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MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM DEAN

EXPANDING HORIZONS DIGITALLY

We live in a time where meetings take place over a video call, connections build through social networking sites, and events are attended virtually over the internet. Companies and institutions that understand this stand at a better chance of interacting with their community.

Seven years back when we started our first batch of our flagship Biosciences certificate program, we opted for Zoom as our platform of teaching to provide our students the advantage of best faculties from across the world. Today, we are also using Microsoft Teams, Google Meet, Webex, and we have adapted to all new tools of communication.

Now, the pandemic has pushed us to go completely virtual, and it is simply helped us in our digital transformation. I am glad to say that our digital presence has increased manifold during these past many months; be it through webinars, online activities, social media presence, etc.

I am excited to mention that we recently crossed 20,000 followers on LinkedIn – forming base for a strong and active community of biotech students, faculties, and professionals. We have seen active participation of biotech students on Instagram where we are rapidly growing every single day.

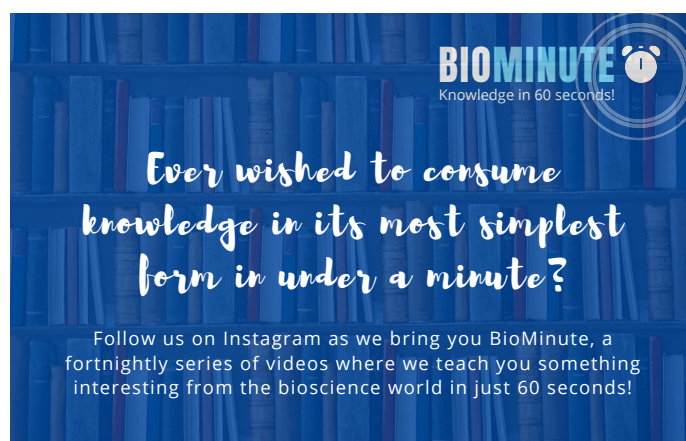
We have created multiple digital properties to connect with students, professionals, and the entire biotech community at large to help them in gaining more knowledge and clarify their doubts regarding various topics.

BioMinute and BioBrainer have quickly started to become popular among the biotech students. More and more students are watching BioMinute, a fortnightly IGTV series of one-minute videos with a vision to teach a bioscience topic within 60 seconds. We have also witnessed hundreds of students participating in our series of infotainment activities called the 'BioBrainer'.

In our first ever Instagram live, we invited Mr. Anil Sachdeva, Vice President, Regulatory Science, Biocon to discuss about global regulatory affairs. During the live, he answered many questions asked by our followers. We didn't stop just there. We decided to join the Clubhouse trend and thus created a room called 'How Are You?' where we discuss with our alumni, faculties, and experts about their journey in the biotech industry. Thus far, our alumni Sneha Gugnani who currently works as Scientist at Thermo Fisher Scientific and one of our students' favorite faculty Eddie Crabbe have been part of the live sessions of Clubhouse.

With many new platforms coming out and with more and more young generation adapting to these new platforms, we look forward to connecting with the community everywhere and expand our digital presence. We are planning to host more interesting live sessions, Q&As, AMAs, and much more in the days to come. Do let us know your preferred social media platform, and please write to us if you have more ideas about how we can connect with you on digital platforms!

Stay Safe & Happy Learning!



GRA COURSE LAUNCH

Biocon Academy has kickstarted the first batch of its new and first-of-its-kind 16-week full-time certificate program in Global Regulatory Affairs in partnership with JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research. The virtual launch program was joined by all the new students, Subject Matter Experts, and Biotech/Pharma professionals along with chief guests from Biocon and JSS AHER who addressed the gathering virtually. They spoke about the global curriculum and the opportunities that lie ahead for the students enrolled for Biocon Academy's Global Regulatory Affairs (GRA) program.



