

SPARK



A Newsletter for Don Bosco University family, alumni and friends

Reaching a new milestone...

...GRADE 'A' FROM NAAC !



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Lecture by Butterfly Man of India

Message from the Vice Chancellor

*... the leaves seem glad at the going... (Is there something I don't know?)
sparkling in the October sunshine, they fill the air with gentle rustling...*

*I have not yet discovered the secret... of the serenity of sailing leaves;
every autumn I walk among them... with a longing that stretches forever! - Joyce Rupp*

Some people don't like autumn because it reminds them too much of the inevitability of death. The leaves falling from the trees onto the barren, brown earth makes them feel sad and lonely... I love autumn: the leaves, the colours, the nip in the air, the season of 'mellow fruitfulness'. And, yet, there is something inevitable about every autumn: *another year has slipped by!*

And what a year that has been here at our University: we have etched our name irrevocably on the map of the institutions of eminence in higher education around our country and the world... with an eminently deserved 'Grade A' from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council.

It is, indeed, a joy to note some of the facets of our University that have been noted and appreciated by the Peer Team in their final report:

... an inherited Philosophy of service to humanity translated into the objectives and functioning of the university... Integration of ethics, gender and human values in its programs and the academics as a reflection of the vision of the University in promoting human values...

... a Governing Body that comprises an eclectic representation of industry leaders, management experts, social service organizations adds value to the direction of the University...

... a well-defined strategy that has led to a host of academic programs, excellent academic infrastructure and support systems for students and faculty... provision of a blend of science, technology and liberal arts programmes in the true sense of the objectives of a good institution.

... an inclusive environment for promoting tolerance and harmony towards cultural, regional, linguistic, communal, socio-economic and other diversities... a Social Protection Policy that addresses all concerns within the university arising out of the background of the members of the university like ethnicity, caste, class, culture, language, minority status and disability in any form.

... a strategic plan that has driven a results-based approach to bring about change and social transformation impacting communities and the environment in partnership with multiple



stakeholders of community, government, industry and non-government organizations...

... a deep sensitivity to the environment and ecology... and aesthetically designed campuses in sync with the natural terrain... a strategy focusing on reclamation of water resources, conservation of water bodies, creation of green spaces, and effective energy audits...

... an outstanding ICT-enabled teaching and learning set-up enabling the University to have a blended approach and an open and transparent examination and evaluation system.

... an 'engaged university philosophy' that allows it to fulfil its inspirational and developmental role in the communities around it.

Coming back to the autumn leaves ... Another year is coming to an end ... an year that was so full of wonderful events and growth! Every year that passes by provides us with an opportunity to pause, to see where we have been, to notice how far we have come, and to ponder how this year has been for us ... a time to clear our vision, to take stock of our resources, and to refresh our dreams as we set out once more on the journey that is ours.

As we walk into the New Year, we are invited to 'stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and to walk in it...' We do not really know what events will surprise us along the way. But we can risk the road; we can learn from our past, from the roads we have travelled; but if we are to grow, we can only go forward on the road into the future... and we can risk that road because we have the tremendous assurance that God goes with us on that journey – 'Be confident. For go where you will, your God is with you' (Jos 1:9).

That too is the message of Christmas that is just round the corner: God-with-us! Let me end these year-end thoughts wishing you and your dear ones the peace and joy that Christmas brings... and the choicest of blessings to accompany you right through the New Year.

**- Fr Stephen Mavelly
Rector & Vice Chancellor**

Don Bosco University receives Grade 'A' from NAAC

The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has given Don Bosco University Grade 'A' based on a thorough evaluation of the Self Study Report and an inspection by the NAAC Peer Team. The University becomes the first University in the private sector in Assam to have received an 'A' grade from NAAC.

The University submitted its Self Study Report to NAAC in the month of March 2021 and the Peer Team led by Dr. BP Sanjay as the Chairperson, Dr. Ashok Kumar as Member Coordinator with Dr. Deepak Kedia, Dr. Panchanan Das and Dr. Lalhmasai Chuauungo as members visited the University on 25-27 November 2021. The team visited the three campuses of the University and all departments in the University during these three days.

A cultural evening with a theme *"Hope, Healing, and Resilience in Our Times: A Cultural Symphony"* was showcased by the students on 25th November Evening at the Atrium of Academic Block II. The theme of the evening was born with an idea to make meaning out of the bits and pieces of our lives and how, in spite of trials and tribulations all around, we do hope, find healing and become resilient ever more again.

The show featured performances by the University students that celebrate hope, healing, and resilience by showcasing the richness of diversity-coexistence (re)imaginings in the Northeast India.



NAAC Peer Team handing their report to the Vice Chancellor



NAAC Peer Team meeting with the students and alumni

Apart from visiting various departments, the Peer Team also took time to take a tour of the main campus (Tapesia Campus) and appreciated the initiatives of the University in maintaining a green and eco-friendly campus with thousands of plantations, fresh water lakes and the campus layout itself which found a place in their report that said, *"The strategy focuses on reclamation of water resources, conservation of water bodies, creation of green spaces, and effective energy audits... a deep sensitivity to the environment and ecology... and aesthetically designed campuses in sync with the natural terrain"*.

The Peer Team also visited some villages around the campus where the University has been working together with the villagers with an aim to bring about social and economic developments through participative developmental programmes and projects in these villages and appreciated the enormous works done by the University in this area.

Highlighting this, the report read *... a strategic plan that has driven a results-based approach to bring about change and social transformation impacting communities and the environment in partnership with multiple stakeholders of community, government, industry and non-government organizations.* Appreciating the philosophy of the University that translates into action they also added *... an inherited Philosophy of service to humanity translated into the objectives and functioning of the university... Integration of ethics, gender and human values in its programs and the academics as a reflection of the vision of the University in promoting human values... Human values nurtured through the community services.*

During their visit, the Peer Team also conducted meetings with the students, parents and alumni of the University. On the last day of their visit they sat down with the University's Governing Body and Board of Management members and were impressed by the diverse expertise that steers the University. Their report on this read: *... a Governing Body that comprises an eclectic representation of industry leaders, management experts, social service organizations adds value to the direction of the University...*



NAAC Peer Team with the Governing Body Members

Tenth Convocation of the University

The University conducted its Tenth Convocation on Monday, 18th October, 2021 online via Youtube and Facebook. In spite of the virtual mode, the ceremony was evocative of the experiences shared, values imbibed, knowledge gained and bonds of friendship formed for a lifetime on campus creating a truly memorable event for the graduating students.

