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PARK



A newsletter for Don Bosco family, alumni and friends

10th

CONVOCATION

18 October 2021



*... Journeying still in hope!
... Searching afresh for meaning!
... In a disjointed world amidst fragmented lives!*

Message from Visitor & Governor of Assam

Respected Vice Chancellor of the university, Fr (Prof) Stephen Mavelly, Deans, Registrar, Heads of the Departments and Centres, distinguished Members of the Board of Management, Academic Council and other Statutory Bodies of the University, Faculty Members and most importantly all graduating students and their parents.

I am delighted and greatly honoured to be a part of this Convocation where all the bright minds present will be receiving their degrees. Today we are holding this graduation ceremony, much like the rest of the world, in a virtual mode. Dear students, I understand the aloofness you must be going through for being away from your university and attending your convocation ceremony through virtual mode.

Convocation of a University is the most important event of an academic calendar. It gives me immense pleasure to be part of the 10th convocation of Assam Don Bosco University. I extend my heartiest congratulations to all our graduates and their families. This convocation marks the outcome of years of commitment, hard work and perseverance for all of you. You are graduates now and ready to prove yourselves in larger platforms, to work towards the upliftment of the society and the nation. From now onwards, you all have a greater responsibility and I wish all of you all the best for the new phase of your life.

Today, as I think of 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.

When hunger is a wide-spread reality in large parts of the world today, our country can proudly claim itself to be self-sufficient. Thanks to the green revolution, the white revolution, the silver revolution, blue revolution that have brought self-sufficiency in our living. When the powerful names across the world are trying to divide the world into their own spheres of influence, we stand proudly as a nation. Our time-tested policy of non-alignment and our adherence to social and secular values make us stand apart among the comity of nations.

Our country today has achieved impressive records in start-ups and entrepreneurial ventures in the whole world. We are now moving from being at the receiving end of foreign support to rendering our expertise to the entire world. As a result, our exports are looking up in quality and quantity as well.



To navigate successfully in this new emerging world order, let me propose to you a few essential tools and qualities: Self-knowledge and discipline, attentiveness to your own experience and to that of others, respect for intellect and reason as tools for discovering truth, skill to rationalise the right course of action, a conviction that talents and knowledge are gifts to be used for oneself, and to help others, flexibility and pragmatism in problem solving, large-hearted ambition, and a desire to find God working in yourself and all other things.

These might appear to be a spiritual vision to you. But these are the keys. If you want to live meaningful lives as leaders in industry, in government, in business and in various professions you have to be very focussed.

As the visitor to your University, I feel privileged to address you on this great day. I am sure you consider yourself fortunate, to have lived in the magnificent campus of the university. I once again, congratulate the recipients of degrees and medals and wish you a great future ahead. A future that is full of dedicated service to the community and the nation.

God bless you on this day! Go forth now, forge unique paths for yourselves, and create ripples wherever you go!

Thank you...

JAI HIND

Prof. Jagdish Mukhi
Visitor & Governor of Assam

Message from the Chancellor

It is my great honour and privilege to write this message and celebrate the achievements of my dear young scholars. I convey to you my sincere and hearty congratulations on your success. With the academic degree that you have earned today you have reached the threshold of an exciting and fulfilling career in life. I offer you my prayers and best wishes for a bright future. Today you have excelled because yesterday you toiled and worked relentlessly, despite hurdles and challenges which you faced along the road. Let this be your forte lifelong.

Recently, I came across an inspiring and motivating statement from the writings of B.B King, an American song writer, where he said that “the beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you” While studying at Assam Don Bosco University, I sincerely hope that you have learnt to be better, more humane, more intelligent and skillful, more mature and that, now you are prepared to launch into the world of career and nation building. No one except you can stop you from achieving what you have in mind.

There’s another interesting thing I came across recently; It was one of the most beautiful letters that I ever read, and it was written by one of the students graduating from Assam Don Bosco University to the people who are at the helm of affairs. It’s not a one-page letter but of several pages. Eleven pages to be exact. It was not typed but hand written. The letter described in detail the progressive spiritual and intellectual journey that she went through starting from the day of her stepping into this university. During the course of her stay here, the writer experienced the tremendous positive transformation and empowerment due to the unique and effective style of education and accompaniment here.

Among the many things that the writer wrote, one short paragraph reads “I realized that I have become better and better with every passing day and I am so eager to see what lies ahead, what plans He (God) has for me. This letter was just to appreciate you but it turned out into recapitulation of my life. I am just happy, I am proud of the person I have become and I would not hesitate to share my happiness”.

I sincerely hope that this becomes everyone’s story while at this university and that you truly become proud of what you have become.

My dear students, while the Management and the faculty appreciate such meaningful and highly motivating letters, we would like to tell you that in every one of you, we greatly hope to see the brand and luminous ambassadors for the future that is more humane and spiritual, that which nurtures integrity and truthfulness; a future that is highly competent and with no lack of hard working citizens; a tomorrow with proliferation of minds and hearts for an inclusive approach to life.

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. The Assam Don Bosco University



is your institution and we lose our meaning and significance if you are not here to be formed and prepared for the challenging world. Still more, our objective will not be achieved if all our past and present pupils do not become instruments of change in society and fail to act against whatever disturbs the world order. Napoleon Bonaparte rightly said, that the world suffers a lot not because of the cruelty of bad people but because of the silence of the good people.

Recently our motherland India celebrated the Gandhi Jayanti, the birthday of the father of the nation. Among many admirable qualities of Gandhi, his discovery about the seven truths is just powerful and enlightening. He said that these seven things will destroy us if not taken note of. They are:

- Wealth Without Work
- Knowledge Without Character
- Politics Without Principle
- Pleasure Without Conscience
- Commerce (Business) Without Morality (Ethics)
- Science Without Humanity, and
- Religion Without Sacrifice.

These should be your principles, our principles too.

I congratulate the University team especially Dr Stephen Mavelly under whose leadership we have achieved excellence, recognition and award, for promoting quality and uninterrupted learning even during the covid times. Indeed Covid has disturbed our normal life greatly. We lost time, we lost lives, we lost business, we lost physical encounter- to talk, to play, to be together, to share and to move around but our indomitable spirit and resilience made us rise above this virus and we devised ways and means to bounce back stronger and better.

