

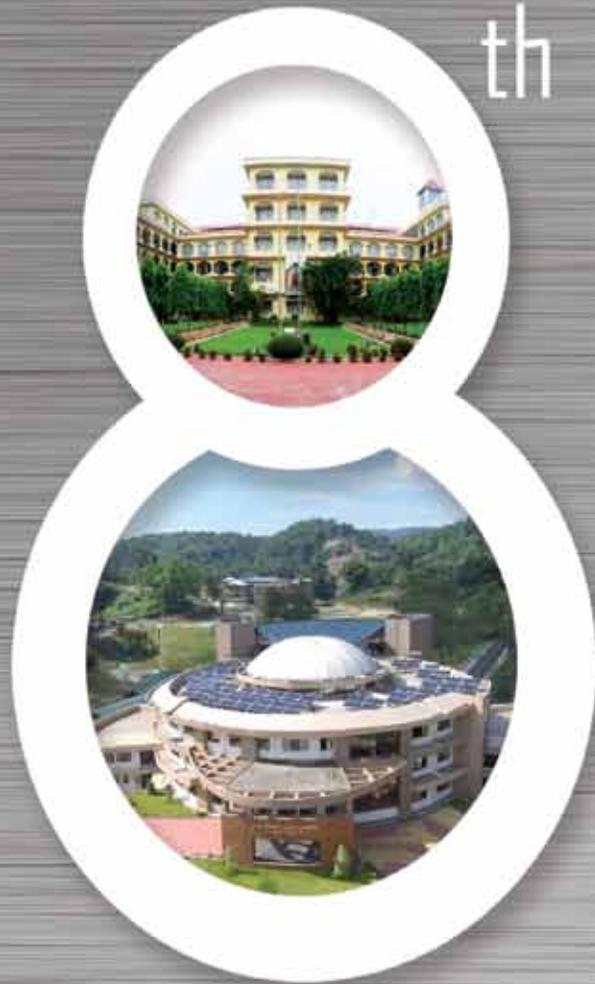
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A newsletter for Don Bosco family, alumni and friends



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Convocation

7 SEPTEMBER 2019

mindfulness works...



SCHOOL OF
TECHNOLOGY

SCHOOL OF
LIFE SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF COMMERCE
& MANAGEMENT

SCHOOL OF FUNDAMENTAL
& APPLIED SCIENCES

DBU GLOBAL
OPEN & DISTANCE LEARNING

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES
& SOCIAL SCIENCES

Message from the Chancellor

Dear Friends,

I am glad to communicate with you through this medium of Spark, and I thank Fr Stephen Mavelly for having asked me to write a short message for you all. At the same time, I take this opportunity to thank all the Faculty members, Students and the big family of ADBU for your commitment to enhance the reputation and growth of our Assam Don Bosco University.

As we know, University is a place where we embark on a journey of excellence and growth—not just for our individual selves, but for the society and the nation as a whole.

Moreover, university education and graduation is not about merely getting a degree or a diploma of completion of studies, but it is all about growth and even transformation. Our lives take a big turn in such an arena like that of a university.

- *It is here we learn how to win and how to lose, how to achieve targets, how to collaborate and how to sit down meditatively and individually in order to go deeper into an aspect,*
- *It is here we learn to experiment in bigger ways,*
- *It is here we learn openness and scientific-mindedness,*
- *It is here we see the close connection between academics and our day to day life,*
- *It is here we learn to how think big and reflect on the relevance of our studies,*
- *It is here we learn to imagine for a purpose and try out things that may work or may not,*
- *It is here we learn that our thoughts have the ability to affect our realities,*
- *It is here we learn how to make choices for the better, and*
- *It is here that we learn to construct meaning from our experience.*
- *It is here we learn how to learn.*

All things matter. Good and bad. Positive and negative. Everything matters. It is in the university that we learn how to integrate and combine all things into one synthetic unit. University is all about growing, changing into a better human person but skilled and qualified for the sake of our society and our nation and our world.



Therefore in this context we can say that “People lose their way when they lose their why.” From my own limited experience I can say that so many good people do badly in their lives only because they have lost their purpose and motivation. If we don’t have a clear purpose in our lives we can become a disaster. Do you know the word disaster comes from the Latin words dis (bad) and aster (star)? A bad star! We can’t be a bad star. We are meant to be stars in our own little or big ways. We all have a purpose in our lives... to shine and to light up darkness. Interestingly, we humans are not merely made of dust, but we are also made of star dust. We are more than we think we are. We are made of star dust, the stuff to make us shine and light up. May our university experience be one of shining and lighting up our own lives, and the lives of others around us.

Let our university experience be one of inspiration, even if it isn’t the perfect one. Let our university experience be one of learning, even if we do not learn everything that is possible to learn. Let our university experience be a milestone in our lives and let us not stop learning. And more importantly, let us not stop inspiring others! Let us not stop being STARS—what we are from the depth of our beings and our lives!

May God bless you all.

Thank you.

**- Fr Januarius S. Sangma SDB
Chancellor & Salesian Provincial**

Message from the Vice Chancellor

Dear Graduates of 2019... It is no exaggeration when I say, on behalf of all of us here in the University, that your presence and your life here have brought us much joy. It has been a pleasure to see you grow in immeasurable ways; and, today, we are proud to see you launch out into the wider world as Graduates of Don Bosco University.

I am certain that you will play significant roles in shaping the future of our country and the world. It is with that aim in mind that we established Don Bosco University – ‘to be there where the leaders of society are formed! I can say that with confidence because you are not only professionals in your own areas of expertise, you are also endowed with the right attitudes, values and determination that you have imbibed here and will bring to bear on your work.

As you grow and develop, and blossom into leaders of tomorrow, the world will stand and take note of you because, I am sure, you will undoubtedly be:

- leaders with a vision who leave significant footprints wherever they find themselves
- leaders with a human face, dependable human beings, and
- leaders passionate about making a change in the lives of the less privileged!

You start your career at a time when opportunities are huge, competition is intense, the challenges are formidable, and change is the order of the day. It is a daunting time for anyone to be starting out on a career.

Protectionism is everywhere. Unvarnished nationalism, pseudo-patriotism and the cultivation of majoritarian agendas are sweeping the world, and spreading from country to country. White supremacy, racial intolerance, religious fundamentalism, predatory business tactics, blatant displays of military might are all being given a sheen of acceptability!

The initial enthusiasm about globalization is waning as the developed nations find the developing and under-developed nations beginning to challenge their dominance and hegemony. Manmade barriers and trade wars are corraling the world economy into what could be a long recession.

