enrich their knowledge from this FDP by active participation. He said that the objective of a faculty development program is to elevate the expertise, capabilities, and impact of educators within an educational institution.

The guest on the occasion, Prof Sandeep Sancheti, Vice Chancellor, Marwadi University, Rajkot, Gujrat, delivered the presidential address. He delivered a highly motivating and inspirational address that left a strong impact. Prof. Sancheti encouraged participants to enthusiastically embrace innovative teaching techniques and wholeheartedly adopt collaborative learning approaches. He expressed his sincere thanks to SVVV for inviting him as the chief guest.

Dr. Navneeta Upadhyay, the coordinator of the FDP, hosted and facilitated the inaugural program as the master of ceremony. The inaugural session concluded with words of thanks by Dr. Deepali Saxena, Coordinator FDP, Assistant Professor, Food & Nutrition, SVVV, Indore.

Day one, second session was headed by Dr. Sachin parekh, (Director at London School of Digital Business, UK) who delivered his talk on the topic “How to Grab UK Opportunities in the Digital Age”. He stated that grabbing opportunities in the digital age, especially in the UK, requires a combination of strategic thinking, skill development, networking, and staying up-to-date with the latest trends. Dr. Sachin also gave information about the scholarship programs in UK for the teachers

Day Two, The first and second both the sessions were handled by Prof. K Shrinivas, (Head ICT & Project Management Unit, Chairperson e-Learning cell NEPA, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India) He spoke in detail about blended teaching and learning. He nicely explained the seven characteristics of a teacher that are essential to be a digitally proficient educator. The session was very interactive and was ended with demonstration and hands on practice to create our own teaching material with the help of available software's and social media platforms.

Day Three, Session I, Vice chancellor of Bahadurgarh university, Haryana, Dr. A K Bakshi spoke about NEP2020 and quality higher education. He clearly mentioned that NEP 2020 emphasizes the importance of faculty development and proposes initiative to enhance the skills and qualification of educators.

Session II of the third day was taken by Dr. Vimal Rarh, Project Head & Joint Director, GAD-TLC Dr. Vimal provided profound insights into MOOCS courses and various online platforms. She elucidated the four-quadrant approach to develop e-content, offering comprehensive guidance on creating MOOCs proposals and the process of e-content development.

Day Four, Dr. Prabal Bandhopadhyay, (Senior Research Scientist/Project Management, Novartis Healthcare Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad) delivered a talk on the topic "Gamification in Education: Creating Immersive Learning Experiences in the Digital Age" The speaker provided an in-depth and comprehensive overview of the subject matter. To elucidate the central theme, he skilfully employed a variety of illustrative instances, which helped to clarify and solidify the key concepts.

In the afternoon session of day 4th, Vice Chancellor, SVVV, Dr. Upinder Dhar, addressed the session stating that the changes we are going through in current times, have really brought out the best in our faculties who seem ready to develop their learning and gaining knowledge. Dr.Dhar's enlightening presentation delved into innovative approaches to teaching, where he skilfully distinguished between creativity and innovation. He provided a comprehensive exploration of how these innovative techniques can effectively be integrated the digital era. His lecture was not only highly informative but also engaging and captivating.

On the fifth day, senior academician Professor A.K. Bakshi presented a talk on "Digital Transformation in Higher Education in India: An Overview" He delivered a lecture on the pedagogical dimensions of teaching and the creation of curricula. During the presentation, Prof. Bakshi demonstrated various methods for designing curriculum, outlining educational goals for programs, and defining the expected outcomes for a specific course example.

Faculty Development Program (FDP) ended with valedictory session on August 19, 2023. The event commenced with a warm reception of esteemed guests, followed by Dr. Navneeta Upadhyay, Coordinator of the FDP at AIU-SVVV-AADC, presenting the comprehensive FDP report.

Dr. Upinder Dhar, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of SVVV, delivered the welcome address, setting the tone for the session. Valuable insights and opinions about the FDP were shared by the participants during the feedback session. Expressing gratitude and appreciation, Dr. Anand Rajavat, Dean Academic, SVVV, and Nodal Officer AIU-SVVV-AADC conveyed words of thanks to all involved.

The session reached its conclusion with the National Anthem, fostering a sense of unity and patriotism among all present