

SPARK



A Newsletter for Don Bosco University family, alumni and friends

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DEDICATION OF TAPESIA CAMPUS

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Fifth Convocation of the University



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Message from the Vice Chancellor

The advance team moved in to Tapesia Gardens on 4th July 2016; the faculty occupied their residences a month later; the students came in to the hostels on 16th August; the inauguration of the Autumn Semester took place on 18th August; and, the dedication of the Tapesia Campus to the people of North-East India and students from round the world on 23rd October marked the culmination of a long journey to find a permanent home for the University... and what a journey that has been!

For the members of staff, the faculty and the students, this move from the Azara Campus to the Tapesia Campus of the University has been indeed a transition in every sense of that term – new surroundings, new challenges, new joys, new opportunities...

For me, personally, what keeps bringing a smile to my face these last months has been the many small and big ways everyone here at the Campus has shown a sense of joy, pride, ownership about the place and its ambience... The feelings and, especially, the attitudes have been infectious – every visitor too keeps echoing the very same sentiments “It is good to be here!”

Years back, reading through ‘Lessons for Living’ by Charles Swindoll, I remember being impressed by what he wrote about ‘attitudes’: ‘We cannot change our past... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing that we can do is to play on the one string we have and that is our attitude... I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you... we are in charge of our attitudes.’...

Here at Tapesia, the ‘attitudes’ – that’s what has made all the difference.

The author gave an interesting example of what it means to control the thinking that leads attitude formation...

Once my wife was baking a cake for our daughter to take to the school bake sale. She does not like to bake but was willing to make the effort. After several hours when the cake was removed from the oven and the icing was applied, it began splitting down the middle with a large crevice.

The cake was ‘ruined’. It was late in the evening. Too late to start over or to go to the store and buy a ‘real’ cake.

My wife’s inner dialogue was stated loud, clear, and audible, “This is terrible. I can’t send that cake to school. What will people think? I know I can’t bake. Why did I try? Everything I do fails. I will never bake again!” A mood of anger and frustration filled the kitchen.



As an outside observer, I took a chance and suggested a theme cake. “Why not put a sign on it that says, ‘Grand Canyon Cake.’”

This bit of humor helped her to change the inner dialogue. It was no longer a disaster. It was only an annoyance, and it did not have to be that. The mood changed, the cake was sent to school, and it did sell.... In fact the ‘Grand Canyon Cake’ stole the show!

The year is coming to an end. A new year beckons – new challenges, new struggles and pains, new joys and opportunities... But right through all what life holds in store for us, it is our thinking and our attitudes that will make our lives better, more meaningful and fulfilling for us...

Watch that self-talk, that inner running dialogue that you have with yourself, handle that ‘inner observer’ who seems to sit in the corner and watch everything you do... The ‘self-talk’ - It does change everything!

May this Christmas bring you peace and inner joy as never before! May the New Year be replete with ‘moments of grace’ for you and your Dear Ones that make you cry out, “It’s good to be me!... It’s good to be here!”

*- Fr Stephen Mavely SDB
Rector & Vice Chancellor*

Dedication of Tapesia Campus of the University

The University on 23 October 2016 held a Dedication Ceremony of its Permanent Campus at Tapesia Gardens.

The hour long programme began with lighting of the lamp by the Chief Guest Fr. Pascual Chavez, Former Rector Major of Salesians of Don Bosco and the 9th successor of Don Bosco, Archbishop of Guwahati Most. Rev. John Moolachira, Guest of Honour Dr. Ercole Lucchini, Provincial of Salesians of Don Bosco, Guwahati Province and Chancellor, ADBU Rev. Fr. VM Thomas, Vice Chancellor Fr (Dr) Stephen Mavelly and other dignitaries, followed by a prayer dance by the students of the School of Technology.



Welcoming the gathering of over 600 invited guests, faculty and students, the Vice Chancellor Fr. (Dr) Stephen Mavelly said, "Let me begin with saying a big THANK YOU to you. I am not exaggerating when I say 'you have doubled our joy!'.

'Journeying in hope is what the University Community has done these past nine years. Ever since a tryst with destiny brought us to this land, the road to Tapesia, it began on 24th August 2007. Since then, it has been a vision, a tantalising vision that kept eluding us over nine long years. During these years, we've had our hopes raised time and again only to be dashed to the ground every time, any number of times. But, today they remains the tales of yesterday. Today we do not look back at the University, at the pain, the anxiety, and the heart breaking disappointments that dogged our path to Tapesia. Today, as our theme for the year says, 'our eyes are glued on the present moment'. Today, we see only immense possibilities, opportunities waiting to be recognized, grasped and appropriated – carpe diem as our motto says. Today we look forward to the days ahead, holding promise of developing this land into the ideal setting for an exceptionally attractive campus that will provide the best of ambience and opportunities for our students and faculty"

The Provincial of Salesians of Guwahati Province, Rev. Fr. VM Thomas said, "We are witnesses to this historical event. 23 October 2016 will not be forgotten in the annals of Don Bosco University, and the entire Don Bosco Society all over India and across the world. When history of education in North East India will be written in the future, this date will figure prominently as the date on which Don Bosco Society took the first small, but momentous step of breaking the ground in its journey of actualizing the educational dream of thousands of young boys and girls in this part of the great country India".

