

# TNAU NEWS



## TAMILNADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER

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### CAMPUS INTERVIEWS FOR TNAU GRADUATES



The Directorate of Students' Welfare at the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, conducted a series of Campus Interviews during May 21-25, 2007 with a view to provide immediate placement to fresh graduates emerged in the month of April 2007. Over 350 students from all the ten constituent colleges of TNAU attended a week long Campus Interviews. In the inaugural address held on 21.05.2007, Dr. M. Thangaraju, Director (Students' Welfare) narrated that, the curriculum has been rigorously revised to ensure that, the graduates are suitable to the changing scenario in Indian industries and job market. Further, he said that, the Directorate of

Students' Welfare has successfully conducted 85 Campus Interviews which benefited over 1000 TNAU graduates to get placed in various Corporate Sectors, Nationalized Banks, Commodity Trading Companies and Non-Governmental Organizations. Besides, 12 graduates had been placed in middle-east and African countries.

About 12 leading Agro-Based Industries, Banking sectors and NGO's have conducted interview on 21.5.2007 and 22.5.2007. At the end of a week long campus interviews, 120 students got their placements / appointment orders in various sectors. The salary varied from Rs. 7,500 to Rs. 20,000/- per month.

### SCINTILLATING PERFORMANCE BY TNAU GRADUATES IN UPSC EXAMS

The Tamil Nadu Agricultural University graduates have bagged 8 Civil Services and 8 Forest Services which constitute 25% and 80%, respectively, of the total number of candidates won from the State of Tamil Nadu in UPSC Examinations, 2006. This is not the first time that the TNAU graduates have made such a marvelous achievement. The number of TNAU graduates cleared UPSC examinations were 27, 20 and 24 in 2003, 2004 and 2005 respectively. The comprehensive curriculum and hard working nature of students are primarily associated with the resounding success in the national level competitive examination.

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR AGRI-GRADUATES IN BANKING SECTOR

The Directorate of Student's Welfare conducted campus interviews on 23.4.2007 and 21.5.2007 for the recruitment of agri-graduates for banking sector involving Indian Bank, Chennai and Lakshmi Vilas Bank, Karur. Dr. M. Thangaraju, Director (Students' Welfare) inaugurated the event. The Indian Bank was specifically interested in MBA graduates and selected 7 students out of 24 attended the Interview. It is noteworthy to indicate that the Indian Bank offered a

## INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIST'S VISIT TO DODL



Dr. Brian Crouse, an International Scientist, Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC), Canada, visited the Directorate of Open and Distance Learning, TNAU on 04.05.2007 to witness the activities of the Directorate. Dr. G. Selvaraj, Director of Open and Distance Learning welcomed the Scientist and explained about the distance learning programme of the TNAU. He has also outlined the missionary approaches of the Directorate targeted for 2007 - 2008 including attempts made for production of multimedia CD modules in agriculture and allied sciences so as to complement the learners with additional technical knowledge.

Dr. Brian Crouse in his remarks narrated the educational efforts made by his University towards ODL approaches. While complimenting the efforts of the Directorate of Open and Distance Learning towards continuing and life long education, he requested the scientists to frame appropriate courses to benefit various segments of the learners. In this direction, he evinced keen interest to render all needed help to support the ODL programme of the University. He also highlighted the importance of course materials and students support services for the effective functioning of the Directorate.

Research Station, Cuddalore delivered lecture on **“Sugarcane production and pest management”**. Dr.R.Panneerselvam, Professor (AGR), Sugarcane Research Station, Cuddalore has taken class on **“Micro irrigation and its application in sugarcane”**. Dr.R.S.Purushothaman, Professor (PBG), Sugarcane Research Station, Cuddalore delivered lecture on **“Varietal choice for improvement of sugarcane production”**.

## PRESS MEET ON NEW ADMISSIONS 2007-08

A press meet was organized at AC&RI, Killikulam on 16.5.2007 in connection with education and promotional activities carried out at TNAU and also to attract more school children to take up agriculture profession as their life career. Dr. P.Vivekanandan, Dean, AC&RI, Killikulam had interaction with the reporters and clarified their queries on new admission policies. Press people from the southern districts participated. This received a wide coverage in the leading Tamil and English dailies and had a great impact among parents, public and school children.

## SUGARCANE SCIENTISTS' MEET- 2007

The Annual Research meet on sugarcane crop for 2007 was held at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore on May 16-17<sup>th</sup> 2007 in which the Vice-Chancellor, the Director of Research, the Director, TRRI, Aduthurai, the Technical Directors, Deans, Heads of Departments and sugarcane scientists of TNAU Research Stations participated.

During the inaugural session, the Vice-Chancellor impressed upon of the transfer of technology activities to be disseminated in an interface between various sugar mills of Tamil Nadu and TNAU scientists. He also emphasized that promising management techniques identified by TNAU are to

lucrative salary of Rs. 35,000 per month. In addition, the Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB) has also screened post-graduates from various disciplines in agricultural sciences and short-listed 48 candidates for Assistant Manager Position. A team of executives from the LVB came down to the DSW to undertake the recruitment process. Despite the fact that their requirement was only 8-10, the TNAU graduates did exceedingly well which eventually resulted in the selection of 24 students.

