

State Level Workshop
On
Student Centric Approaches to Teaching and Learning
Organized by School of Education on 22/9/2018

“If we teach the students of today like how we were taught yesterday, we will be robbing them of their tomorrow“- John Dewey

One day State Level Workshop was organized by the School of Education on ‘***Student Centric Approaches to Teaching and Learning***’ on 22 September 2018. The workshop was extended to the Pre-service and in-service teachers to orient them towards various student centric methods and approaches. Teachers from across Bangalore City, Karnataka state, Chennai and Kerala participated in the same.

The workshop was inaugurated by Dr S.Srikanta Swamy, Dr John Joseph Kennedy, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dr Jose Cherian, HOD of the School Education.



Dr Jose Cherian welcomed the gathering and emphasized on the paradigm shift in the field of education. He also deliberated that the current process of teaching should focus upon the

needs, interests and capabilities of the learner. According to him, teachers should practice different methodologies to cater to the needs of the student centric approach to teaching and learning.

Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dr John Joseph Kennedy set the tone for the workshop through his Inaugural address. He urged the audience to introspect on the needs of the new generation learner. He envisaged that the teachers ought to accept the changes that are to be essentially considered and incorporated in the process of educating the younger generation and must constantly strive to evolve and learn to meet the demands of the teaching- learning process.

He stressed on the fact that the teacher and the learner(s) were co-learners. The role of the teacher had shifted from that of being information provider to guide and facilitator. He highlighted upon the objectives of the workshop which was to prepare the pre-service and the in-service teachers to engage a classroom where the learners are not in a state of matrix. Rather the workshop was to enable the participants towards discovering student- centred approaches that blend theory and practice in the classrooms.

Dr S.Srikanta Swamy, Former Additional Director for the Centre for Research, Christ University, delivered the keynote address. According to him , a balanced and an effective teaching- learning practice is understanding who the learners are, keeping in mind their needs and goals. An effective teacher education programme should have a blend of teaching skills, pedagogical skills, collaborative skills and professional skills. In pre- service teachers should be moulded keeping the student centric approach to teaching and learning.



Dr Swamy discussed the importance of lifelong learning and independent problem solving. He motivated the teachers to practice the principles of constructivist learning theory. Individual differences with regard to learning styles, interests and abilities within learners should be recognized and appreciated. He closed the keynote address by urging teachers to focus on both the theoretical and practical aspects of a concept.

The forenoon session after the tea break commenced at 11 AM on Discovery Learning. The session was facilitated by Dr Ganesha Bhatta, Former Principal, MES College of Education, Bengaluru for the Science teachers. He discussed about the learning standards in science at primary levels. Observing the details in surroundings and recognizing the scientific principles in day-to-day happenings, and understanding the significance of a green environment were recognized as the basic learning standards at the primary level. At the secondary level, use of technology to analyse information, ability to recognize contributions made by scientists and the skill to appreciate dignity of labour were considered to be the learning standards of high school science students. The second part of the session focused on discovery approach in science education. Discovery learning facilitates effective and lifelong learning. Problem solving, guided modified and open discovery are ways through which discovery learning could be practiced in a science classroom.

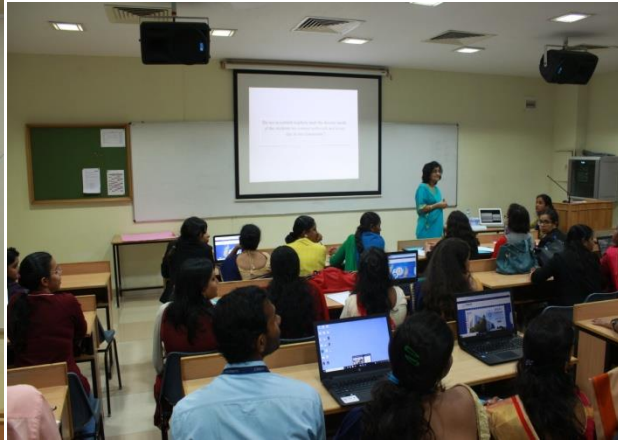


Dr Greta D'Souza, Associate Professor, School of Education, Christ (Deemed to be University), engaged the Humanities stream teachers on cooperative learning and differentiated instruction. She focused on the need and importance of differentiated learning. Differentiated instruction is teaching not only gifted but students of all ability levels in the classroom. The session was an interactive and the teachers were divided into groups and reflect upon the strategies they followed to meet the differentiated instruction needs in their respective classrooms. The strategies that were discussed are- knowledge, Understand and Do Method, Layered Curriculum Approach, Tiered Instruction, Menus, Cubing and Tic Tac Toe.

Dr Ganesha Bhatta conducted the afternoon session on Inquiry Model for the Science teachers. It focused on understanding the meaning of science. According to him, 'S' stands for suspense, 'C' for creativity and collaboration, 'I' for Interrogative, 'E' for Environment, 'N' for Natural, 'C' for Catalyst for Knowledge, and 'E' for Engaging. He then went on to explain the difference between inquiry and enquiry and gave an overview about John Dewey's contribution to the approach. The last leg of the session focused on question mapping as a strategy of the inquiry method.



Dr K Sumita Rao, Associate Professor, School of Education, Christ (Deemed to be University), conducted a parallel session in the afternoon session on Jurisprudential Inquiry Method and Spider Web Discussion for the Social Science and English teachers. The session focused on the skill of questioning, inquiry, critical and creative thinking and empathizing.



The valedictory ceremony began at 3.30 PM post the tea break. The chief guest for the ceremony was Fr Lijo Thomas of the Psychology department. The programme marked the distribution of certificates for the participants followed by sharing of experiences by the workshop delegates. The teachers also filled the feedback form and provided their suggestions. The workshop was concluded with the Vote of Thanks by Dr K Sumita Rao and singing of the Christ University Anthem.



Dr K Sumita Rao