

PRESS RELEASE

“4th Asia Pacific - International Society of Microbial Electrochemistry and Technology (AP-ISMET) Meeting” on Bio-electrochemical and electrochemical approaches for decentralized sanitation

BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa Campus recently organised the 4th Asia Pacific - International Society of Microbial Electrochemistry and Technology (AP-ISMET) Meeting from 13th to 16th Nov 2018. The meeting included presentations, panel discussions and interactive dialogues on the latest advances in the field of Bio-electrochemical and electrochemical approaches for decentralized sanitation. The meeting was attended by 55 participants representing around 22 different institutes from around 13 countries. The meeting also included 27 Oral presentations and 12 Poster presentations by the participants.

The meeting started with the welcome address by Prof. Raghurama G, Director, BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa Campus. Prof. Srikanth Mutnuri, HoD, Biological Sciences and convenor of this meeting introduced the agenda of the meeting. Professor Willy Verstraete, head of the Laboratory of Microbial Ecology and Technology (LabMET - Faculty of Bioscience Engineering) (emeritus professor since 2011) delivered the keynote address titled “Which microbial technologies show major potential for the needs of the next decades?” He focused on the general aspect of current situation in the field and also gave an insight for the future aspects and development required.

The conference focused on four different aspects – microbiology, technology, components aspects, and sanitation. On day one, Dr. Sarah Glaven spoke on “The role of microbial communities in bioelectrochemical systems for energy generation and storage”; Prof. Korneel Rabaey spoke on “Electroactive biofilms – the more control, the more questions”; Prof. Makarand Gangrekar spoke on “Bioelectrochemical system with modified cement cation exchange membrane for kitchen wastewater treatment and electricity generation”; a joint presentation by Professor Korneel Rabaey and Dr. Sarah Glaven on “Terminology and data representation”. On 2nd day, Prof. S Venkata Mohan spoke on “Microbial Electrochemical Technology: Multi-facet Applications” and process session in the afternoon. On 3rd day participants visited single household electrochemical and 100 people equivalent electrochemical system treating black water from the campus.



Group Photo and field visit Pictures