In his Convocation Address, Prof Jagdish Mukhi, Visitor and Hon'ble Governor of Assam said, *"This evening, as I look at you who are emerging from the ravages of the pandemic, this is the message that I want to share with you: look for what unites us as a country, as a nation, as a great civilisation that has stood the test of time. Today the whole world acknowledges our country to be on the crossover of a great awakening. In the world of digital technology and artificial intelligence, it is Indian brains that is leading the world. It does not matter whether they are located in our country or serving elsewhere. Our brains rule the world of digital technology"*.



Fr (Dr) Stephen Mavelly, Vice Chancellor



Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, Governor and Visitor to the University

Encouraging the graduates to maintain their integrity and remain humane, the Chancellor of the University, Fr. Januarius Sangma said, *"In the years to come, in the building of your career and your personal life, the going may be tough, but remaining humane, retaining personal integrity and truthfulness, competence and an inclusive human attitude are all in your hands; and they should be your treasures, far above other mundane considerations. This amounts to formation not only of the intelligence but mainly of the heart, as St John Bosco, our father and founder always maintained"*.

Delivering the welcome address, the Vice Chancellor Fr (Dr) Stephen Mavelly shared about the determination and resilience of the University, saying, *"Right at the beginning of this pandemic, when our lives started falling apart, there is one resolve, one mantra that we, all of us at the University, arrived at. It was - whatever happens to us and to the world around us, you, our students, must come out winners!"* Wishing the graduating students to always have 'hope, resilience and a restless soul searching endlessly for meaning' he also added, *"Let me wish you an abundance of God's blessings on your personal journeys, as you seek and search for a unique role, a niche of your own. And when you find that niche of your own, embrace it with all the passion at your command!"*

This year, Degrees were conferred upon 1150 students of which 470 students received the bachelor's degrees in engineering and technology, basic sciences, commerce, management and humanities; 648 students received master's degrees in various branches of engineering, science, commerce and management. Doctoral Degrees were conferred on 27 scholars and PG diploma degrees were conferred on 5 students.

The Chancellor's Medal for outstanding contribution to campus life among the Postgraduate students was awarded to Jeremiah Jacob, Master of Social Work and the Vice Chancellor's Medal for outstanding contribution to campus life among the Graduate students was awarded to Nikita Das, Bachelor of Computer Applications.



Liza Changkakoti, a gold medallist of MSc Zoology undertook the Graduate's Pledge on behalf of the Class of 2021 for the graduates to remain *'intellectually competent, morally upright, socially committed, spiritually inspired and civically responsible in their quest for professionalism and service to humanity as dependable nation builders and global citizens'*.

Visit of the Ambassador of Taiwan

On 11th December 2021, His Excellency, the Ambassador of Taiwan Mr. Baushuan Ger, accompanied by a team of 5 members from the Embassy visited the University and interacted with the Mandarin language students at the University and observed the Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language (TOCFL) exam held on this day where 20 students gave the exam.



Addressing the gathering, Mr. Ger spoke about the importance of having student exchange programmes and working with Higher Education Institutes for this serves as a base for international cooperation in various fields. Assam Don Bosco University is the only institution in North East India that launched Taiwan Education Center in its campus with a full time Mandarin Teacher in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Taiwan.

This partnership project between Taiwan's Ministry of Education and ADBU aims to boost students' language proficiency and cultural competence through the courses provided by a qualified language teacher from Taiwan. Bilateral exchanges in various fields are also expected to be strengthened through TEC.

Under this Taiwan Education Center Programme, Mandarin teacher Ms. Kuei-Mi LI arrived at the University on March 12, 2020. Since her appointment as language teacher at ADBU, Ms. LI has been offering different batches of Mandarin classes, and more than 100 students have attended these classes up to date.

The Taiwan Education Center at the University has strengthened the academic and cultural exchanges between India and Taiwan and an MOU was also signed by ADBU and Fu Jen Catholic University in Taiwan as a result of the initiative of the Center. Several Taiwanese scholars and specialists have been invited to participate in various panel discussions and conferences organized or co-organized by ADBU.

It is expected that more exchanges in different fields between the University and Taiwan will be facilitated through this partnership which has proven to be a fruitful and successful one.

The Railway Board's Prizes

Dr. Jyoti Kumar Barman of Assam Don Bosco University along with Prof. Durlav Hazarika of Assam Engineering College received the Railway Board's Prize 2021 for their paper 'Development of a Mathematical Model for a Railway Track Using a Gray-Box Modelling Technique'. The Prize will be presented at the Prize Distribution Ceremony of the 36th Indian Engineering Congress to be held at Vigyan Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi on 26 December 2021.

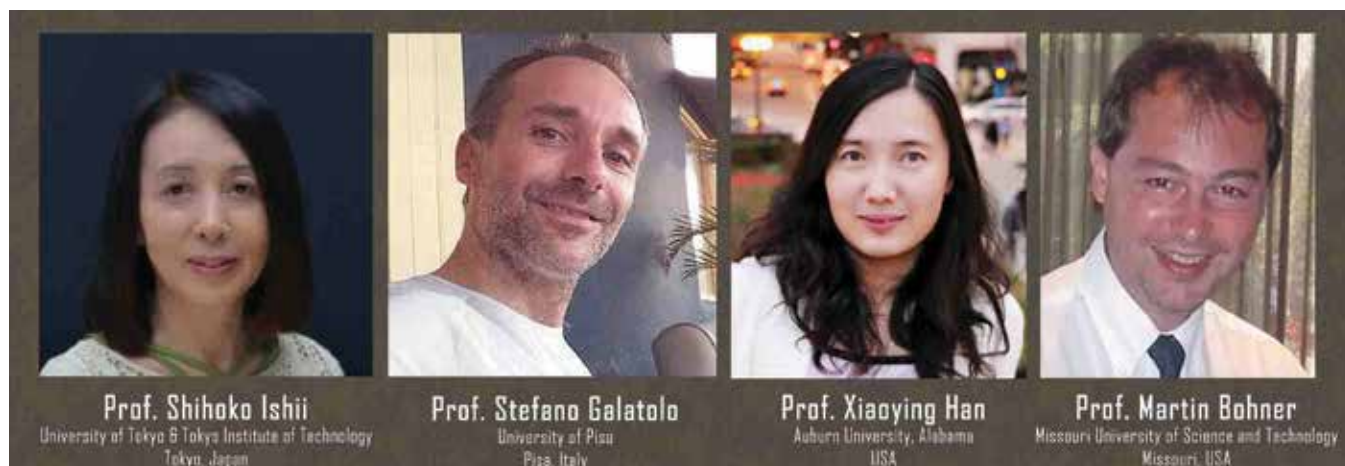
The Railway Board's prizes were instituted in 1931 by The Institution of Engineers (India) (IEI), which is the largest multi-disciplinary professional body of engineers, established in 1920 with its Headquarters located in Kolkata. The prizes are awarded by the Railway Board, Ministry of Railways, Government of India, for the best two papers published in the Institution's Journal on Railway Engineering or subjects allied to it.