To conclude, I congratulate our dear students for your investment of time and resource to build yourselves up and reached this milestone in life. May you continue to do well in life and achieve all the dreams and aspirations that you have in life. You are young and this is the moment to work hard and be someone in life.

Thank you. May God bless you and our University.

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

Message from the Vice Chancellor

My dear Graduates of 2021

Here is a reflection I want to share with you on the occasion of your graduation, a milestone that you have been looking forward to and working towards for years...

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!

More than anyone else whose lives the pandemic threw into disarray, it is you we focused upon. 'You have to get on with your lives', we told ourselves. 'You could not afford to be frozen in time, waiting to be thawed back to life with a year or more lost in the mists of the pandemic.'

With that guiding beacon – that you, our students, must come out winners – all the rest fell into place: the online classes, the assignments, the personal chats, the mock exams, mentors available to guide you almost 24 hours a day... and finally, the fully online, individualized examinations with a mentor standing by to help... That story is too long to go into details now...

But there you are now, at the other end of this camera, on your Graduation Day, beaming with joy, happy that you have made it. That joy is well deserved. Congratulations... go out and celebrate with your family and friends!

In June last year, with the pandemic tightening its grip over the length and breadth of our country, in fact of pretty much the whole world, I proposed a theme for the academic year 2020-2021: 'Searching for meaning... in the bits and pieces of life'... Deep down, I felt that the 'Search for meaning' and a 'right attitude' were the most potent tools we had in hand to face that continuously evolving scenario.

The experts as well as the quacks and the pompous kept changing their stories: 'It's a virus... it's from the wild... no, it is from the labs... it's from China-England-India- South Africa-Brazil-Peru-Vietnam... it's a variant of the flu... it's airborne... no, it's in the droplets... it's a small outbreak... confined to those Asians with despicable eating habits... no, it's spreading like wildfire... it's a pandemic... shut things down... lock down... mask up, shut up, listen to the Big Brother! ... and so the chatter went!

Against this backdrop... my dear Graduates of 2021... What shall I wish you today? Well...

In the first place, I wish you 'Hope'... Right from its inception, our University itself has been a 'journey in hope'. We still 'journey on in hope'. 'Hope springs eternal in the human breast', Alexander Pope wrote long ago. It's as valid today as then... I wish you a 'hope' that will propel you to walk on with changed perceptions, changed expectations, and changed selves always convincing yourself and those around you that 'All will be well. All manner of things will be well.'



Next, I wish you 'Resilience'... There are record levels of anxiety and loneliness around the world today. Times such as these keep testing our strength, our resolve, our peace of mind... That is why I wish you loads and loads of 'resilience' and determination - they are the mental tools to meet every challenge in the days ahead.

And lastly, I wish you 'Grace under pressure'... as you search endlessly for meaning'... As our theme for the current academic year underlines, this search has become infinitely more complex because you are grappling with a world that suddenly looks disjointed and lives that feel fragmented.

As you graduate today and get on with your lives, may "God be with you... till we meet again". Indeed, I pray for an outpouring of God's grace and blessings on you as you seek unique roles for yourselves, distinctive niches of your own.

The motto emblazoned on our coat-of-arms says, 'Carpe Diem! Seize the Day!' Yes, embrace every opportunity that comes your way with all the passion at your command...

Hope... Resilience... Grace under pressure... Search for meaning... Those are my wishes for you...

God bless you! God bless our country! Indeed, may God bless us all!

- Fr Stephen Mavelly
Rector & Vice-Chancellor



Reminiscences from the Gold Medalists

Jeremiah Jacob

Winner - Chancellor's Gold Medal

Gratitude is the best word that can sum up all the feelings that I have as I pen down all my experiences at Assam Don Bosco University. It is indeed a privilege for me to be able to study in such a prestigious institution. At DBU, I was blessed to be mentored and taught by highly qualified and professional teachers who challenged me to bring out the best in me at all levels while respecting and giving me the freedom and space that I required. The class presentations, group activities, fieldworks, NSS special camps, rural practicum, games, opportunities for organizing various events, and internships, helped me discover my hidden talents and abilities. Above all, they instilled in me the spirit of confidence that I needed. Though physically barred by the Covid-19 Pandemic, the online classes organized by the University were effective in as far as it made me more responsible to dedicate my time in studies and participating in as many online events as possible, organized both by the University as well as other institutions, to enhance and broaden my knowledge in many areas. As I step out of DBU, I feel that through the various experiences I had had, I will be able to contribute much to the good of the common people and their wellbeing through my knowledge and skills.



The manifold blessing of Almighty God and the constant support and prayers of my family members, friends, classmates, seniors, faculty members, and the Salesian fathers and brothers of the University stood as the strong pillars of my success. I conclude with a thought on two factors that motivated me to give my best in my stay at the University. First, the desire to make those who contributed and assisted me in my studies happy and proud by giving the best that I could. Second, the constant watchword of Rev. Fr. Stephen Mavelly, the Vice-Chancellor, to all students: "get involved", he says. The two years of my life at DBU have truly transformed me. Though I miss all of my friends and teachers, the reality is that 'life needs to go on'. I wish all my dearest classmates and fellow graduates a hearty congratulations and all the very best. I extend my best wishes to the University faculty, staff, and the management who play an important role in transforming the lives of young people the same way they have impacted and transformed mine. May God bless you all.

Nikita Das

Winner - Vice Chancellor's Gold Medal

For me the biggest lesson in my life so far is that 'no one can make your dreams and aspirations come true - only you can'. Achievements and recognition only come to those who are willing to put in the greatest effort. I am deeply humbled to have received such an honor from my University. It is a great honor to even be considered for the same, but to win is even greater. I was deeply humbled to hear that I have been awarded the Vice Chancellor's Medal. It was an unexpected feeling and as I write this, the feeling has slowly started to sink in. It would not be possible to summarize all the amazing experiences I had during my 3 years in the University, but I will try my best to highlight my best moments and the experience I had as a Bosconian.



