

### **Report on World Fungus Day**

The School of Earth, Ocean & Atmospheric Sciences (SEOAS) celebrated World Fungus Day on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022. Two invited talks and one quiz competition was organized for the students interested in Mycology. There were in total 32 registered participants out of which three were from outside Goa University, one from Late Baliram Kashyap Memorial Government Medical College, Jagdalpur Chhattisgarh, second from Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, and third from Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science but since the event was offline in nature, the three candidates could not attend. Overall, 22 students participated in the event, 19 students of M.Sc. Marine Microbiology from SEOAS and 3 students of M.Sc. Microbiology from School of Biological Sciences & Biotechnology.



**Participant students of SEOAS and SBSB, and faculty of Marine Microbiology Programme, SEOAS**

The Dean of SEOAS, Prof. C. U. Rivonker welcomed the guests and Dr. Varada S. Damare introduced the guest speakers. The first talk was delivered by Dr. Seshagiri Raghukumar, Retd. Scientist from CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography, Managing Director – Myko tech Pvt. Ltd. and Chief Scientific Officer – Avisa Myko, Inc. He spoke on ‘Marine Mycology’ wherein he enlightened the students on evolution of marine fungi, the different types of fungi, their associations with decomposing wood, mangroves in coastal environment, symbiosis and pathogens, their various marine habitats and adaptations, and finally their biotechnological importance.



Dr. S. Raghukumar delivering invited talk



**Dr. S. Raghukumar delivering invited talk**



**Audience during the lecture**

The second lecture was delivered by guest speaker, Dr. Samir Damare, Principal Scientist, CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography. He spoke on 'Deep Sea Fungi' wherein he introduced the students to the world of deep dark ocean and adaptations of fungi in that environment, history of marine fungal research, the instrumentation required to collect samples from the deep sea for isolation of fungi, various techniques to study the diversity of marine fungi in the deep-sea sediments, high pressure cultivation of fungi and proteomic studies. Dr. Nikita Lotlikar proposed a vote of thanks to both the speakers.



Dr. Samir Damare delivering invited talk



After the two invited lectures, there was quiz competition on 'mycology'. Four teams with three participants in each participated in the competition which comprised of three rounds. The first place was secured by the team of Anushka Kaskar, Harshad Binnar and Sonali Phadte. The second place was secured by the team of Anshavi Deshprabhu, Janica Sequeira and Shreya Bagkar. The third place was secured by the team of Aniket Singh, Amulya K.B. and Kumari Riya. Prizes were distributed to the winners.





**Dr. Varada S. Damare with volunteers Ruta, Pamila and Samixa during the quiz**



**Dr. Priya D'Costa giving prizes to first place winners Sonali, Anushka and Harshad**

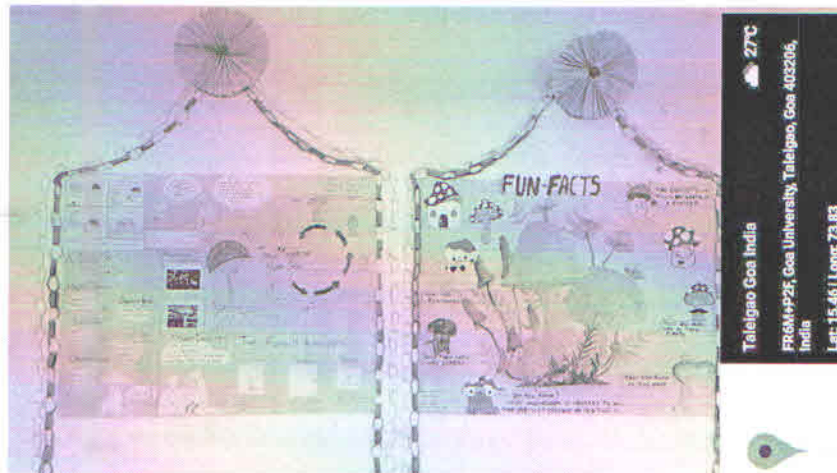


**Dr. Chanda Berde giving prizes to second place winners Janica, Anshavi and Shreya**



**Dr. Sangeeta Naik giving prizes to third place winners Aniket, Riya and Amulya**

Two groups of students prepared posters on mycology that were displayed at the venue. These two groups were (1) Nidhi Kambli, Afsha Memon, Anushka Shinde, Nitish Gaonker and Sumeedha Harmalkar, and (2) Aarti Satuse and Aditi Palyekar.



*Varada*

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10.10.21

Prof. C. U. Rivonker  
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