"My greatest desire was the University project to succeed. It was on 10 November 2009 I had the privilege of laying the foundation of this campus, and now we have the great satisfaction of dedicating this marvellous campus to this great nation



and to the world since students from 130 countries followed your online courses,” said Fr. Pascual Chavez, Chief Guest at the event. Expressing his hope that the presence of Don Bosco University in North East India will “facilitate the building of the skill development of young people who will come to the centre of learning and research”

Encouraging the gathering and the University to stand firm and strive forward, he said, “We live in a time..where potential extinction of humanity is a possibility, a time when few and fewer people can harm more and more people, a time when science and technology may not hold all the answers but remain indispensable to any solution...if what we experience now is a movie, it might have been okay, but this is a fact, not fiction. We have to turn to the problems and face them. This is your life, you are the great pioneers of Don Bosco University. This is your moment, and it is all down to you! Carpe Diem!”

Following his speech Fr. Chavez unveiled the plaque of dedication that reads, “*This stone commemorates the dedication of the Tapesia Campus of the University to the people of Northeast India by Fr Pascual Chavez Villanueva on 23 October 2016*”.

Fifth Convocation of the University

On 10th September 2016, the University celebrated its Fifth Convocation at Azara Campus.



Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, the Honourable Chief Minister of Assam graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Fr. VM Thomas, Chancellor of the University, Fr. (Dr) Stephen Mavelly, Vice Chancellor, Fr. Joseph Nellanatt, Pro Vice Chancellor, Dr. Basil Koirakara, Registrar, Fr. (Dr) Francis Fernandez, Controller of Examinations, eminent guests from other Universities, parents, faculty and graduating students attended the convocation.

After the Convocation Ceremony was formally declared open by the Chancellor, Fr.(Dr) Stephen Mavelly, the Vice Chancellor delivered a welcome address and also gave a report on the University.

Congratulating both the graduates and the parents, the Vice Chancellor said, “All of us here without exception are swimmers in the sea, on our own continuous journey of learning without boundaries, whether at home or at work, whether planned or by chance, whether we are graduating today or are here to support and congratulate the graduating students... Learning continues throughout life, and a lifelong learning is not just a concept, but a reality of the modern world. All study is demanding as the graduating students already discovered. Fitting study around social obligations and activities, works and family commitments is indeed a challenge today. And meeting that challenge successfully is enormously satisfying. And so let me congratulate the graduating students and their parents whether they are here on campus or whether they are attending this in absentia or through the live streaming – Well done! Congratulations on behalf of Assam Don Bosco University!”

Winner of Chancellor’s medal for outstanding contribution to campus life, Kangkana Barman in her valedictory speech mentioned how the university has motivated and encouraged her to recognize her uniqueness and allowed her to evolve and grow into a better individual over the years. She concluded saying, “Our promise to the staff and management of this University is that we will be your ambassadors of goodwill wherever we are; we will contribute wholeheartedly to all the plans envisaged for the alumni and will continue to be the flag bearers of this University.”

Ankita Patowary, awarded double gold medal for securing highest CGPA in Civil Engineering and the prestigious Vice Chancellor’s medal expressed her gratitude towards the university for moulding her into a confident and dynamic individual and igniting the spark in her to achieve success in life. She mentioned “It fills my heart with immense pride when I remember that from this University I attended the 2015 Republic Day function in New Delhi as one of the 100 meritorious Indian students and sat alongside Prime Minister Narendra Modiji and the American President Barack Obama.”



The Fifth Convocation celebrated the graduation of 648 students of which 172 students received the degree of Bachelor of Technology, 31 Master of Technology, 54 Master of Social Work, 23 Master of Computer Applications, 37 Master of Business Administration, 10 MA in Psychological Counseling, 9 MA in Human Rights, 11 MA in Mass Communication, 11 MA in Education and 16 students received M.Sc. in Physics and 7 scholars were awarded Doctoral Degrees.

Blessing of Foundation for Academic Block- II (The Concourse) Tapesia Campus

Archbishop of Guwahati Most. Rev. John Moolachira along with Dr. Ercole Lucchini, in the presence of the Vice Chancellor Fr (Dr) Stephen Mavelly, the Pro Vice Chancellor Fr. Joseph Nellanat, other dignitaries of the University, contractors and construction workers on 24th October 2016 laid the foundation of the upcoming Administrative Block at Tapesia Gardens.