3 years ago, when I joined this university I was very excited and was eagerly waiting to start a new chapter of my life. I was eager to learn, to experience and to evolve into an improved version of myself when I entered the University. Now, after 3 years I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to Assam Don Bosco University for 'EVERYTHING'. Finding the right path to success at the right time is really very important and to achieve that I had selected Assam Don Bosco University. The friendly environment, the organized approach towards imparting knowledge at Assam Don Bosco University made me a competent individual. The wide range of activities, both curricular and extra-curricular along with the support from Assam Don Bosco University helped me become a better person. The opportunities I was given at Assam Don Bosco University had been absolutely phenomenal. I am deeply indebted to the entire governing body of Assam Don Bosco University.

So, in Assam Don Bosco University, Azara Campus, starting as a student to being the Class Representative for 3 consecutive years to being the Vice President of Literary Club and to finally becoming the Student Coordinator and most importantly in these 3 years becoming a better student and a better individual were illuminating experiences. The journey and the growth that I experienced as a human being feels like a dream. I'm not sure that I would have had these same opportunities anywhere else. It is because Assam Don Bosco University invests so much in enriching its students to be well rounded, socially and morally upright individuals that we were given such opportunities.

I would like to thank the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor, the Registrar, the Director, HoD of Department of Computer Applications and all the professors for not only educating us but also teaching us the moral values that are vital in our world now. They taught us how to celebrate our defeat because every defeat, every fall is an opportunity to learn and improve. They taught us that it was okay to fall, as long as we always get up and strive to be better than our former selves. To me, and I'm sure to many others, education is more than acquiring knowledge and developing the powers of reasoning and judgment; it is the key to freedom. Freedom to find your true calling in life, freedom from an already pre-planned future and freedom to move in whichever direction you choose. This is one of the reasons I'm so grateful to Assam Don Bosco University because it provided us all with this freedom, helped broaden our horizons and enabled us to pick the path less travelled and to find our own path to success. To the administrators and staff, thank you for allowing us to take that path to create a brighter future for ourselves. These years had been a learning experience for all of us, and yet through our mistakes and achievements, you never denied us another opportunity to initiate change, initiate conversation, initiate an idea that could make a difference. Thank you for allowing us to make mistakes, supporting our efforts, and celebrating our accomplishments. To all the professors, thank you for making learning our passion. Ten years from now, it will not be the grade you gave us that mattered, but the lessons you taught us through the textbooks, and also beyond.

For moulding us into upstanding citizens that the nation can be proud of, I owe a huge debt to the University and all those within who influenced and touched my life to make it into the amazing experience that it is today. It is a debt which I cannot repay and I am humbled by the honor the University has now decided to bestow upon me.

To conclude, I would like to quote something that I strongly believe, "The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you". So, let's keep learning, growing and evolving each and everyday to become the best version of ourselves.

Siddhartha Roychoudhury

B.Tech - Computer Science and Engineering



I would like to begin with thanking the University for this wonderful opportunity to share my thoughts and experiences of my four years at the University studying B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering.

I dropped out from IIT Varanasi due to my health problems. So, when I joined Don Bosco University, I was quite depressed and unsure about how my college life will go the second time. However my worries were unfounded. This college has everything a student would need—supportive teachers, a beautiful campus environment, quality education, and most importantly, amazing friends.

I learned many invaluable knowledge and skills that would help me in the future. I absorbed not only the knowledge that comes with the courses offered, but also the knowledge outside the curriculum. This helped me broaden my horizon; gain a better perspective about my subject of study. There were many workshops and events conducted in the college, helping students discover their field of interests and also develop their skills. I remember participating in various workshops during my four years of study to satisfy my curiosity. The time spent and experiences gained were indispensable.

Since I studied B.Tech - CSE, my campus was in Azara. I had the opportunity to interact with students and teachers from the other branches, and learned from each other. This interaction helped us develop our bonds of friendship. We were encouraged to think outside the box, take initiatives and hone our leadership skills, so that we can cope with the world outside the campus. With up-to-date library and laboratory facilities on campus as well as online, we could easily access study materials to ensure quality knowledge.

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As I mentioned above, I was quite depressed during the beginning of my first semester. I felt quite awkward with my classmates since I didn't know much about them. I kept everything to myself and didn't interact much with my classmates. I gradually opened up as I interacted with them. We shared our joys and sorrows. Gradually, I was able to speak frankly face to face with others starting with my classmates, my teachers, the people from other branches and many more. My friends were very supportive when hearing that I had to drop out of IIT due to my health problems and I am glad that I had wonderful friends.

As college students, it was a must to have a class picnic. The plans for class picnics failed every semester because most of

my classmates weren't ready and gave all sorts of excuses. However, finally, during the eighth semester, when the COVID-19 lockdown was lifted, we planned our picnic like there was no tomorrow. It was quite fun to watch my classmates plan for the picnic. We had a fun and memorable picnic. Since the first semester itself, I would make sure that I revise what was taught in the class on a daily basis and eventually became the topper and the run to person for my classmates when they have doubts. I am glad that I could help them. During my sixth semester, a nationwide lockdown was issued on 15th March due to COVID-19 pandemic. There was confusion, panic, restlessness and mass hysteria during the lockdown. Our teachers worked really hard to ensure that our education did not lag. Quite frankly, I am glad that we had such amazing teachers.

Although about 1.5 years went by staying cooped up inside my room attending online classes, I had many memorable experiences during the 4 years of my B.Tech degree. Looking back, I realized that the reason that made my experiences memorable was that I lived and enjoyed every moment of it and made sure that I never regret it.

Chegrik Cheerian B Marak

BTech - Electronics and Communication Engineering

Can four years change your life? Life at college is a golden time where teenagers experience an ocean of beginnings, freedom, and possibilities. My experience at ADBU taught me one valuable thing - life is unpredictable and I have to adapt to it. It might be good, it might be bad, it might be strange, it might be heart breaking and it might be of no interest to me. But that's how it is: a perfect blend of laughter, joy, and sorrow.