I am painting a gloomy picture, I am aware. But I do have a purpose in touching upon this uncomfortable situation in the world and in our country today. What’s happening right now is turning out to be a perfect storm; and that’s where the challenge lies

- the challenge to look for creative ventures and ideas
- the challenge to risk and dare and build and forge ahead
- the challenge to lead, and not be just wayside critics
- the challenge to dream, and to have the faith to nurture that dream, and,
- the constant challenge to be true to yourselves in an ambivalent world...



Let me place one other challenge before you. It is this: consider entering public life. By public life I mean civil service, politics, religious life, grassroots movements... In these spheres of life, there is much you can do and achieve, much you can influence and change, much joy that you can find and share, much contentment, inner peace and joy that you can relish; and, there will be, believe me, success and fulfilment of a different kind... one that truly satisfies, at the end of the day!

I repeat again: **CONSIDER PUBLIC LIFE...**

Having said that, whatever may be the road you get to travel

- Be passionate about what you do, and focus on reaching your destination;
- Treat everyone and everything with respect and compassion;
- Undergird your decisions with the values you have learnt here; and, above all,
- Don’t forget to stop every now and then to marvel at the workings of grace in your life...!

One final thought: Our theme for this year is on ‘mindfulness’... ‘Mindfulness’ that comes as a result of deliberately cultivating a habit of ‘awareness’ - of others, of one’s surroundings, of nature, of possibilities and dreams, of a life without addictions, of the joys of empathy, love and friendship, of reliance on the loving providence of a Power greater than our own (God) on whom we can lean, on whom we can pin our dreams and aspirations, our joys and sorrows... and our frustrations too... Cultivate mindfulness!

Let me wish you an abundance of God’s blessings as you look for that unique niche that only you can fill; and, having found it, embrace it with all the passion at your command!

Carpe Diem... and, may the Good Lord bless you every day and in every way!

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

Message from the Registrar

Dear Graduating Students,

In a world order with which most of us are familiar, we spent our first two to three decades learning things and accumulating knowledge and information so as to use that learning in the second phase of our lives out of schools, colleges and universities.

The world into which you move out as graduates is not such a world.

We now live in a world of disruptive technologies and fluid thoughts that demands life-long learning.

When a loved-one leaves on a journey, elders usually tell him/her to be cautious of the dangers out there and the opportunities to look for. As you move out of the university, remember, you are moving out into a world where, not only your computers, but your own organic operating system is under threat of being hacked!

Artificial intelligence and biotechnology propelled by financial powers are in a race to hack human brains, emotions and desires. Are we able to listen to ourselves without being directed by messages on our computer screens to what machines have already learned about our past likes and dislikes? Are we able to learn for ourselves and go beyond our past likes and dislikes? Are we free to think for ourselves? Do we really know what we want? Are we spending more and more time in what big-data analysis prompts us to? Will we be able to maintain our freedom in the face of possible slavery to dictates from outside? Will we know ourselves better than the forces that aim to hack our thinking, emotions and desires through big-data analysis, machine learning and artificial intelligence?

Many of you will become drivers of the disruptive technologies that have the power today, through biotech and infotech to take control of not only the external world but also the internal world of people. Where will you lead it? Every tool has the potential to be used for good or for evil. Some tools have the power to transform the user too!



In such a context, to use the words of Yuval Noah Harari, the author of 21 Lessons for the 21st Century, (from whom I draw these reflections), the greatest knowledge required in the age of Artificial Intelligence is self-knowledge.

“Know thyself!”

Know thyself is the advice that Socrates, other philosophers, theologians and religious leaders have taught through centuries. It has become even more relevant today.

As Harari points out, the most important quality demanded of you in the world that awaits you will be “the ability to deal with change, to learn new things, and to preserve your mental balance in unfamiliar situations. In order to keep up with the world of 2050, you will need not merely to invent new ideas and products – you will above all need to reinvent yourself again and again.”

Your time at Assam Don Bosco University was spent to acquire the attributes of becoming “intellectually competent, morally upright, socially committed and spiritually inspired persons at the service of India and the world of today and tomorrow.” Let these attributes, along with the skills of critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity that you have learned in these years be your support in reinventing yourself again and again to hold your heads high in true freedom to lead the world to true prosperity and peace.

**- Fr. Dr. Biju Michael
Registrar**



Reminiscences from the Gold Medalists

Manash Pratim Rajbongshi

Winner - Vice Chancellor's Gold Medal

It is not the goodbyes that hurt, but the memories and time that follow.

And memories are one of the best things which were beautifully created in Assam Don Bosco University. The beautiful memories created in these two years of my stay at the University will remain as the highlights of my life. Many of my batch mates became my closest friends and we spent countless, pleasant times together not only in the classrooms, café, social gatherings, conferences, workshops, field trips etc and I will always cherish those moments. Our faculties had been the most inspiring people I have ever met and I really appreciate all the things they did for us. Their hard work, passion, dedication towards the students and their profession, their support and care shall always remain an inspiration in every step of my life.



Apart from the academics, participating actively in the departmental and university events had helped me gain a lot of confidence and also improved the leadership quality in me. The University in its attempt to teach the students the importance of volunteering made it possible for me to volunteer for Swastyayan where I spent quality times with the students of nearby villages through tuition classes. This experience helped me become a better human being and also made me realized the challenges being faced by these young students.

Being a student of the Department of Zoology, I selected "Animal Ecology and Wildlife Biology" as my specialization since working in the fields never fails to amaze me. My dissertation was on a nocturnal (active in the night) spider species Tarantula for which I spent a great deal of time in the field which made me more curious and more dedicated to my specialization.

Well, time flew by so fast and those beautiful years had come to an end. What remains now are memories and the experiences that shall always inspire me to be a better human being. It has been an honour to be a part of the Don Bosco family.

Once a Bosconian, always a Bosconian!

Raisa Tamsin Hussain

BTech (Civil Engineering)

Also Winner - Chancellor's Gold Medal

As I write this article about my time spent in Assam Don Bosco University, the first thing that comes to my mind are my friends. This University has given me so much and the best gift I have received came in the form of the beautiful bonds of friendship I have made here. Though it is cliché to mention, but I vividly remember my first day in the University. It was the day of the Orientation Programme where we were all given a brief introduction to the University and about the various events and programmes conducted and how they are conducted in the University. When we were first introduced to the idea of attending morning assembly before the start of our daily class schedules, it seemed rather mundane and so I would try to skip most of these assemblies. However, as time passed we realised the importance of attending every morning assembly because apart from being informed about important announcements, we also learnt the importance of punctuality.