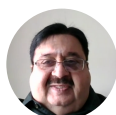
HERE'S AN EXCERPT OF WHAT OUR LEADERS SPOKE DURING THE GRA LAUNCH

"In the last two years, we have seen a huge surge in public interest in the ongoing health care crisis and their expectations from various health care organizations. We are seeing an increase in public awareness on matters related to regulatory approvals through media stories on vaccines getting emergency use authorization to combat the pandemic. I believe this is the best time to study regulatory affairs. It is important for a Regulatory Affairs professional to have an understanding on various domains along with a strong technical knowledge. As students go along Biocon Academy's new program on Global Regulatory Affairs, they will develop a good understanding of various critical aspects of this domain. I am really glad that we have started this course which will enable our students to gain the applied understanding of regulatory affairs in a short period."



Dr. Arun Chandavarkar, Managing Director, Biocon Biologics

"I am really happy to be part of this new journey started by JSS AHER and Biocon Academy to help students who aspire to be a Regulatory Affairs professional get the best of both worlds – necessary theoretical knowledge and practical exposure. Congratulations to every student who is a part of Biocon JSS AHER Certificate Program in Global Regulatory Affairs. I am sure that this program will help them in building their career. I look forward to strengthening this partnership between JSS and Biocon in the coming days."



Dr. Suresh Bhojraj, Pro Chancellor, JSS AHER

"With this new certificate program in Global Regulatory Affairs, the selected students will be getting a chance to acquire more knowledge through case studies and understand the actual problem solving. Our students have extensive theoretical knowledge, but in most cases, they lack the practical exposure. Through this partnership with Biocon Academy we are excited to tap the talent pool of students interested in Regulatory Affairs and offer them the needed knowledge. Biocon is a leader and a giant, and it is a privilege for us at JSS AHER to have partnered with Biocon Academy to prepare the best curriculum available in Global Regulatory Affairs."



Dr. Surinder Singh, Vice Chancellor, JSS AHER

"Biocon Academy is a CSR initiative of Biocon, and we have been here for 7 years. More than 700 students have graduated from the Academy. It is exciting to finally launch Biocon JSS AHER Certificate Program in Global Regulatory Affairs. We have worked very hard in developing this course along with the faculty of JSS AHER and SME's from Biocon. Due to the current circumstances, we have started the program online, and we are planning to make it as interactive as possible with case studies, discussions, etc. And if everything goes well, in the coming days, we also plan to take our students to JSS Mysuru Campus for a week so they can get a chance to attend the classes in person."



Bindu Ajit, Program Dean, Biocon Academy

LIFE AT BIOCON ACADEMY



by **Varsha Muraleedharan,**
*Biocon KGI Certificate Program
in Biosciences (Batch 19)*

When we think of any educational experience, it's a mixed pot of fun, learning and camaraderie. It was the same for Biosciences Batch 19 students. For our group, spending two weeks in Bangalore to attend BioZEEN training and Biocon Academy was a much-anticipated experience. The announcement of the training elicited a sense of excitement - at long last, we'd be able to meet the people we'd been working with day in and day out up until that point, an opportunity to meet and build lifelong ties.

Following BioZEEN training, we had classes at Biocon Academy. Our day would begin with the KGI faculty's virtual classes, followed by Biocon Academy faculty engaging us in various technical and non-technical activities. One such session by Meghali ma'am involved discussion on the topic "Pseudo feminism", needless to say, the class had very strong opinion and the session was high spirited. These sessions were made memorable by all the conversations and antics during the breaks; and the coffee from the kitchenette was our group's guilty pleasure. Our post lunch sessions were for the virtual functional visits by QC department. The SME's from Biocon expounded on various functional areas within QC and helped us understand the complexities involved.