I arrived for my freshman year at Assam Don Bosco University wondering if I had made the right choice and wondered the same on numerous occasions in my first semester. But as I slowly learned and experienced the college life, these apprehensions slowly faded away and were replaced with new-found motivations and encouragement. During my first semester of college, my friend taught me something that now turned out to be my go-to principle - "No matter how strange or embarrassing it seems, find things that work for you and don't be shy to apply it in your life". This motivated me to go to bed by 9 every night and wake up at the crack of dawn.

For the first year and a big chunk of my second year, it was mostly full of studies and a lot of 'No' to other activities. And yes, it paid off and was worth it but it would not have hurt to take time to enjoy new things. In the second half of my second year, I started working out and playing few games with my friends. That's also when my performance in academics also started improving. These small changes helped me to slowly improve myself. I started being more physically fit, made a couple more good friends and my mind could toggle on things other than academics. In fact, these extracurricular activities helped me perform better academically as well.

The education imparted at the University was not only on technical knowledge and skills but also on life skills which I think are important to survive. I learned how to interact more, how to communicate with different people, how to work with different types of people in group activities and how to appreciate different cultures.

Finally, I'm grateful to all people I met during this four-year journey, my friends, teachers, the helpful seniors, the "Dada" seniors, and the respectful juniors. I'm blessed and lucky to have had classmates whom I consider FAMILY, my roommate who had to tolerate with my weird habits, friends who allowed me to make their room my second room (you know who you are), and friends and teachers who were ever ready to help me in times of need. These people made my college life exciting and moulded me to become the person I am today. Honestly, the journey was not always a smooth sail. It was a combination of gentle, strong, small, and big waves but in spite of these, looking back it's the hardship, the arguments, the ups and downs, the good times and bad that I will always cherish. At the moment, I am deeply overwhelmed with the joy of graduating and a heavy heart of leaving the University and all the wonderful people I've met. As I close the chapter of my life in DBU, I just want to thank God and my Parents for the experience.





Euginia Maniza Langstieh

BTech - Electrical and Electronics Engineering

I deliberated on how I wanted to describe my journey at the University for a moment as I started to think about my life here in DBU. After much contemplation, a particular adage by Jonathan Lockwood Huie stuck out to me, "Celebrate endings - for they precede new beginnings".

At the time that I first started my journey in the University I was still uncertain over whether I would be able to adapt to a life in a completely different setting. It was not easy for to me to 'celebrate' my endings in my home town, I missed being close to home, the small-town life that my previous institution gave me access to and all my friends and companions over there. The simple life was about to be totally transformed.

One would not know what to expect with 'new beginnings', the same was the case for me. I did not know what to look for, neither did I know what I would find here. My attachment to my old life caused me to become hesitant of starting things anew and in turn this caused me to find a hard time in finally re-starting my life. This is reflected in my first day experience. I was closed off and quite shy but the helpful nature of my dear teachers helped me to slowly open up, to involve myself more in the campus, and to be more outgoing. Eventually this helpfulness of the staff inspired and somehow awakened the spirit in me to be more helpful and understanding towards people like me and to appreciate the ones who try to make such people more comfortable.

My journey in DBU would not be half as fun and eventful and if it weren't for all the people, I've been able to call my 'friends' here. I thank them for all the things they've done for me and with me.

I am more than grateful to the very helpful Department and the staff of the University for seeing and finding the potential in me to complete this degree and I also thank everyone here for extending their hands to me. Celebrating this ending will not be an easy task for me but my memories of this place will help me 'proceed to new beginnings'. My time in DBU has enriched my life in many ways. It has provided me with the necessary tools to enhance my skills, taught me valuable knowledge about this diverse world and people and concepts in general, and eventually will enable me to hopefully become more successful in life. It taught me the importance of thinking critically and asking questions in many situations. All these aspects have also made me more well-rounded as a person. These experiences are truly irreplaceable and I would not trade them for anything.

I am forever grateful to all the teachers, friends, and seniors who guided me and shaped me to what I am today. Without your constant support and constructive criticisms, I'm sure I couldn't have come this far. You helped me throughout my time here at the University. I'll cherish all the memories we created here for a long, long time. Thank you Don Bosco, for the amazing time I've had with the awesome people I've met. These years will forever be treasured.



Keviseno Sophie

BTech - Civil Engineering

"Everyone has youth. A time that's more beautiful because it's awkward and clumsy, a time that shines brilliantly. A time when you're not afraid of anything because you have nothing to lose and a time when you're excited because you can have anything, everything."

Four years back, I came to this college excited to start a new phase of my life with lots of expectations and curiosity. I was a timid person who was very self conscious and lacked confidence. With people from different states and the new college environment, most people seemed very confident and did not feel the need for other people's validation which really helped me and inspired me to build up my self confidence.

The morning assembly made me feel like I was back to school again and it was a great way of learning new things every day. My favourite talk of the morning assembly which I still value and remember goes like this "There is nothing noble in being superior to others. True happiness is when you are yourself and try to become better than your previous self. You are not in a competition with anyone."

I'm leaving this college with bittersweet memories. Going down memory lane..., getting scolded because of our failed mass bunks, running out of the classroom alone when the earthquake came :D, working like actual labourers (mistry) and having sleepless nights for our presentations and projects and going to Dominoes was something we always looked forward to after any hectic college day.

I'm forever grateful to the teachers, Fathers, Sisters and the administration who were ever ready to help us with anything. They did not just teach us about our subject but lessons of life which we will take with us along the way. All my batchmates were an inspiration to me in different ways-take Nevada, for example, the bold and beautiful who made me realise the value of making the most of the moment 'The YOLO Life' indeed..., Kevinu, so disciplined and calm she is, Imtinaro, so considerate and softspoken, and then there's Dallina's gracefulness, Onya's thoughtfulness, Phogang's authenticity, Samananda's kindness, Hriday's diligence, Khumpise and Tingsang's jovialness and these are not even one-tenth of the qualities of my batchmates.