The University provides each one with ample opportunities to help us discover our inner talents. I am proud to say that I have participated in most of the events conducted and each of these events have taught me lessons for life, and they have all contributed in building the self-confidence that I need. Participation and collective performance in such platforms do not go unnoticed. Our class has always been united across all situations including these events. We stuck together through thick and thin. I guess this has, in a way, been the reason for our Class being awarded the trophy for the "Best Class" in 2018.

The college bus rides to and from the University have also been an enthralling experience for me. Here, we made friends with juniors and seniors alike, most of whom we would hardly encounter during the college hours. Worthy of mention is the Diwali celebration in the bus which was a one of a kind experience for all who were a part of it!

There are three things that I will take with me. First and foremost, the education provided and the discipline at the University.

Second, the love and emotional support from the Professors. Finally, my friends. I have learnt to mingle with people irrespective of their background, cultures, and beliefs. They have always stood beside me in every step of my way. They have comforted me in my times of sorrow and celebrated with me in my victorious moments. It will be a long time until we meet again, but the love we have for each other will never cease.

We have lost three of our batch mates in the past year and we miss them every day and always keep them in our prayers and we know that wherever they are, they are together. Having dealt with pain and loss this year, I have learnt one thing and that is nothing is permanent. It never was and never will be. We have to keep moving forward with our head held high and with confidence. If you believe in yourself, nobody can take it away from you.

Being a proud Bosconian is a feeling that no one can take away from me. Assam Don Bosco University has given me my strengths and memories that I will keep in my heart forever. Life is too short to wait and expect things to happen to you. Surround yourself with love and there is nothing that you cannot do. Difficulties will come and go but your loved ones will stay with you always. Finally, I conclude this piece with a quote by Robert Downey Jr "Part of the journey, is the end".

Au revoir, ADBU

Shankar Khatiwada

BTech - Mechanical Engineering



I began my University life as a mature student to pursue a career in TVET after twelve years of service in CTEVT, Government of Nepal. It was very easy for me to do my routinely job and live comfortably with the same routine. But I believe one should never consider the accomplishments as it is a possible pitfall in life. By considering what one has achieved means one is looking back instead of forward.

Prior to pursuing my higher studies in the University, I was working in CTEVT, Government of Nepal. I realize while I was working it was easy for me to complete my daily assigned tasks and live comfortably. But I strongly believe one should never consider the accomplishments as it is a possible pitfall in life. By considering what one has achieved means one is looking back instead of forward. It was therefore, a bold decision I took when I decided to return to education after a gap of 12 long years. Initially, I found it difficult to adapt to the environment in the Campus, but with the help and support rendered by friends, faculty, and staff as well as my undying desire to succeed, I pledged to perform to the best of my abilities. Doing so has pushed me to achieve what I have at

this moment. These times were unsurprisingly very difficult and challenging, yet very rewarding.

My experience as an international student has, overall, been a positive one. Assam Don Bosco University has provided me with a broad academic curriculum offered within a high-quality education system, the efficiently operating administration and infrastructure, and above all, the international environment. Socialising with my international classmates was quite easy at the start, and I soon expanded my social network by joining several student groups via social media.

As I mentioned earlier, Assam Don Bosco University has a very efficient administration structure that goes well beyond the enrolment procedure. The competent staff were helpful with issues relating to official documents and other procedural issues. DBU is a very welcoming place. Upon arrival, I was welcomed and properly guided through well-organised orientation days, informative sessions, as well as language-advancing courses.

As I progressed with my studies, I mostly appreciated courses and classes being interactive and not purely theoretical, with opportunities for written assignments, educational trips, and conferences. I have learned and experienced a vast amount of new things over a short period of time.

To conclude, my University tenure has been a journey filled with questions and answers, new people, new stories, and new discoveries.

Long live, DBU!

Rohan Kumar Borah

BTech - Electronics and Communication Engineering

'Bigger as the Sky.'

'Deeper as the Ocean.'

This is our own Assam Don Bosco University.

First, let me start by thanking my parents who sent me to this renowned institute for completing my under graduation. On 21st July 2015 I came to the University along with my parents and took admission in the department of Electronics and Communication Engineering. Together with my parents we were a bit anxious about the university. But as time passed by, all of our anxieties gradually came to an end. To me, it is the discipline, manners and time management which were taught to us by our respected Fathers and our Professors that made us realize that this is University with a difference. And the great importance given to togetherness and belongingness by the management made us feel the family spirit and I too became one of its family members.



As we started classes, I found the regular morning assembly really useful as we start the day with a thought shared by whoever conducts the assembly, announcements were made in the assembly and important information was shared. It also helped me in attaining self-confidence in addressing a large crowd; I did not miss a single assembly during my four years at the University. I remember Kaustubh Sir telling us on the first day that, if we want to be a good engineer, there are three important things – self-confidence, love of the subject and determination to give something good to the society. These three things became my guiding principles as an Engineer.

Our Professors were very approachable and patient as they sometimes had to explain the same concepts two/three times until we understand them. For the first year, we shared classes with Department of Electrical Engineering students and when we were separated in the second year, we really missed them. In our class there were only 15 of us and we bonded so well and became really good friends. I will miss all the funs we had together, the birthday parties, silly games we played, the love and laughter we shared. I also learned valuable life lessons like problem solving, and dealing with situations which are beyond our control. I will be missing a lot about taking part in Prajyuktam – the Techno Fest and D'Verve the Sports Week of the School of Technology. As I look back at my four years, it is hard to believe that four years had actually passed by. I wished I could remain in the University for a few more years.

Let me also convey my sincere gratitude to the Training and Placement Office and to my teachers again as it was through their guidance that I got a placement in Tata Consultancy Services. I will always be a Bosconian at heart and in whatever I do, I will try my best at making the University proud. Let the University continue to glow like a morning star!



Parveen Kaur

B Tech - Electrical and Electronics Engineering

To me it felt like Don Bosco University is a world in itself, starting with the morning assembly to the last bell at 4:30 pm. Looking back to the time spent in the university it seems like four years have passed within a blink of an eye. The University provided me a lot of memories to cherish forever. It is a university where academics and extracurricular activities are given equal importance. As an active member of both co-curricular and extracurricular clubs I have learned how to organize events, get involved in the day to day activity of the university which is an addition to the technical knowledge I gained from the University.

Being a student of Electrical and Electronics Engineering I feel fortunate to have great faculty members who were always there to help us and guide us through our tough times, working day and night to make us learn new things and my sincere gratitude goes specially to our HoD, Prof. Shakuntala Laskar who motivated us all along the way.

As students, we always complained that we were being overburdened and overloaded with assignments and exams but now I realized that it was for our betterment because life after college isn't easy. To all my juniors, use your time in the college to make sure you're prepared to face what lies ahead.