The visit scheduled to Biocon Park was a highlight of our experience. We were given the opportunity to



We reached Bangalore the weekend prior the commencement of training. Our week began with hands-on training on "Operation of Fermenters - Lab scale & Pilot scale Fermentation" at BioZEEN, Bangalore. The training team consisted of - Dr. H Nellaiah, Janet Simon Daniel and Vinobiah B, an alumnus of Biocon Academy - who were actively involved in educating us about Fermentation design considerations, Monitoring and control of Bioreactors and Fermentation scale up. We were split into groups to perform lab scale as well as pilot scale microbial fermentation under their guidance. Throughout the 6 days at BioZEEN, not only did we amass a lot of knowledge, we also had an opportunity to work as a team and interact with each other.

visit the Production, QC Microbiology and Research & Development departments, and learn from the experts in person. We were taken on tours of the department facility, got the opportunity to see the equipment used and learn their functioning principles.

During this course, we had the privilege to interact with Dr. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw. She talked about the impact of biopharmaceutical industry - especially during this devastating pandemic, and the prospects of creating a social impact during such testing times. The interaction left us all the more inspired to be a contributing member in the field of biopharmaceuticals and healthcare.

Dr. Pavan Soni visited the Academy to engage us in the final session of his Design Thinking workshop. He engaged us in a lively discussion on the concept learned so far and went on to give us more insight into the concept of Design Thinking. He also talked about his learning and life experiences, interspersed with quips, keeping the session diverting.

Our final day at the academy was also our Cultural day. From planning what to wear to who will perform, each team and the Academy had put in lot of efforts to conduct it. Dressing up in color coded outfits, rehearsing for the fashion walk, impromptu class dancing and egging on each other during the games, we had the time of our lives there.

Despite the fact that we had just been there for two weeks and had a riotous schedule, when it was time to pack up and go back, though not misty eyed, we wanted to hang back, to have a little more time together. The shared learning and the comradeship were compelling.



Biocon Biologics
Redefining Healthcare, Redefining Lives

Baxter

ambios
genetics

Dr.Reddy's

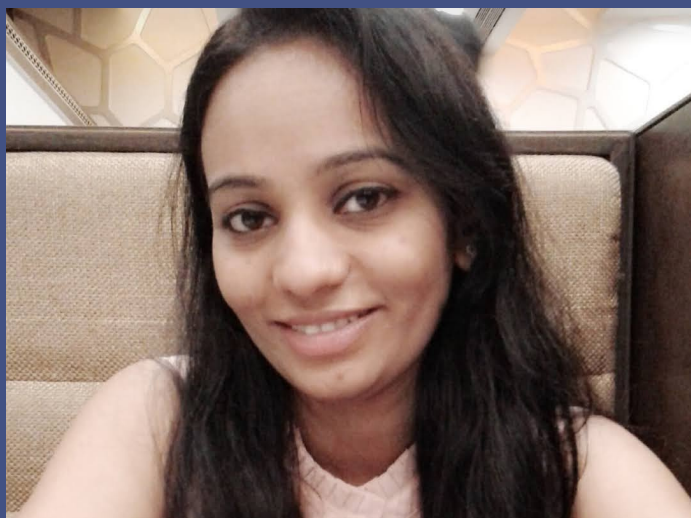


We scored a perfect 100%!

We are excited to mention that our students have done it once again - 100% placement record in just a few hours on the very first day!

Congratulations to all our students & a huge thank you to all our employer partners for helping to make this happen.

IN CONVERSATION WITH...



PRATIKSHA RAO

DEPUTY MANAGER, BIOCON

Recently, we started our series of alumni guest lectures to our students, and Pratiksha Rao was the first alumni from Biocon Academy who delivered a guest lecture to the students of Biosciences Batch 19. Being a Biosciences student, and having graduated from Biocon Academy, and recently being promoted as a Deputy Manager at Biocon, Pratiksha has an inspiring journey to talk

about. She is definitely an inspiration to many of the fresh minds.

In this conversation with Pratiksha Rao, we discuss about her journey after graduating at Biocon Academy and her experience teaching the students. Read on!

Q: From being a student at Biocon Academy to recently being promoted as a Deputy Manager at Biocon, can you briefly share your biotech journey with us?

