Report

Research Methodology Workshop
Symbiosis Law School, Noida
July 18-20, 2012
Prof. Dr. S.C. Raina is Professor of law at Faculty of Law, University of Delhi. His areas of interest include Criminal Law, Victimology: Rehabilitative Techniques of Offenders, Legal and Social Science Research Methods. He has a rich teaching experience of 32 long years. He holds a Ph.D. He has 15 research papers and articles to his credit and also has published 2 books. Memberships in various professional bodies and institutes of learning include: Indian Society of Criminology, Indian Society of Victimology, Indian Institute of Public Administration, Indian Law Institute, New Delhi, Board of Studies in Law, Jamia Milia Islamia, Departmental Research Committee of Delhi School of Social Work and is a legal Expert in the Ethical Committee of the Department of Biomedical Research and Anthropology University of Delhi. He has guided 9 Ph.D. Thesis, 30 Post Graduate dissertations. About 6 projects are currently under guidance and he has completed 7 projects in total.

Dr. Poonam Kumar is presently working as Head of student research center, Asia Pacific Institute of Management, New Delhi. Before joining Asia Pacific Institute of Management she has been associated with Amity University, Jaipuria Institute of Management, BLS Institute of Management since August 2006. She holds a PhD. & an M.B.A. She has 11 International publications to her credit and is Editor of 5 books in the management field. She is a Senior Member of IACSIT (International Association of Computer Science and Information Technology), is on the chief advisory board of Journal of Asia pacific Institute Marketing Journal. She is on the reviewer’s board of (Emerald) and is a member of the advisory committee for the International conference organized by RG Educational Society, Rohtak. She is a Life time ASHREA member.
# Workshop on Research Methodology

## Semester-1 (Batch 2012-17)

### Day-1 (18-07-12)

**Introduction to Research**

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<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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| 1       | • Meaning of research  
          • Types (The Relationship between Theory, Research and Data) of research | Dr. Poonam Kumar        |
| 2       | • Objectives, Scope and Rationale of Research  
          • Problem Identification | Dr. Poonam Kumar        |

### Day-2 (19-06-12)

**Research Process**

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<th>Session</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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| 1       | • Problem Identification  
          • Literature Review  
          • Objective Formation  
          • Hypothesis Formation | Dr. Poonam Kumar        |
| 2       | • Research Design  
          • Analysis  
          • Conclusion  
          • References (APA, Harvard Style of Citation) | Dr. Poonam Kumar        |

### Day-3 (20-06-12)

**Literature Review & Referencing**

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<th>Session</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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| 1       | **Introduction to Legal Research**  
          • Meaning of research  
          • Types (The Relationship between Theory, Research and Data) of research  
          • Objectives, Scope and Rationale of Research | Prof. (Dr.) S.C. Raina  |
| 2       | **Literature Review & Referencing**  
          • Ethical Considerations  
          • Blue Book Citation | Prof. (Dr.) S.C. Raina  |
Introduction

Research not only generates useful insight and confidence but also acts as a stimulant for academic growth. Sound conceptual understanding of various research methods, research instruments, tools and techniques is an essential prerequisite for conducting empirical research. For undergoing high quality research and writing good research papers, one requires to collect, interpret and logically document the information. The art of drawing coherent conclusions, supported by appropriate research tools and reference citation is vital for quality research work. The recent innovations in statistical applications, availability of statistical software applications allow scholars/researchers to test more complex, multilevel and dynamic models.

Objectives

To cater to the above mentioned interests, Research and Publication Cell, Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA has organized a three day (July 18-20, 2012) workshop on ‘Research Methodology’ for the First Year learners, (batch 2012-17). The key objective of this workshop is to enable the students:

- to formulate a research proposal;
- to develop suitable Research Methods & Data Analytical Tools;
- to draw better conclusions from the analysis; and
- to write a good Research Paper.
Felicitation

The resource person for the first and second day was Dr. Poonam Kumar, currently the Head of Student Research Center, Asia Pacific Institute of Management, New Delhi. She was introduced by Ms. Anshika Agarwal, BBA LLB First year learner and felicitated by Prof. Deepa A. Panwar.

Session 1

As the students of BA/BBA LLB (2012-17) assembled in the Auditorium, Symbiosis Law School, Noida. The atmosphere was exuding the inquisitiveness of a new beginning. Dr. Poonam Kumar, An eminent scholar in the field of Research for about a decade, introduced the concept of Research to the audience with a purpose of building a strong foundation within aspiring researchers. She conveyed to them how a Systematic, Intensive, and patient study in a particular field can be directed towards scientific understanding of the concept. She discussed how a management problem evolves into a research problem.

