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Press Release

Dr David T. W Wong from UCLA, USA delivers Lecture on Saliva Diagnostics: Salivaomics, Saliva Exosomics and Saliva Liquid Biopsy at JMI

A Guest lecture on Saliva Diagnostics: Salivaomics, Saliva Exosomics and Saliva Liquid Biopsy was organized by Faculty of Dentistry, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) on 18th April. The Guest speaker of the day was Prof. David T. W Wong, Director for UCLA Center for Oral/Head and Neck Oncology Research, USA and the Chairperson was Prof. Meghanand T Nayak, Head, Dept of Oral Pathology, Surendra Dental College, Sri Ganganagar.

The program was organized by Faculty of Dentistry under the able guidance of Dean Faculty of Dentistry, Prof. Keya Sircar with her team, Prof. Aman Chowdhry, and Prof. Priyanka Kapoor as coordinators for the event.

The program also included a panel discussion on "Application of Interdisciplinary Research in saliva" with reputed panellists from JMI, Prof. Md. Zahid Ashraf, Dean, Faculty of Life Sciences, Prof. Md. Imtaiyaz Hassan from Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Basic Sciences, Dr Mohan Chandra Joshi, Assistant Professor at Multidisciplinary Centre for Advanced Research and Studies (MCARS), and Prof. Shamimul Hasan, Faculty of Dentistry. The success of the event could be measured by extensive participation of over 35 delegates from the Faculty of Dentistry as well as research scholars from the Faculty of Biosciences, JMI.

The day started with a welcome address by the Dean, Prof. Keya Sircar, who welcomed the dignitaries, and introduced the audience to our 100 year old university, JMI as well as Faculty of Dentistry. She showcased the diverse opportunities for education through different courses run in the University, with a strong foundation of environmental consciousness by maintaining the lush green campus and sustainable low carbon emission techniques employed by the University. She portrayed the vision of JMI towards research by displaying the expertise and infrastructure available within the University through a video and set a platform for future interdisciplinary collaborations.

The welcome address was followed by a short deliberation by Prof. Md. Zahid Ashraf who highlighted the basic and translational research ongoing in JMI but also put forward the strength and potential for collaboration across universities, specifically with UCLA.

Prof. Priyanka Kapoor very briefly introduced the research at Faculty of Dentistry highlighting the huge number and diversity of patients that are catered in the institute

with highly skilled faculty and state of art infrastructure. She put forth the various interdisciplinary domains including material science, microRNA research, stem cell research, forensic research where research is ongoing at the Faculty.

This was followed by the Guest Lecture by Dr David T. W. Wong who in his lecture put forth a vast body of work in salivary diagnostics. He has extensive research in Salivary Proteome analysis and actively formulates consortia for salivary biomarkers research, and exosome, and microvesicle delivery systems. He put forth their work on newer technologies of liquid biopsy, COVID-19 salivary detection, small RNA markers, and cancer salivary biomarker detection.

The lecture was followed by a Panel discussion on "Application of Interdisciplinary Research in saliva" which was moderated by Prof. Keya Sircar who actively involved all the panelists in discussion with Prof. David T W Wong. Prof. Md. Zahid Ashraf explored the possibility of interuniversity collaborations in salivary research, while Prof. Mohan Chandra Joshi explained their work on saliva based COVID-19 detection kits and smartphone integration.

Prof. Imtaiyaz Hassan highlighted his work on structural biology in protein biomarker discovery specifically Prolactin Induced Protein (PIP) in oral diseases.

Prof. Shamimul Hassan highlighted his work on gingipain proteases in chronic periodontitis which was followed by intense Q and A session with the participants.

The day ended with a vote of thanks delivered by Prof Aman Chowdhry who expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the esteemed Speaker, Chairperson, Panelists, and all the participants for making the event a huge success. He also extended thanks to the University authorities for the required permissions and making the event possible.

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