Well, the biotech journey from being a student at Biocon Academy till now was full of different kinds of phases with its own twists and turns. Each phase was a different experience wherein I learnt many things and gained confidence and experience with each passing phase. Initially few phases of the journey as a student were the most difficult where we learned how the industry exposure was going to be and eventually when we landed there the journey took a different turn and then it was the phase where we had to apply what we learned. And eventually now is the phase wherein we share those learnings and experiences with other fellow

travelers to make their journey colorful. So, all in all, It helped me to be a better version of myself with each phase.

Q: Which program did you study at Biocon Academy and how did the entire Biocon Academy experience help you in your career?

I completed the Biocon KGI Certificate Program in Biosciences, and I could say it is a compact 4-month program wherein we are trained both theoretically as well as practically on different industrial concepts to make us industry ready. The course provides more of a practical and realistic picture of how the biotechnology industry works, what are the different roles each team plays in the industry and analyze our potentials to gauge which role we best fit in the industry. The initial grilling sessions helped us to be mentally strong enough to work under stress. So, all in all it's a great journey and learning experience to survive smoothly and at ease when we enter the industry.

Q: Can you share a few of your fondest memories as a Biocon Academy student?

There are many memories we must cherish on but to name a few, I could start with the presentation session which we had. There was one session on personal development where the presentations were not on technical subjects, but on personal development and those sessions were fun and real stress releasing sessions. Our team presented on things we should do once in a lifetime, and preparing for the presentation was a wonderful memory wherein we inspired the class to start working on to complete their bucket list and fall in love with their own life to make it more colorful. The traditional day we celebrated was another fond memory where we all were dressed in traditional wear and had real fun with all our online and offline mentors with light games and fun activities.

Q: Do you remember the placement drive? Can you share your experience with the placement drive? How were you prepared for the interviews? How many companies had come in?

The placement drive was the final phase of the journey at Biocon Academy. Our mentors had trained us very well both in terms of technical aspects and personality development and presentation aspects. These helped us to be at ease and face the interview with confidence putting

forward our thoughts in a very well-articulated way. Many companies including Biocon participated in the placement drive, and we had rounds of interviews in different departments of these companies. I remember each student had a chance to face atleast 3 interview sessions of different departments. It was probably the most stressful phase but all of us cleared with flying colours.

Q: You are the first Biocon Academy alumni to have delivered a guest lecture at Biocon Academy. How was the feeling of teaching Biocon Academy students?

It was a great experience because the very first thing that strikes me is few years back, I was one of them sitting on those same benches and listening to the class. Now I am on the other side sharing my learning, thoughts, and experiences. It was a very wonderful experience to interact with the fresh minds who were in their journey to be industry ready and start their next phase of life.

Q: Can you share few tips for our students of the current and future batches who are aiming at building their career in the biotech industry?

The only mantra is to keep learning. Never stop learning. Biotechnology is a small world and once we enter this, we meet many people and learn many things. Let this journey not stop. Don't hit stagnancy and let the learning phase continue even when you are working. Enjoy your work and automatically the journey will be beautiful 😊

Q: Having practical skills and being industry ready definitely adds in value in the biotech sector. Do you agree and if yes, why do you think it matters a lot in the industry?

Yes, it definitely helps. When we enter the industry with practical skills and being industry ready, it helps us as well as the industry where in they do not have to put in much efforts to make us realize how the industry works.

SHARE TO WIN

Share your experience with Biocon Academy on social media with hashtag #BioconAcademy & the best post gets a chance to win a gift voucher.

