

## Report of ILLL Workshops January-February 2016

### English

The Institute of Life Long Learning organized a capacity building workshop in English on 25<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2016. It was attended by 36 teachers and 33 students from various Delhi University colleges. The workshop began with the ILLL Director, Prof. Panja's address to the participants. She informed them about the initiatives taken by the ILLL in the field of e-learning and the ongoing projects, such as, the MOOC project. This was followed by a subject specific presentation by Ms. Manila Kohli, Fellow in English. This presentation focused on the variety of e-resources available in the discipline of English, the interactive nature of e-lessons created at the ILLL, and other material available, such as video lectures, performances and panel discussions. Samples from some of the recently uploaded units were also shown. The participants were given about half an hour to explore the vle site (vle.du.ac.in) and also give their feedback about the content uploaded and how it can be improved.

### Suggestions

The students were quite satisfied with the site in terms of access and with the uploaded material in terms of range as well as quality. Most of the participants asked for a column where the users can give their feedback and authors can respond to the queries and suggestions. The need for more images and videos was also felt. It was suggested that each unit could include links to other writers of that period for a more comprehensive understanding. An excellent suggestion was that wherever possible, the units could also be discussed in terms of any particular significance they may have vis a vis the Indian context. Some students pointed out that a list of questions at the end of each unit would also be helpful.

A group of 3 teachers and 3 students also created a mock unit on *Macbeth* following the pattern on which e-lessons are developed and the same was discussed, with other teachers and students offering their ideas about what could be added to enrich the proposed e-lesson. For instance, it was suggested that the unit should mention and provide links to various Indian theatre and cinematic adaptations of *Macbeth*, such as the film, *Maqbool*.

The workshop ended with the distribution of participation certificates to the students as well as the teachers who attended the workshop.

*Ms. Manila Kohli, Fellow*

## **Political Science**

The Institute of Lifelong Learning, University of Delhi organized a capacity building workshop in Political Science on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2016. The workshop aimed at disseminating the information related to the resources already being generated at the ILLL among the teacher-student fraternity, so as spreading the network for further projects. It was attended by 33 teachers and 33 students from various colleges. The workshop started with the welcome note by Dr. Shagufta, fellow in Political Science, followed by an informative address to the participants by the ILLL Director, Prof. Shormishtha Panja. She informed them about the Institute, its staff and the valuable resources being generated in different disciplines, so as the efforts toward democratization of the learning process through various ongoing and upcoming projects such as MOOCS at ILLL.

Next in line was the presentation by Mr. Vyas on the component of ICT in educational resources along with the explanation towards the content creation for the virtual learning environment at ILLL.

This followed by a subject based presentation by Dr. Shagufta, navigating the participants toward the ILLL web portal, vle.du.ac.in, informing them about various multimedia enriched components of the e-content available. This also included showing some of the samples of the recently uploaded units. The participants were given about half an hour to explore the vle.du.ac.in site and the teachers were asked to develop a framework for a mock unit. They were provided with a plain text along the lines of the existing units and were asked to prepare on the lines of a standard e-chapter which was uniquely finished by all the three groups.

### ***SUGGESTIONS:***

The participants were also asked to give their feedback about the content uploaded and how it can be improved. There was a general satisfaction in terms of access and navigation to the uploaded material of the website. They requested for wider dissemination and awareness of the ILLL initiative among the teacher and student fraternity by the medium of workshops. Most of the participants appreciated the ILLL efforts towards the enrichment of learning material in both mediums for a popular course like political science and urged to speed up the rest of the syllabi in Hindi medium. Students also suggested for a mobile application for the wider reach, so as one suggestion came in for improving it technically for the visually impaired people. Most of the participants suggested to have one feedback column in the chapter itself for

queries and suggestions. They also wished to get student involvement at some level of e-content creation so as to take care of the specific needs as well.

The workshop ended with a vote of thanks.

*Dr. Shagufta, Fellow*

## **Mathematics**

The Institute of Life Long Learning, University of Delhi, organized a capacity-building workshop in Mathematics on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2016. 35 teachers and 39 students from various colleges of University of Delhi attended the workshop. The workshop began with the welcome address by Dr. Varinder Kumar, Fellow in Mathematics and then ILLL Director, Prof. Shormishtha Panja's address to the participants. She informed them about the initiatives taken by the ILLL in the field of e-learning and the ongoing projects, such as, NME and the MOOC project. It was followed by the presentation of Mr. R.K. Vyas who told the audience about the technical aspects of virtual learning. After this, there was a subject-specific presentation by Dr. Varinder Kumar in which he informed the audience about the variety of e-resources available in the discipline of Mathematics like video lectures, performances and panel discussions and showed samples from some of the recently uploaded units. He also informed them about the work that is going to be started in near future and asked for their cooperation in the same. Then, Dr. Purnima Gupta, Advisor in Mathematics, addressed the gathering which was followed by a small tea break.