National Workshop on Academic Audit – Principles and Practices

A two day national workshop on Academic Audit – Principle and Practices was held on 14-15 October 2016, with 65 participants from various colleges and universities of Northeast India.

The workshop inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Former Director of NAAC, Prof. A.N. Rai had five sessions on various vital aspects of academic audit.

The first session on 'Procedures and Processes' was conducted by Prof. K.G Bhattacharyya, Dept. of Chemistry, Gauhati University. Speaking about the importance of academic audit for creating a constructive academic environment and improved functionality of teachers, students and the departments as a whole, he insisted that 'internal as well as external academic audit is to be carried out at institutional level and university level respectively'.

The second session on 'Tools for Measurement of Quality' was presented by Prof. Marion Mathew CJ, Head and Dean, Allahabad School of Education, SHIATS University. Prof. Mathew began her talk by discussing about the role, function and relevance of the OAQ (Office of Academic Quality). She discussed about the various parameters for determining quality while focusing on the tools for data quality assurance and also dwelt on interesting classroom techniques for performance measurement and deploying lean thinking to improve graduate quality and service delivery in higher education.

Prof. Nagaraj, Dept. of Mass communication, Mizoram University presented a topic "Role of Academic Audit in Improving Quality of Education" in the Third Session. He emphasized on the concrete meaning of the term 'audit' and spoke about the



various crucial aspects of higher education in India and underlined the key role of academic audit for improving the quality of education.

The 4th session on ‘Effective Documentation’ conducted by Prof. K.N. Bhatt, G.B. Pant Social Science Institute, gave a detailed understanding of the various ways and steps for effective documentation. He discussed about different types of documentation based on target audience and learning preferences and also explained about writing an effective doctoral thesis.

Prof. A.C. Bhagabati, former Vice Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi University, presented the topic of the Fifth Session “Principle and Best practices” in which he addressed some of the best practices for a healthy academic environment by sharing his experiences. He mentioned in his talk that 24x7 library facility, interactive sessions with students and tutorials, etc are some of the key practices for improving the academic environment and achieving better performance particularly in higher education. The Conference concluded with Panel Discussion with Prof. A.C. Bhagabati, Prof. Nagaraj, Prof. K.N. Bhatt and Prof. Marion Mathew as panelists.

Collaboration with Google Inc

The technology giant Google Inc. and Don Bosco University has agreed to collaborate in developing mobile apps to meet the needs of the people of the northeast. The university further agreed to provide support to Google Inc. if the latter wishes to open an office in the region.

“Google sent us a proposal for collaboration. We accepted it,” said the University’s Pro Vice Chancellor Fr. Joseph Nellanatt. The proposal was the outcome of the Google University Summit 2016 in Delhi held on 29th September, where the HoD of the Department of Computer Science & Engineering and IT, Prof. Y Jayanta Singh and Asst. Prof. Vijay Prasad represented the University.



Prof. Y Jayanta Singh said that the apps would not be limited to any one field and would primarily focus on breaking the language barrier in North East India. “Earlier, apps would only be developed by big companies. Now, Google is opening up to the idea of hyper-local apps. It has sought support from our university to prepare apps using Android and other softwares,” said Prof. Singh.

He added that the apps to be developed as an outcome of the collaboration would consume less space and be handier. “The number of mobile app users is increasing every day. That is why people want customized apps for their organizations,” said Prof. Singh.

The University is also planning to offer a subject on ‘Mobile App Development’ to students with Google providing the infrastructure for related lab work.

Events at the School of Technology

AICTE Vigilance Awareness Week

As per the AICTE letter to all Technical Institutions, the School of Technology observed the Vigilance Awareness Week from 31st October to 5th November 2016.

The observance of the week was conducted by spreading general awareness through the daily morning assembly address, group discussions and the “Citizen Integrity Pledge” involving the management faculty members and the students.



As part of this Vigilance Week, a Debate Competition was organized on 2nd November in association with Airport Authority of India with a topic ‘Whistle Blower Mechanism and Public Participation in Control of Corruption’ where 12 students participated.

Nilay Bhandar Kayastha from the Department of Electrical Engineering won the first prize while second prize and third prize went to Ilakshi Deka and Shreyashi Das respectively from the Department of Electronics and Communications Engineering. Three official teams headed by Joint General Manager (HR), for RED, NER, Shri S. K. Upadhya, from Airport Authority of India witnessed the event and expressed appreciation to the University for successfully organizing the debate competition on a burning and sensitive topic.

A Panel Discussion was also conducted on 4th November, 2016 on the topic “Public Participation in Promoting Integrity and Eradicating Corruption”. The panelists included Mr. Mahesh Kumar Seth, Chief General Manager, BSNL, Fr. Joseph Nellanatt, Pro Vice Chancellor, Fr. Francis Fernandez, Controller of Examinations and Dr. Manoranjan Kalita, Director of the School of Technology.