And to all my dear batchmates, who were part of all these unforgettable experiences, our time together here is not remembered by our grades, popularity or what we achieved but by our relationships and leaving those that we cross paths with a little more happiness and hope. An episode of our life is over and perhaps the most important one, but the greatest happiness lies in the fact that it has been memorable. Now is our time to go out to the world and pursue our passions. So challenge yourself. Go out of your comfort zone because that's where you grow. I wish you all the success, happiness and blessings in your future endeavours.

Rajdeep Deka

BTech - Mechanical Engineering

It is my pleasure to place on record the wonderful experience I had at Assam Don Bosco University. It is said that, 'an individual's intellectual and social simulation begins from college', and today, when I look back I think it is indeed true.

When I joined Assam Don Bosco University I was not even sure if I wanted to pursue engineering. But my friends and teachers supported me and after 4 years I found myself to be the gold medallist of our batch. This achievement would have been impossible without their constant support. I consider myself fortunate enough to spend 4 years of my life in Assam Don Bosco University among the best mentors. From walking in as a young confused boy to walking out as a proud Mechanical Engineer is probably the best transformation a person can get.

It is at Assam Don Bosco University where I got to meet some of my wonderful friends. Countless sleepless nights before exams, group studies, parties, going for long trips are some of the most wonderful memories of my life which I will cherish forever. These sweet and bitter experiences with my amazing friends have shaped me into the person I am today. It is here in ADBU where I got to know the true value of friendship.

The curriculum was quite good and I learned a lot in the field of mechanical engineering specially robotics. Various clubs of the university like robotics club, mechanical club, etc was a source of learning as well as entertainment. I feel nostalgic remembering the sleepless nights we used to spend assembling our robots for various competitions. Getting to experience about different new technologies from our seniors who participated in various national level competitions was a unique learning experience which I had being a member of these clubs.

I express my gratitude to all faculty members and all members of the college fraternity for the guidance and the wonderful experience which I had during my 4 years of B. Tech. I feel blessed to be a part of such a wonderful family. I thank each and every member of the Don Bosco Family from the bottom of my heart for making my 4 years of B. tech the best years of my life.





Nilutpal Buragohain

Bachelor of Computer Applications

I am now officially an alumnus of Assam Don Bosco University, no longer a student but a graduate. I remember the first day I went to the University there was a gathering to welcome all the newly admitted students. I knew no one then but I got to see the faces that I am going to be seeing everyday for the three years of my time at the university. I saw some faces of teachers who became my professors and faces of students who would become my classmates. Gradually I got to know these people and spent all the years that truly made my experience in the university a thing to remember and adore about, even after my graduation.

Before I knew it I was already in the fourth semester when the pandemic hit us. We were bound to return to our homes and spend all the remaining semesters through the digital environment. It was truly a great experience for me that I got to undergo both the offline and the online learning environment, one that I will cherish for my lifetime. All thanks to my university for handling both the learning environments very well which enabled us to cope up with the syllabus and making the online learning experience similar to actual offline experience as possible.

When the projects started for the fifth and the sixth semesters, I finally got to utilize what I had learned throughout my course. This was really a great experience to directly communicate our ideas with our respective guides. I got to learn about how real world projects work and thanks to my skilled guides and professors, who helped me complete my projects in time.

There were many mixed feelings when I first arrived, but after graduating I am living with only good memories and that truly says a lot about the place. I met a lot of friends, who were always there for me whenever I required any help, making my life in university a very memorable one. Also, I got very supportive seniors right from the beginning till the end of my course, who guided me in every situation and personally came forward to ask me if I required any help even when I was hesitant. I am also thankful that I got very helpful professors who taught me to think both logically and analytically, guiding me in every step of my degree. During the course of these three years, I went from an anxious, uncertain and frustrated person to a confident, happy and hardworking one.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all my peers for coming to the end of this great endeavour. Lastly, for future students, remember that things may not always turn out as you're expecting it to, but whatever the end result may be, make sure you always find good in it.



Navarun Gogoi

Bachelor of Commerce (Honours)

College life experience is truly one of a kind. My time in Assam Don Bosco University introduced me to a new world. We had students from all over the north-east, which gave me an exposure to their cultures, beliefs, and lifestyle. The faculty here were very friendly, and were always available to help us whenever we were in need.

Along with our academics, our university also encouraged us to take part in extra-curricular activities like music, dance, various sporting events, etc. which is held during D'Verve, a cultural event organised in the spring semester. There is also a techno-management event called Prajyuktam, which is held in the autumn semester. We were provided with various opportunities to showcase our skills. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we had to have our classes in online mode from 4th semester onwards. But even then our faculty were efficient in conducting online classes and ensured that we didn't miss out on our course that we would have otherwise covered in normal classes.

I would like to express my deep sense of gratitude to all my teachers for guiding me, and for moulding me into a responsible citizen of our country.

To conclude, I would like to quote Steve Jobs "Don't be trapped by dogma—which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition."

Congratulations Class of 2021! Long Live Don Bosco! Au Revoir ADBU!

Debadrita Sarma

BA (Honours) Psychology

Starting a college life after I completed my school education was an important event in my life. I felt very much excited on the very first day. I found that there is a great difference between school and College life. The world of School is very limited but the world of college is large. When I first came into the university the green scenario of the Tapesia Campus captured my heart immediately and I was very mesmerized by its scenario. From my very first class I was sure that I chose the right University for me, because, the lovely faculty members were the world of ideas and books. Each and every teacher was very helpful and they supported me a lot in these 3 years of my life. As a student of Psychology, there were other departmental papers that I had to take, so, I was a little nervous about taking a paper in Mass Communication but the teachers of Mass Communication Department helped me a lot and I have learned a great deal about the subject and the use of it in everyday life. Every departmental faculty that I came across during these 3 years guided me and helped me a lot. I learned many life values from this University.



In our Hostel, there were two Sisters as wardens, who are also nurses and every time when my health was not okay or I suffered from some illnesses they would take care of me lovingly and that too was such a blessing. Once I am in the Hostel, I never felt that I am away from my home. The food is also very good in the campus as one can choose from a range of varieties. Sometimes in the evening I used to go out with my friends in the Lake as it was very peaceful to sit there, feel and connect with nature. This University gave me a lot that I could not even express in a few sentences. I loved the days that I spent in the Campus. I loved the University for its intellectual awakening influence and its various academic and extracurricular activities. I will fondly remember my life here at the University.