Dr. Jyoti Kumar Barman

International Symposium on Recent Advances in Mathematics and Applications

The Department of Mathematics organized an online International Symposium on 28th October, 2021 entitled “International Symposium on Recent Advances in Mathematics and Applications”. Four noted mathematicians from different parts of the world were invited as the Speakers in this symposium.



The symposium began with a prayer to the almighty, and the Convenor, Dr. Tarini Kumar Dutta then gave a short introduction of each of the esteemed speakers and Father Johny Jose, the Registrar delivered a welcome speech.

The first speaker Prof. Xiaoying Han presented her talk on an interesting topic ‘Lattice Model from Neural Network’ which was followed immediately by a talk on ‘Time Scale’ by Prof. Martin Bohner. The third speaker Prof. Stefano Galatolo presented his topic ‘The Existence of Induced Order: a computer-aided proof’ and the last speaker of the symposium Prof. Ishi Shihoko spoke on ‘Singularities on Algebraic Varieties’. Each speaker engaged with the participants with question-and-answer sessions at the end of their presentation.

The symposium ended with a vote of thanks from the Head of the Department, Dr. Hemen Bharali, who thanked the speakers and the participants on behalf of the organizing committee and Department of Mathematics for a successful completion of the symposium.

Seminar on National Education Policy 2020

A one-day Seminar on ‘National Education Policy 2020: Challenges and Opportunities for higher Technical Education’ was held on 18th September 2021 in the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering. The Seminar, sponsored by AICTE, was coordinated by Dr. Kaustubh Bhattacharyya, Assistant Professor (Sr.), Department of ECE.

This Seminar was a part of a one week STTP on Nanotechnology (AMAZING NANO 2021) which was held from 19-24 April 2021, however, this particular seminar was not possible to be conducted during the AmazingNano 2021 and hence, the reason for conducting in the month of September.



There were a total of 89 participants registered and out of which 15 Participants successfully attended physically on campus and 36 participants attended online through Google Meet. The participants hailed from colleges and universities across the country.

Dr. Tania Sur Roy, Head, Department of Education, ADBU conducted the 1st technical session on 18 September 2021 on 'Implementation of NEP 2020 in Higher Education' followed by the 2nd Technical session on 'Vocationalization and Skill Orientation: Dimensions in the NEP 2020' at 12:00 pm by Prof. Kandarpa Kumar Sarma, Professor and HoD, Department of ECE, Gauhati University. Mr. Mriganka Gogoi, Assistant Professor, department of ECE, ADBU conducted the 4th technical session between 2:30 pm and 4:30 pm on 'Use of Technology in Education: Focus on NEP 2020'.

STTP on Circuit Design, Simulation and Analysis etc

A short-term training programme on 'Circuit Design, Simulation and Analysis (eSim, SkyWater 130nm PDK)' was conducted by the Department of Electronics and Communication from 27th September to 1st October, in collaboration with VLSI System Design, Bangalore in an online mode. The various topics covered in the training and the resource persons are as follows:



1. CMOS Circuit Design: Dr. Kaustubh Bhattacharyya, Assistant Professor, Assam Don Bosco University
2. Asynchronous Sequential Circuits and its Hazards: Dr. P. K Dutta, Assistant Professor, NERIST
3. Towards Digital Design and Implementation of DSP applications: Dr. Babita Jajodia, Assistant Professor, IIITG
4. Quantum Circuit Design: Dr. P Saravanan, PSG college of Technology, Coimbatore
5. Hardware descriptive Language: Dr. Ashok Kumar K, Sri Ramakrishna College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore
6. RF Energy Harvesting (Design Perspective): Mr. Manash Pratim Sarma, Gauhati University
7. Introduction to eSim: Prof. Kannan M Moudgalya, Professor, IIT Bombay

Hands-on training was given on the following topics by VLSI System Design using eSim and Skywater 130 nm PDK - Basic 10-bit DAC design, eSim Installation and Basic Switch Design, Steps to Label and Simulate Using eSim, Implementation of 2-Bit DAC, 2-Bit DAC Working, Design of Higher DACs.

Lecture by Butterfly Man of India

The Department of Zoology in collaboration with Eco Club organized the Tenth Lecture Series on 'Butterflies' which was delivered by Mr. Peter Smetacek, the Butterfly Man of India.



The two-session event began at 2:00 PM with a welcome address by Gracy PI, M.Sc. student representative followed by the felicitation of Sir Peter Smetacek by Dr. Prasanta Kumar Choudhury, Director, School of Life Sciences.

In his talk, Mr. Smetacek perspicuously enlightened the audience on the world of butterflies. He began by reminding us of the differences between butterflies and moths, explaining about their feeding behavior, different species of butterflies found at different elevations in India, mimicry and metamorphosis, to name a few. He also mentioned that the total number of butterfly species recorded in India till date is 1,327. This was followed by an exciting and productive interactive session. The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Resmin Sultana, M.Sc. student representative.

The second session, 'An evening with Peter Smetacek' began at 5:30 PM. In this session, Mr. Smetacek lucidly demonstrated the setting up of a light trap for moths. A total of 14 species of moths were recorded during the light trapping session.

