

Dissecting the grey matter

Some sharp minds from the Cognitive Neuroscience Lab of Department of Biological Sciences, BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa Campus recently organised a two-day national workshop on 'Experimental Methods in Cognitive Neuroscience'. Café finds out more



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The subject of cognitive neuroscience is, in a broad sense, the human mind. Cognitive neuroscience helps to understand how the human brain supports thought, perception, affection, action, social process and other aspects of cognition and behaviour. Questions about the mind are studied from different scientific perspectives in philosophy, linguistics, psychology, neuroscience, and computer science. Cognitive Neuroscience is an interdisciplinary approach to understand the neural substrates of mental processes. It is a broad area where insights from psychology, neurobiology, bioengineering, physics, computer science, linguistics, mathematics and philosophy find relevance. Recently, the Cognitive Neuroscience Lab of Department of Biological Sciences, BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa Campus organised a two-

day national workshop on 'Experimental Methods in Cognitive Neuroscience'. The workshop was held on December 15 and 16, 2017 at the campus.

The workshop was inaugurated by Prof. Narayanan Srinivasan, Head, Centre for Behavioural and Cognitive Sciences (CBCS), University of Allahabad; in presence of Prof. Raghurama G, Director, BITS Pilani K K Birla Goa Campus; Organizing Secretary Dr. Veeky Baths, Cognitive Neuroscience Lab, Department of Biological Sciences, BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa Campus and Co-organiser Dr. Ramesh K Mishra, Centre for Neural and Cognitive Sciences (CNCS), University of Hyderabad. Around 30 participants from various colleges and universities from different parts of India attended the workshop.

Two technical demonstrations from Tobii and EGI were conducted during the workshop. Tobii technologies are front runners in the field of Eye Tracking

manufacturing technologies. Vitasta India handles the Indian sales of Tobii products. The workshop gave the audience a hands-on demonstration of the screen based eye tracker and the mobile eye trackers to the participants. EGI is one of the largest vendors of dense array EEG, EMG and other neuro-observation systems. At the workshop, an EGI representative spoke about the various offerings from EGI and also spoke about the success stories of Neuroscience Labs across the world.

Topics such as Neural Motor Control, Neuropsychological Rehabilitation, Introduction to EEG and ERP studies, Computation modeling using Deep Learning, Neural Representation of spatial maps in the brain, Eye Tracking, Neural Organisation of the Visuomotor Learning were discussed at the workshop.

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