



UNIVERSITY OF MYSORE
YUVARAJA'S COLLEGE
(A constituent Autonomous College of the University of Mysore)
(Re-Accredited "B⁺⁺" Grade by NAAC)
JLB Road, Mysore-570005



Department Of Molecular Biology
ALUMNI INTERACTION SESSION #3

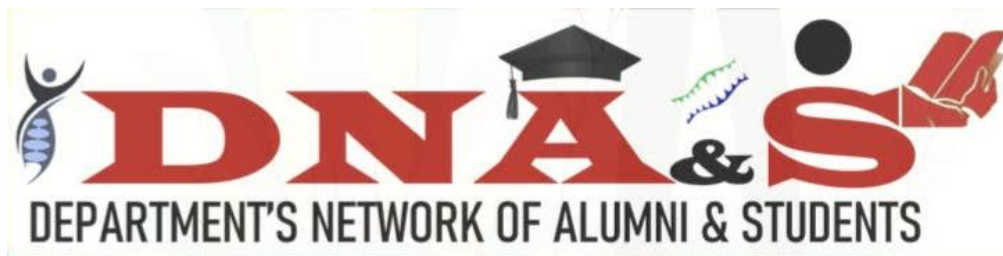


Inchara Muralidhara

PhD Student, University of Cambridge

25th September 2024 at 9:30 AM

Lecture hall, Department of Molecular Biology



Report of the Alumni Interaction Session #3-

Ms. Inchara Muralidhara

Ms. Inchara Muralidhar completed her integrated MSc in Molecular Biology at Yuvaraja's College during September 2023. During her studies, she completed her dissertation in Dr. Kavitha Babu's lab at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc). After graduation, she continued working in the same lab as a project associate. Currently, she is pursuing her PhD at the University of Cambridge in the Department of Zoology under the guidance of Dr. Iris Hardege. On 25th September 2024, Inchara shared her experiences with us and provided valuable insights into the process of applying for a PhD abroad before leaving to Cambridge.

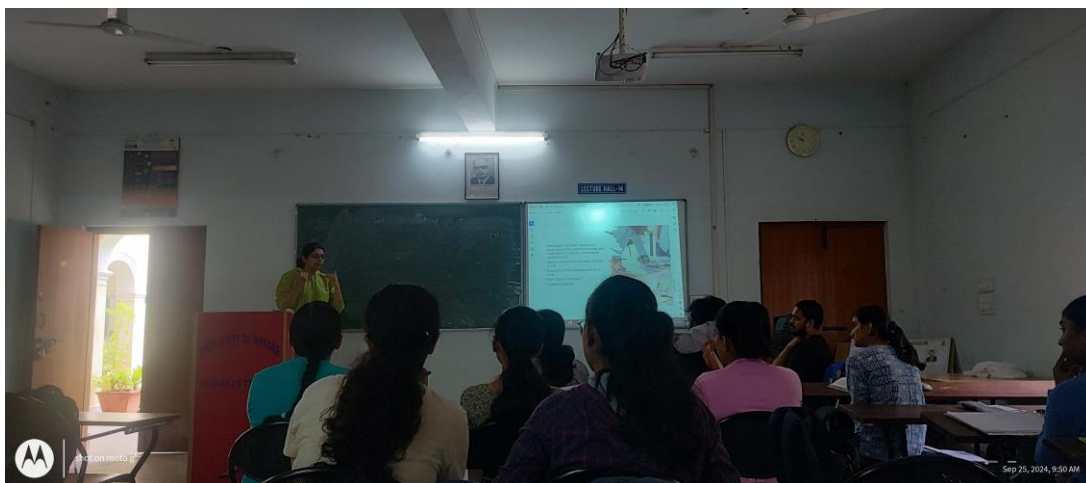
Inchara highlighted the importance of contacting potential PhD supervisors before applying to the program. She explained how she emailed her PI to express interest in their research and waited for a response before proceeding with the application. To make an email effective, she advised reading the PI's research papers and mentioning specific techniques or aspects of their work that match our interests, as this demonstrates enthusiasm and helps build a strong connection with the supervisor.

She explained that the application process included two rounds of interviews: the first with the department and the second with the PI and lab members. Inchara prepared by studying the lab's recent publications and understanding their work. She aligned her skills and research experiences with the lab's focus, which helped her confidently explain how she could contribute to their work. She recommended practicing for potential interview questions and staying calm during the interview to make a good impression.

Inchara also discussed the financial aspects of studying at the University of Cambridge, explaining that while the university offers fully funded PhD programs, tuition fees can be high. She shared how applicants can indicate the need for financial assistance during the application process and recommended carefully selecting the funding options available to ensure support. She highlighted the importance of early planning in choosing the right funding options to guarantee financial support.

In addition to sharing her insights on the PhD application, she also guided us in preparing our master's dissertation applications. She shared helpful resources, such as a CV template and gave practical tips on presenting academic achievements effectively. These resources helped us understand how to structure our applications and highlight our skills.

Her session was highly informative and encouraging. Inchara's insights into the application process, her practical advice and her inspiring journey motivated us to take the next steps in our academic careers with confidence. The tips she shared on preparing for interviews and crafting personalized emails were beneficial for those of us aspiring to join a PhD program at prestigious institutions. Overall, her guidance has inspired us to approach our applications with a clear plan and confidence.



A view of Ms Inchara Muralidhara interacting with students of Molecular Biology department,
Yuvaraja's College

Flyer, Report and Photos compilation By:

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