The Chief Guest, Mr. M. K. Seth, CGM, BSNL, Assam telecom circle, in his address, emphasized on self-reliance, self-vigilance, self-visualization and self-realization. According to him every one wishes to be happy and for this continuous positive input to body, mind and soul of self is indispensable. For body good food, for mind good thought and for soul pure love are the positive inputs. If every individual carries a healthy positive spirit, then society will automatically become corruption free.

Prajyuktam 2016 - Techno Fest

The sixth edition of the annual technical festival, PRAJYUKTTAM 2016, organized by School of Technology, Assam Don Bosco University was held from 20th to 22nd of October, 2016. The three day tech fest was an amalgamation of events organized by various co-curricular clubs and a special event for school and junior college students with the motto “Explore Innovate Inspire”.

A mini marathon was organized on 16th October which saw over a hundred participants. The marathon was flagged off at 6:00 AM by Shiva Thapa, an Olympian and Arjuna Awardee from the Nehru Stadium.

20th October 2016 marked the opening of Prajyuktam 2016 together with Bosco TechFest and NERICT 2016. Mr. Arup kumar Mishra,





Director, ASTEC, presided over as the Chief Guest of the event. Mr. Subhash Basumatary, Director, Sports Authority of India and Mr. Sreekanth K Vijai, Senior Manager, South Indian Bank, graced the occasion as the Guests of Honor. Students and faculty from various schools and colleges from North East were present for the ceremony as part of the Bosco TechFest and NERICT 2016. After addresses from the chief guest and guests of honor, Prajyuktam was officially declared open by Mr. Abhijit Matak, President, Prajyuktam 2016.

This year's Prajyuktam saw a rise in the participation from various institutions in North East in competitions like AutoCAD, RoboWar, Circuit Debugging, Labyrinth, Pro Design Creator, Game of Codes, Tower Making, Dream Planner, Debate, etc.

Bosco Hack 2016

The Department of Computer Science & Engineering and Information Technology organised a two day ethical hacking workshop 'BoscoHack – 2016' on 15-16 October 2016.

Mr. Lakshya Jyoti Borah, co-founder and Chief Technology Officer of Gratia Technology Private Ltd. and Mr. Indrajeet Bhuyan, a 2nd year B.Tech student from Don Bosco University were the resource persons.

The topics covered in the workshop included introduction to ethical hacking, foot printing and reconnaissance, scanning networks, enumeration, Google hacking; advanced Google hacking, Online account hacking and security, data hiding techniques, android hacking and SMS spoofing, Trojans and RATS, hacking email accounts and tracing, introduction to DVWA and Kali Linux, system and windows hacking, Metasploit, reverse engineering, cross-site request forgery, session hijacking, SQL injection, hacking web applications, password cracking, social engineering, cyber laws and introduction to bugs bounty.



“It was an awesome experience to be able to teach more than 120 students from different institutions of the region and outside,” said Mr Indrajeet Bhuyan, who had earlier made headlines in finding loopholes in Indian Banking Security system and also by developing a smallest possible code in the world (2kb) which could crash the popular social networking application ‘Whatsapp’.

Bhuyan said, “Our workshop on ethical hacking and cyber security was different from other workshops as we mainly focused on giving hands-on sessions rather than just theoretical knowledge. And also, we covered the latest case studies in this area.”

“Young minds are always tempted towards hacking, so it is necessary to give them a proper direction, explaining the good side of this field so that they understand the importance of security and understand the responsibilities involved,” he added.

Golaghat based cyber security trainer, Mr. Lakshya Jyoti Borah said, “I am glad that Don Bosco University provided a platform for students to explore this area to learn and sharpen the knowledge of students and participants in cyber hacking”

The event was sponsored by Github, Cybrary, Skillshare and HackerRank.

Colloquium on Disruptive Potential of Solar PV and Electric Vehicles

On 22 August, 2016, the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering organized a Colloquium on 'Disruptive Potential of Solar PV and Electric Vehicles'.



Prof. Kailash Srivastava, ABB Global Research Lab, Sweden was the speaker of the colloquium. Prof. Srivastava is a power system professional with well-rounded experience in various sectors across the globe.

Speaking about various potential prospects of solar photo voltaic (PV) and electric vehicles, he said, "Food, water and energy are inseparably connected. Water is an input for producing agricultural goods in the fields and along the entire agro-food supply chain. Energy is required to pump water from groundwater or surface water sources. Energy is also required to distribute water and food, to power tractors and irrigation machinery and to process and transport agricultural goods and as such the world of 2030 will be hungrier for energy".

He also covered topics on the future of electricity generation, use of electricity, solar cells, lithium-ion batteries and sensors, and how the power system would develop to meet the needs of consumers.

