Barrackpore-Barasat Rd, Bara Kanthalia, West Bengal 700121



Report

on

Monthly Faculty Lecture

Series June, 2024-25

Date: 20th June, 2025; Time: 2:00 PM

Title: Creating an Innovative Academic Eco-system: Opportunities and Challenges

On 20th June, 2025 the Monthly Faculty Lecture was held under the aegis of Swami Vivekananda University at JCB block, Hall: 2, where Prof. (Dr.) Anupam Bose, Raja Ramanna Chair Professor, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, and Former Director, NIT Durgapur, West Bengal, delivered an insightful lecture on the crucial topic of "Creating an Innovative Academic Eco-system: Opportunities and Challenges" The event was graced by the presence of SVU officials, directors of various departments, faculty members, staff, and research scholars, making it a significant gathering of academic and professional minds.

Introduction

The event commenced with an opening address by Prof. (Dr.) Ranjan Chakrabarti, Director of Research and Academic Development, SVU, and the event was chaired by Prof. (Dr.) Deb Narayan Bandyopadhyay, Chief Executive Director (Academics), SVU. Prof. Chakrabarti underscored the critical role of academic innovation in shaping future-ready learners and emphasized the need for inclusive, outcome-based education frameworks.

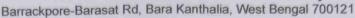
Prof. Bose began his insightful lecture by reflecting on the ancient Nalanda University, highlighting its rich educational legacy and its relevance to today's academic aspirations. Using Nalanda as a symbolic foundation, he explored the paradigm shifts needed to create a sustainable, inclusive, and dynamic academic ecosystem. Emphasizing the evolving expectations of 21st-century learners and the rapid integration of technology in education, his talk navigated the critical transition from conventional instruction to a model of transformative, learner-centric education—underscoring both the emerging opportunities and inherent challenges along this journey.

Key Highlights of the Lecture

1. The Role of Universities in the Academic Eco-System

Prof. Bose opened his talk by revisiting the idea of the university as not merely a center for information dissemination but as a crucible for knowledge creation, critical thinking, and







social transformation. He emphasized that in an ideal academic eco-system, the university should function as a **living organism**—constantly evolving in response to societal, technological, and cultural changes. He also called for a stronger alignment between research, teaching, and societal impact.

2. Education and Learning: Beyond Memory to Meaning

The speaker delved into the neuroscience and cognitive psychology behind learning. He explained that education must go beyond the **three traditional memory systems—sensory memory**, **short-term memory**, **and long-term memory**—to engage higher-order functions such as **attention**, **understanding**, **reasoning** (**inference and generation**), **and expression**. These cognitive weapons, as Prof. Bose described them, should be at the core of curriculum development and instructional design.

He noted that while rote memorization once formed the backbone of education, the modern learner must be trained in **understanding concepts**, **applying knowledge**, and **expressing ideas in diverse forms**. This calls for a redesign in both what to teach (content) and how to teach (pedagogy), as well as in what to evaluate and how to evaluate.

3. Curriculum Innovation: Analysis, Synthesis, and Algorithmic Thinking

A significant segment of the lecture focused on curriculum reform, where Prof. Bose emphasized the need to integrate analysis, classification, synthesis, data literacy, reasoning, algorithmic thinking, prediction, and validation into every academic program. He argued that every student, regardless of discipline, must learn how to interpret data, think critically, and design problem-solving frameworks—skills that are vital in a technology-driven world.

4. Outcome-Based Education (OBE): A Holistic View

Prof. Bose provided an insightful overview of **Outcome-Based Education**, highlighting its multi-dimensional view of learners that includes:

- · Cognitive State (how students process and retain information)
- Social State (their interpersonal interactions and group dynamics)
- Learning Style and Approach (visual, auditory, kinesthetic, reflective, etc.)

He emphasized the necessity of differentiated instruction, a strategy that adapts content, process, and assessment based on the needs, interests, and readiness levels of students.

5. Differentiated Instruction: Personalized Learning in Practice

Prof. Bose elaborated on the practical strategies of **Differentiated Instruction** as a pathway to inclusive and effective education:





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- Content: Provide materials at varying difficulty levels to ensure accessibility.
- Process: Use diverse activities such as role-play, simulations, and debates to cater to different learning modalities.
- **Product**: Allow students to choose their method of demonstrating learning—whether through reports, presentations, prototypes, or creative media.

He stressed that one-size-fits-all teaching is ineffective in contemporary classrooms and advocated for a **student-centered instructional model** that values diversity in learning.

6. Universal Design for Learning (UDL): Shaping Flexible Learning Environments

Quoting Alexander den Heijer—"When a flower doesn't bloom, you fix the environment in which it grows, not the flower"—Prof. Bose introduced Universal Design for Learning (UDL). UDL is a framework that calls for *flexible teaching approaches* to accommodate diverse learning needs. It is founded on three principles:

- Multiple Means of Representation: Offer information in different formats (text, visuals, audio).
- Multiple Means of Action and Expression: Provide various options for students to demonstrate what they know.
- Multiple Means of Engagement: Use strategies that tap into students' interests and motivations.

