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## Editor's Note

Dear All,

The month of June was one in which we witnessed a few activities in the University.

The workshop organised by the Department of English aimed at arriving at a considered approach to deal with the prescribed syllabus at the undergraduate and post graduate levels in a coherent manner. It was hoped that the teaching process would be more co-ordinated and serve as an orientation towards a move synchronised and streamlined handling of the syllabus by the different colleges of the University. We congratulate Dr. Bhoj Kumar Acharya, Asstt. Prof. Dept. of Zoology for having represented the University at the AIST Workshop held in China, and Mr. Shankar Sha Ph. D. scholar, Dept. of Microbiology for participating in the 5th AIST International Imaging WS 2018 held at the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, Tsukuba, Japan.

The International Day of Yoga observed by the University on 21st June 2018 helped many to incorporate the practice of Yoga in their daily lives.

I hope we continue to witness such events and activities in the University in the coming days.

Mrs. Kunjini Prakash Darnal

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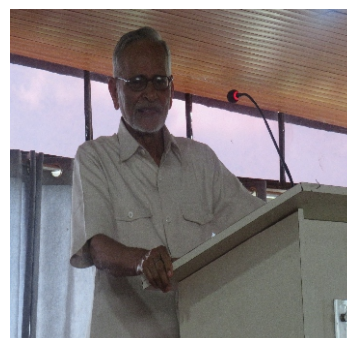
# SIKKIM UNIVERSITY CHRONICLE

## Teaching of English in Sikkim University: Methods and Approaches

Dr. Rosy Chamling, Assoc. Prof. & Head of Dept. of English

The Department of English organised a two days' workshop on "Teaching of English in Sikkim University: Methods and Approaches" on June 13-14 2018. The inaugural programme of the workshop was held on 13th June 2018 at the Cauveri Hall of the University. It was attended by all the participants and dignitaries. Vice- Chancellor Prof. Jyoti Prakash Tamang, Registrar Sh. T.K. Kaul, former Vice- Chancellor of Allahabad University Prof. K.G. Srivastava, Controller of Examinations Shri Debasish Chowdhury, Dean School of Languages and Literature Prof. Irshad Ghulam Ahmed addressed the audience and shared their views on the importance of teaching English language and literature.

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## 5th International Imaging WS 2018 at AIST, Tsukuba, Japan

Mr. Shankar Prasad Sha, Ph.D. scholar under Prof. Jyoti Prakash Tamang, Department of Microbiology participated in the 5th AIST International Imaging WS 2018 Imaging Workshop held at National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), Tsukuba, Japan from January 21- 30 2018. He was one of the twenty candidates selected from 190 international applicants from around the world and the visit was fully sponsored by AIST, Japan. The AIST International Imaging Workshop was a ten days' residential course, offering a wide range of microscopy training starting from principle of Light Microscopy to Super Resolution Imaging Technique. The training included Bright Field Microscopy, Phase Contrast, DIC, Fluorescence Imaging, Basic Training for Confocal Microscopy, Spectral Imaging, Photo- Activation, Ca- imaging, Super Resolution Microscopy (SRM), FCS (Fluorescence Correlation Spectroscopy) Analysis, Electron Microscopy, Cell Imaging based on bio- luminescence technology. The University congratulates Shankar for having represented Sikkim University at the AIST Workshop at Tsukuba, Japan.

Shankar Receiving a Certificate from Dr. Yoshihiro Ohmiya, Director of AIST and Dr. Sunil Kaul, Chief Senior Research Scientist, AIST, Tsukuba, Japan



### Internet of Things- based Approximation of Sun Radiative Evapo- Transpiration Models

Mr. Partha Pratim Ray, Asstt. Prof. Dept. of Computer Application

Evaporation is the vital component of hydrologic cycle (Dar *et al.*, 2017, Latief *et al.*, 2017). Its precise estimation is of key importance for studying hydrologic water balance, design of irrigation systems and crop yield simulation. Various methods and equations are already employed to measure and monitor the evapotranspiration, but owing to difficulty in getting precise evapotranspiration measurement directly, it is generally estimated from locally or globally available meteorological data with the help of multiple models. Numerous studies have been conducted to compare and evaluate the performance of different models, till date (Caprio 1974; Irmak *et al.*, 2003; Tabari *et al.*, 2013; McGuinness *et al.*, 1972). Each model has its own pros and cons that make it different from others and suitable for particular type of scenario. Radiation based models mainly depend on parameters viz. solar radiation, extra- terrestrial radiation, average air temperature, duration of sunshine etc. In the present study a novel measurement approach is prescribed to estimate using selected radiation based models. This case study may be apprehended as a proof- of- concept to the fact that the Internet of Things (IoT) is well capable to uplift the process of computation of the sun radiative models through advanced ICT tools such as the Internet of Things (IoT).

IoT is comprehended as the horizontal computing platform where sensors, actuators, micro- controllers and cloud services are organised together to perform highly distributed tasks by means of heterogeneity and super flexibility. Due to the super adaptability, inherent smartness and high- interoperability. IoT has been emerged as the most promising technology in the field of several sectors of applications that include smart meteorology, precision agriculture, smart city, intelligent industrial production, e- healthcare etc. In most of the cases, internet plays the vital role in realising the actual development and orientation of applications using IoT. This study also utilises the craftsmanship of IoT to efficiently measure various radiative Eto.

