

Press Release

**JMI's Faculty of Dentistry organises a Faculty Development Programme for Educators in the Health Professions in line with the NEP-2020**

New Delhi, May 9, 2025

The Faculty of Dentistry, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) yesterday organised a Faculty Development Programme for Health Professions Educators on 'Self Directed Learning' (Online Lecture cum Workshop) in alignment with the NEP -2020 and Competency Based Education. The programme saw enthusiastic participation of 213 professionals from across India, comprising senior and junior faculty members from the fields of dentistry, medicine, physiotherapy, and nursing. Honourable Vice-Chancellor of JMI, Prof. Mazhar Asif, was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

To underscore the importance of lifelong learning for educators and address the issue of growing competition among healthcare professionals, the programme was conducted with the primary goal of equipping health professions educators with effective strategies to foster self-directed learning among students. This is a process in which learners take the initiative to identify their learning needs, set goals, find appropriate resources, choose suitable learning strategies, and evaluate their progress, with or without the guidance of a teacher. Moving beyond conventional didactic methods, the workshop encouraged educators to nurture these skills among their students, promoting autonomy, intrinsic motivation, critical thinking, and a sustained interest in lifelong learning --- qualities essential for adapting to the ever-evolving demands of healthcare practice.

The event commenced with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an followed by a welcome address by the Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, Prof. Keya Sircar, who expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the attendees and highlighted JMI's rich legacy, academic achievements, and the Faculty of Dentistry's continued contribution to healthcare education and societal development.

VC JMI, Prof. Mazhar Asif, commended the Faculty of Dentistry for its proactive approach to faculty development. He cautioned against the perils of academic stagnation and fossilization, highlighting that programmes like this are essential in ensuring that educators stay updated with the evolving pedagogical methodologies and global best practices. Advocating the need for integrating traditional wisdom with modern dentistry, Prof. Asif emphasised that by embracing the profound insights of the Indian Knowledge System, the discipline of dentistry has the potential to imbibe a more

humanistic and comprehensive approach that promotes not just healthy teeth but an individual's overall well-being.

The academic session featured an engaging lecture and hands-on workshop led by Prof. (Dr.) Suhasini Nagda, a renowned educator and FAIMER Fellow, Ex-Dean Nair Dental College & Hospital, Mumbai, currently serving as Director and Educational Consultant at CU Shah Medical College, Gujarat. Drawing from her vast experience, Prof. Nagda discussed practical approaches to integrating Self Directed Learning in classroom and clinical settings, shared case-based examples, and conducted interactive sessions that enabled participants to develop implementable action plans.

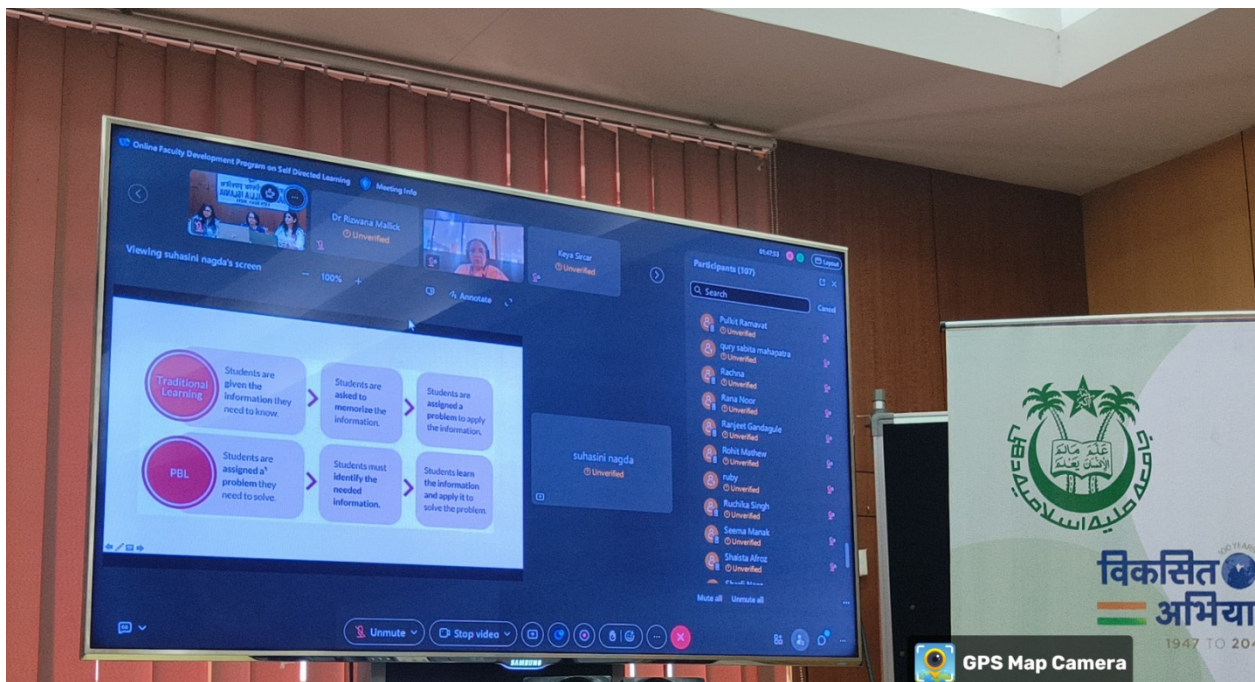
The programme concluded with a valedictory session that acknowledged the dedication and contributions of the resource faculty, organizing team, volunteers, and enthusiastic participation of the delegates. The FDP was coordinated efficiently by Prof. Eram Perwez, Prof. Shabina Sachdeva, and Prof. Rizwana Mallick, whose efforts were instrumental in the seamless execution of the event.

**Prof. Saima Saeed**

Chief Public Relations Officer  
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