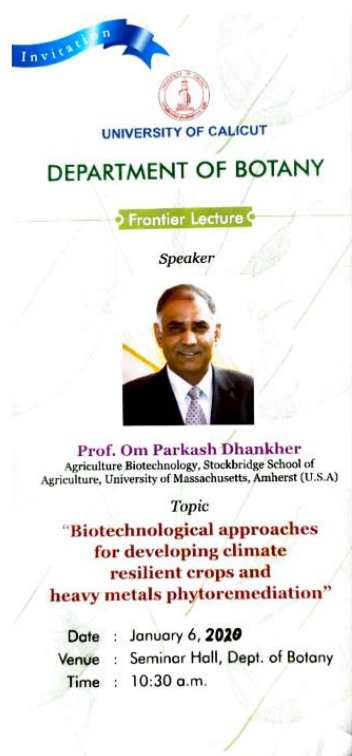


FRONTIER LECTURE SERIES

SERIES 4-

Speaker: Prof. (Dr.) Om Prakash Dhanekher.




Invitation

UNIVERSITY OF CALICUT
DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

Frontier Lecture

Speaker




Prof. Om Parkash Dhanekher
Agriculture Biotechnology, Stockbridge School of
Agriculture, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (U.S.A)

Topic
**"Biotechnological approaches
for developing climate
resilient crops and
heavy metals phytoremediation"**

Date : January 6, 2020
Venue : Seminar Hall, Dept. of Botany
Time : 10:30 a.m.

About the Speaker



Dr. Om Parkash Dhanekher, Professor of Agriculture Biotechnology in the Stockbridge School of Agriculture, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (U.S.A) received his M.Sc. and M. Phil. in Botany from Kurukshetra University (India) and Ph.D. in Plant Molecular Biology from Durham University (United Kingdom). He was the recipient of the prestigious Commonwealth Scholarship by the Commonwealth Commission London, for Ph.D. degree at Durham University under the guidance of Prof. John Gatehouse. In 1998, he joined the University of Georgia (USA) as a Postdoctoral Research Associate and later as Assistant Research Professor in the Department of Genetics where he developed the first transgenic plant-based approach for arsenic phytoremediation by combining the expression of two bacterial genes. In 2004, Dr. Dhanekher joined the tenure-track faculty position at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and currently he is working as a Professor. His major research focus is phytoremediation and bio-energy production. Along with this, his laboratory is developing arsenic free and arsenic tolerant food crops in order to improve human health using both forward and reverse genetic approaches. Additionally, his research team is developing multiple abiotic and oxidative stresses tolerant crops by manipulating genes involved in the GSH homeostasis. Prof. Dhanekher has published more than 90 publications in high impact factor journals including Nature Biotech, Nature, PNAS, The Plant Cell, Plant Physiology, New Phytologist etc. with a h-index 29 and six international patents were awarded to him. Prof. Dhanekher is an Editor, Associate Editor and member of editorial board of several international journals including International Journal Phytoremediation and Frontier's Agricultural Biological Chemistry. He is an elected fellow of Indian Society of Plant Physiology and a member of the executive committee of the American Society of Plant Biologists (ASPB), selected as the Vice President for the International Society for Phytotechnologies (IPS, 2015-2017). He received Haryana Gaurav Samman Award in Education, to an overseas Indian of Haryana origin who has made significant contribution in the education field. Prof. Dhanekher has supervised over two dozen Ph.D. and M.Sc. students, and postdoctoral research associates. Prof. Dhanekher has several ongoing collaborations with researchers in India, China, Italy, Egypt and USA.

As a part of Frontier lecture series, Department of Botany, University of Calicut conducted a one-day National Seminar on the topic **"Biotechnological approaches for developing climate resilient crops and heavy metals phytoremediation"** on 06th January 2020.

The seminar was led by **Prof. (Dr.) Om Prakash Dhanekher**. Dr. Om Prakash Dhanekher is an eminent scientist in botany from Agriculture Biotechnology, Stockbridge School of Agriculture, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (U.S.A).

The speaker pointed the increasing heavy metal toxicity especially toxicity Caused by Arsenic, and various biotechnological methods to ameliorate the same. A total of 71 students and faculties from various institutes actively participated in this event.