Dr. Kumar went on to discuss the concepts of Theory, Proposition, Hypothesis, and Deductive Reasoning. Having explained what a research design is she further discussed its subdivisions in the form of Descriptive, Exploratory and Experimental Research Designs.
The second session covered ‘Formulation of a research problem’. The whole ‘Research Process’ was discussed along with its elements like Definition of the problem; Development of the approach to the problem and then formulation of a Research Design. She explained the ingredients of each research design with explicit details regarding collection of secondary data; Focus Group Discussions; Framing a Questionnaire and selection of a sample. The session gave the students an idea and provided a platform for students to be able to handle a research project.
Dr Poonam Kumar continued as the Resource person for the second day of the Research Methodology Workshop.

**Session 1**

Day 2 began with an overview of Day 1 discussing the queries fresh in the minds of the learners from Day. The discussion topic for day two was handling the Literature review one of the most vital parts of the research endeavor. The types of research were introduced illustratively. The steps to be followed for developing the review of literature in a structured fashion were discussed. The next discussion covered “Sampling Techniques” further divided into Probability and Non-Probability Sampling Techniques.

Dr. Kumar’s next lesson discussed Scaling, along with its divisions and sub-divisions which included Nominal; Interval and Ratio Scales. Thereafter she gave broader overview of Comparative and Non-comparative scales.
As the rejuvenated learners re-assembled in the hall, the actual Brain-storm awaited them. This was the most significant of all sessions as it dealt with collection of data for the research activity. The conceptual facts related to various sampling methods were discussed with the help of relevant examples.

Having gathered loads of subjective knowledge, the students were finally exposed to a simulation exercise where they came up with their own research proposals and submitted them to the moderator for her expert comments. This exercise backed with the knowledge of research-related concepts truly kindled interest of future researchers hidden amongst the first year learners. The learners came up with a plethora of questions that related to their research projects and Dr. Kumar adequately clarified their confusions.

A vote of thanks was delivered in the honor of Dr. Kumar at the end of the second and last day of her workshop as a resource person.
The Resource person for Day 3 of the workshop was Prof. Dr. S.C. Raina from the School of Law, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi with over 3 decades of rich teaching & research related experience.

**Session 1**

Dr. Raina began with a short introduction on Research and its types by means of an interactive session. Moving on to the research in the field of law, he explained why Legal Researches had been greatly confined to Constitutional and Administrative Law only. He conveyed the relevance of Doctrinal Research and Non-Doctrinal Research.

Dr. Raina thereafter undertook the explanation of the concept of ‘Law as a Social Science’. Having significantly dealt with the learners via rigorous interaction, the resource person ended the first session in an amicable way answering all their queries.

**Session 2**

The second session began with a technical aspect of writing Citations that every researcher needs to know. Dr. Raina started from the scratch, with the explanation of Footnotes and Endnotes and then explained the various abbreviations and symbols used while writing a research paper. Under footnotes, he conveyed to the learners, the format that must be followed while citing a particular Book, Article, Case, and Periodical. Then came the Greek abbreviations like Ibid, Id, Supra, Infra etc.

Having summarized the details of the technical knowledge conferred upon the learners attending the Research Methodology Workshop at SLS, Noida, I would like to comment that Dr. Raina, who relied on the traditional way of teaching, had
a lot more to offer. He justified how citations would actually enhance the quality of any research paper and insisted on the fact that each learner should actually make their “hands dirty with the dust on the books” and thereby collect relevant and commendable citations. He even conveyed that coming up with good citations would require a frantic search for the same, and in order to do the latter one should always rely on the ‘Best Friend’ known to man i.e. the Books. Thereby implying that Library Research or Black Letter Law Research is more reliable than researching the web.

The students conferred their heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Raina for sparing his valuable time towards enriching the fresher’s with unmatched research related knowledge.

As the Workshop officially came to an end, each learner was required to fill a feedback form. As they left the venue on the third consecutive day, the Learners felt richer and better equipped to conduct their very first ‘Research activity’ in the form of research projects for various subject modules.

The credit of organizing such an innovative and informative workshop goes to Research & Publication Cell and especially to Prof. Dr. Pushpa Negi, Prof. Dr. Ankur Jain and Prof. Deepa Panwar