BioSpect
the business of Bi
24 years of leveraging the business of Bio
www.biospectrumindia.co

Carving a niche in biotech

12 March 2013 | Features | By BioSpectrum Bureau

Carving a niche in biotech

Biotech Private Schools No 9

Founded in 2002, the biotechnology department at Jaypee Institute of Information Technology (JIIT), Noida offers four-year BTech, a dual degree five-year BTech-MTech and PhD programs in biotechnology. In the academic year 2011-12, a total of 90 students were admitted in BTech/ Dual degree BTech-MTech programs.

Multi-disciplinary curricula and research informed teaching provide foundation from which students can understand and exploit the potential of biotechnology. According to the institute, a significant number of students have secured positions in graduate schools for MS and PhD at universities of international and national repute such as John Hopkins, Georgia Tech, Keck Graduate Institute, University of Pennsylvania, Max Planck Institute, Ludwigs Maxmillan University, IITs, National Institute of Immunology (NII), Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), and National Brain Research Centre (NBRC), to name a few. The department has benefited from an open-ended budget policy resulting in the provision of state-of-the-art research facilities.

A balanced mix of faculty drawn from both academia and industry with rich R&D exposure both in India and abroad contributes to the department's academic excellence. The faculty research efforts in subject areas of functional genomics, microbial biotechnology, bioremediation, molecular mechanisms of therapeutic properties of Indian medicinal plants, and nanotechnology applications has resulted in research grants totalling approximately Rs 2.12 crore in the past three years from the government funding agencies such as Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Department of Science and Technology (DST), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), and AYUSH (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare).

Jaypee has formed strategic collaborations with researchers from national and international universities namely University of Delhi South Campus (UDSC), The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), and Newcastle University for sharing specialized expertise and reagents, while consolidating research efforts reflected in the establishment of a Centre for Emerging Diseases, with a substantial increase in the intake of PhD research scholars.

Â

The research output has been disseminated through 181 research publications in peer reviewed international journals and 38 in national journals, along with presentation at conferences. The department estimates the total capital expenditure on cost of consumables and subscribing biotech related books and journals has doubled in the past year.

The department recently in association with Scientity, UK organized an international conference on "Bioproducts from Natural Sources" as a part of the biotechnology conference series. The faculty at the department is involved in various research activities. It received a grant of Rs 30 lakh from DBT to concentrate on various projects. The department has also tied up with New Castle University to exchange knowledge in research and education for the benefit of the student community.