Vidhi Bagadia
BTech - Computer Science and Engineering

Education has never been simpler. With repositories of resources at our fingertips, gathering knowledge has been simplified to a large scale. Pair this with the college experience and it becomes somewhat easier to walk along the line we intend to. The faculty at the university had always encouraged us to do our own research. May it be a semester paper or academic project, the biggest push today someone can receive is normalizing the risk of deviating from the traditional resources and adopting the current style of education.

The first day I entered college, I was unsure if Computer Science was indeed what I wanted to immerse myself in for the rest of my life. I'd be lying if I said there wasn't a speck of doubt still there while stepping out of college. However, when I did give myself time to finally think about it, it seemed like all the skills acquired in these four years did not seem so daunting after all.

As I write this, I recall the memories I've built with the people here. The wait till 4:30 pm even when no one had a class/project that particular day, the internal banter that later dissolved into smiles, the dozen of assignments we completed right before the tests with the sword of 75% attendance dangling over our heads, the five minute breaks between classes to sneak out for a samosa or kachori, and the mini-breaks we'd have when bats would show up in the class - to name a few.

The experience had been both exhausting and joyful. But that is life, I guess. When we graduated from Higher Secondary School, we all thought that the best part of our life – the College life would start then, but, what we often failed to realize is that the best part of our life is the present. To be honest, college was never all sunshine and rainbows, but it sure had taught me a lot of do's and don'ts to try and make the next phase in my life filled with a little more sunshine.



Veronica Naosekpm
MTech - Computer Science and Engineering

It is difficult to sum up the memories and experiences for a two years journey in a few lines. My experience in Assam Don Bon Bosco was incredible. I was interested to study Artificial Intelligence (AI) and was searching for institute that offers Master with specialization in AI. I came to know about Assam Don Bosco University through a senior of mine and was thrilled to find out that AI is offered here. Assam Don Bosco University is a place surrounded by positive and healthy environment. I had the opportunity to meet lots of people with diverse cultural background from North East India, who were trustworthy and good friends. The teaching and non-teaching staffs were always approachable and they had never disappointed me during my stay in the campus. The faculties are very energetic and enthusiastic in taking up any tasks be it academics or non-academics. The course setting is very reasonable. The institute has certainly enhanced my learning curve and encouraged me to take up new challenges.

I thank my professors for their constant encouragement and supportive gestures and they taught me to have patience and perseverance in doing any research work or project. To sum up, I would like to say that Don Bosco University was like my family, a family that will be part of me for the rest of my life.

Michael Richborn Syiemlieh
Master of Computer Applications

We have all been told by our parents or our relatives that college is where our life will start, that was true for me, and my life started at Don Bosco University. Hence let me share a brief story of my life at this University. When I graduated from College I was pretty confused about which university to join. So I looked up on the internet for universities and found Don Bosco University. I decided to check out more about it and was quite drawn to it. I made a decision then, and applied for an admission. I was glad that I was accepted.

It took me days, weeks rather until I found new friends as I hardly approach people first. However, once I found new friends, we helped each other, shared notes, thoughts, ideas and a lot of other things. I consider myself lucky to have found friends who were true to me and always there when I needed them, I deeply appreciate them for being selfless and supportive of me. Without them my life in the university would have been quite dull. Also, what made my experience at the University great

was the presence of some exceptionally intellectual teachers who were always ready with answers for your questions whether it be study-related or anything that crossed your mind as a person.

All in all, my journey at Don Bosco University taught me that life can be unpredictable and swift but also full of opportunities as long as you 'seize the day' which is the motto that every Bosconian should adhere to. My two years of study at the University seemed too short because as people say "time flies when you're having fun" and indeed I had enjoyed my stay at the University.

Finally I would like to take these last few lines to thank God who had given me the opportunity to join this University and had protected and given me strength throughout this journey and also I want to thank my loving parents for giving me constant support and care along with my relatives and my friends who were there for me unconditionally.

Peruz Alam

MTech - Civil Engineering

We are an amalgamation of experiences we encounter in our everyday lives. My two years in Assam Don Bosco University is replete with wonderful and enriching experiences. I would like to pen a few. I stayed in the ADBU Azara Campus Hostel. My favourite place was the mess hall probably because of the coming together of students from diverse cultures and backgrounds. Dinner time was exciting not only for the meal that we shared but also for the exchange of ideas and discussions about sports that happens at the time. One of the fondest memories I have is the day of the Orientation Programme, a programme held for the freshmen. It was a fun-filled day where we performed group activities - singing and dancing - to familiarise ourselves with each other. This enabled me to know my classmates better and to make new friends, who made my stay in the University a memorable one. The positive environment existing in the University makes me proud to be a part of this prestigious Institution. I take this opportunity to thank Fr. Joseph Nellanatt, Pro Vice Chancellor ADBU, Dr. Kanan Ojah, Faculty of the Department of Mathematics, Dr. Girija T. R., Head, Department, Civil Engineering, and all the faculty members and staff of the University for their constant motivation and guidance.

A good friend once said 'Don Bosco changes lives'. This indeed is true. The Don Bosco fraternity has given me the much needed encouragement to move forward and venture into the new life. Thank you Assam Don Bosco University.



Kayaththan Jesurajan Mark

MA Education

"Striving for success without hard work is like trying to harvest where you haven't planted"- David Bly

As a graduating student of Don Bosco University, I had meaningful experiences and unforgettable memories. I have always believed that 'the real value of setting and achieving goals lies not in the rewards you receive but in the person you become as a result of reaching your goals' and this simple belief helped me to enjoy the path of life in University. I am indeed privileged to have studied in the University which taught me how to face the challenges of today's world and to live the life in its fullness - 'Carpe Diem'.

As one of the philosophers Ralph Waldo Emerson rightly said, "The reward for a thing well done is to have done it." When we achieve a goal, whether the goal is to be a wiser leader or to become a better parent, we have to grow as a person in the process. This make me to reflect upon the path that I have travelled and not the reward I have received. Therefore, I thank the DBU family and all the noble souls who have taught me to enjoy the path which I have travelled rather to celebrate the reward that I've achieved. In fact, the process of reaching my destination has improved the person I am.

May the good Lord continue to bless all the members of Don Bosco University family.



Tintumol Chacko

Master of Social Work

“What has been your best experience?” is question that most of us get asked in different variations more than often. Even for a child there can be many joyful moments to consider be it being gifted a bicycle, visit to an amusement park or even a surprise visit by a close relative. But often, it is not until our adult life that we actually figure out many our most valuable events or experience and I must say that today I consider my time in Don Boaco University as my most valuable experience.