Webinar on Artificial Intelligence

A webinar on 'Application of Artificial Intelligence for Solving Power System Load Forecasting Problems' was organized by the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering on 12 September 2021.

Dr. Mayur Barman, Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical and Electronics, Aditya Engineering College and an alumnus of the EEE department of ADBU (2008-2012), who was the resource person of the webinar, discussed the Power System Load Forecasting (PSLF) schemes used by power companies to predict the power or energy requirement for balancing the supply and load demand at all the times. PSLF is mandatory for the proper functioning of the electrical industry. Dr. Mayur explained how PSLF enables the utility companies to plan well since they have an understanding of the future consumption or load demand. Statistical tools and AI-based tools (ANN, SVM, Fuzzy inference system) were discussed under PSLF. Furthermore, he also mentioned that SVM hybridized with the suitable evolutionary algorithm is the most efficient method of PSLF in the present scenario. The webinar concluded with a Q&A interactive session between the resource person and the participants.



Dr. Mayur Barman

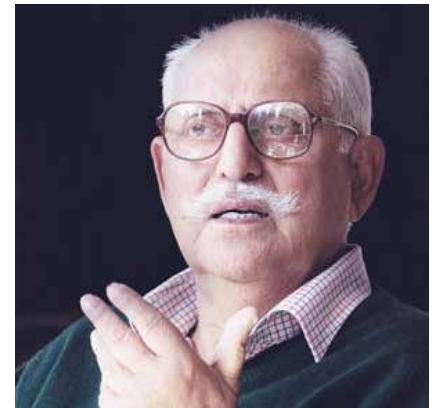
A total of 50 participants, consisting of BTech 5th semester, BTech 7th semester, and MTech students along with the faculty members from the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, attended the webinar.

AICTE Sponsored Training Programme

The School of Technology organized AICTE sponsored Training programmes on 2-5 September and 4-8 October with Dr. V.K Raina, a highly reputed Bridge Engineer with a global experience, as the resource person appointed by AICTE as AICTE-Distinguished Chair Professor.

The first training programme was conducted on 2-5 September with Prof. Manoranjan Kalita, Director, School of Technology as the Coordinator. Topics covered in this first lecture series were - 'Why do bridges in our part of the world crack and distress much earlier than in some of the 1st world countries?', 'How rehabilitation and retrofitting was carried out for three major bridges in Nepal?' and 'Pre-engineered ready-to-assemble standard-panel-system bridge superstructures for emergency situations'. 113 participants from Don Bosco University, Assam Engineering College, Jorhat Engineering College, Tezpur University, Regional Institute of Science and Technology and Girijananda Choudhury Institute of Management and Technology took part in the programme.

The second training programme held on 4-8 October was coordinated by Asst. Prof. Gitartha Kalita saw 143 participants in the programme from the neighbouring Engineering Colleges and Universities. Topics covered during these training programmes were : 'A Practitioner's Guide to Estimating the Safe Bearing Capacity of Soils Under Caisson Foundations', 'Pile Foundations and Open Foundations', 'Economics and Quantity-Trends in Alternative Bridge- Structure Schemes and Can Design Be Taught?.'



Dr. VK Raina

Special Talk by an Alumnus

On 14th August 2021, the Department of Civil Engineering conducted a special talk attended by the entire graduates of 2021 from the Department.

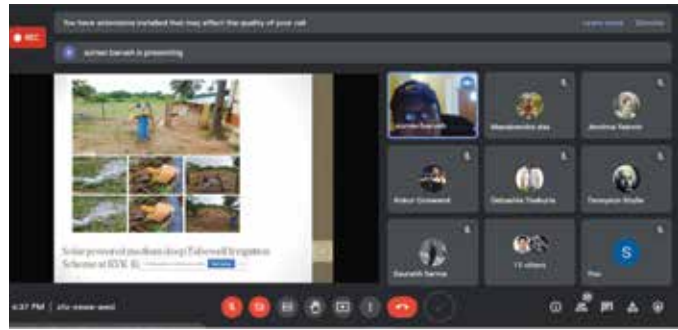
Ms. Shaheen Wahab, Asst. Professor at Kaziranga University, who is an alumnus of Don Bosco University (Class of 2015) gave a talk on 'Studying Abroad after Graduation'. Ms Wahab completed an M.S from the University of Stuttgart, Germany and she shared about the procedures to apply to a foreign university, scholarships, expenditure and many other things in detail. She also discussed about the roles and responsibilities of being an alumnus of Don Bosco University. The session was quite interactive where students cleared many doubts on the topic.



Ms Shaheen Wahab

Alumni Meet – Civil Engineering

The Department of Civil Engineering organized an Online Meet of its alumni on 9th October 2021 where two invited speeches were delivered. The first speech was delivered by Mr. Suman Baruah, who serves in the Irrigation Department, Assam, as an Assistant Engineer, who is also a former Assistant Professor in the Civil Engineering Department at the School of Technology. The second speaker was Mr. Manas Jyoti Kalita, an alumnus of the Department, appointed as an Assistant Engineer in PWD, Guwahati. Mr. Baruah delivered his speech on various irrigation projects and schemes of the Government of Assam including diversion head work, canal systems, solar power tubes, etc. The interaction between the alumni and Mr. Suman Baruah was very engaging and fruitful. Another resource person, Mr. Manas Jyoti Kalita, also touched upon environmental protection law while constructing highways.



Industrial Talk on Substation Automation Systems

The Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering organized a webinar on "Substation Automation Systems" on 1 December 2021 with an aim to bridge the industry-academia gap to make the students industry-ready when they enter the professional life. The resource person was Ms Plabita Kalita, an alumna of the Department who is now working as an Assistant Manager in the Assam Electricity Grid Co. Ltd. (AEGCL). Ms. Plabita Kalita completed her B.Tech degree from the department in 2014.