Prof. Srivastava predicted that in this new era of energy revolution solar PV will become the world's main source of energy well before 2030 and that the complementary technologies that will, together with PV, disrupt the whole energy industry are electric vehicles and self-driving cars.

Participants included students from the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes of the university especially those under the electrical and electronics disciplines and research scholars and faculty members and the talk ended with a fruitful interaction session.

Extension Activity - Training on House Wiring

As a part of the University's outreach programme christened 'Swabalamban', the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering organised a week-long free training programme on house wiring for the educated unemployed youth of the locality from 28th November to 3rd December 2016.

'Swabalamban' which began three years back is the University's outreach programme, which aims at skilling and empowering the unemployed local youth, thus enabling them with the capacity of self-employment and livelihood. The programme had been hugely successful in the previous two years and some of the trainees are now either self-employed or being employed in various organisations, by virtue of the training they received.

This year's training programme, sponsored by the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering has 8 participants from Hatkhowapara, Noapara, Bongara and Godhuli Bazar area of Azara locality.



Workshop on Introduction of Simulation of Mechanical Systems using ABAQUS and MATLAB

A two day workshop on “Introduction of Simulation of Mechanical System by using ABAQUS and MATLAB” was organized by the Department of Mechanical Engineering, 24-25 September 2016.



Addressing the participants at the beginning of the first sessions, Prof. Manoranjan Kalita, Director, School of Technology spoke on the necessity of using ABAQUS and MATLAB for better understanding various subjects in Engineering.

Dr. Kalyan Kr. Das, Registrar, Assam Science and Technology, gave basic ideas on the application of Finite Element Method and Finite Difference Method in Wind Engineering. Other resource persons who conducted a session each are Mr. Abhishek Sarma, Mr. Tapash J Kalita and Mr. Sidharth Borkotoky and Pallav Gogoi, Assistant Professors of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, the School of Technology.

Asst. Prof. Pallav Gogoi, also the Co-ordinator of the workshop said, “The sessions conducted in this workshop were all very interactive and beneficial for the students. We are planning to hold more of such workshop next year”.

Workshop on Andro Engine

The Department of Mechanical Engineering and Techtron Technologies in association with Elan 2017, IIT Hyderabad organized a two day Andro Engine Workshop, 17-18 October 2016.

As the name suggests, ANDRO is a combination of two words – Android & Arduino. The workshop is a hybrid of different engineering streams - Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science Engineering & Information Technology.

The concept of this workshop is to overhaul a 2 Cylinder 4 Stroke petrol engine & use of an Android phone as a developer base and an Arduino microcontroller to ignite or start the engine instead of the engine key.

The workshop was conducted by Mr. Durga Prasad Yadav, Sr Research Engineer, along with his assistant Mr. Vinod Kumar and Mr Kashish Nagpal, Director of Techtron Technologies.



During these two days, participants were exposed to the introduction of an IC Engine to embedded system in a microcontroller, which help them get a fair idea on the performance and execution of Arduino. The resource person engaged the participants in a hands-on programming on Arduino and Bluetooth in their laptops which were set parallel with the resource person.

The workshop was supported by Draco Designs (Art & Tech partner), Allahabad Bank, Royal Enfield (Chirag) & Tech Variable.

Interaction with Alumni

The Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering organized a series of interaction programmes with the alumni of the Department. Mr. Nabajeet Deb, 2015 Batch, currently working at Nokia as a system Engineer was invited on 27th September. With the 7th Semester students having a course in 'Telecom and Switching', the interaction was focussed on this area. He spoke about various techniques of telecommunication and switching, and also displayed few components and device related to the same.



On 13th October, Ms Sukanya Bhattacharjya, also 2015 Batch, currently working at Tech Mahindra was invited to speak on 'interview and placement related skills'. She encouraged the students to grab opportunities even when they feel that they are not yet fully prepared. She said, "Secure a place for an interview, just show up. Who knows, you may have the right skills required by the company. You have nothing to lose; even if you are not selected, you will come away with an experience, and that matters!" Assuring the students that with an effort and determination, a graduate from Don Bosco University can get placements in any of the top companies in the world, she said, "If I can, believe that you too can. Focus on skills which are on demand and whenever you need help, we are always there for you; just reach out and we will be there right beside you".

Workshop on 'Fusion 360'



The Department of Mechanical Engineering on 19th October organized a one day workshop on 'Fusion 360', a cloud powered 3D CAD/CAM software for product design that connects an entire product development in a single cloud based platform that works on both Mac and PC. It is developed by Autodesk Inc, a multinational software corporation that makes software for architects, engineers, media and entertainment industries.

The resource person Mr. Amarpreet Singh Sadhu, HoD CAD/CAM, RCPL started the workshop with a presentation on 'a brief introduction of RCPL and Autodesk'. After the introductory

presentation, the participants had a hands-on training in the Artificial Intelligence Lab. They were also introduced to commonly used 3D CAD modelling softwares for Mechanical Engineers like Creo, Catia, Solid Works etc.

