

Report on Capacity-Building Workshop on e-Content Creation in the Sciences

ILLL

23 September 2016

A workshop on e-Content and Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) for Science faculty members of various Colleges of Delhi University was organized on Friday, 23.09.2016 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at Institute of Life Long Learning (ILLL). The workshop was attended by around 25 faculty members from various Science disciplines including Botany, Zoology, Physics, Life Sciences, etc.

The workshop started with a presentation by Prof. Shormishtha Panja, Director ILLL. In the presentation she introduced the participants to the work being done at ILLL, briefed them about the existing repository of e-content and MOOCs at ILLL and deliberated at length the scope and opportunities at ILLL. She invited the participants to be part of the ILLL team in creation of e-content and MOOCs in various Science courses under the newly introduced Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) of Delhi University. She also elaborated on the procedure for becoming an e-content creator and author at ILLL and the stringent review process including checking the entire content for plagiarism.

The second pre-tea session focused on the actualities of e-content creation. This session was jointly conducted by Dr. Aditya Saxena, Department of Physics, Central University of Haryana, formerly Fellow in Physics, ILLL and Dr. Rama Sisodia, Department of Botany, Maitreyi College, Delhi University, formerly Fellow in Botany, ILLL. This session started with a discussion by Dr. Aditya Saxena on what is e-content and how is it different from e-books and e-text. The participants were introduced to the dynamic nature of e-content and how use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools play a crucial role in providing the platform for developing e-content and MOOCs. Different types of e-content and their associated learning styles and outcomes were deliberated upon. The session was then taken up by Dr. Rama Sisodia who delved into the details of e-content creation, necessary components of e-content and the 4-quadrant approach to development of e-content. She took some real examples from the e-content repository of ILLL to illustrate the same. This was followed by an elaboration on key areas of concern in e-content creation like Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), Copyright and Plagiarism. She elaborated upon what constitutes plagiarism, what is infringement of IPR and copyright violation and what is permissible under the Copyright Act. The concept of Creative Commons (CC) license was introduced to the participants and the participants were briefed that all the e-content and MOOCs being developed by ILLL and under the various initiatives of MHRD are covered under the CC license. The participants were also briefed about the various types of CC licenses. The participants were then taken through a virtual tour and hands-on session of the e-content repository of ILLL.

The post tea session was taken up by Dr. Aditya Saxena who elaborated on the concept of MOOCs, various components of MOOCs and how MOOCs are developed. This was followed by a discussion on various MOOCs being run by the leading universities of the world, the Indian

context of MOOCs i.e. the SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds) platform. The initiatives of MHRD in this regard and the immense opportunities that exist in this little explored domain of content delivery and e-courses was deliberated upon. This was followed by a virtual tour of some MOOCs websites and the SWAYAM platform.

The workshop ended with a valedictory address by Prof. Shormishtha Panja, Director ILLL and the distribution of certificates to the participants by Prof. Shormishtha Panja and Dr. Amrit Kaur Basra, Academic Secretary, ILLL. The workshop was followed by lunch for all participants and resource persons.

Dr. Aditya Saxena
Department of Physics
Central University of Haryana