7. Culturally Responsive Teaching: Respecting Identity in Education

In an increasingly multicultural academic environment, Culturally Responsive Teaching is vital. Prof. Bose highlighted:

- Incorporating Diverse Perspectives: Use inclusive content that reflects a range of cultural narratives.
- Building Relationships: Foster trust and belonging by acknowledging and respecting students' cultural identities.
- **High Expectations with Support**: Promote rigorous standards while providing equitable opportunities for all students to succeed.

This approach, he argued, not only promotes equity but also enhances engagement and academic performance.

8. Inclusive Assessment Practices

Prof. Bose underscored those assessments *should empower*, *not exclude*. He offered strategies for **Inclusive Assessment**, including:

 Varied Assessment Methods: From traditional exams to portfolios, projects, and peer assessments.





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- Accessible Formats: Consideration for learners with disabilities, language barriers, and socio-economic challenges.
- Constructive Feedback: Ongoing, formative feedback to guide learners toward mastery.

9. Collaborative Learning as a Pedagogical Pillar

Highlighting the social nature of learning, the speaker encouraged the adoption of Collaborative Learning methods such as:

- Group Projects: Encouraging peer interaction and knowledge co-construction.
- Peer Teaching: Enhancing understanding through mutual explanation.
- Discussion Forums: Enabling asynchronous and reflective dialogue across diverse student populations.

10. Leveraging Technology to Bridge Gaps

Prof. Bose concluded the core of his lecture by discussing the strategic use of **educational technology** to enhance access, inclusion, and personalization:

- Assistive Technologies: Tools that help learners with specific challenges (e.g., screen readers, voice-to-text).
- Adaptive Learning Platforms: Systems that adjust learning pathways based on individual progress.
- Online Resources and MOOCs: Democratizing access to world-class learning experiences.

He advocated for the responsible and ethical use of technology in education, where human values and critical thinking are not overshadowed by digital convenience.

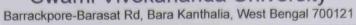
Interactive Session

The lecture was followed by a dynamic Q&A session, during which faculty members and students raised thought-provoking questions on practical implementation, curriculum reengineering, and balancing traditional academic rigor with modern flexibility. Prof. Bose addressed each query with thoughtful clarity, offering both strategic insights and actionable recommendations.

Concluding Remarks

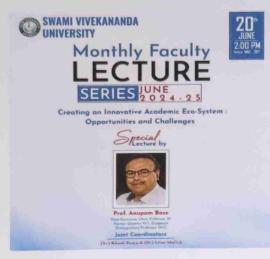
The session concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Bikash Panja, Department of Mechanical Engineering, SVU. He expressed deep appreciation for Prof. Anupam Bose's visionary perspective and his practical approach to reforming academia. Prof. Panja emphasized that the lecture had ignited a renewed sense of purpose among educators to contribute actively to academic transformation.







Glimpses for Lecture Session:













Impact and Takeaways

The lecture made a significant impact on the academic community, particularly among curriculum designers, educators, and policy planners. Key takeaways included:

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- The urgent need for curricular and pedagogical reform based on cognitive science, inclusivity, and technological integration.
- Adoption of Differentiated Instruction and UDL principles to address learner variability.
- Strengthening academic ecosystems by creating equitable, flexible, and studentcantered learning environments.
- Redefining assessment not as a gatekeeper, but as a pathway to meaningful learning.

The session served as a catalyst for introspection and reform, reaffirming the university's commitment to nurturing future-ready, compassionate, and competent graduates. Participants expressed enthusiasm for implementing the ideas discussed and requested follow-up workshops for deep-dive training in innovative teaching methodologies.

Dr. Bikash Panja Joint Co-ordinator

Monthly Faculty Lecture Series, SVU

Prof. (Dr.) Ranjan Chakrabarti, Director, Research & Academic

R. Chilina

Development, SVU

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Dr. Liton Mallick
Joint Co-ordinator

Monthly Faculty Lecture Series, SVU



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Date: 18th June, 2025

To

Prof. Anupam Bose

Raja Ramanna Chair Professor Jadavpur University Kolkata – 700 032

Subject: SVU Faculty Lecture Series June 2025, Invitation regarding

Dear Professor Bose,

Greetings from SVU!

At the outset, we would like to acknowledge your significant contributions in the field of research and academic administration.

Swami Vivekananda University, Barrackpore, West Bengal, organizes a Faculty Lecture every month under its Monthly Faculty Lecture Series. It is with great pleasure that I invite you, on behalf of the University, to deliver the Distinguished Faculty Lecture on "Creating an Innovative Academic Eco-System: Opportunities and Challenges" on June 20, 2025 at 2 pm in our campus.