While looking for a University I came across a write up about Swastyayan on the University’s website which sealed my decision to join the Don Boso University. And after joining the University I did have the opportunity to be part of Swastyayan in the very first semester itself and it turned out to be an experience that gifted me with understandings and mentorships that any one from social work field would covet. The days at Swastyayan enriched my life with opportunities to engage with the children from various walks of life especially with those who are most vulnerable to be the victims of social inequality and discrimination. In fact, I found my life’s charm while engaging in Swastyayan activities as I began to realize how impactful it is to work with children and to understand my own potentials to contribute.

I also had the opportunity to be part of the International Exchange Programme where I learned to practice social commitment with professionalism and quality. The 10 days study tour that gave exposure to the leading social work organizations in India and Nepal was another experience that widened the horizons of my outlook towards social issues and the way to deal with them. At this juncture I remember all my dear teachers in the social work department who had been instrumental in shaping our convictions and sharpening skills. Each one of them has become a family to us by their way of guidance and support that extend even beyond classrooms and university life.

In summary, my experiences at the University were truly irreplaceable and I would not trade them for anything. It is rightly said “If you want to touch the past, touch a rock. If you want to touch the present, touch a flower. If you want to touch the future, touch a life.” The magic of touching lives is the art I practice.



Diksha Yadav

MSc Chemistry

My life at Don Bosco University taught me an important lesson that is to “Seize the Day”! “Carpe Diem”! The experience in the University is turning point in my life. The fascinating greenery of the campus refreshes our mind and energizes us each day and every day turned into a wonderful day. After spending two years as a student of Chemistry in the University, I have learnt not only chemistry but also some valuable lessons which will help me throughout my life like time management, discipline, hard work, and patience. The wonderful faculty team is always there to help us in every moment specially when faced with difficulties. They are very humble and helpful and ever ready to lend helping hands. Over the months and years I have also learned that ‘Learning never ends’.

The University also gave us opportunity to explore our talents and take part in sports activities and other co-curricular activities. I am glad that our department organized a number of field visits, workshops and invited lectures where I learned a lot of new things in Chemistry and the real life operations of well-known companies. All these activities along with seminars organized by the department on interesting and new topics in chemistry helped me a lot to develop a strong connection with the subject not only to score marks but to dwell deep into the subject matters and to understand it fully. The best part of this university which I shall be going to miss are the morning prayers and the motivational speeches given by the teachers. The speeches motivated me and helped me a lot throughout my journey to stay calm and to work hard.

Because of Assam Don Bosco University, I got the opportunity and feel blessed to learn from such talented and hardworking faculty members which changed my perspectives towards my subject and guided me to study it wholeheartedly. The university has given me many memorable moments in my life. Also, I feel blessed to have wonderful classmates and supportive friends.

To conclude, I would like to say that today I am not only an Msc Degree holder but also a degree holder in worthwhile life skills which prepared me to face the various challenges of life that may be encountered in the future. I feel proud to be a “BOSCONIAN”.

Pearlycia Kharbuli

MSc Physics

Don Bosco University is an institute which not only focuses on academics but also on extracurricular activities. It provides a platform for students to excel in their academics as well as moulding students' personal characters. The institute welcomes the students with a beautiful, calm, green and clean environment where parents or guardians, as they entered the campus know that their child is in a safe place. My two years stay in the University had been an amazing and phenomenal experience.

As a student of the Department of Physics, I would like to share the valuable fun filled time I spent and shared with the department. I'm grateful to have met the most helpful, friendly, excellent, astonish and great teachers who made me who I am. Without them I couldn't have come this far. In my BSc days, one of my teachers used to say, "When you're in your Masters, your teachers will not be there to guide you and be with you hand in hand, you have to be independent." I was expecting that and yet, my teachers here proved it wrong. My teachers were always there to guide, mould and support us. The physics classes introduced us to so many new concepts that changed our views of the world. Besides our regular classes, the department usually organised different workshops, seminars, symposiums, conferences, etc. in order to help us gain more knowledge and valuable information. The practice of having presentations in each semester helped me a lot in building my confidence and conquer my fear. Even the extra-curricular activities held within the department and the university helped us expose our hidden talents and came out of our small world.

I'm blessed to be part of the Don Bosco Family where I met people from different states, tribes and backgrounds that gave me an insight into their cultures. My classmates were my first friends when I started my journey at the University. They've been my support, my close friends and my adorable family. I shall also never forget my friends from Chemistry department and many others. They are like the backbone in my journey of life. "Friends become our chosen family".

When it comes to my studies, I always believe that one should always study smart and also work hard. While studying, one should not be stressed or panicked. One should be free from distractions, be calm and enjoy studying. Without hard work one cannot achieve success in life. Yes! Working hard is important but there is something that matters more, 'Believing in yourself, be you and also love yourself'. In life we often get disturbed and came across many obstacles. We make mistakes, we fall but all these actually pushed us one step forward and one step closer towards our goals. I always choose to be brave enough to conquer every hurdles and hardships that comes to me. No matter how hard I fall, I would rise again and feel more alive. "Be bold, be strong because God is always with you"

Lastly, I thank God for all his blessings and the wonders he showered upon me, I thank my parents and my guardians who are my constant support. I thank Assam Don Bosco University and all my teachers who have moulded and shaped me to become the person I am today. I also give my special thanks to all my friends for being good to me and supporting me throughout this wonderful and hectic journey where we created lasting and loving memories.

Saba Khatun

MSc Microbiology

*"caminante no hay camino, se hace camino al andar"
(In life, there's no path, you'll make it walking, so go walk your own)*

For most of us, the prime reason for attending a University is to get an academic qualification but personally I believe that the social life in a University and our growth, in its environment, as an individual are additional benefits. One of the amazing things about University life is that you are often left to your own devices, it teaches you to live your life to the fullest, to seize every moment of your life and that is what my University life taught me.

My experience in Assam Don Bosco University has taught me that life can often be unpredictable yet memorable. It is like a roller coaster ride, one which my University has geared me up for. My life in DBU was a perfect blend of joys and hardships. I also had the opportunity to be part of different student groups which allowed me to interact with students from diverse cultures



and know more about them. Such interactions helped me to grow as a person and have undoubtedly enhanced my life skills.

I am ever grateful for taking the decision to join the University as a Microbiology student. Had I not done this, I would have never experienced the world of minute organisms which can influence our inner thoughts and alter our lifestyle. It is remarkable how so many tiny creatures are able not only to grow but also to flourish in every extreme environment. Through various seminars, conferences and workshops I was immersed in the world of Nanobiology which is definitely going to be the future of Science and Medicine. Being in a laboratory, it has given me plenty of hands-on practices which have helped me to develop my academic skills and scientific thinking processes for conducting experiments. My teachers taught me that learning never ends. They taught me the value of patience and humility, the joy of reading, and to never be afraid of accepting mistakes. Their guidance and their words of encouragement will always push me forward in my life and will help me to face every problem with confidence and a smile.