Extension Activity - Basic Computer Literacy Training for Neighbourhood Women

VanitAgrata, Women Empowerment Cell of the Department of Computer Science & Engineering and IT organized a two day training on Basic Computer Literacy for the neighbourhood women, 24-25 November, 2016.

The initiative, conceptualized by VanitAgraha aimed at providing basic computer literacy training to neighbourhood women to enable them to use computers and related technology efficiently and equip them with basic skills required for surfing the internet. Various hands-on training covered during these two days included – basics of using a computer, basics of internet and emailing, and Microsoft Office Word.



A one day training on the same topic had also been organized for Rangmahal High School Lady Teachers, North Guwahati on 21 November.

Events at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences

National Seminar on Development Perspectives

National Seminar on Development Practice was organized by the Department of Social Work in partnership with SSNDR, Delhi on 13th October 2016 at Tapesia Campus.

Fr. (Dr) Stephen Mavelly, the Vice Chancellor, inaugurated the seminar highlighting the concept of development perspectives and the type of perspectives the social work organizations should possess.



Dr. Basil Koikara, Registrar, ADBU presented an overview of the origin and growth of Assam Don Bosco University while each Director of Diocesan Social Service Societies (DSSSs) from Delhi region made a presentation on the problems and issues faced and the responses to address these issues in their dioceses in North India. The 3rd Year MSW students presented various issues faced by North-East States in India and suggested the way forward.

There was high appreciation by the students as they could assimilate the key issues and the responses by the DSSSs. The Directors of DSSSs were highly enthused by the rich cultural diversity of North East India and were educated on the issues affecting the people in this part of the world.

The Seminar was attended by 7 Diocesan Social Service Societies of Delhi, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Shimla-Chandigarh, Jammu-Kashmir, Jalandhar and Rohtak and students and faculty members of the Department of Social Work.

National Press Day Celebration

The Dept. of Mass Communication joined the rest of the country in celebrating the National Press Day on 16th November, 2016. Senior Journalist, Vice President Indian Journalists Union (IJU) and two times member of Press Council of India (PCI) Mr. Geetartha Pathak was the Chief Guest for the occasion. He spoke eloquently on media integrity, media ownership and concentration of power and safety of media personnel.

National Press Day is symbolic of a free and responsible press in India. This was the day on which the Press Council of India started functioning as a moral watchdog to ensure that not only did the press maintain the high standards expected from this powerful medium but also that it was not fettered by the influence or threats of any extraneous factors.



As part of the programme, the students of the department displayed wall magazines and posters on various issues concerning the press in India. The program was attended by the faculties and students of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

'Photographing in Natural Light' Workshop

A two day workshop on 'Photographing in Natural Light' was organized by the Dept. of Mass Communication from 25th-26th October, 2016. The workshop was conducted by Mr. El Dhar, professional photographer/cinematographer, who introduced to the students to see and understand natural light and put it to use to create images with depth and dimension. The workshop was also an introduction to manipulating natural light using reflectors, diffusers and other readily available materials.

Workshop on Project Cycle Management

The Department of Social Work organized a workshop on Project Cycle Management at Tapesia Campus for 22 participants hailing from 11 Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Universities.

The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Riju Sharma, Director, School of Social Sciences and Humanities on 21st morning and was concluded on 25th evening with the presentation of certificates by Fr. (Dr.) Stephen Mavelly, Vice Chancellor and Dr. Peter Paul, Development Officer.

The five day programme, facilitated by Dr. Lukose P J, HoD, Department of Social Work, Assam Don Bosco University, aimed to improve an understanding on the different stages of project and its management, i.e. Planning (identification and designing), Implementation, Monitoring, Evaluation, Documentation and learning the lessons for the next project or programme. The workshop also dealt with the local resource mobilization techniques and strategies.



Ms Sotheavy Srey, Director, The Alliance for Conflict Transformation spoke on how the youth has a pivotal role to play in creating an eco-sensitive world around us which will contribute in protecting our planet from destruction.

A total of 100 participants, from graduates to research scholars in various disciplines like Nursing, Sociology, Psychology and Education took part in the workshop. Participants of the workshop represented various institutes in Guwahati such as Gauhati University, Cotton College State University, Assam State University (Silchar), Dispur Nursing College, Karmashree Hiteshwar Saikia College, Pandu College, Nonoi College (Nagaon), Tolaram Bafna Hospital and Assam Don Bosco University.

Lecture Series on Human Rights and Media

The Department of Mass Communication conducted three lecture series on 'Human Rights and the Media' spread across the months of October and November, 2016. The lectures were delivered by Dr. Ursula Fasselt, University of Applied Sciences, Frankfurt, Germany.

