

## MEU Session Report

**Title:** Hear their journey: Learner Voice Panel Session

**Date & Time:** 2nd December 2025 (Tuesday), 3:15 PM – 5:15 PM

**Venue:** III Floor Lecture Hall, Academic Building, JIPMER Karaikal

**Resource Person:** Dr. Balamurugan M, Associate Dean & Professor of Pathology, JIPMER Karaikal

**Organized by:** Medical Education Unit (MEU), JIPMER Karaikal

### Highlights of the Session

The session was part of MEU's continuous effort to understand learner perspectives, challenges, and expectations in the evolving landscape of medical education. It aimed to create a psychologically safe platform where students could openly articulate their learning difficulties, while faculty engaged with professionalism and reflective listening.

#### 1. Icebreaker Activity – “Complete the Sentence...”

The session began with a brief, lively icebreaker involving the faculty. Participants completed light prompts such as “Teaching feels like...” or “Today I am grateful for...”, which helped set a warm, non-threatening atmosphere. This activity served to ease the room, reduce hierarchical barriers, and prepare faculty to listen with openness.

#### 2. Student Panel Discussion

Five students representing different batches (2020–2025) shared their learning journeys one by one. Each speaker reflected on specific themes:

1. Daily intern life and non-academic distractions
2. Personal well-being and cultural integration
3. Campus infrastructure and learning resources
4. Impact of teaching and faculty interaction
5. Coping with curriculum demands and assessments

Each student narrated their experiences candidly, highlighting barriers, emotional challenges, support needs, and areas for academic improvement.

#### 3. Open Discussion with Faculty

Following the panel, the floor was opened for discussion. The students elaborated further on their concerns when asked. The faculty responded with utmost professionalism, acknowledging the issues, offering perspectives, and engaging constructively without defensiveness. The interaction remained respectful and solution-focused, reflecting a shared commitment to improving the learning environment.

#### 4. Certificate Distribution

Certificates of appreciation were presented by Dr Kusa Kumar Shaha, Dean (JIPMER Karaikal) to the student panellists in recognition of their courage, clarity, and contribution to the session.

#### 5. Vote of Thanks

The Officer-in-Charge, MEU, delivered the vote of thanks, expressing appreciation to: The students for their rich narration of learning difficulties, the faculty for their intuitive and empathetic listening

**Conclusion:**

The MEU session successfully opened an authentic space for learner expression and faculty reflection. It encouraged a culture of listening without judgment, reinforced the value of understanding student experiences, and highlighted areas for pedagogical and systemic improvement. The discussion was well-received by both students and faculty, setting a positive direction for future learner-engagement initiatives at JIPMER Karaikal.



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