SERC School in Chronobiology

1 February to 11 February 2007
Department of Zoology, C. C. S. University, Meerut 250 004, India

One of the objectives of the Science and Engineering Council (SERC), Department of Science & Technology (DST), Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt of India is to promote research in frontline areas of Science and Technology by developing trained manpower in these areas. Under this mandate the DST has initiated the School in Chronobiology, an important discipline in life sciences. Chronobiology deals with study of biological rhythms in organisms. Biological rhythms are ubiquitous. Rhythms in sleep-wake cycles and onset and end of daily and seasonal activities are common examples. Understanding of the chronobiological principles is of great significance both in basic and applied biology. These principles can be understood both in micro (gene, cell) and macro (organism) levels.

The school will focus on basic principles of Chronobiology and their applications. The topics include (1) Origin and characteristics of biological rhythms, (2) Entrainment of rhythms, (3) Structure of biological clock, (4) Molecular biology of the biological clock, (5) Photoperiodism and seasonality, (6) Melatonin and the circadian system, (7) Adaptive and evolutionary aspects of biological rhythms, (8) Applied chronobiology and (9) Tools and techniques of studying biological rhythms. Additionally, there will be project work, methodology demonstration, presentation(s) by participants and brainstorming session.

The faculty will include experts in the field. Postgraduate and research students and young teachers may apply on plain paper giving bio-data and full contact address including email, fax and telephone numbers, nature of their research work and/or teaching being undertaken, and a write-up (about 200 words) as to why they would like to participate in this school. Postgraduate students, including those appearing in M.Sc. Final year examination of June 2007, should apply through their Head of the Department enclosing at least one letter of recommendation from their teachers. The Ph.D. students should send their applications through their Research Supervisor. The teachers holding permanent positions should have their application forwarded through proper channel.

The applications must reach the Coordinator latest by 20 November 2006.

There is no registration fee. Local hospitality and travel support (sleeper class) will be provided to all the selected participants.

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