Ms. Kalita started her talk with a brief introduction of Substation Automation Systems (SAS) which is a collection of hardware and software components that are used to monitor and control an electrical system, both locally and remotely. SAS uses high-speed microprocessor-based computers and Intelligent Electronic Devices (IEDs). She explained the various functions of SAS, such as monitoring, recording, protection, etc. She also elaborated briefly on the SAS- architecture structure, which includes three levels as the station, bay, and process-level functions and ended her talk by mentioning the economic advantages of using SAS in an electrical system. The program ended with an interactive session with the students and a vote of thanks by Dr. Bikramjit Goswami, Senior Assistant Professor of the department. A total of 64 Participants of B.Tech, M.Tech along with the faculty members of the department attended the session



Ms Plabita Kalita

Workshop on Accounting Software

On 22 September 2021, the Department of Commerce, Assam Don Bosco University organized a workshop on "Accounting Software" for the students of B. Com 5th Semester and M.Com 3rd Semester at the Computer Lab, Azara campus. The workshop was conducted by Dr. Nabasmita Bordoloi and Rimakhi Borah. The main objective of the workshop was to provide skill-based knowledge in the field of computerized Accounting.

The workshop started with Ms Rimakhi Borah giving a lecture on essentials of accounting software Tally ERP 9, which is widely used in accounting. The second session conducted by Dr. Nabasmita Bordoloi demonstrated the creation, shutting as well as selection of a Company in the Tally Software. The participants were taught various ways of editing the features concerning the accounting, inventory and taxation & statutory as per the requirements of the company. She also taught students to prepare the different ledgers and pass the different vouchers entries in the tally Software. The workshop ended with a Q&A session where the participants cleared their doubts.

Summer Field School on Mountain Ecosystem

Assam Don Bosco University Partnered with The Grassroots Institute of Canada to conduct a ten-day “Summer Field School on Mountain Ecosystems and Resource Management” to build the capacities of future mountain leaders. The virtual training programme was co-organized by 66 partner organizations from 22 countries, of which, Assam Don Bosco University was one.

The Summer Field School emphasized on mountain ecosystems within the contexts of sustainable development, natural resource management, and conservation governance. The programme aimed at equipping researchers, students, practitioners, and teachers with practical approaches, knowledge and skills for meeting the challenges of sustainable development and managing mountains’ natural resources globally.



Prof. Saibal Sengupta

Dr. Simanta Kalita

The Summer Field School kickstarted on 19 September 2021 with a roundtable for mountains. Speakers included representatives of Universities from around the world, the Mountain Partnership Secretariat, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat, the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention, and the United Nations Environment Programme, among others. Their remarks covered a range of topics including climate change, freshwater, watershed management, transhumance, biodiversity and sustainable agriculture.

In total, over the nine days of the Summer Field School, 26 technical sessions were conducted, including 108 lectures by 97 experts from 36 countries along with 93 presentations by 95 delegate participants. About 400 participants from 69 countries attended the sessions. Two faculty members of ADBU Zoology Department, Prof. Saibal Sengupta and Dr. Simanta Kalita were resource persons for four sessions on - Dangers to Mountain Wildlife, Issues of Mountain Sustainability, Research in Protected Areas and Challenges of Urbanization in Mountains. From the University, Professor Saibal Sengupta, Professor, Department of Zoology, coordinated the programme. He was also a panellist in the Special Session on the last day of the programme.

World Habitat Day

To commemorate the World Habitat Day 2021, the Department of Botany on 4th October 2021 in association with departmental club “Biowizards”, organized a half-day Plantation Drive programme on Rare and Endangered Tree Species within the campus of the University. The programme was a joint endeavor by the Central Ayurveda Research Institute (CARI), Guwahati, CCRAS, Ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India; National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India and Department of Environment and Forests, Government of Assam. The programme was admirably inaugurated with a welcome speech from Dr. Geetashree Bora, Head, Department of Botany, ADBU, followed by a series of lectures by Prof. J.N. Vishwakarma, Director, Research, ADBU, Dr Prasanta Kumar Choudhury, Director, School of Life Sciences, ADBU and Fr. Abraham Kanattu, Director, CDSI, ADBU. Altogether, 70 students both from under-graduate and post-graduate level took part in the programme. In this drive, a total of 60 different saplings consisting of various Rare and Endangered Tree Species were planted in the campus.



Webinar on Commodity Derivative Market

The Department of Commerce organized a Webinar on Investors Awareness Programme on Commodity Derivative Market in Collaboration with Gurukul Edutech (NCDEX) on 27 September 2021 for the students of B.Com, BCA & M.Com final year students. The main aim of the webinar was to make the students aware about investing in the securities markets.

Mr. Jyotirmoy Kashyap, Freelance Corporate Trainer conducted two sessions. In the first session, he highlighted about the concept of investment and the difference between investment and savings, an introduction on the securities markets and the various types of securities available in the market, why one should invest in these securities and how to open up a trading account. In the second session, he covered topics on commodity derivatives markets in India, which includes the functioning of commodity exchanges, its benefits & the key function of commodity exchange. He also introduced Online Trading, its benefits and the do’s and don’ts of trading in securities. The webinar concluded with a short session for the students to clear their doubts regarding the commodity- derivatives market.

International Day for Disaster Reduction

The Department of Civil Engineering, Assam Don Bosco University (ADBU) organized an International Webinar on the theme '*Recent Insights on Disaster Awareness and Disaster Risk Management*' in commemoration of the International Day for Disaster Reduction, on 13 October 2021. The event was coordinated by Mrs. Pori Das, Assistant Professor. The webinar was actively participated by the students and faculty from ADBU, Institute of Technology Bandung (ITB), Indonesia as well as Sherubtse College, Royal University of Bhutan.



Mr. Miga Magenika Julian



Dr. Alfita Hadayani



Mr. Gitartha Kalita



Ms. Pori Das

Mr. Miga Magenika Julian, Assistant Professor, Department of Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering, Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB), Indonesia spoke on the topic '*Disaster Risk Management Due To Tropical Coastal Dynamics*'. A comprehensive and interesting talk was delivered by the resource person that focused on the impact of '*climate change induced*' warming on sea level rise, coastal erosion, salt water intrusion, frequent occurrence of tsunami and coastal floods.

Dr. Alfita Puspa Handayani, Assistant Professor, Department of Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering, Institute of Technology Bandung (ITB), Indonesia spoke on the topic '*Land Management on Disaster Risk Reduction*'. The resource person presented an enlightening lecture that underscored the importance of a proper cadastral mapping for land administration and damage assessment after the assessment with field-based case studies in South-east Asia.

