

AWARENESS PROGRAM ON ENABLING ENTREPRENEURSHIP THROUGH ACADEMIA AT ST. MARY'S COLLEGE ON NOVEMBER 04, 2023

November 04, 2023: Another enlightening episode of the awareness and sensitization program on "Enabling Entrepreneurship through Academia" unfolded at St. Mary's College, Laitumkhrah, Shillong on November 04th, 2023, starting from 01:00 pm. This collaborative effort involved the BIRAC's BioNEST Bioincubator (B3I) Facility team and the Department of Zoology at St. Mary's College, drawing approximately 109 undergraduate students from various departments under Science Streams in their final semester, along with their faculty members.

Hosted by Ms. Yveone Nongrum, a faculty member from the Department of Zoology, the event commenced with a reading from the Holy Bible by Ms. Ivorica Nongrum, Faculty member of the Department of Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics, followed by a welcoming speech from Ms. M. Jyrwa, Head of the Department of Zoology. Ms. Jyrwa encouraged students and participants to explore the opportunities in entrepreneurship as a viable career option.

The program featured informative sessions conducted jointly by Dr. Suman Kumar Nandy, CEO, and Ms. Alva Margareth Kharkongor, Program Manager, B3I Team from NEHU Tura Campus. The first session, titled "YOU CAN ALSO BE AN ENTREPRENEUR: LET US LEARN HOW?" delved into the core concepts of entrepreneurship, providing valuable insights on cultivating an entrepreneurial mindset and overcoming associated challenges. The step-by-step process of entrepreneurship, from generating innovative ideas to launching a business, was emphasized through real-world examples and interactive discussions, sparking curiosity and enthusiasm among students.

In the second session, titled "A STEP AHEAD – DETAILED GUIDELINE FOR IDEA GENERATION & PRESENTATION," a brainstorming session engaged students in generating ideas across sectors such as Public Health, Farm to Plate – Food & Nutrition, Waste Management, Environmental Pollution, Agriculture & Agri-Tech, AI/ML/IoT, and others. The aim was to guide students in developing innovative business ideas and presenting them effectively. The session empowered students with practical tools for brainstorming, idea validation, and persuasive communication. A brief overview of the B3I facility, its infrastructure, handholding programs, entrepreneurship-boosting activities, and positive impacts concluded this segment.

The sessions were highly engaging, featuring stimulating discussions, thoughtful questions, and creating a dynamic learning environment. The event concluded with a gracious Vote of Thanks from Mr. Liston Marbaniang, a distinguished faculty member from the Department of Zoology at St. Mary's College in Laitumkrah, Shillong. In his speech, he expressed sincere gratitude towards the B3I Team for their exemplary conduct and for organizing a highly informative session. Overall, it was an exceptional experience.



Fig. Glimpses of Entrepreneurship awareness Program at St. Mary's College Shillong.