



Capacity Building for Social Work Students



Riya Shaji Mathew

The Department of Social Work, organized a two-day workshop on “Capacity-Building for Social Work Students” on the 25th and 26th of March, 2024, to make the students aware of building their competencies, to deliver effective and efficient services as professionals. The esteemed resource persons for this workshop were, Dr. A. J. Christopher, a renowned Social Work Educator, Professor and HoD

(Retd), Department of Social Work, Sacred Heart College; and Dr. Jenis Mary, Vice-Principal and Director, Centre for International Academic Network (CIAN), School of Social Work, Roshni Nilaya. Day 1 sessions were taken by Dr. Jenis Mary, and Day 2 sessions were taken by Dr. A. J. Christopher. Dr. Jenis took all the sessions, focusing on skills of developing interpersonal and intra-personal relationship, rapport-building, decision-making,

pro prowess, creative thinking, problem-analysis tree, goal-setting, SMART goals etc, and infusing fun grounding techniques between the sessions, to keep the students engaged. Dr. A. J. Christopher took all the sessions of Day 2 and focused on personal skill analysis, Community development and organization, understanding the community dynamics, three levels of social consciousness, three levels to understand a problem, three levels to ensure

development of a community etc. Overall, the workshop highlighted the various soft skills, and life skills, Social Work professionals are to be equipped with in order to navigate change, respond to emerging issues and remain relevant in addressing the needs of their target communities, in an efficient manner. The participants gained great insights on the importance of building their competencies and skills to be a better professional in the field.

Enhancing Quality of Life: The Role of Medical Social Workers in Oncological Settings

Larisha Wahlang

During the alumni interaction, Ms. Melitta Rebekah George (2020-2022), Executive- Medical Social worker Hematology and Bone Marrow Transplant HCG Comprehensive Cancer Care Hospital pointed out the crucial role of Medical Social Workers in oncology settings, focusing on their comprehensive support for cancer patients. She stressed that MSWs offer counseling, emotional support, and practical assistance to help patients cope with cancer's challenges. Further, she explained that they conduct psychosocial assessments to identify patients' needs and connect them with resources like housing, transportation, and financial aid.

Ms. Melitta also highlighted MSWs' advocacy for patients' rights and preferences, ensuring a patient-centered approach with the healthcare team. She also mentioned how MSWs organize training and support groups to empower patients and improve coping skills.



Through their dedication, MSWs significantly enhance the overall well-being and quality of life for cancer patients and families. Additionally, Ms. Melitta discussed the positive outcomes of such programs for students, including increased awareness of oncology social work, improved understanding of patient needs, and enhanced skills in providing holistic care.

The Essential Role of Social Workers in Child Recovery

Keren Mary Jose

On 13th March, 2024, the Department of Social work, Kristu Jayanti College, hosted an interaction session as part of the Alumni Interaction Series focusing on the crucial role of social workers in child recovery. During the session, Ms. Arya. S, who is currently the Program Manager at 'The Refuge Foundation Bangalore,' provided valuable insights into the multifaceted responsibilities of social workers in aiding the recovery of children from

various forms of adversity such as abuse, neglect, and trauma. Ms. Arya shared her real-life experiences regarding the challenges and rewards of working in this demanding yet rewarding field. She highlighted the need for empathy, cultural sensitivity, and collaboration with other stakeholders such as government agencies, NGOs, and community members to create effective intervention strategies. Moreover, she reflected on her own



journey as a social work student, recounting the enriching experiences and learning opportunities she encountered during her academic tenure. Overall, the alumni interaction session served as a source of inspiration

for students aspiring to pursue a career in social work. It underscored the profound impact that dedicated professionals can have in transforming the lives of vulnerable children and families.