I will especially miss those early morning trails to the hill top with my close friends which made me realize that no morning is the same. The flowers and foliage are ever changing and each sunrise is unique in the way that it greets you. I am very privileged to have made friends who have now become an integral part of my life and every moment we shared together is forever imprinted in my heart.



Nchumbeni Y Jungio

MSc Psychological Counselling

Two years!!!... Was the first thought I had when I joined the University but as the saying goes 'Time flies' and we are here after two years, ready to begin a new journey.

Looking back, the days that had gone by... it was a mixed package of every emotion and situation I could think of. The morning assembly, queue in the food court, comfort of the hostel, long hours of class when we sometimes lose track of time, field work, internship and study tour but yes all of it contributed to the pleasant stay at the University. The fieldwork and the internship were the days we always look forward to as it gave us an opportunity to observe and experience the real life situation and to apply the classroom learnings and instructions. I was fortunate to be able to do internships at Special Needs School, Rehabilitation Center, and Mental Health Institute which im-

mensely contributed in developing my skills through observation, interaction and the case studies. The campus life also taught me about the importance of appreciating little things in life. The campus filled with students from different communities and various departments widened my outlook on different areas, life styles and practices.

THANK YOU Assam Don Bosco University, MSC Psychology and Counselling Department, My dearest classmates and the beautiful people of the campus. I will always cherish memories we created together in this university.



Devarshi Bharadwaj

MSc Biotechnology

Can the daily lectures and lab work, count as an experience? Or driving 17km along the curves of Jorabat count? Or our 12pm lunch hour count? Though these were continuous activities for two long years, I still remember how they felt at first, and being a petty human, I appreciated them only on my first and the very last months. What went down between these months perhaps is the reason you are reading this.

Assam Don Bosco University gave me an insight to my true potential, as I believe "the potential" lies in everyone, it may be more or less specific for some people, and some may never find out what they could do. And I am grateful to this University for helping me find mine. Perhaps it was the soothing environment with an abundance of oxygen and chirping birds, and the absence of honking traffic and chaos. This is the place

where a mind finds a solace and peace. It helped me open my mind to new perspectives and focus on things that needed focus. All my teachers were like the wisest and coolest family members who helped me and supported me in ways where even blood relatives may fail to do so; and I know that they'll keep helping and supporting us. When I look back to these two years of my life, I don't know what will I miss the most - the people, the campus, the lessons, the teachings, the awkward introductions or the goodbyes.

Sanchari Bhattacharjee

MSc Zoology

It feels like it was just yesterday when I flew over from Kolkata after completing my graduation and was fetched by mother from the airport for the PG admission at Assam Don Bosco University. I remember thinking to myself, "This is it!". Very soon, I was standing with a suitcase in my new room at the University's Campus Hostel and it was at that moment that I realized this was not a dream.

But oh! How time flies. Two years had passed and the journey was already over. Looking back, I realize how much I have grown as a person and in these two years I have had the most wonderful memories of Assam Don Bosco University. It is not only the degree that I will hold in my hand, but I will forever treasure the fantastic experiences and the valuable skills that I acquired. Some of the courses that our University offers are exciting because they introduce new concepts that I never thought I would learn (as part of my course) as a student of Zoology. One of these courses is Photography and Journalism. The lectures were interesting because, after all, this is the era of selfies and we are all after the perfect click! On a serious note, before attending these lectures, I only had a rather vague idea about the physical aspects of a camera, but now I can actually use it to capture animals' behavior, their morphological characters, movement and locomotion, to name a few.



In my second year, I chose Cell and Molecular Biology as my specialization subject because the subject always caught my attention and I wanted to learn more about the world of cells and beyond. DBU gave me this opportunity. For this, I am ever grateful. I truly appreciate my teachers whose lectures I thoroughly enjoyed. The laboratory visits to IASST (Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology) helped in enhancing my practical skills which I could put to use in the much dreaded Project in our Final year. Finally, DBU has given me the best of friends. I cannot remember a single moment where I never had them by my side. They always kept me motivated and focused. Some say you will find life long friends while at the university. I am thankful to DBU for giving me these life long friends. Thank you DBU!

Mickey Sohtun

Master of Business Administration

It seems like it was only yesterday when I joined Don Bosco University to study Management like a reluctant caterpillar, when my mom dropped me at the hostel. Being at the University was definitely more than an educational experience; it was an experience of a lifetime. It was truly a time of academic and personal growth. The institute gave a platform to boost my confidence in public speaking. I recall giving the morning talks, participating in the debate and extempore competitions and hosting the annual Cultural Day. But my most memorable experience would have to be the experience of 'HELPING' and that is what I exactly did through Prajwal, a social initiative of the School of Management to cater to the social needs of under privileged children in the surrounding area. In the weekends we had the opportunity to teach these kids on subjects like English, Science, Maths etc. and when serious business was done it was time for some fun. The unforgettable trips to Siloam and Amguri made me realize how blessed I am and also taught me to be appreciative of what I have because there are many others who are less fortunate than us. We must always be willing to lend a helping hand to those in need. When I see myself achieving my dreams and making my future better, one thing remains – I want to continue to help other people in need to achieve their dreams too.



While I take pride in being a part of this institute, I place on record the commendable role of each faculty, who instilled in us the right motivation all through. They had always tried to show us a very realistic view of the corporate world, which actually helped us to acclimatize ourselves to the professional field. The importance of setting goals and achieving them on time with the resources available was taught to us during the past two years. We were also reminded often not to get lost in the crowd but to stand apart to do quality work and to get optimum result.

To conclude, I would like to thank the management, teachers, our hostel warden and staff and my friends for making my stay in the University a memorable and enriching experience. Above all I thank the Lord for His blessings. Long live the School of Management!

Journeying in hope... a timeline of the University

The journey of the University began on 11th August 2008 when the first batch of engineering aspirants stepped into the campus at Azara. Ever since it has been a pilgrim's path that has taken the University to where it is today... journeying on in hope!

