

The ACTREC Alumni Association hosted its 22nd event on January 18, 2024, at the KS Auditorium. The session featured Dr. Lalit Sehgal, an alumnus and Assistant Professor at Ohio State University, USA, who delivered a talk titled "Understanding the Role of Fibroblast Growth Factor in Mantle Cell Proliferation." The event attracted around 90 participants, including several Ph.D. scholars, postdoctoral fellows, project staff, and Principal Investigators (PIs).

Dr. Pratik Chandrani, Dr. Nazia Chaudhary, and Dr. Mahalakshmi Ram of the Alumni Association welcomed the audience and highlighted the importance of staying connected with one's alma mater.

The talk began at 12:00 PM, during which Dr. Sehgal discussed his research, which focuses on the tumor microenvironment and its role in the progression of B-cell lymphomas, including both indolent and aggressive forms, as well as multiple myeloma. He elaborated on how his lab has identified a subpopulation of tumor cells responsible for initiating the growth of the bulk tumor. His work aims to uncover therapeutic targets specific to these initiating cells. Additionally, he is investigating how non-coding RNAs regulate epigenetic marks that contribute to drug resistance in lymphoma. Dr. Sehgal's research has the potential to significantly influence clinical treatments by advancing drug development strategies.

The session concluded with a lively Q&A, with active participation from the attending PIs. Dr. Sehgal was presented with a certificate of appreciation in recognition of his valuable contribution to the event.