After the tea break, the students were given about 45 minutes to explore the vle site (vle.du.ac.in). They were also asked to give their feedback about the content uploaded and how it can be improved. The students were quite satisfied with the site in terms of access and with the uploaded material in terms of quality. They appreciated the efforts of ILLL in developing this content and conducting this workshop for creating awareness among them. Most of the participants asked for a column where the users can give their feedback and authors can respond to the queries and suggestions.

One very pertinent suggestion was that the website should be made mobile friendly. Also, one student pointed out that it would be more beneficial if we can make a mobile application (app) of vle, while some students asked for involvement of students in some form or the other. Some of the students also suggested that interactive sessions with the authors can be conducted to gain more insight into the topic.

The teachers were asked to develop a framework for a mock unit along the lines of the existing units on the site. They were also asked to give their feedback about the content uploaded and how it can be improved. The need for more use of multimedia, images and videos was also felt.

The workshop ended with a vote of thanks.

*Dr. Varinder Kumar, Fellow*

## **History**

A Capacity building workshop in History was held at the Institute of Lifelong Learning on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016 from 10.00 a.m. onwards. It was attended by thirty faculty members and thirty-three students from various colleges of the University of Delhi. The workshop began with a welcome note by Dr. Amrit Kaur Basra, Academic Secretary, ILLL and convener of the workshop. She introduced Professor Shormishtha Panja, Director, and ILLL to the participants. In her address, Professor Panja mapped the academic and administrative profile of the Institute. There was focus on uploaded e-material on the website and ongoing projects of ILLL. She familiarized the participants with MOOCs and invited academics to join in the work of ILLL. Her address was followed by power-point presentation by Mr. Vyas, ICT, Coordinator. He showcased the process that lead to creation and uploading of e-content on the website of ILLL. The profile of the vle.du.ac.in site was shared with the participants.

This was followed by deliberations on the nature of e-content prepared and uploaded by vle.du.ac.in in the discipline of History. Dr. Amrit Kaur Basra also shed light on the ongoing DU-History Project and noted that under it, the Archives at the Vice Regal Lodge have been organized with the help of student interns. She also focused on History material prepared in Hindi. It was emphasized that quality material in English has been translated. Alongside, original material in Hindi was also prepared in the discipline of History. She also invited Dr. Vasudha Pande, Associate Professor in History from Lady Shri Ram College and Dr. Richa Raj, Assistant Professor from Jesus and Mary College to share their experiences revolving around preparation of e-content for ILLL. Thereafter, tea-break was given.

In the post-tea session, students and teachers were divided into two groups. The students got hands-on experience in the Cyber Lab where they searched course material at vle.du.ac.in. After an interactive session on the preparation of MOOCs, teachers were divided into various groups to prepare course content for MOOCs in the discipline of

history. The resultant discussions resulted in outlining of several topics for preparation of MOOCs.

An important feature of the workshop was to elicit responses of participants through feedback forms. The majority of students appreciated the uploaded e-content and showed their familiarity with the website of ILL. Many suggested uploading of material on European history. More material in Hindi Medium was desired. The responses of teachers also showed their appreciation of work undertaken at the ILL and many showed their willingness to write for the ILL.

*Dr. Amrit Kaur Basra, Fellow & Academic Secretary*

## **Hindi**

The Institute of lifelong learning, University of Delhi organized a capacity- building workshop in Hindi on 2nd February 2016. The workshop aimed at disseminating the information related to the resources already being generated at ILL among the teacher -student fraternity, so as to spread the network for further projects. It was attended by 34 teachers and 25 students from various colleges. The workshop started with the welcome note by Dr. Rasal Singh, formerly Fellow in Hindi and presently Assistant Professor in Hindi, Kirori Mal College, University of Delhi. This was followed by an address by Prof. Shormishtha Panja, Director ILL. It was followed by a presentation by Mr. R. K. Vyas on the usage of ICT in educational resources.

