

## FACULTY PROFILE



**Name: Dr.K.Manjusha**

Assistant Professor (Microbiology);

Course Coordinator M.Sc.Microbiology

Ph.D(CUSAT)

Microbiology

**Contact details**



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Dr. K. Manjusha is working as Assistant Professor in Microbiology in the Faculty of Ocean Science and Technology, Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies. She is also the Course Coordinator of the M.Sc Microbiology programme and a research guide. Her research interest lies in Marine Microbial Diversity and Bioprospecting. With a doctoral degree from the prestigious Cochin University of Science and Technology, she has made significant contributions to the field through her research, publications, and teaching.

Dr. Manjusha's academic journey spans over 16 years, with 13 years of regular teaching. She was working as Assistant Professor in Microbiology in St. Xavier's College for Women, Aluva prior to joining KUFOS. As the Principal Investigator she has successfully completed Kerala State Council For Science, Technology & Environment funded major project entitled "Diversity and Biotic Potential of Yeasts from the Mangroves of Central Kerala (2018-21) and the Student Project under the SPYTiS-II scheme entitled "An Investigation on the Antimicrobial Activity of Ferrite Nanoparticles. She has authored numerous papers in peer reviewed journals, showcasing her expertise in the domain. Her work primarily revolves around the diversity and bioactive potentials of mangrove yeasts.

In addition to her research, Dr. Manjusha is a committed educator, deeply involved in mentoring the next generation of Microbiologists. As the Board of Studies member of Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam and St. Teresa's College, she has been instrumental in curriculum development in alignment with NEP. Her teaching philosophy emphasizes the integration of theory with practical applications, preparing students for real-world challenges in various fields of Microbiology.

Dr. Manjusha is also an active participant in various national and international conferences, where she shares her insights and collaborates with peers across the globe. Her contributions to the academic community extend beyond research and teaching, as she actively engages in organizing exhibitions, awareness talks, day observations and workshops.

Dr. Manjusha has been making a consistent effort in advancing the field of Marine Microbiology through her innovative research and dedication to teaching.

## **Teaching:**

- ❖ General Microbiology
- ❖ Diagnostic Techniques in Microbiology
- ❖ Bacteriology
- ❖ Environmental Microbiology
- ❖ Food Microbiology

## **Research Areas:**

- Diversity of yeasts in mangroves (Both culture dependent & independent approach)
- Bioprospecting potentials of mangrove yeasts- biosurfactants, pigments, hydrocarbon degradation, hydrolytic enzymes etc
- Plant growth promoting yeasts
- Probiotic yeasts from traditionally fermented foods
- Bacterial enzymes and its statistical optimization

## **Key Management Roles:**

### **At KUFOS**

- Course Coordinator Marine Microbiology
- IQAC member KUFOS – Head of Criterion III
- Website committee member KUFOS
- Co-PI of Centre for Bioactive Substances from Marine Organisms
- Member of Centre for Microbiome Research

## Outside KUFOS

- Editorial Board Member of the MycoIndia Journal of Indian Fungi
- Combine UG – PG Microbiology Board of Studies member, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam. 2017-2020 & 2021- till date
- M.G University of Four Year Undergraduate Programme Team Member for Scrutiny and vetting of Microbiology Syllabus 2023
- Board of Studies member -St.Teresa's College Ernakulam (Autonomous) Nov 2021 – till date

## Publications:

- Research Gate : <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Manjusha-Kozhikotte>
- Google Scholar: [https://scholar.google.com/citations?view\\_op=list\\_works&hl=en&hl=en&user=O\\_U6bhMAAAAJ&pagesize=80](https://scholar.google.com/citations?view_op=list_works&hl=en&hl=en&user=O_U6bhMAAAAJ&pagesize=80)

## Awards & Achievements:

- Nimsi K.A, **K.Manjusha 2024 Best Poster Award**: Beta carotene from manglicolous yeast *Rhodotorula mucilaginosa* PV 8 as natural colour additive for use in food industry **Food Entrepreneurs Conclave (FECO 2.0)**.
- **Arya H** won **Best PG Dissertation award** for the year 2022 conferred by **Ocean Society of India** for the dissertation entitled Plant growth-promoting yeasts(PGPY) from mangrove sediments **guided by Dr.K.Manjusha**
- **K.Manjusha**. Nefla, N Nimsi K A Aneymol V S .2022 **Best paper award** I in Category D for paper entitled A comparative study on the diversity of marine yeasts associated with the sediment and water samples of two mangroves in Kochi at Lake view International seminar. **Lake view Envirothon conclave LAEC 2022** Organized by Sacred Hearts College, Thevara

- Nimsi K A, **K Manjusha\***, Nefla N, John J A, Aneymol V S .2021 **Best Oral Presentation** for paper entitled Carotenoid Pigments from Marine Yeasts and Their Varied Applications 33rd **Kerala Science Congress**
- Nefla.N, **K. Manjusha\***, Aneymol V.S and Sreedevi N. Kuty. 2020. **Best Poster Presentation** for paper entitled Diversity of Yeasts from the mangroves of Mulavukadu: A pre and post Kerala floods study. **32 nd Kerala Science Congress.**
- **K.Manjusha. Best Oral Presentation** for paper entitled 'Use of protease from non-toxigenic *Vibrio* sp.V26 in dissociation of cell lines'. October 2014 awarded during the UGC sponsored **National seminar on New Vistas in Microbial Sciences**. Organized by Department of Microbiology, MA College Kothamagalam

#### **Ongoing Projects:**

- KERALA STATE COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT funded major project entitled "Diversity and Biotic Potential of Yeasts from the Mangroves of Central Kerala Rs 12,51,800 – Completed (2018-21).
- Funded Student Project (5/ SPYTiS-II/2016/KSCSTE)-under the SPYTiS-II scheme of entitled An Investigation on the Antimicrobial Activity of Ferrite Nanoparticle

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