Dr. Ursula introduced the concept of Human Rights and the UN protection system, freedom of expression and justification of the limitation of freedom of expression as per Article 19 and 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. She also talked about the access to information for the marginalized section of the society, the balance between cultural and religious value and universal human rights (esp. women rights and family law). The lectures were attended by the Semester I and Semester III students of the department.



Workshop on School Audit

The first one day workshop on school audit was conducted on August 26th, 2016 by the Department of Education with objectives to prepare the participants to undertake school audit as a part of their course requirement and to develop their understanding about 'school' processes, components and culture.

A follow up workshop was organized on 27th October with the following objectives (i) To provide opportunity to the students to share the work done so far with their peers and learn from each other (ii) To practice how to make observations and analyse them vis-à-vis aims of education, concepts of knowledge and learning.

An in depth discussion on the roles played by school curriculum - a plan which guides the actions in school was held and the participants learned various aims of a curriculum including – to develop sensitivity to others well-being and feeling, to nurture independence of thought and action and aesthetic appreciation, learning to learn and contribute to the society.

Events at the School of Life Sciences

Research on Anti-Malarial Drugs

The University's Director of Research, Prof. JN Vishwakarma's research proposal on 'the development of novel anti-malarial drugs' has been recently approved for funding by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India (DBT).

This proposed research will be carried out in collaboration with a team of Scientists from Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow.

In this research project, the research team led by Prof. Vishwakarma at Don Bosco University proposes to develop novel synthetic strategies for hitherto unreported molecular hybrids with potent anti-parasitic properties. The molecules synthesized by his team after thorough structural elucidation using modern spectroscopic and analytical techniques, will subsequently be submitted to the research team at CDRI, Lucknow, for the evaluation of their anti-parasitic activities.



Presently, his team is working on a project titled 'medicinal and aromatic plants of NE India' generously funded by ICAR. In this project, he focuses on isolation of active ingredients of the traditionally known important medicinal and aromatic plant materials available in the region. Two research scholars have been employed to work with Prof. Vishwakarma in this project.

Earlier this year Prof. Vishwakarma and his dedicated co-workers had successfully completed a research project on 'Anti-inflammatory Drugs' funded by DBT, and in collaboration with Dr. L. Indira Singha, a Biotechnologist, working at St. Anthony's College, Shillong, Meghalaya. In this project, the researchers at Don Bosco University were successful in synthesizing over 200 novel molecular candidates, the biological studies of which are being studied at Shillong. Interestingly, two research scholars employed in the project have been awarded Doctor of Philosophy with 7-8 publications each in International Journals of repute.

Prof. Vishwakarma is also the Director of the School of Life Sciences, Don Bosco University which offers Masters Degree courses in Biotechnology, Biochemistry and Microbiology with plans to offer Masters Degrees in Zoology and Botany.

Events at the School Commerce and Management

DBIM Excellence Award

The School of Commerce and Management solemnized the annual DBIM Excellence Award on September 9, 2016 at the picturesque Kharghuli Campus, Guwahati. The Excellence Award was constituted in 2011 to honor those students who demonstrate excellence not only in the field of academics but also in social commitment, extra-curricular activities and overall conduct, to the extent that they set examples for others to emulate.

Mr. Vinod Seshan, DC Kamrup, was the Chief Guest for the function. Fr. V. M. Thomas, Provincial, Guwahati Province, was the Guest of Honor and Mr. Rohit Suri, renowned photographer and founder of Studio V18 was the special guest for the occasion.

This year the award was split among Mr. Damian, Mr. Dency, and Miss. Mathia. Only Mr. Damian could be present in person to receive his award. The excellence award consisted of a certificate, a citation and a cash prize of ₹50,000.



The Chief Guest, Mr. Vinod Seshan, IAS, in his address stressed on the need for service in keeping with the theme for the award ceremony. He recollected his personal association with Don Bosco and how he has been motivated by the selfless, dedicated service offered by the Salesians of Don Bosco.

RESEARCH PULSE

As usual the last quarter of the year 2016 was full of activities - research proposal presentations, pre-submission seminars, Viva Voce examinations, concluding phase of PhD Course Work 2016 etc. The details of these activities are presented here-under:

Research Proposal Presentation

As many as 10 research scholars from various disciplines of the University presented their research proposals. Their proposals were accepted except in some cases where minor modifications were suggested.