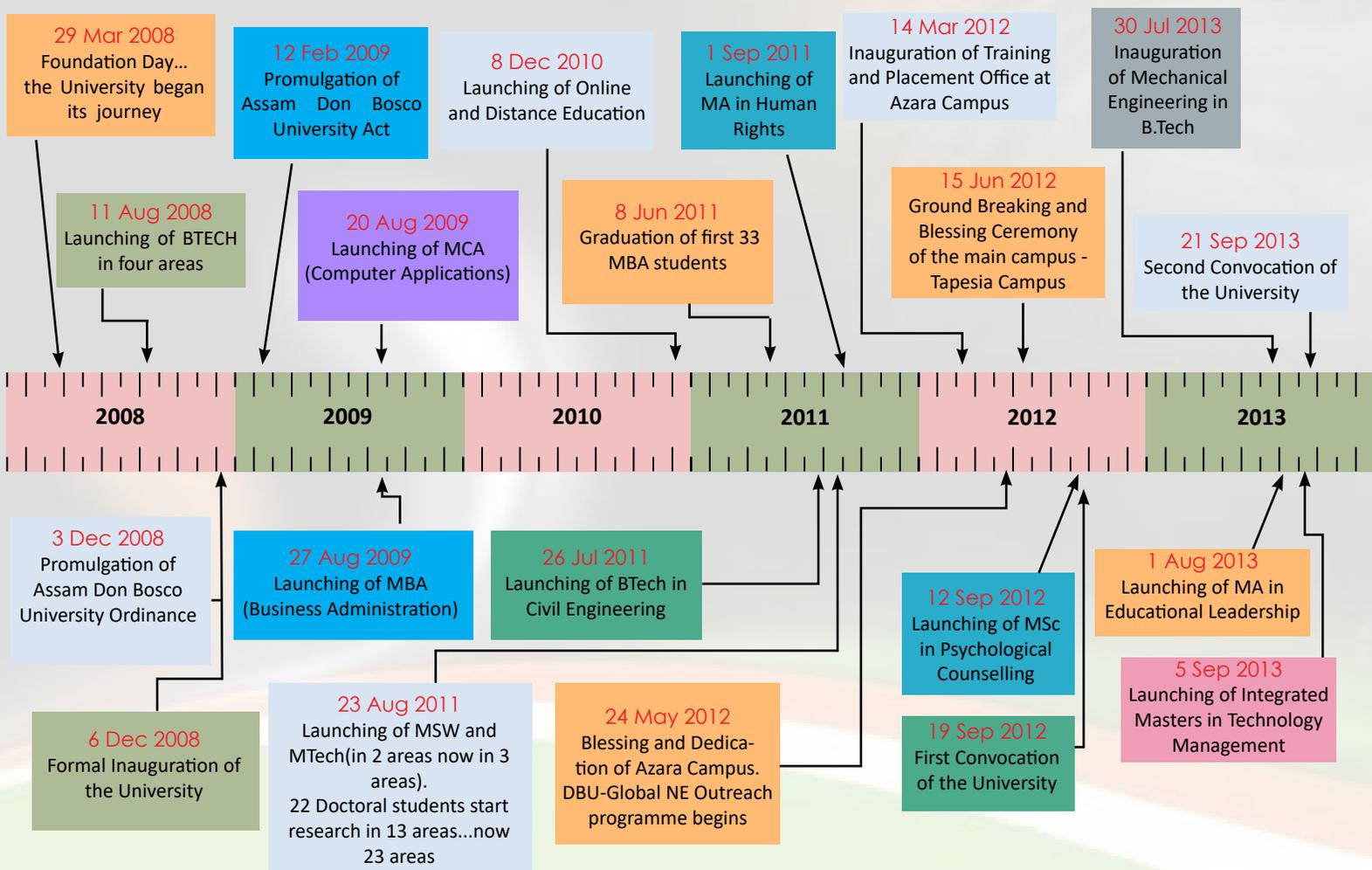
The turns, the twists, the meanderings, the pains and aches as well as the joys and miracles (small and big) on the way are far too many to count... Nonetheless, the vision has not dimmed, wider horizons keep beckoning all the time!

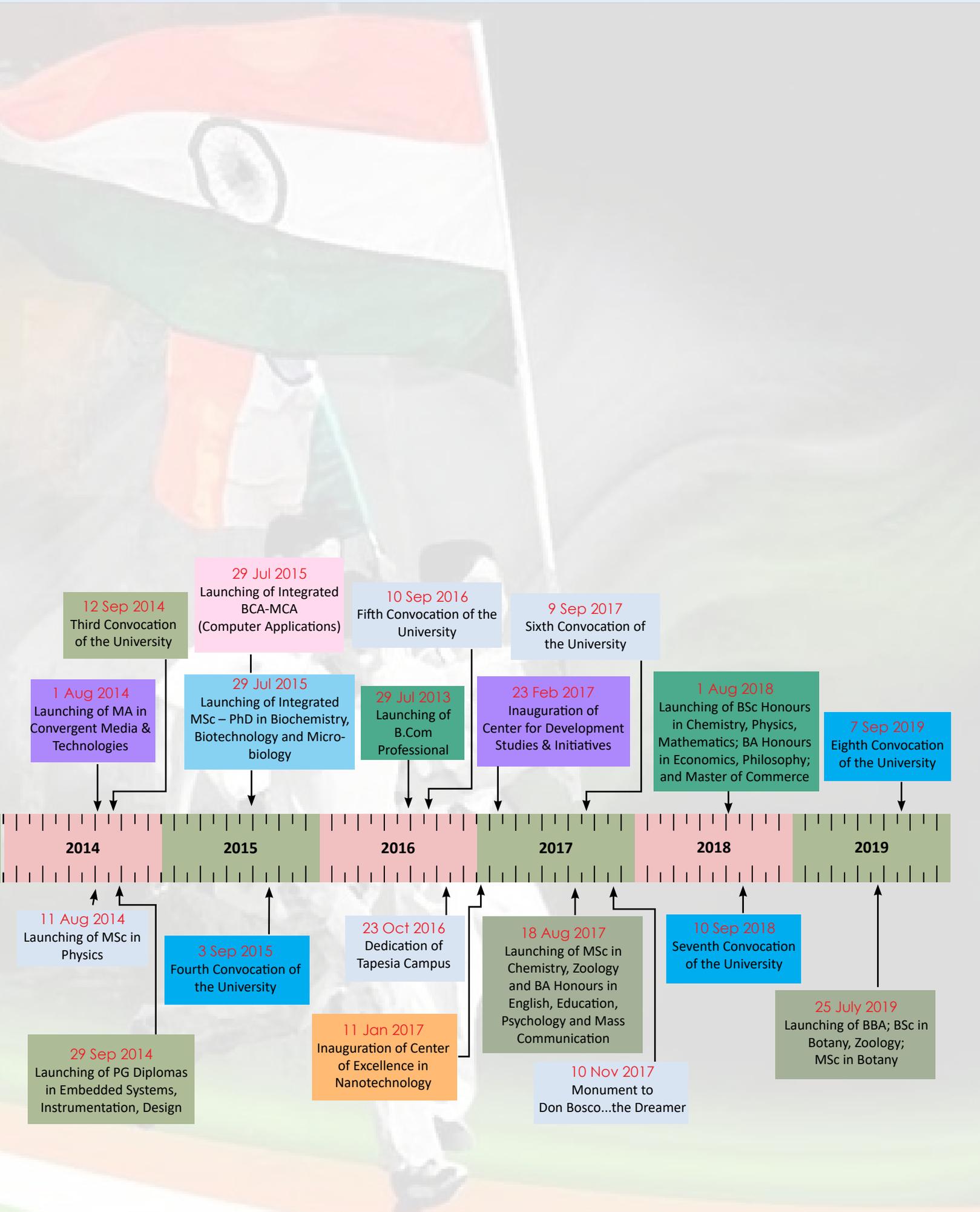
That we have come this far, we owe it to the generosity of the many friends, organizations, foundations and collaborators who saw this dream take shape and took the plunge along with us – friends who walked with us, shared our burdens, propped us up when our spirits sank, and rejoiced with us at every tiny step that took us forward... We remember them gratefully today.

