Applications of Morphometric Analysis in Palaeontology

A workshop for research scholars in Paleontology was conducted in Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun during 25 July to 8 August, 2010, to train them in the advancing frontiers of morphometry as applied to paleontological research. The workshop was sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India and was coordinated by S.K. Parch of Wadia Institute.

18 scholars from various universities, namely, Aligarh, Amravati, Aurangabad, Banaras, Bangalore, Baroda, Kurukshetra, Madras, Nagpur, Pondicherry, Rajasthan, Udaipur and Wadia Institute participated in the workshop.

The workshop comprised of two components namely fieldwork in Himalayan sedimentary terrain and course work and applications of morphometry, including taxonomy, systematics, cladistics, principal component analysis and discriminant analysis. The resource personnel included Prof. S.K. Shah, P.K. Saraswati, Subhendu Bardhan, S.V. Sabnis and Pinaki Roy from various institutions in addition to the scientists from Wadia Institue namely A.K. Dubey, N.R. Phadtare, Meera Tewari and S.K. Parcha. The course work included powerpoint presentations and practical exercises. The field work was conducted by S.K. Parcha with the support and supervision of S.K. Shah and included various measurement techniques and recording of data and analyses. The candidates were provided with copies of lecture notes and other material to ensure they can make the use of these applications in their research work.

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