Your expertise and insights will be invaluable in enriching the program, and your lecture will be a source of inspiration for our faculty members and research scholars.

We would greatly appreciate a line of confirmation at your earliest convenience.

For any further information or clarification, please feel free to contact me or Dr. Liton Mallik at Mobile No. 7003185671.

With best regards,

R. Chelled.

Professor Ranjan Chakrabarti,

Director Research and Academic Development, Swami Vivekananda University

Hony. Visiting Professor, Jadavpur University

Former Vice Chancellor of Vidyasagar University and Netaji Subhas Open University (WB)

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Regd. Office: 11/3, Biresh Guha Street, 7° floor, Kolkata: 700017

E- mail: info@swamivivekanandauniversity.ac.in., Contact: 033 2428 3035



Bikash Panja

 bikashp@svu.ac.in>

Fwd: Invite 2 messages

Thu, Jun 19, 2025 at 10:21 AM

SVU Monthly Faculty Lecture Series (Lecture 9) on 20th June 2025, Invitation regarding

Prof Panja may kindly circulate among our esteemed HODs

Dear Esteemed Head of the Department,

Greetings!

Swami Vivekananda University, Barrackpore, West Bengal, regularly organizes a monthly Faculty Lecture Series and it is delivered by a distinguish scholar from within SVU or outside.

In this context, I am pleased to invite you to kindly make it convenient to attend the upcoming Faculty Lecture of the University on 20th June 2025, to be delivered by Professor Anupam Bose, Raja Ramanna Chair Professor at Jadavpur University and Former Director NIT, Durgapur at 2.00 pm. The title of his Lecture is 'Creating an Innovative Academic Eco-System: Opportunities and Challenges'. Please find the poster of this event attached herewith for your kind perusal.

Your graceful presence along with your departmental colleagues shall enrich the program and inspire our faculty and research scholars.

Please make it convenient to attend.

Warm regards

Sincerely

Ranjan Chakrabarti

Director

Research and Academic Development



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Bikash Panja

 bikashp@svu.ac.in>

Thu, Jun 19, 2025 at 1:03 PM

To: abirs@svu.ac.in, Ranjan Kumar <ranjank@svu.ac.in>, "Dr. Sudip Das" <sudipdas1380@gmail.com>, digantab@svu.ac.in, ranjankm@svu.ac.in, subhabratab@svu.ac.in, tanmoys@svu.ac.in, prithap@svu.ac.in, souravm@svu.ac.in, dipanwitag@svu.ac.in, manisham@svu.ac.in, nilanjanam@svu.ac.in, olyb@svu.ac.in, subhranilm@svu.ac.in, rituparnac@svu.ac.in, pramitir@svu.ac.in, litonm@svu.ac.in, anirbanh@svu.ac.in, kallalb@svu.ac.in, debanjalia@svu.ac.in, Sujoy Bhowmik <sujoyb@svu.ac.in>, subratan@svu.ac.in, najnin.islam92@gmail.com, kazi hasibur rahman <via.kazi786@gmail.com>, sudips@svu.ac.in, srijanh@svu.ac.in, subhasiss@svu.ac.in, arups@svu.ac.in, moumitad@svu.ac.in, papiam@svu.ac.in, rajend@svu.ac.in, shubhamb@svu.ac.in, moumitac@svu.ac.in, Amitava Bhowmick <amitavabmce@gmail.com>, shantanuc@svu.ac.in Cc: director.research@svu.ac.in, deputy.registrar@svu.ac.in, abhishek.dhar@svu.ac.in, sourav@svu.ac.in

Dear all HODs and Research Coordinators

Please find the invitation to the upcoming said program and circulate among our faculty members, research scholars and students. We encourage your participation and look forward to your valuable presence.

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Thanks & Regards.

Dr. Bikash Panja

Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering School of Engineering, Swami Vivekananda University Kolkata - 700121, India

Mobile: (+91) 9635973141



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2.	Ranit Mondal	BSCMA	R.Mondal
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4.	Avigit Aich	BSCMA	Avirit Aich
5.	Suvarit Aich	BSCMA	Suvazit chich
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12.	Chayan Paul.	BSCMA	Chayan Paul
13.	Nisha Das.	BSCMA	Nisha Das.
14.	Thishan Ghosh	BSCMA	Troishan Ghosh
15	Debazyoti Ghosh	BSCMA	Debasyotighosh
16	Sudipta Manna	BSCMA	Sudipta Manner



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5.	Dhrubaneel Das	BSC (H) M&A (Oth)	Dhrubaner Das
6.	Dhoubaneel Des Ranit Laha	BSe(H) m&A	Ranitlaha
7.	Suman Pramanik	Multimedia	Gramanis
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