Mr. Gitartha Kalita, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, ADBU, India spoke on the topic '*Earthquake Resistant Design of Structures*'. The resource person presented an illustrative and informative lecture on the recent cutting-edge earthquake resistant techniques that have proven to be instrumental in minimizing the risk and vulnerability of infrastructures in high earthquake prone areas from regional and global case studies.

Mrs. Pori Das, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, ADBU, India spoke on the topic '*Managing the Himalayan Tsunami*'. The resource person presented an illuminating and intriguing talk on the recent cascading disasters termed as the 'Himalayan Tsunami' across the Hindukush Himalayan region particularly triggered by '*climate change induced*' unseasonal and uncertain weather events such as cloudbursts, glacier lake outburst, floods etc. in the mountainous upstream areas leading to cascading disasters such as landslides, rockfall and unprecedented deluge in the downstream areas.

International Workshop on Computation with Python

The Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering organized an International Free '*Hands-on Online workshop on Computation with Python*', from 30 August - 3 September, 2021. A total of 45 participants from different foreign institutions, viz. Strathmore University (Kenya), University of Nairobi (Kenya), Dhaka University of Engineering & Technology (Bangladesh), East Delta University (Bangladesh), as well as from various colleges and universities across India including IIT and SMIT, participated in the 5-day workshop. The main idea behind the workshop was to equip the participants with the basics and applications of Python programming language.



Dr. Bikramjit Goswami Dr. Jyoti Kumar Barman

Python is currently the preferred choice of high-level programming language by all industries and academia alike. This introductory treatment of Python is primarily intended to provide a glimpse of the computational possibilities of the programming language. The resource persons were Dr. Bikramjit Goswami and Dr. Jyoti Kumar Barman, Assistant Professors, Assam Don Bosco University.

The sessions of the workshop covered the following topics:

- What is computation, python basics, mathematical operations, python variables and types, branching and conditionals, indentation, iteration and loops
- Guess and check algorithms, approximate solutions, bisection method, structuring programs, and hiding details, functions
- Compound data types, tuples, lists, and dictionaries, recursion – divide/decrease and conquer
- Computation with python: Numpy, SciPy, Matplotlib
- Engineering applications: analysis of basic signals and systems

Workshop on 'CV Writing Skills'

The Department of Commerce conducted a workshop on effective CV Writing Skills on 8 October 2021 for BCOM 5th Semester students.

The workshop was conducted by Ms. Neha Khaitan and Dr. Chayanika Sarma. The first half was taken by Dr. Chayanika Sarma, in which she talked about some basic ideas about how the CV should be and what are the do's and don'ts that we should keep in mind while preparing a CV. The second half was taken by Ms. Neha Khaitan who explained about how to present skills and hobbies, the general structure and layout of a CV and some basic advices that should be followed while writing about personal information. The seminar ended with a question & answer session. The participants found the workshop interesting and productive which will help them in the future while applying for jobs, internships or for higher education.

World Animal Day 2021

The Department of Zoology in collaboration with the Eco-Club of Assam Don Bosco University organized the World Animal Day on 4 October 2021. The programme began with the "Season of Creation" Eucharistic Mass at 7:00 AM in the Chapel of the University. The main celebrant was Rev. Fr. (Dr.) Stephen Mavelly, Honorable Vice Chancellor, Assam Don Bosco University.



The morning programme was hosted by student representatives, Swasteeka Moirangthem and Brano Marak. The programme began with an invocation of God's presence and blessings by Shellene Bakordor Syiem. This was followed by the welcome address by Kangjam Velentina Devi. Dr. Simanta Kalita, Head, Department of Zoology, addressed the students on the significance of Animal Day, how it aids in the reduction of animal abuse and the creation of awareness for animal protection and conservation.

In his address, Rev. Fr. (Dr.) Stephen Mavelly, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of the University, spoke of the interconnectedness of all living beings, the absence of which may lead to disruption of the balance in nature.

Keeping in mind the relevance of remaining interconnected, alumni members from the Department, Emma Magdalene Nonglang, Cynthia Mylliem Mawlong, and Taniya Talwar shared their experience on research in the University and presented their works to the present students of the Department. The presentations were entitled "Status and Distribution of Fireflies of Meghalaya using Science Approach", "A Comparative Study between Commercial Fish Feed on the Growth Performance on *Labeo rohita*" and "Past and Present Distribution of *Ascarcornis scutulata* (S. Muller, 1842) in Assam, India" delivered by Emma, Cynthia and Taniya respectively. The morning session concluded with a short play, entitled 'Venom', by the graduate students of Third Semester. Through the play, the students were able to create an awareness of first-aid when a person is bitten by a snake.

The afternoon programme included Brain Teaser - Nature Quiz conducted by Mr. Nilutpal Mahanta, Assistant Professor of the Department. The Quiz was open to the audience and winners were awarded with a prize.

The programme was followed by a documentary screening of "David Attenborough: A Life on Our Planet". The documentary is a first-hand account of humanity's impact on nature and Sir Attenborough's account of his visit to every continent on the globe in his 93 years of life, exploring the wild places of our planet and documenting the living world in all its variety and how the planet has changed over his lifetime. The programme concluded with a note of appreciation by Resmin Sultana. There were a total of 54 participants in the Event.

Webinar on Solar Photovoltaic Cell: Properties and Design

A webinar on “Solar Photovoltaic Cell: Properties and Design” was organized by the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering on 3 August 2021 for the students of class 12, Polytechnic, and BSc final year.

A total of 35 participants from different colleges and universities across India participated in the webinar. Mr. Sunil Deka, Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering was the resource person for the event. The main idea behind the workshop was to explore the future scope of the photovoltaic cell in the field of energy sector and properties of the two most important components of this technology—sunlight, which provides the primary source of energy, and the solar cells themselves, which convert this sunlight into electricity. He discussed the basic information needed to understand the principles of photovoltaic system operation, to identify appropriate applications, and to undertake simple photovoltaic system design.