1. Satyabrata Borgohain
2. Aliya Marie Abreu
3. D'Silva Jovi Jose Salvador
4. Gunjan Gourav Borah
5. MC Rasmin
6. Payodhi Mukta Pradhan
7. Balmuri Marak
8. Monimugdha Bhuyan
9. Sanatan Kumar Nath
10. Sandhya Banti Dutta Borah



Pre-submission Seminar: Four of research scholars presented their pre-submission seminars

1. Nandita Prodhani - Physics
2. Daino Basumatary - Social Work
3. Terence Mukhia - Comparative Religion
4. Neikehienuo Mephuo - Language Studies

Submission of Doctoral Theses: Four of our research scholars have been awarded PhD degree

1. KS Joseph for his thesis entitled, "Substance use and behavior variance among college students: alcohol and tobacco use west Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh"
2. Ranjay Das for his thesis entitled, "Issue of power system economics and operational planning"
3. Shunan Kaping for her thesis, "Green approaches for the synthesis of pyrazolopyrimidines and study of their biological activity"
4. Chakradhar Das for his contribution on, "Development of sensor based system for detection of mature muga larva"



PhD Coursework 2016

The concluding phase of the course work was conducted from 31/Oct/2016 to 05/Nov/2016. This phase was marked by presentation of review of literature and written examination on subject specific course. After the declaration of the result, the successful candidates shall be permitted to proceed with their proposal and registration.

Research Publications

- Bikash Agarwal, Trishna Moni Das, Sunandan Baruah, Improvement of Photocatalytic Activity of Zinc Oxide nanoparticles using Zinc Sulphide Shell" ADBU-Journal of Engineering, Technology" Nat. Conf. on Emerging Global Trends in Engineering & Technology (EGTET), (26-27 February, 2016), ADBU, Assam, 2016
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- Bobby Sharma, Usha Mary Sharma and Abdul Kayum Ali, , Impact Analysis of Jelly Fish Attack in MANETs, ADBU-Journal of Engineering Technology, AJET, ISSN: 2348-7305, Volume 4(1), 2016, Pp. 164-168 Nat. Conf. on Emerging Global Trends in Engineering & Technology (EGTET), (26-27 February, 2016), ADBU, Assam, 2016
- Dominic Meyieho and Ashit Paul, Migration and Labour Movement for Economic Development in South Asia (pp. 708-711) Socio-Economic Development of South Asian Countries- Past, Present and Beyond
- Gypsy Nandi, Zenith Azim, A Survey on Trust and Distrust Propagation for Web Pages, ADBU-Journal of Engineering Technology, National Conference on Emerging Global Trends in Engineering and Technology 2016
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- Gypsy Nandi, Arindam Roy, Priyanshu Thakuria, A Study on Efficient Community Detection Techniques in Social Networks, International Journal of Advance Research in Science and Engineering 3rd International Conference on recent Innovations in Science, Engineering and Management, 2016
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- Kangkan Medhi, Syed Sazzad Ahmed, Swarup Roy, Information Theoretic Approaches for Detecting Causality in Gene Regulatory Networks ICTCS, ACM Journal Second International Conference on ICT for Competitive Strategies, 2016
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- Kaustubh Bhattacharyya and Nilakshi Devi, A Soft Computing Framework for Brain Tumor Detection through MRI Images, ADBU-Journal of Engineering Technology, 2016

- Kaustubh Bhattacharyya and Minajul Haque, A review on speech filtering and its different techniques, ADBU-Journal of Engineering Technology, 2016
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- Madhurankhi Goswami, Purnita Bhattacharyya, Prediction of microbial community stability through Lorenz Curve: A potential tool for microbial community studies, Journal of Applied and Fundamental Sciences, 2016
- Neelam Bara, Socio Economic status and Mental Health of Women: With Special reference to the women in Assam South Asia- Past, Present and Beyond Volume-II International Seminar on Socio-Economic development of South Asian countries-past, present and beyond 2016
- Nibedita Kapil, Krishna G. Bhattacharyya, Heavy metal intrusion in to a few selected fish species from an urban wetland habitat and the likely impacts on human health National Seminar on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development, 2016
- Ningombam Thoiba Singh, Effective uses of Light Weight Concrete Journal of Civil Engineering and Environmental Technology, 2016
- Nissi Paul, and Yumnam Jayanta, Tri-level Unified Framework for Human Gait, ADBU J.Engg.Tech, V4, March, 2016
- Nupur Choudhury, Smriti Priya Medhi, Rupesh Mandal, A Study on Feature Extraction for Face Recognition using Self Organising Maps, ADBU-Journal of Engineering Technology, National Conference on Emerging Global Trends in Engineering and Technology, 2016
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- Pratisha Padmasri Deka, A study on parental involvement in higher level of education: voices of parents and students in Pub-Kamrup College and Patidarrang College, Kamrup district, The Clarion, International Multidisciplinary Journal, 2016
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- Yumnam Jayanta, Esha Barlaskar, and Biju Issac, Cluster-based modify firefly algorithm for virtual machine placement to optimize energy, Int. J. of Multiagent and Grid Systems (IOS), 2016
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*May this Christmas bring you
peace and inner joy as never before!
May the New Year be replete with
"moments of grace" for You and your Dear Ones!*



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