

- Abstract should clearly indicate the objective, methodology and the anticipated/achieved results of the study.
- The abstract should be neatly word processed (Times New Roman-12 points, 1.5-spaced, A4 size) in about 250-300 words, and sent to the convener at istria@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in by e-mail.

National Workshop on Improving Synergy between Teaching and Research in Indian Academia (ISTRIA 2018)

Abstract submitted by:

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Paper Title:

Dismantling the Teaching Research Divide: Perspectives from experiential learning in environmental education

The importance of improving the synergy between teaching and research activities is well recognized in the western world, and is practiced without much reservation in every day parlance. However, in India the mainstream practice in higher education sectors has been to treat both these academic activities as distinct from each other owing to their distinct advantages for the teaching learning community. With the advent of a renewed focus on the environmental issues at the national level (e.g. UGC directives to enhance environmental awareness in all graduate students), the time has come to revisit this divide with an objective of dismantling the same and providing insights for forging alliance between these two realms. The paper uses the experiences from the environmental education based teaching learning activities at higher education level to bring out the points of interaction between teaching and action-oriented research. The results indicate that there are more fruitful results in terms of enhanced environmental awareness among students when taught material corresponds to their every day practices and experiential learning, along with the aspects of action research directly brought in by the teacher researcher into the ecosystem of learning.

Key words: Teacher researcher, Environmental education, Action-oriented research, Every day practice, Experiential learning.