Exploring the depth of social science through statistic

Kanchan Kumari

Data analysis is the methodical examination of empirical data to identify trends, patterns, and connections in society institutions and human behaviour. It involves use of statistical methods such as regression analysis and hypothesis testing, to extract insights from a variety of datasets. For students starting their dissertation journey, data analysis is a crucial component, realising this a session was arranged where, Dr Vinod Balakrishnan from statistics department, Kristu Jayanti College explained the many kinds of research procedures and helped students understand how to frame questionnaires. Students were introduced to the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), a potent data analysis tool,

and helped to understand the relevance of structured data. He also demonstrated effective data coding techniques. Additionally, Professor Vinod clarified the significance of tabulating data, highlighting the use of tables in concisely presenting study findings. In addition to teaching students' technical skills, Professor Vinod stressed the value of methodological rigor and integrity preservation throughout the study process. With adherence to ethical principles and data accuracy, students can generate dissertations of superior quality that make significant contributions to their respective disciplines. The session provided the fundamental information and useful abilities to students needed to

successfully complete their dissertations. Beyond merely dispensing information, the workshop promoted a cooperative learning atmosphere where students could interact with one another and seek

advice from knowledgeable staff members. Through engaging discussions and practical exercises, students gained a greater understanding of the subtleties involved in data analysis.

Alumni Perspectives on the Shift from Campus to Corporate

Kanchan Kumari

As part of alumni interaction series, Ms. Anashwara (2020 – 2022 Batch), HR Analyst, Atkins Re`alis was invited to address 2nd MSW students on the topic campus to corporate to help the final year students get ready for the corporate life. The session highlighted on the various skills that is required for corporate life. It included maintaining professional relationships at work, voicing our thoughts at right time, emotional intelligence, healthy

competition, self respect among others. Later part of the session focused on different kinds of leaderships used by different managers at different times which will help the students understand the nature of a manager when they enter corporate life. In the end of the session, Ms. Anashwara underlined the importance of company's values, vision, mission and goals and suggested the students to choose a company where these aspects align with their goals and values.

Getting started with SPSS: A Beginner's Workshop

Anusha V

The Department of Social Work, Kristu Jayanti College organised a workshop on SPSS on 25th March, 2024 for 2nd Year MSW students which was lead by Mr. Somasundaram T, Faculty, Department of Business Administration, Kristu Jayanti College. The first half of the workshop focused on revising the concept of statistics and its significance in research. A brief introduction on various divisions of statistics like descriptive, Analytical, Inductive, Inference and Applied Statistics was given. Following, different types of variables such as Dependent, Independent, Discrete, Continuous, Qualitative, Quantitative, Intervening, Control and Moderate Variables were explained to the students. In the second half of the session, sir highlighted on different types of hypothesis and significance (P Value). Later, demonstration was given on various statistical tests using SPSS such as Chi – Square Test, Correlation Analysis,

Regression Analysis and ANOVA. The workshop helped students in improving their skills in data analysis, understanding of statistical concepts, ability to perform various statistical tests, familiarity with SPSS software interface and confidence in conducting research and data independently.

The workshop also provided hands-on practice opportunities for students to apply the theoretical concepts they learned through practical exercises. Participants engaged in activities where they conducted statistical analyses using SPSS under the guidance of Mr. Somasundaram T. This interactive approach fostered a deeper understanding of statistical methods and their application in real-world research scenarios. Moreover, the workshop equipped students with valuable skills essential for conducting independent research. Overall, it served as a comprehensive platform for students to develop proficiency in statistical analysis and research methodologies.



The Role of Rehabilitation in Psychiatric Social Work

Larisha Wahlang

As part of Alumni Interaction Session Ms. Aneesha Sebastian (2018-2020), an associate at Aster Medicity in Kochi provided an insightful overview of the psychiatric social work process. She began by explaining the importance of history taking to understand a patient's background and concerns. She then investigated into the nature of patients and focused on the significance of effective communication of symptoms to doctors for diagnosis.

Ms. Sebastian explained that psychiatrists diagnose psychiatric issues and initiate treatment accordingly, often involving a three-month rehabilitation period. If patients are not improving after this time, they may need to undergo registration again for further treatment. She explained the process in detail using Schizophrenia as an example. In the end, she discussed various therapeutic approaches such as art and music therapy that will be used in the treatment process of the clients. Overall, her session provided valuable insights into the journey of psychiatric care and the importance of holistic therapeutic interventions for patients.

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