A subject-based presentation by Dr. Rasal Singh navigated the participants towards the ILL web portal, vle.du.ac.in and also informed them about various multimedia-enriched components of the e-content available. This also included showing some samples of the recently uploaded units. The participants were given about half an hour to explore the vle site and the teachers were asked to develop a framework for a mock unit. They were provided with a plain text along the lines of the existing units and were asked to prepare on the lines of a standard e-chapter.

Dr. D. A. P. Sharma, Dr. Vijaya Sati, Dr. Harjendra Chaudhary, Dr. Vibhash Chandra Verma and Dr. Neelam Rishikalp also shared their views on importance and relevance of e-content in the era of ICT.

## **SUGGESTIONS**

1. A wider dissemination and awareness of the ILL initiative among the teachers and student fraternity by the medium of workshops; visibility through college websites and prospectus.

2. Need of a mobile application for the wider, easy and optimum accessibility.
  3. Uploading of video lectures as a tool for easy and impactful refresher and revision.
- The workshop ended with a vote of thanks.

*Dr. Rasal Singh, Former Fellow*

## **Commerce**

An **E-Content and Capacity Building Workshop in Commerce** was organized at the Institute of Lifelong Learning, University of Delhi on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2016 as a part of the series of workshops organized for E-content and Capacity Building in different subjects. This pioneering series of workshops was conceived by Professor Shormishtha Panja, the Director of ILLL, to propagate the e-resources developed at ILLL among the students and faculty of Delhi University. This innovative initiative was launched on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2016. The workshop in Commerce was attended by 30 faculty and 25 students from various colleges of the University of Delhi and Jamia Millia Islamia University.

Dr. Gurmeet Kaur, Fellow in Commerce set the ball rolling by warmly welcoming the participants and appreciated the overwhelming response of the Commerce faculty to the workshop. This was followed by a presentation by Prof. Shormishtha Panja who enlightened the participants about the resources, infrastructure, and the staff available at ILLL. She initially provided overarching mission objectives and briefed regarding the various initiatives taken under her guidance and leadership in the field of e-learning and the projects allocated to the institute by the Ministry of Human Resource Development such as, NME-ICT, DU and the MHRD SWAYAM MOOC project. She apprised the audience as to how e-lessons could supplement and complement instead of substitute the conventional class-room teaching. Her plenary address was followed by a thought provoking presentation by Mr. R.K. Vyas, the ICT Coordinator, ILLL who also elucidated the processes, facilities and e-resources available at this premier institute. He stressed the need for propagating the virtual and e-learning environment in the DU colleges and how the e-resources could augment the traditional teaching/learning tools. He enthralled the audience by taking the audience on an incredible journey through the virtual learning environment.

Subsequently, a subject specific, vivid, detailed and thorough presentation made by Dr. Gurmeet Kaur which was basically aimed at creating awareness about the existing voluminous e-content available in Commerce at the institute. She portrayed an exhaustive run through the web-portal **vle.du.ac.in** highlighting the categorization of the e-resources into Undergraduate, Old Undergraduate, NME-ICT Programme and e-quizzes. The participants were introduced to the various formats in which e-lessons were available in the discipline of Commerce, viz., video lectures, PDF, interactive and

'print entire course'. Further, a few samples of the recently uploaded e-lessons were displayed. Dr. Kaur also emphasized the extent to which the effectiveness of an e-lesson can be enhanced by using **Value-Additions** such as Animation, Interactive Quizzes and Videos besides Flow-Charts, Diagrams, Case-Studies, Historical Facts, Graphs, Maps, Images, etc. The audience was enlightened about the serious infringements of copyrights and plagiarism checking mechanism adopted at the ILLL and the template for e-lesson used to ensure uniformity as well as comprehensiveness of the e-lessons developed at the institute. She also informed the august audience about the unique ISSN and ISBN number assigned to the e-lessons developed so far.

The workshop was made interesting by hands-on experience sharing by her worthy predecessors; Ms. Romila Aggarwal, Ms. Nishtha Bhushan, and authors; Dr. Poonam, Dr. Vibhash Kumar to share their valuable experiences with the audience. The students were extremely enthusiastic about the various facets of this novel process of virtual learning. However, most of them admitted to having limited knowledge of these resources hitherto. The presentation was followed by a short tea break.

