

National Conference on Microbiome-The story Untold!

Date: 07th - 8th Jan, 2022

The National conference 'Microbiome-The story Untold!' was organised in collaboration with Mycological Society of India, Mumbai unit on 7th and 8th January, 2022, to explore the world of microbiome. Department of Biotechnology and Microbiology, Biochemistry, Human science, Botany and Interdisciplinary Science were the host departments.

Day 1 commenced at 10am. The morning session was hosted by Ms. Meetali Chinnkar, Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry. As per the Indian tradition, the conference was inaugurated by lighting the lamp and Saraswati Vandana. Convener of the conference, Dr. Moses Kolet formally welcomed the guests and participants for the Two-day National conference. Organising Secretary, Dr. Jayashree Pawar gave a glimpse of all the activities conducted prior to the Conference. She apprised the audience about the logo competition, poster competition and the two pre-conference workshops conducted by the Department of Biotechnology and Microbiology for acquainting the students to the subject of Microbiome. The proceedings of the conference was officially inaugurated by Dr. Yogesh Shouche.

Keynote speaker of the conference was Dr. Yogesh Shouche, Emeritus scientist NCCS, Pune. He gave insights on the Indian perspective of human Microbiome. He demonstrated how the microbiome diversity varies with diet, age, gender and the shift in Firmicutes/ Bacteroidetes ratio with age, through the comparative studies conducted by his team. He touched upon various aspects of microbiome, and its association with human health suggesting that gut microbiome can be manipulated by changing the diet pattern which in turn may influence the disease condition.

Session II was conducted by Dr. Ashwin Kotnis, Associate professor, Department of Biochemistry, AIIMS, Bhopal. He emphasised on how microbial dysbiosis is responsible for ageing, and wound healing. He discussed the significance of skin microbiome in different dermatological disorders like vitiligo, atopic dermatitis and psoriasis.

Session III was conducted by Dr. Naveen Arora from Department of Environmental Science, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow. He demonstrated the role of plant growth promoting Rhizobacteria (PGPRs) in plant growth and management of phytopathogens and plant disease. He presented several studies showing application of PGPR in bioremediation of saline soils in UP. This concluded the morning session.

The afternoon session was hosted by Ms. Rucha Khadke, Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry. The first talk which commenced at 2:30 pm and was delivered by Mr. Vishnu Prassodanan PK, a research scholar working under the guidance of Dr. Vineet Sharma. His study revealed the landscape of *Prevotella* species composition in the human gut microbiome and its impact on health in western and non-western population.

The last session of the day was conducted by Dr. Anil Kumar from Gene regulation laboratory, NII. His talk emphasized on the application of microbiome derived metabolites in prognosis and diagnosis of diseases. He also presented the work done in his lab for developing electrochemical/

optical sensor to detect a microbiota- derived metabolite TMAO (Trimethylamine N-oxide) which has been implicated as a biomarker in several types of cancers.

Each of the speakers were introduced by students. The conference was attended by 142 participants including students, faculty of the college, research scholars and delegates from other institutions. Every talk was followed by an elaborate question & answer session. The day 1 received enthusiastic response from the participants.

On 8th January 2022, morning session started with a short video of selected posters which were presented on 9th December 2021, as a part of poster presentation competition. Session moved ahead with oral presentations. There were three oral presentations in this session.

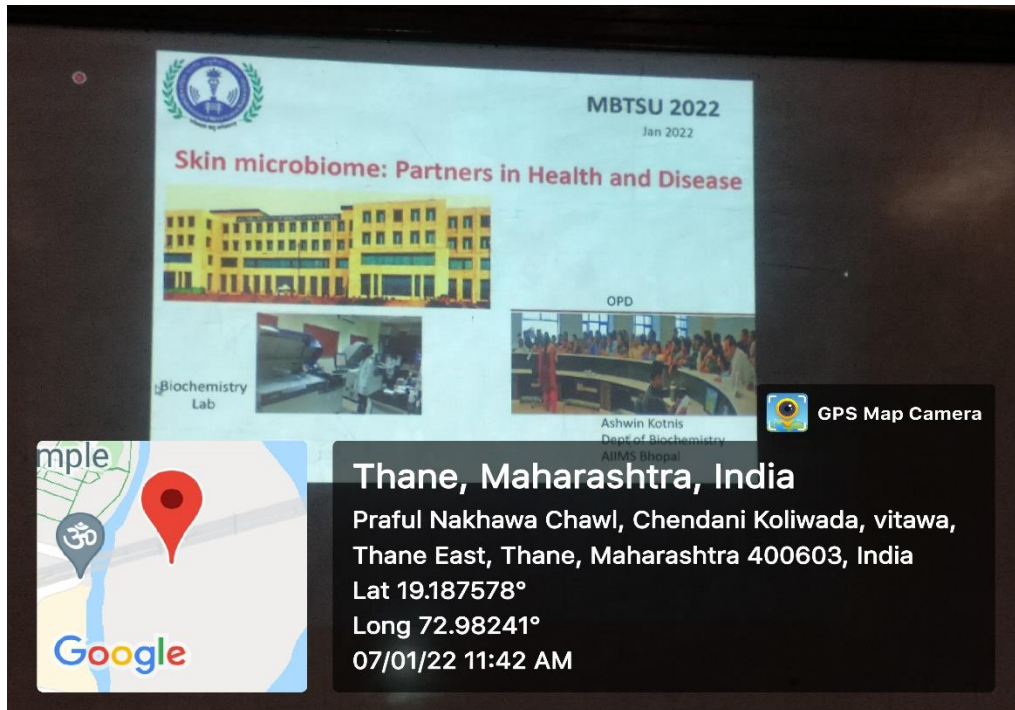
It was then followed by a talk- delivered by Dr. Shilpa Verekar; HOD, CQA, Laboratory Parle Agro Pvt. Ltd. Her topic of presentation was “Mycoflora of keratin enriched soil”. She explained about distribution of keratinophilic fungi in Indian soil, Characterization of fungi, Screening of fungi for bioactive metabolites. The lecture was full of knowledge and she answered all the questions of students by giving examples of day-to-day life.