Mr. Sunil Deka

Workshop on Review of Literature and APA Referencing & Tool Construction

A workshop on Review of Literature and APA Referencing was conducted for the 3rd Semester students of MSc Psychology by the Department of Psychology on 24 September 2021. In this workshop, students were walked through the steps and structure of a literature review. They were also educated about databases that can be used for survey of literature. Students were taught how to refer different sources in their thesis. Some important referencing tools were also discussed. This was held as part of a series of 3 workshops arranged by the department for the 3rd Semester students to help them in writing their master’s thesis.



The workshops were conducted by Ms. Koninika Mukherjee, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, ADBU and Mr. Joydeep Das, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, ADBU

In addition to this, a workshop was held on Tool Construction on 1st November, 2021. In this workshop, students were taught about qualitative as well as quantitative techniques.

The first part of the workshop was on Quantitative Tool Construction. The resource person for the workshop was Dr. Chandita Baruah, Assistant Professor and Head, Department of Psychology. The topics included steps of test construction, psychometric properties of a quantitative test, item analysis and exploratory factor analysis, confirmatory factor analysis and development of norms and test manual. The students were also taught to analyse the descriptive statistics during the test construction.

The second phase of the workshop was on Qualitative Tool construction. The resource person was Sampreeti Das, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Assam Don Bosco University. The topics covered under this phase were- Introduction to Qualitative Research, Qualitative-Quantitative continuum, Types of Qualitative Research, Qualitative Research Tools- Interview, Focus Group, Observation, Researcher as a tool, Researcher Biasness, Expert Rating of item, Inter-observer reliability, face validity and content validity, Guideline to construct interview questionnaire.

Workshop on Questionnaire Design

On 20th September 2021, the Department of Commerce conducted a workshop on Questionnaire Design with Dr. Rashmita Baruah, Amarjit Dev, and Pramod as the resource persons. A brief idea about research and the ways of conducting research were highlighted and the meaning and importance of questionnaire were explained. In addition, the different kinds of information which are provided by the questionnaire were discussed in detail including identification information, demographic information and problem solving information. The students were also taught various types of questionnaires such as open ended, closed ended etc. Students also learned how to store data collected from questionnaire on google sheet and were tasked to create questionnaire so that they can have a first-hand experience of questionnaire designing.

World Energy Day

World Energy Day on 22 October 2021 was observed by the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering by conducting expert lectures. The resource persons for the program were Mr. Sanjay Chhetri, Project Manager with Environmental Design Solutions, New Delhi and Professor Izael Pereira Da Silva, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Innovation Division of Strathmore University, Kenya.

The interrelationship between energy poverty and financial poverty, and the role of UN on sustainable energy was discussed. Fr (Dr) Stephen Mavelly, Vice-Chancellor of ADBU mentioned the historical concentration of industry and wealth in the developed countries that are responsible for major carbon emission and their role to minimize the adverse effects of climate change, in addition to suggesting using all resources of energy responsibly. Mr. Chhetri spoke on the topic “Energy efficiency and renewable energy- A global Perspective” wherein he put forward the concept of every energy unit (KWh) saved is equivalent to two units generated. He also mentioned the relevance of demand-side management, energy security and energy efficiency and net-zero energy building in present-day energy scenario. There has been an intensive discussion on roof-top solar power plants and smart grids for sustainable energy services.



Prof. Izael Pereira Da Silva



Mr. Sanjay Chhetri

Prof. Izael from Kenya discussed the topic “Energy Transition in Africa and its global lesson”. He mentioned the technologies that have been adopted within the campus of Strathmore University such as the Water Evaporating Cooling System and 600 kW grid-tied PV systems. Furthermore, he elaborated on concept 3 D’s for sustainable energy- decarbonization, decentralization and digitalization.

It is worthwhile to mention that the World Energy Forum initiated the World Energy Day on 22 October 2012, to raise awareness about energy usage, ensuring the affordability of safe and sustainable energy for all people while promoting global decarbonizing efforts, and is now observed annually worldwide.

World Mental Health Day 2021

The Department of Psychology and Counselling observed the World Mental Health Day 2021 with a three day celebration starting from 8 October to 10 October 2021. A series of activities related to the theme “Mental Health in an Unequal World” were scheduled in these three days. The details of the activities are as follows:

1. Mind Jar

It is a student initiative for staff and students of Tapesia campus to vent out the negative emotionality or thoughts in anonymity.

2. e-Newsletter Release

A collection of articles and cross-word puzzles from the students of the Department of Psychology and Counselling.

3. Volunteering in the Society for Mental Health in LAMIC

Promoting Behavioural Science in Low and Middle Income Countries (LAMIC) strives to address issues in behavioural sciences related to mental health. Society for Mental Health (SoMHIL) in association with LAMIC organized an event to celebrate the World Mental Health day in three different locations of Guwahati: Shradhanhanjali Kannan, Nehru Park, and Tarun Ram Phukan Park. The faculty members and students of the department voluntarily participated for the smooth conducting of the event.



A talk by Dr. Rakhee Kalita Moral

The Department of English organized a talk on 'The Ecological Imagination of Contemporary Women Writers: Engaging NE India' by Dr Rakhee Kalita Moral, Head, Centre for Women's Studies and Associate Professor of English at Cotton University on 22 November 2021.

The talk was based on a comprehensive discussion on Ecofeminism with a special focus on the north eastern context. The connection between the idea of 'home', 'heart' and 'habitat' as established by the contemporary women writers of North-east India such as Nitoo Das, Mamang Dai, Easterine Kire and several other eminent authors was explored and examined in the course of the lecture. The talk also embarked on the North-east India's literary representations of the concerns and dynamics of environmental issues which is instrumental in generating a holistic consciousness in the society about the importance of natural elements and their preservation.

The session served deeply beneficial for the students and research scholars who actively took part in the event. There were 200 registrations from across the state and other parts of India. The talk was attended by 220 participants.



Dr. Rakhee Kalita Moral

Expert Lecture by Dr. Kiran Keshavamurthy

On 30th October 2021, the Department of English, Assam Don Bosco University, Tapesia Campus organized the second lecture of the Expert Lecture Series 2021. The Expert Lecture was delivered by Dr. Kiran Keshavamurthy, Assistant Professor, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati on a relevant topic titled "Fragmented Lands, Mistaken Identities: The Partition and the Short Story".

