Lecture on “Careers in Linguistics”

Panjab University, Thursday, February 6, 2020. The lecture was held at the Linguistics classroom in the Dept. of English and Cultural Studies at Panjab University, Chandigarh, and was organised by the same. Prof. Vaishna Narang, Former Dean SLL&CS –JNU, was the speaker for the event. She is a retired professor of Linguistics from JNU, who has served in the position for over 45 years. She began with a personal anecdote to set the tone for her lecture. After a brief introduction to linguistics and phonetics she covered some of the major areas of applied linguistics. She discussed the role of language as a cognitive as well as a social process, and language as a cultural heritage. She discussed the issues faced by hearing impaired people and the scope of sign language in linguistics. She spoke on the major paradigm shifts in general and applied linguistics in the 20th century. She also discussed the applications of and opportunities available in applied linguistics to the current generation who wish to pursue a career in the subject. She spoke on collaborations, like neurology, pedagogy, and cognition.

In particular she pointed out that the disorders of communication which affect a child’s development leading to dyslexia, aphasia and so on form avenues for research in linguistics as the field is particularly useful in aiding cognitive development.

She then proceeded to cover the technical aspects in linguistics, like voice recognition, ASR which is used in forensics, Text to Speech system, artificial intelligence and neuro-speech, psychological disorders like schizophrenia and so on, thus highlighting the vast scope of linguistics as a career option.

The event was open for all students.

Contacts

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