## ODL PROGRAM ON SUGARCANE

The VII batch of Open and Distance Learning programme on **“Recent trends in sugarcane cultivation”** was organized by Sugarcane Research Station, Cuddalore at Sakthi Sugar Mill (Unit II), Padamathur, Sivangangai. Dr.G.Selvaraj, Director, Open and Distance Learning has delivered a special lecture on **“Recent trends in sugarcane production technologies”**. Dr.B.Rajendran, Professor and Head, Sugarcane

## INTERACTIVE MEET ON ODL PROGRAMS



An interactive discussion meet on ODL programme with Dr. Bernad John Poole, University of Pittsburgh, USA was organized at the Directorate of Open and Distance Learning, TNAU on 09.05.2007. Dr. G. Selvaraj,

Director of Open and Distance Learning welcomed the Scientist and highlighted the efforts made during 2007 - 2008 for the conduct of ODL programme. He narrated the action plan of the distance learning programme targeted for the benefit

of various segments of the farming community and other learners. While narrating the importance of ODL programme, the Director, ODL briefed the Certificate courses targeted for 2007 - 2008.

Dr. Bernad John Poole in his remarks lauded the efforts of the Directorate in framing need based Certificate courses for the benefit of farmers, farm women and rural youths. He requested the Scientists to design future ODL courses to benefit much by the weaker sections of the community thereby improving their standard of living. He evinced much interest on important approaches like establishment of e-Education division, e-Learning programme and production of multimedia CD modules.

## 24th LIGHTING CEREMONY IN HSC&RI, MADURAI



The 24th Lighting Ceremony was celebrated on 11.5.2007 in Home Science College and Research Institute, Madurai. Dr.M.R.Premalatha, Staff Advisor welcomed the gathering.

Dr.A.Andal, Dean (Home Science) in her presidential address emphasized the importance of lighting ceremony which is symbolic of passing on the Light of wisdom from the Almamater to the outgoing student. She advised the students to work hard and have a clear vision for a bright future and the economic prosperity of the nation.

Mr.A.V.Shanmuganath, managing Director, Indian Food Park, Virudhunagar, was the chief guest who lighted the mother lamp. His impressive speech kindled hope and confidence as he explained the significance of education in development of career. In his key-note address, the managing director stressed that students should gain practical knowledge of business and they should start their own enterprise.

Miss Meenupreethi of IV B.Sc (Home Science) received the best outgoing PG student's award. Miss.G.Vijayalakshmi of III Ph.D (FSN) received the best outgoing Ph.D student's award. Dr.S.Amutha, Professor, Department of Food Science and Nutrition, HSC&RI, Madurai proposed the vote of thanks.

## CORNELL UNIVERSITY DIRECTOR'S VISIT TO TNAU LIBRARY



Dr. Janet Mc Cue, Director, Mann Library, Cornell University, U.S.A, visited TNAU on 12th May 2007. She met the Vice-Chancellor and shared her professional experience in implementing new technologies and innovative ideas. During the

meet it has been decided to prepare a strategic plan for the development of the library systems through Consortia. Dr. Janet made a presentation about the Library facilities available at Cornell University and the administrative

details of it. In her presentation, she reiterated that the future academic libraries should focus on digitization of the collections, preservation of the digital archives and improvement of data storage and retrieval. She also emphasized the need for migration from print to electronic collections to cater the needs of students and the academics with less time and effort.

After the presentation, Dr. Janet visited the University Library. The Director (Students' Welfare) and Assistant Librarian explained the various facilities and services available at the University Library. She appreciated the activities and made some useful suggestions. She also visited the e-learning lab and language communication lab.

be test verified in farmers' field trials. The Director, CARDS, presented a paper on **"Sugarcane Economy of Tamil Nadu"** in the inaugural session. Dr. B. Rajendran, Professor and Head Sugarcane Research Station, Cuddalore presented the action taken report on the recommendations of the XIV Sugarcane Scientists Meet. He also presented the salient findings of research for the year 2006-2007.

In the plenary session, the Director of Research presented a paper on

**"Wholesome development plan for sugarcane in Tamil Nadu"**. The Director, TRRI, Aduthurai presented a status paper on **"Sugarcane – Outlook Scenario"**. Dr. Vijayaraghavan, Professor and Head, Department of Crop Physiology, presented a paper on **"Physiology of sucrose accumulation in sugarcane"**.

The Vice-Chancellor in his concluding remarks, impressed upon the various themes to be addressed in future for the benefit of farming community and also

for the sugar mills of the state.

### BOLT AWARD

BOLT award for the biennium 2005-2006 is awarded to Prof. C. Swaminathan, Department of Soil and Crops, Agricultural College & Research Institute, Killikulam, for his outstanding contribution in teaching in Thoothukkudi district and he received the award in a grand function in Chennai.

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