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South Asian Young Talents China's Science, Technology & Innovation Trip and The 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum on China-South Asia Technology Transfer and Collaborative Innovation at Shanghai and Kunming, China during 10-17 June 2018

Dr. Bhoj Kumar Acharya, Asstt. Prof. Dept. of Zoology

I participated as one of the young scientists of South Asia in South Asia Young Talents China's Science, Technology & Innovation Trip and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum on China-South Asia Technology Transfer and Collaborative Innovation (CSTTC) which took place between 10-17 June 2018 at Shanghai and Kunming, China. Based on my nomination by the Vice Chancellor, Sikkim University Prof. Jyoti Prakash Tamang, I was invited by Yunnan Academy of Scientific and Technical Information (YASTI) for the said event. A total of 21 scientists from five South Asian countries participated of which three were from Afghanistan, six from India, three from Nepal, six from Pakistan and three from Sri Lanka. We departed for Shanghai from India on 09 June 2018 after attending a reception dinner hosted by Mr. Wen Jun, Science and Technology Counsellor of Peoples Republic of China (PRC) in India.

This trip was an international communication and cooperation activity hosted by CSTTC and the Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Science and Technology, PRC. In our two days programme in Shanghai (11-12 June), we had a face to face interaction with representatives of young scientists from China together with a visit to Shanghai Industrial Technology Institute, Tongji University and Fudan University - the knowledge innovation highlands. We were also exposed to latest technology in Shangai Pudong Software Park and Shanghai Tower which is a second tallest building in the world with 128 story and has world's fastest elevator with a speed of 20.5 m/sec (74km/h). These visits have given us an opportunity to understand the quality of research being undertaken and sustainable development approaches used by China.

On 13 June we travelled to Kunming and registered for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum on CSTTC in the evening. On 14 June attended the grand opening ceremony of 5<sup>th</sup> China-South Asia Expo which witnessed the participation of leaders, scientists and business communities from different South Asian countries including India. In the afternoon attended inauguration ceremony of the South Asian Young Talents China's STI trip in which addresses by representatives from different countries were also held. Visited Yunnan University on 15 June where we had an opportunity to interact with faculties and researchers of the University. We were divided into different groups and I was included in biology section. Our team interacted with team of researchers in biology and briefly shared research activities of each institution. We also discussed possibilities of collaborative research between Sikkim University and Yunnan University especially in the areas of life sciences. In the evening we were taken to a theatre to watch 'Dynamic Yunan' a unique fusion of traditional ethnic folk dance and music and modern choreography.

The last day of the event (16 June) was most exciting and highly fruitful. In the morning we were taken to Kunming Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences and World Agroforestry centre. At first Prof. Jianchu Xu gave a detailed presentation on the research activities of the centre followed by interaction. Later we were taken to Kunming Institute botanical garden which showcased a magnificently managed biological diversity. Different ecosystem types such as tropical rain forests, desert, etc. are artificially created housing different species of plants taken from across the world. Finally, a summary and seminar of the trip was held in the evening of 16 June chaired by Mr. Dinglu Guan, Deputy Director General of Department of Science and Technology of Yunnan Province. Additionally, Mr. Wen Jun, Science and Technology Counsellor of PRC in India, Ms. Songlin Li, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology of Yunnan Province, faculties and researchers from Chinese Academy of Sciences and Yunnan University along with South Asian young scientists participated in the seminar. Face to face interaction along with discussion for future collaboration among scientists of China and other South Asian countries was the main focus. We departed from Kunming, China on 17 June 2018.

Overall it was an exciting tour and great learning experience for me. In addition to its economic rise and technologically advanced development, China has showcased their quality research in the field of science and technology. All the laboratories that we visited in different universities in China were recognized as key state laboratories and are engaged in advanced research in different spheres of science and technology, at par with other developed nations. I learnt that these laboratories attract young talents and best brain from across the world including South Asian countries. The flow of students and researchers for higher academic pursuit, and even for jobs in China, has significantly increased in recent years. One prominent observation that we made was the empowerment of young people and women in every sector in China. We could hardly meet and interact with elderly people, either in the Universities or in the institutions that we visited. We were received by very young enthusiastic professors, scientists and administrators in all places. In nutshell, I realized that China is taking a lead in economy, scientific research, women empowerment and sustainable development and we have much to learn from our closest neighbor, China.



Indian participants attending the discussions



Participants along with the organisers of the event

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA

The International Day of Yoga was observed at the University on 21st June 2018. The Yoga session was held at the Cauveri Hall of the University. Faculty members, staff and students participated in the programme organised by the NSS Cell of the University. Ms. Kamala Rai from the Art of Living Foundation, Sikkim Chapter was the yoga instructor. Posters and placards portraying the different yoga asanas and its benefits were also displayed.



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The workshop was organised to assess and frame a flexible pedagogy for the teaching of English Literature at the under graduate and post graduate levels. It was an attempt to orient teachers under Sikkim University in the adoption of best practices of approaching the syllabus. Many issues pertaining to the teaching of English language and literature were taken up for discussion. On the second day of the workshop an open house discussion was held in which the Controller of Examinations Shri Debasish Chowdhury enlightened the participants on the various issues that were focused during the workshop. He had a very fruitful interaction with the participant and he was also able to convey to them the intricacies of the examination process and was also able to address their queries. Shri Chowdhury further suggested that teachers could essentially be inspiring and should be able to manage the class as per the students' capabilities. The house also agreed upon the fact that questions could be more coherent, focused and should be a test of how much the student knows rather than how much the student does not know.