To say that this journey is replete with God's blessings would be a gross understatement... To tell you that we have seen/ felt His/Her footprints along the way – that would be closer to the truth...

Our strength and our hallmark continue to be a culture that is uniquely our own, that energises us in all that we do, and knits us together into one educative community... the Don Bosco Way that is traditional and transformative!

The timeline below gives you glimpses into the milestones on the way...





Testimonials from DBU Global Students...

Majok Arol Dhieu - BBA

When I joined SAFERWORLD in October 2015, as Finance & Admin Officer at its Rumbek Field Office, I was having a plan to catch any opportunity with any University that offers BBA programme in distance learning. I made a lot of inquiries and lastly my meeting with Majok Mon who studied the same program at Don Bosco University, tripped the balance in favour of Don Bosco University. After I enrolled and began my course on 2 April 2016, it was hard and harder to give time to study, but as the Don Bosco University learning materials are interesting enough to attract and hold the students' attention, I tried just to get my feet wet. After the programme, I realized that I gained enough knowledge to wade through my career. As Don Bosco University have good lectures and helpful staff to make the material accessible and meaningful to cover the subject matter adequately, I will do my MBA after I settled. In addition, the summarized books I read when I was doing Bachelor of Business Administration has made me fall in love with writing.

Juliana Sequeira - MBA

At fifty years of age I feel EMPOWERED! The distance learning experience at Don Bosco University (DBU) was wonderful. Obtaining my MBA degree was important to me. The distance education platform at DBU made it possible for me to complete my studies and accomplish my goal at this age. I have been one of those that have delayed going back to school for a very long time. Distance learning through DBU allowed me to fulfill my dreams of having a Master's Degree while maintaining my active lifestyle, managing work and family life. DBU enabled me to achieve my goal of obtaining my Master Degree in Finance. The classes worked perfectly well for my busy schedule at work / home / church and the materials provided were excellent. Right from the start of paying my fees – the administration – to the complaints I had with their study portal, DBU Global team had been very supportive. Everyone at DBU from the administration to the support team have been pleasant and extremely helpful in my educational path.

Mangar Machuol Malok - BBA

It's amazing when the end glimmers gratification of indebted sacrifice. Looking back at my high school time early 2000s, the advancement of sophisticated technology was like the generation after me that will enjoy the outcome. We were told that people will be studying in offices and houses and the world will be like small village, nevertheless did I know that I will be the immediate beneficiary. Assam Don Bosco University implemented the predicted mode of study in me and I'm grateful. Studying while working is an essential learning program that I have enjoyed. The knowledge I acquired in this University has really manifested itself in me. It has earned me promotions in my work starting from being Project Field Officer and moved to Generalist Field Officer in 2017 and recently promoted as an Advisor to the Head of Sub-Delegation in 2019. The highlighted achievements were immediate impacts of capacity developed in this noble University.

Samuel Mutsauri - MBA

Education and Training is at the core of human development the world over; imparting skills at every level of development of a human being. Some, unfortunately, miss the opportunity for formal education and training as they grow up. However, institutions such as Assam Don Bosco University, with its distance learning programs provides opportunities for those who may have, for a variety

of reasons, failed to attain higher levels of education and training as they were growing up. I am extremely grateful to Assam Don Bosco for having given me the opportunity to study through its distance learning programme. The knowledge I have acquired will go a long way in helping me be effective in my work as well as build capacity among fellow comrades so that we can contribute to the development of our community back home in Africa. THANK YOU

Sehla Masunda - MBA

My 5 years with Don Bosco University have been highly rewarding and it's an experience that anyone striving for excellence should never miss. I felt very connected to my tutors and lecturers throughout the duration of my studies that it never felt like distance education. The way the lecturers delivered the lectures, reinforced by their well-planned study materials, makes you feel like you're right there with them in person. The dedicated support team, too, made the experience even more amazing through their constant encouragement through emails and voice calls, so lovingly done to patiently spur me forward with greater confidence.

Ugochukwu A. Sika - BBA

My experience studying and graduating at Assam Don Bosco University (ADBU) has been a life-changing and interesting journey. ADBU has given me an opportunity of a lifetime, opportunity to grow career-wise and knowledge to help me attain my future goals. Though, there were moments of challenge, but in the midst of every challenge comes great achievement. I had a very dedicated Student Advisor who was always there to assist me and regularly calling to check up on how my studies were going. I received calls from him every week from the start of my program till the end. DBU Global is top notch, I hardly experience any downtime, had easy access to all my ebooks, no limitation as regards its operations, easy navigation, ever ready IT support team to help resolve any issue if need be to make sure my studies runs as smoothly as possible. Lastly, i say thank you Assam Don Bosco University for instilling in me the knowledge to succeed.

Ben Ikara - MBA

Thank you for your generous DBU scholarship during my MBA studies. I am very pleased and I appreciate to have been given the opportunity as a recipient for the part scholarship award. I'm also happy and immensely grateful for the way the programme was structured and supportive to my work schedule. It helped me complete the course without any second attempts, due to the good online support of your team like; Mumtaz, Aarti, Pardeep, Amit and many others.

Daniel Mawat Gol - BBA

I am a graduate of Bachelor of Business Administration – Class of 2019. I am honoured to be a part of Assam Don Bosco University Alumni. Assam Don Bosco University is not just a pool of higher learning but a center of excellence and a global academic giant. I seized this opportunity with pride of humanity, the liberty of technology and the integrated system of education in India. My humble respect to the people of India and Salesians who invested their knowledge to a self-pace focus. Learning materials are of modern set up and of the future demands. We seized the day.