When I left home 3 years back, I was not sure what I would get in return. I was excited but at the same time a little scared of the new reality. At that time, I was prepared to learn, explore, make new friends and get to know me as an individual self. Before my college life there were always my parents to guide me. But here I found a new family who was always there to help. But today as I stand here, I am proud to say that I had made the right decision to come to Assam Don Bosco University.

Rajoshree Singha

BA (Honours) English

Three years back when I started my journey at Assam Don Bosco university, I never realized that life was going to take such a wonderful turn. To study at ADBU was the best decision of my life. When I first left my hometown I was excited but a little nervous too. The thought of staying away from family all alone in a completely new environment surrounded with strangers was quite frightening. But Don Bosco gave me a home away from home with the lush greenery surrounding me and the wonderful teachers and seniors who were ever ready to guide us and help us in every way possible. Almost every person I came across in the university had a selfless nature.



Being a hosteller, I had the opportunity to enjoy the campus life to the fullest. I can still recall the day when I first visited Tapesia campus with my father, I was awestruck with the greenery. I have never seen such a beautiful campus in my life. The memories I made in the hostel rooms, the corridors, in the classrooms and various corners of DBU campus is irreplaceable. The memories of wonderful events like the Freshers' Day, Boscosiad, Liberal Strike, Cultural Nights are all still so fresh in my mind. This is the place where strangers become families.

The best thing about Don Bosco that I found was, we began each day with the morning assembly where we pray to God Almighty and thank him for giving us this life. Don Bosco taught me many things. Firstly, it taught me to be disciplined and punctual. Secondly, it taught me to get out of my comfort zone and experience life to the fullest. Back then I was very naive, I preferred staying in my comfort zone. In Don Bosco I got the platform to discover the best version of myself. It gave me ample opportunities to participate in various co-curricular activities like drama, sports, various quizzes or writing competitions which helped me in an all-round development. As the motto of Don Bosco says- "Carpe diem" or "seize the day", we as Bosconians were always challenged to make the best out of the opportunities provided to us each day.

I wish I could stop time or just go back and experience my days in the university yet again with all the enthusiasm and naivety. Even in those challenging times of covid the university didn't compromise with our studies. We were strictly guided by our teachers who amidst all the challenges gave us the best possible service. I personally thank all our teachers for their dedication and hard work towards our studies, without them we wouldn't have made through it. Whatever we are today is because of them.

Lastly, I would like to conclude that no matter where I go, Don Bosco will always be my roots and I will always proudly say "I am a graduate of Assam Don Bosco University". Viva Don Bosco!



Sabreena Zeenat Hannan

BA (Honours) Mass Communication

"Beginnings are usually scary and endings are usually sad, but it's everything in between that makes it all worth living." – Bob Marley

When I bade my parents goodbye and got settled in the hostel, a realization dawned on me that I was about to embark on a new journey of my own without their physical presence for the first time in 19 years of my life. It was a daunting feeling but there was also an inkling of excitement and curiosity within.

The next morning, after the "exhilarating" climb towards Block 2, I finally met the teachers of my department as well as the rest of my classmates for the orientation programme. That day itself, I felt a wee bit sense of belongingness which gradually evolved over the course of three years and grew bigger and bigger to the point where with great pride, my friends and I used to roar "MASS COMM!" in loud chants at any given opportunity to show our fanatical support for one of our kin. Whether it was during a simple class presentation or while practicing for street play, we always had each other's back. Besides my department family, I also found friendships with my comrades from other departments which is something I truly cherish a lot.

As Hellen Keller said, "Alone, we can do so little; together we can do so much."

It's the diligent, compassionate teachers of my department, Monjib Sir, Kaushik Sir, Jai Sir, Rupam Sir and Alpana Ma'am without whose constant guidance and support none of my friends and I would have been able to achieve this growth and reach where we are now. It's their unwavering encouragement and assistance to help each one of us in reaching our full potential by taking risks with us - thrusting new responsibilities into our hands. It is not only through their lectures alone but also through the hands-on curricula that they curated for us which trained each one of us to become the best in our field. One of the things that I will always hold dear to my heart is the casual conversations that I shared with the teachers, sometimes over a cup of tea, near the tea stall, and sometimes during special dinners for department events.

Just like I found friends in the different departments, I found the same sense of guidance from the faculty members of the other departments. This spirit of community made me feel fit in everywhere and with everyone and it is one of the most beautiful things of Don Bosco University besides the obvious - the breathtaking campus that breathes nothing but peace and serenity. This same sense of belongingness lives on when preparing for Freshers, Boscosiad (the University sports and cultural week), Convocation and celebrating events like Diwali, Holi etc.

Unfortunately for some of us, our time together on the campus was cut short because of the pandemic but sometimes the journey that we are venturing doesn't go as we plan, some circumstances are unavoidable but that does not mean it's all unpleasant. Your journey changes you as it should and is meant to change you.

And so I say to my fellow graduates of 2021, despite the setbacks, let's always take all the good bits from our journey and hopefully, leave something good behind too.

As I turn to a new page of my life, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to my teachers, my hostel wardens, my classmates and the entire staff of ADBU for this unforgettable, enriching experience. And to some of my dearest friends, thank you for your relentless support, kindness and love. I wish you nothing but success, happiness and health.

Hpawdaw Htu Pan

BA (Honours) Education

Firstly, I want to say “congratulations” to all my fellow friends. We finally did this and thank you so much to all my teachers who guided, supported, and taught us all these years. Thank you, Don Bosco University! I am so proud that I am a part of this fraternity. Special thanks to all my professors from the Department of Education and my classmates who reached out to me and were there for me when I was not able to come to the campus for one month due to the political situation and the Covid-19 pandemic in Myanmar. I received love and affection that will last forever in my memory. Because of you guys I could make it this far.

I still remember the very first day in DBU. I have got to be honest. When I came here it was really stressful and I was afraid that I was not going to fit in. It was obvious that it is quite challenging for me since this is not my country and I had to adapt to many things. However, I met an amazing squad as soon as I arrived in DBU. They were always there when I most needed them and I never felt lonely.

