Report on Guest Lecture jointly organized by the Centre for Incubation and Entrepreneurship Development (CIED) and the Faculty of Pharmacy, Integral University

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Report on Guest Lecture

(4th August 2025)

Organized by CIED & Faculty of Pharmacy, Integral University, Lucknow

A guest lecture on **"Digital Drug Discovery: How AI/ML and In Silico Simulations are Redefining Drug Discovery"** was held on August 4, 2025, at Hall-1, Central Auditorium, Integral University. The session was organized jointly by the **Centre for Incubation and Entrepreneurship Development (CIED)** and the **Faculty of Pharmacy, Integral University**, with support from the **Integral Startups Foundation**.

The keynote speaker, **Dr. Raghu R**, CEO of Molecular Solutions Software Pvt. Ltd., shared valuable insights into the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), and in silico computational simulations in modern drug discovery. He explained how these technologies are significantly reducing the time, cost, and uncertainty associated with traditional drug development pipelines.

Dr. Raghu discussed various AI/ML-driven predictive models for target identification, molecular docking, and pharmacokinetics, along with examples of successful computational drug design projects. He emphasized the integration of big data analytics and cloud-based platforms for accelerating preclinical research. In addition, he addressed the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration between computational scientists, pharmacologists, and medicinal chemists to translate digital predictions into viable therapeutic candidates.

The lecture concluded with an engaging Q&A session, where students and faculty members interacted with Dr. Raghu on topics such as AI model validation, ethical considerations in drug design, and career opportunities in the domain of digital healthcare research.

The event was highly informative, offering participants a forward-looking perspective on the future of pharmaceutical innovation. It underscored the growing relevance of digital tools in addressing global healthcare challenges and inspired attendees to explore AI-driven approaches in their own research endeavors.

The session was anchored by **Dr. Rufaida Wasim**, whose warm welcome and smooth coordination ensured the program's success, and coordinated by **Mr. Ranjan Kumar** and **Prof. Kuldeep Singh.**

The event reflected key Program Outcomes by enhancing Pharmacy Knowledge (PO1), fostering leadership skills (PO5), Problem Analysis (PO3), modern tool usage (PO4) and Life Long learning (PO11). Also, the discussion aligned with SDGs by promoting health and well being (SDG 3), enhancing educational collaboration (SDG 4) and strengthening partnership between academia and healthcare (SDG 17).

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