After the tea break, the participating students were provided a hands-on experience of the website: [www.vle.du.ac.in](http://www.vle.du.ac.in) to explore the e-resources available in commerce. The students acknowledged being satisfied with the site in terms of content, depth, quality, access and navigation. They also appreciated the uploaded e-resources for being specific and comprehensive enough to meet the exacting standards and requirements of the syllabus of the University of Delhi. They were highly appreciative of the endeavour by the Institute in developing the syllabus centric content and providing it *gratis*, especially to the students who cannot afford expensive books. They were also delighted that the password free access enabled them to use the resources anywhere anytime even on their smart phones. The hands-on experience of the website was then followed by filling of the feedback form. By and large, they were extremely grateful for timely conduct of this workshop for creating awareness about the available e-resources.

#### **Suggestions by the Students:**

- A Blog should be created for interaction with the subject experts
- Sample Question papers should also be provided for the various papers for practice
- Update the paper on Corporate Laws according to the Companies Act 2013
- Create more awareness among students by organizing extensive workshops and holding competitions on e-lessons, displaying posters on the e-content and virtual learning, etc. at the college level

For the participating faculty, post-tea, a session different from the students was organized where a brainstorming was done to gather their suggestions on the existing work at ILL. With specific intent and focus to identify authors for the e-content to be developed in future and to promote the e-resources at ILL, the faculty was further informed by Dr. Kaur about the upcoming **MOOC Project in Commerce** and the **e-lessons** to be compiled in the near future. The faculty was quite enthused and they expressed their willingness to participate in the development of MOOC courses in Commerce. They were eager to associate with ILL for the development of e-content. They appreciated the learner friendly content available on the **vle** website. The teachers were given an exercise to develop a framework for a mock e-lesson on any one of the topics viz., **Start-Up India, Make in India, Skill India, and Gold Monetization Scheme**. Finally, they were asked to validate the findings of the workshop through filling up of the feedback forms regarding the content uploaded, suggestions for its propagation and its improvement, further if they were interested in developing content in Commerce, they were to declare their area of interest.

#### **Suggestions by the Faculty:**

- Such Capacity Building Workshops should be conducted in the colleges for stimulating awareness about the e-resources available at the ILL
- Teachers interested in developing MOOCs suggested workshop to be organized in the same
- More video lectures should be developed
- E-journal should be launched
- Contents should be downloadable in the mobile phones and tablets for more effective use by the faculty
- The syllabi prescribed by the university should include the **vle** web links in the references
- Create a virtual group where the faculty and students could interact regularly
- Search option should be embedded in the website for searching content available on a specific term/topic

The workshop was a collective creative learning experience for both the participants and the organizers. It culminated with the distribution of participation certificates, a vote of thanks and a group photograph of the participants with the organisers.

*Dr. Gurmeet Kaur, Fellow*

## **Computer Science**

The Institute of Lifelong Learning, University of Delhi organized a capacity building workshop in Computer Science on 4<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2016. The workshop was aimed at disseminating the information related to the resources already being generated and new initiatives to be taken at ILLL, among the teacher and student fraternity, for active participation by them. It was attended by 24 teachers and 15 students of Computer Science from various colleges, at the outset Mr. R.K. Vyas welcomed the participants, then Prof. Shormishtha Panja Director, ILLL gave an informative address to the participants. She informed them about the Institute, its staff and the valuable resources being generated in different disciplines, she also laid emphasis on efforts toward democratization of the learning process through various projects at ILLL.

Mr. R. K. Vyas presented the component of ICT in educational resources along with the explanation towards the content creation for the virtual learning environment at ILLL. He also gave subject specific presentation on computer science, navigating the participants through the ILLL portal [vle.du.ac.in](http://vle.du.ac.in), informing them about various multimedia enriched components of the e-content available. This included showing some of the samples of the recently uploaded units. The participants were given chance to explore the portal [vle.du.ac.in](http://vle.du.ac.in). The faculty members discussed future upgrade in the e-contents on the portal and formed groups on specific papers to develop e-contents. The same will be communicated to the Coordinator by mail.

The participants were also asked to give their feedback about the content uploaded and how it can be improved. There was a general satisfaction in terms of access and navigation for the uploaded material on the website. They requested for wider dissemination and awareness of the ILLL initiative among the teacher and student fraternity by the medium of workshops. Most of the participants appreciated the ILLL efforts towards the enrichment of learning material. Students also suggested an 'app' for wider reach. Many teachers have shown their interest in development of e-content and they were keen to participate in the MOOC project also.

The workshop ended with distribution of certificates by Director, ILLL and a vote of thanks to the participants.

*Mr. R. K. Vyas, ICT Co-ordinator*