

Third annual meet held at BITS Pilani

THE GOAN | NETWORK

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The Cognitive Neuroscience Lab of the Department of Biological Sciences, BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa Campus successfully hosted the 3rd Annual Conference of the Association for Reading and Writing in Asia (ARWA). This year's theme of the conference was "Dyslexia".

The two-day event brought together around 120 scientists and academic scholars from all around the world to discuss and present their research findings in the field of literacy, linguistics, reading and writing disabilities.

The presentations were focused on the impact of multilingual environments on literacy and learning.

Focus was also given to understanding the problems in reading and writing for children suffering from different

forms and severity of dyslexia.

Local organizing chair, Prof Veeky Baths, Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, BITS Pilani, Goa Campus and Prof Malatesha Joshi from the Texas A&M University (USA) on behalf of ARWA welcomed the participants.

Prof. G Raghurama, Director of BITS Pilani, Goa Campus presented encouraging introductory thoughts while Prof Catherine McBride, President of ARWA delivered the inaugural address.

The first day's keynote lecture was delivered by Dr. Pooja Nakamura on the theory, practice and policy of literacy acquisition in multilingual context.

The second day's keynote address was by Dr Julie Washington on the impact of community dialects on reading acquisition in children growing up in poverty.