STUDENT BLOGS

'NEW START' TO STAY HEALTHY, EVERYDAY

by **Meera Anna Joseph**, Biocon Ramaiah Certificate Program in Quality Control Analytical – Batch 3

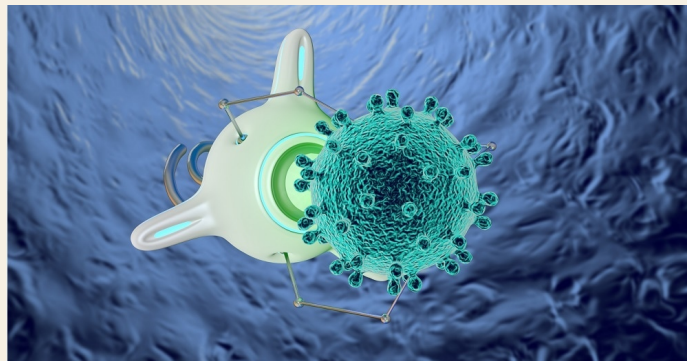


In this modern day and age even though the importance of good health is known to all, little effort is taken to care for oneself. When we say health, it's not only about physical wellbeing but also a state of mental soundness. This ongoing pandemic and being locked down at our homes has evoked an awareness in me about the importance of being totally in peace with my body and my mind and I think what we all need is a "NEW START", an old concept but worth rethinking. This might be a new term to some of you but let me take you through it step by step.

CONTINUE READING

THE LILLIPUTIAN AMONG MEDICINES DOES ABRACADABRA!

by **Sreelakshmi P J**, Biocon Ramaiah Certificate Program in Quality Control Analytical – Batch 3



The Lilliputian I mentioned here is the nanomaterials in modern medicine. They're indeed Lilliput as they exist in nanoscale i.e. 10^{-9} , in all the dimensions. The application of nanotechnology in medicine is termed nanomedicine and is proposed to be used in the diagnosis, control, prevention, and treatment of diseases. There were numerous controversies between various scientific and international regulatory corporations and efforts have been made to find a consensual definition because of the novel physicochemical properties of the nanomaterials as they're small in size.


CONTINUE READING

CULTURAL DAY CELEBRATIONS AT BIOCON ACADEMY

Biocon KGI Certificate Program in Biosciences - Batch 19
Biocon Ramaiah Certificate Program in Quality Control Analytical - Batch 3



Did You Know?



One quarter of your bones are in your feet.

There is enough DNA in the average's person's body to stretch from the Sun to Pluto and back - 17 times.

The average human body carries ten times more bacterial cells than human cells

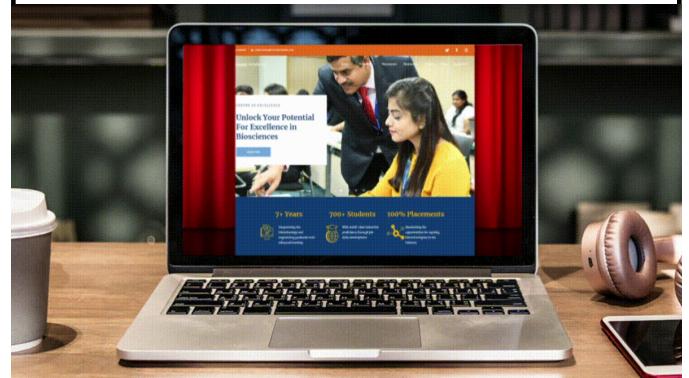
DNA can be used to store data just like your typical hard drives. Scientists have been able to store 700 terabytes in a single gram of DNA.

It may sound new or futuristic, but industrial biotechnology has been around since humans began mass producing beer 10,000 years ago. It was all made possible with a species of yeast called *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, which translates to "sugar fungi of beer", that is still used today.

All of your microbes combined weigh about as much as your brain: about three pounds.

The relation between your thumb and your nose is - the length of your thumb is equal to the length of your nose.

We are thrilled to launch our new website!



A makeover that's worth it



New Look and Feel



SEO Friendly



Better User Experience



Mobile Friendly



Blogs by Students & Experts



Chat Bot



Built-in Alumni Portal



Many More

We would love to hear your thoughts on the new website.

We are now on



clubhouse

BECOME A MEMBER

KEEP UP WITH BIOCON ACADEMY

For suggestions and feedback, please write to us at educonnect@bioconacademy.com

Know more about us: www.bioconacademy.com