There were around 130 registrations with participants from across India. The programme, hosted by Ms. Sushmita Sharma, Asst. Professor, Dept. of English commenced at 2:00 pm with an Introduction to the event and the department as well as the Welcome address by Dr. Saikat Banerjee, Head, Department of English, Assam Don Bosco University. In his welcome address, Dr. Banerjee spoke about the objectives of the Expert Lecture Series and its importance in the academic engagement of the students.

In his insightful, gripping and pertinent presentation on "Fragmented Lands, Mistaken Identities: The Partition and the Short Story", the speaker Dr. Kiran Keshavamurthy highlighted, in a student-friendly manner, the issues pertaining to the partition of India and Pakistan and the problems related to this social, political, religious and communal issue. Dr. Keshavamurthy provided a critique of partition with the help of the short stories "Toba Tek Singh" and "Ram Khilavan", exploring partition through the perspective of the lunatic. His presentation was followed by an informal introduction of the speaker by Dr. Pritam Priya Goswami, Asst. Professor, the Coordinator of the event.



Dr. Kiran Keshavamurthy

This was followed by an interactive discussion session with enthusiastic participants. The programme came to an end with a vote of thanks by Mr. Ramesh Sharma, Asst. Professor, Dept. of English, Assam Don Bosco University.

Lecture on Academic Writing: Research Paper

The Department of English organized an online lecture on 'Academic Writing: Research Paper' on 18 September 2021.

A renowned scholar Dr. Tikaram Poudel, who worked as Language Scientist at Konstanz University, Konstanz, Germany, and recently working at Kathmandu University, Nepal, was the resource person. The event began formally with a welcome address from Dr. Saikat Banerjee, Head, Department of English, followed by the extensive lecture that ran over one hour and thirty minutes. In his lecture, Dr. Poudel delineated what a research paper ought to be, its structure, methodology and other dynamics involved in writing it. Eventually, he supplemented the lecture with a case study analyzing one of the research papers written by one of our Alumni.

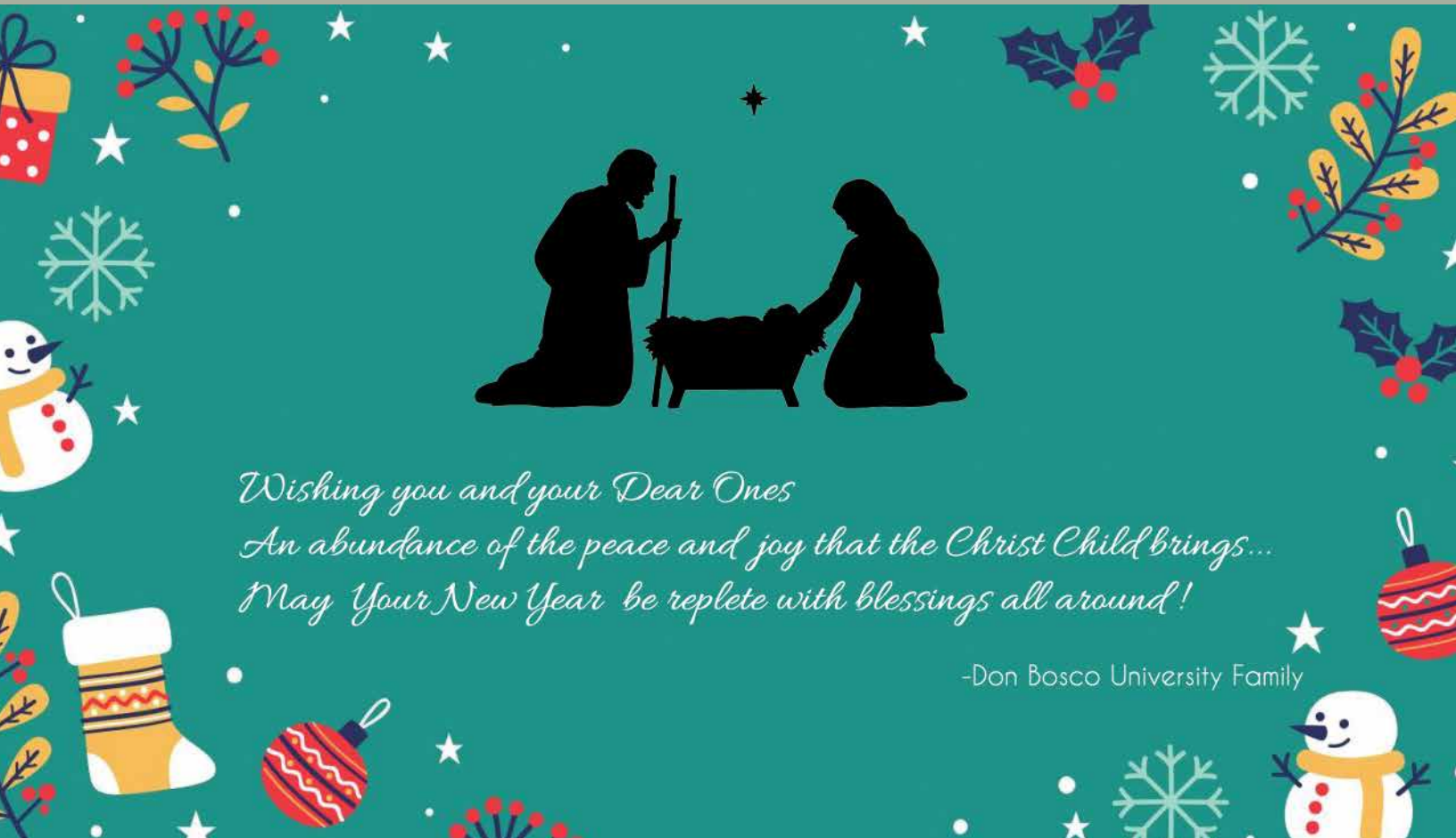
Around eighty participants from Don Bosco University, other institutions from Assam, and India in general, Nepal and Bangladesh attended the lecture.



Dr. Tikaram Poudel



Ready for inauguration... Academic Block V



*Wishing you and your Dear Ones
An abundance of the peace and joy that the Christ Child brings...
May Your New Year be replete with blessings all around!*

-Don Bosco University Family

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