In afternoon session, remaining three oral presentations were conducted followed by valedictory Function. The oral presentations of both the sessions were Judged by Dr. Ashwin Kotnis Associate Professor, Dept. of Biochemistry, AIIMS Bhopal and Dr. Lolly Jain Vice principal, K.J. Somaiya College of Science and commerce, Vidyavihar Mumbai. After presentations were over, both the judges guided them for better presentation in future.

The valedictory session of the Conference was delivered by Eminent Speaker Dr. Hemant Purohit former Head, Environmental Biotechnology, Genomics Division, NEERI, CSIR (Nagpur). His topic of presentation was “Microbiome: An unexpected wealth”. He talked on Metagenomics approach, Exploration of microbial diversity and its utilization in different domains of human welfare during his lecture. His lecture ended with an extensive question answer session.

In the valedictory session, results for best poster and Oral presentations were announced. A wonderful presentation was made to make the gathering know these winners. Participants were then requested for their verbal feedback about the two days of the conference. The feedback was given by Dr. (Mr.) Ramjan Mulani and Dr. Damle (former Head of Microbiology Department, Somaiya college). Mr. Ashwin das (student of second year) also shared his experience during feedback session. In the concluding speech Dr. Moses Kolet, Principal and Convener of the conference, expressed his gratitude for all those who made the event successful. Following the standard protocol of the college, he also announced the next conference -that is going to get hosted by Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Total 89 feedbacks were received from participants through Google form.

Finally, the conference was concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. (Mrs.) Kalpita Mulye, Organizing Secretary, Coordinator Department of Microbiology, followed by invoking Pasaydan.



MBTSU 2022
Jan 2022

Skin microbiome: Partners in Health and Disease

Biochemistry Lab

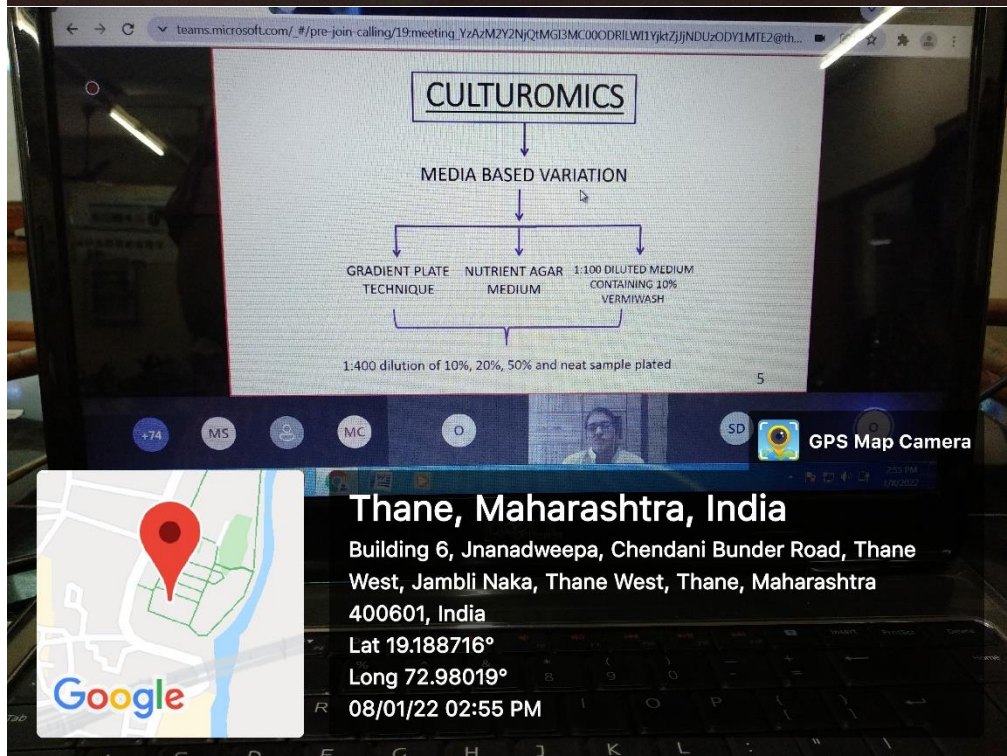
OPD

Ashwin Kotnis
Dept of Biochemistry
AIIMS Bhopal

GPS Map Camera

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Thane East, Thane, Maharashtra 400603, India
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CULTUROMICS

MEDIA BASED VARIATION

GRADIENT PLATE TECHNIQUE

NUTRIENT AGAR MEDIUM

1:100 DILUTED MEDIUM CONTAINING 10% VERMIWASH

1:400 dilution of 10%, 20%, 50% and neat sample plated

5

GPS Map Camera

Thane, Maharashtra, India
Building 6, Jnanadweepa, Chendani Bunder Road, Thane
West, Jambli Naka, Thane West, Thane, Maharashtra
400601, India
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Long 72.98019°
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Participants from all over Maharashtra, VPM's B. N. Bandodkar College of Science Autonomous), Thane; MIT ADT University, Pune; R.J. College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Mumbai; R K Talreja College, Ulhasnagar; K.M.E.Society's G.M.Momin Women's College, Bhivandi; Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded; School of Life Sciences, Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded attended the conference. The participants gave feedback on five-point scale (1: Satisfactory & 5: Excellent) along with highly encouraging comments.