The best part of living in the campus of DBU is that there are a variety of activities and programmes that allow us to connect with the world and to experience ‘life in its fullness’. DBU is not just the place from we can gather knowledge but it is a close-knit community. The environment of the campus is simply amazing, the professors are approachable, the food is healthy and good (especially breakfast, I’m really missing it now), hostels with adequate furniture and resourceful libraries. These are just few of my favorite things in DBU.

There is something I want to say to all my batch mates (the four departments of Mass Communication, Psychology, English, and Education). Since I am kind of a quiet and introvert person, I may have not even said hello to some of you guys. But I want you to know that I know each one of you and you guys are truly amazing in your own ways. I wish you the very best in your future. DBU, you will forever be cherished. Once again, ‘Congratulations’ to all and thank you so much dear DBU.



Biraj Singha

MA Education

As I pen down my thoughts on the experiences I had at Don Bosco University, the first people I would like to make a mention of are the teachers of the University. From the very first day, the teachers were encouraging and made us feel comfortable despite the newness of the place. This drove away all the fear and anxiety that I had as I joined the University. The dedication of the teachers to provide the best knowledge for us not only helped me in achieving a good academic performance but also motivated me in overcoming the most difficult situations. Through my teachers, I was inspired to develop qualities such as time management, sincerity, honesty, and punctuality in any task given to me. All in all, I can say that my teachers played a key role in helping me achieve my goals and in discovering the best version of me.

The experiences I have had at the University are far more than I had ever imagined or expected. Participating in co-curricular activities organized in our university meant meeting new friends from various parts of the country. This helped me explore different cultures, foods, and languages.

I strongly believe that education is not only acquiring theoretical knowledge but also learning how to apply this knowledge to solve practical problems even in society. The curriculum is developed in a manner that we are exposed to society and its issues through school visits, field work, internships and so on. I must commend the community engagement programmes of the university that have helped me build relationships and socialize with local community members, and in experiencing the challenges faced by the community which made me feel a strong sense of social responsibility.

My most treasured people at Don Bosco University are my friends. I realize that if we set any target or goal be it achieving a good score, attending any programme, organizing any activity, community visits, it is important to be surrounded by the right people. I thank God for having blest me with the right kind of people, whom I now call my friends. They have supported me in every way whether in academics or others.



Finally, I will always miss the beauty of the Campus. The unforgettable lush greens and magnificent scenery, the melodious chirping of birds and the beautiful quiet ponds. I am privileged to have spent a whatever time I could in the Campus where natural beauty is enhanced by the beautiful architecture of its buildings.



Andreana Francisca Khriam

MSc Psychology

We sometimes wish that we could cancel out all the noise in order to be at peace, but the truth is we cannot. What we can do though, is to *create our own-kind-of peace* in the midst of all the chaos and just, *bloom where we are planted*: With the Covid-19 Pandemic came an era of transition – from *offline to online*, from *classroom to Google Classroom*, from *'At work'* to *work from home*. Each day was challenging as we juggled between various roles and with those roles, responsibilities. Finally! We have reached the finish line and are on the threshold of a new journey.

Whilst treading this two-year long road at Assam Don Bosco University or rather at the school of life itself, there are many a values and life lessons that are worth carrying with us to the very end of our lives:

Hard work: There is indeed, no substitute for hard work.

Persistence: There is great power in 'active' waiting; that we are tirelessly working while we wait for the outcomes.

Inspiration: Inspiration need not necessarily be drawn only from successes but also from failures, so long as one spends adequate amount of time in retrospection, introspection, and reflection.

Sacrifice: Sacrifice can be a scary word but we can actually look at it as a form of self-love and self-discipline.

Competition: 'You are your best competition'. When there is finally no difference between what we 'can' do and what we are 'actually doing', we emerge as the victorious heroes in our own stories.

Vicarious Learning: A famous African proverb reads, "*If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together*". Two important aspects of learning that are noteworthy are: being teachable, and acknowledging the experiences and perspectives of others.

However, would we have gathered such lessons if we were not given the opportunity for education in the first place? The answer is no. Thus, this must open our minds to the essence of education - the foundation of all knowledge, wisdom, growth, and change. It is through education that our patron Saint John Bosco, affectionately called Don Bosco, wanted to accompany young people. Education is that valuable asset which cannot be dissolved easily and can become a medium for us to achieve our motto, "*Carpe Diem*", that is, to seize the day so that we can attain life in its fullness.



Esther Vanlalramchhani

BSc (Honours) Physics

Don Bosco University was like a mysterious box to me. It was as though I opened one astounding door to another, every semester. I am always astounded by the marvellous infrastructure, the vegetation of tea plants and other flora and fauna assembled into this one soothing environment. Residing in a hostel within the campus helped me savour every campus college experience. Exam nights were one of the best times. We would study together and laugh together as sisters. Celebrating birthdays at midnight by whispering the song under the candle light. Such memories we made together are still living within the walls. Even my classmates were the best people. Although we belong to different races, speak different languages, whenever in need, we would never fail to lend a helping hand to each other, for studies and just about everything else. We stuck together as a family.

Studying in such a harmonious environment was complemented by the amazing teachers. The faculty members of the Physics Department were always supportive, understanding, and affectionate towards us. Regardless of the number of times we'd put forth the same questions, our teachers were ever ready to explain to us until we had grasped every concept. Their enthusiasm in teaching inspires us to broaden our knowledge. We had the opportunity to attend many seminars and workshops organized by the Department, and I must mention, the science exhibition through which we were able to educate school children about the wonders of science. I am so grateful towards the University for providing us with a high-quality studying environment along with wonderful teachers and amazing friends. My heartfelt gratitude to all for making possible such a memorable experience.

Loyal Chakma

BSc (Honours) Mathematics

I am so proud of having been a part of this University for the past three years. The dedication and hard work that has been put into my three years have allowed me to succeed in many ways, as well as increasing my self-development skills. The university is a great place to study and I would suggest it to anyone.

