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Workshop on 'Bio-Entrepreneurship, Grant writing & Funding Opportunities' organised

Panaji, Feb 23 (UNI) BITS BIRAC BioNEST, at BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa Campus, organised a full day workshop on 'Bio-Entrepreneurship, Grant writing & Funding Opportunities' recently. According to a statement from the institute here on Friday, participants were addressed by Dr Srini V Kaveri, Director, CNRS Office in India, Embassy of France, Service for Science and Technology New-Delhi, Dr Sangam A Kurade, Founder, Zuari Foods and Farms Pvt Ltd, Goa, and Ms Amruta Gore, Assistant Manager – Impact Projects, Venture Center, NCL Innovation Park, Pune.

Faculty Mentors from BITS Pilani – K K Birla Goa Campus included Prof Mridula Goel, In-charge, BITS BIRAC BioNEST, and Faculty In-Charge, CIIE; Prof Sunil Bhand, Technical Director, BITS BIRAC BioNEST, and Dean, Sponsored Research and Consulting Division (University wide); and Prof Srikanth Mutnuri, Technical Director, BITS BIRAC BioNEST, and Partner, Bactreat Environmental Solutions.

Dr Srini emphasised, "Research grants should be applied for not only money but for the prestige associated with it."

He presented a detailed guideline/basic rules to apply for grants and stressed that having a person specialised in reading the guidelines regarding the project can also be considered.

He introduced the students to different organisations like European Research Council (ERC), National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) and Sorbonne University, France.

The presentations session started with the presentation of Prof Srikanth Mutnuri, founder Bactreat Environmental Solutions. His organisation works with the objective of isolation and production of specific microorganisms and development of enzymes from lab scale to large scale production and subsequent application for the decontamination of polluted sites.

The company provides solutions for treating contaminated sites and has focused on wastewater treatment. Prof Srikanth in his presentation drew the 10 steps that every researcher has to pass before reaching to the level where the product can be brought to the consumer.