The university provided me with a rich cross-cultural experience through conversation and living together. A week after joining the University, I started making friends and become active in various areas. My classmates were from Meghalaya, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Nagaland. I

learned a lot about each of these individuals and about their cultures as well. Every person

has his own culture and sometimes some people may not feel very comfortable around people from different cultural backgrounds. However, we must try to accept everyone as they are because we share the same air and the same world. At Don Bosco University, I learned to respect people from different practices and background, and I would say that this is one of the greatest takeaways for me.

I also found the library staffs quite inspiring as they always clean the desks and computers and at the service of the students which I had never found in other institutions and libraries. The food corners are hygienic and cleaned regularly and have allowed for diversity within the University by providing vegetarian and halal meals. The needs and wants for facilities are constantly questioned and new facilities would be provided to ensure everyone's needs are met. The Sports Facilities available at the ADBU campus are at par with the best. There are facilities for Badminton, Table Tennis, Carom, Chess, Volleyball, Basketball, Football, etc. My overall experience at ADBU has been amazing, I just cant describe how friendly everyone was and how amazing all the teachers were. ADBU is an amazing university to be in. I am stunned by the amount of support I had over the 3 years I was there.



Bethysha R Marak

MSc Physics

First and foremost, I thank God almighty for showering his blessings upon me.

It is with immense pleasure that I write down my thoughts about my life at Don Bosco University. It is an honour to be part of the Bosconian fraternity. Although we were deprived of a complete academic session on Campus because of the Covid-19 Pandemic, yet the time that I could spend on-campus was undoubtedly amazing and memorable.

As I recall the day I stepped foot on the Campus, I must say that I was mesmerized by its beauty. At the same time, my heart was captured by excitement, joy and yes, a little bit of anxiety. I had the opportunity to meet and make new friends belonging to different States with completely different cultures. The most memorable of all is definitely the time I spent with my friends.

My academic life at the University would have been incomplete without my professors who were always ready to guide and help us whenever we were in need of them. They were the best Professors I could have ever asked for. They supported and guided me throughout my preparation for my thesis which I consider to be the most challenging phase of my journey. When I look back and compare my old self to who I am today, I can surely say that I have learnt and accumulated so much and have also grown as a person, all THANKS to the Professors of my Department, and the entire management at the University - the Vice Chancellor, the Directors, all the faculty and staff.

Finally, I thank my parents because if it had not been for their immense support I would not be where I am today. To conclude, my life at DBU was a memorable one. I will continue to cherish them now and always.





Khundrakpam Supriya Devi

MSc Chemistry

It is an honor to have this opportunity to share my experiences here in ADBU. First of all, on behalf of my classmates, I would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Nibedita Kapil, HoD of Department of Chemistry and other lecturers of our department, who helped us in our masters journey. I am always thankful for all the efforts that our teachers put in teaching and nurturing us during this pandemic through online classes, webinars and NET coaching. I will remember them with the deepest respect for all those unwavering contributions and sacrifices. Most noteworthy, our lecturers not only taught the curriculum alone but also about the lessons of life and had always been the support base for us. I would also like to thank the valuable and significant support and contribution of my supervisor, Professor J.N Vishwakarma, Director of Research and a very special thanks to the three PhD scholars Labet Bankynmaw Marpna, Susma Das

and Shilpi Khanikar for their guidance and encouragement in carrying out my dissertation project.

Secondly, even though my stay here was short, I had an amazing time. The University provided us with a happy and fun environment and the campus is a very safe place for the students. Besides our academics, we got to experience the real taste of various cultures and traditions and one quickly develops a sense of oneness. The buzz and enjoyment created on annual fest, freshers party, departmental picnic have always been amazing and helped us refresh our minds from the hectic university life. The free time spent with my friends at our University canteens and goofing around with them are endearing to soul.

Lastly, the hostel life that I had at ADBU was a very pleasant journey full of fun and amusement. Being a hosteler, I learned the values of life and friendship and developed a great sense of self-responsibility. I would like to say that mutual cooperation, sympathy and love are the things which I experienced in my hostel life. I also appreciate all the hard works of our wardens Sister Remy and Sister Tessy, who treated and cared for us like their own children.

As I bade goodbye to my University life that meant so much to me, I would like to say thank you Assam Don Bosco University, for giving me the character I need to keep building, the brain I need to keep expanding, and the heart I need to keep loving. I will treasure these memories for the rest of my life.



Marshalstar Khongwir

MSc Mathematics

My journey of life in DBU was full of happiness because my teachers were not just teachers but they were friends to me. As a student, I made many mistakes whether in class or in my habits. I made mistakes in calculations or proofs. But still my teachers were ready to help me in solving and understanding them. For the first time when I went to DBU, I was a little shy student. I was afraid to go out on stage and I was afraid to participate in any activities. But later, with the help and encouragement of my teachers, my shyness started decreasing. With the presence of my teachers, I felt safe and realized that they were my second parents when I was far from my own parents.

In DBU, my friends were my brothers and sisters. Sometimes, they loved me and even hated me. Even if they hated me, I knew that was 'Love'. While moving out from Shillong to Assam, I felt lonely and isolated, but then, I found many friends from different places and backgrounds. When I was lonely, they were always with me. Friends in ADBU were so helpful to me and I am so proud to call them 'my friends'. In ADBU, we had many presentations along with many assessments but still it was easy for us to do them because we used to do them together as a team. An individual may not solve the problems easily but a team can easily solve them.

Even though DBU is a university but still we were like school students. Classes start with a morning assembly with motivational stories, prayers and announcements. We wore uniforms just like school students and before the classes, the teachers took the attendances of the students. Everyone in the University look like a school kid but still we loved that and we were happy with that.

As from my side, I would like to say that ADBU is everything. This carries a great meaning. In ADBU, we had different types of canteens. There were also fast foods where the students could easily buy anything. If we talk about the library, laboratories and computers, ADBU provided all of that. I didn't have to go outside to find books in the market. I didn't need to spend a lot of money for transport services or books. We also had NET/GATE classes in which all the teachers were involved full heartedly. We were so blessed to be in ADBU because we were provided everything. Library contained books not only the ones we studied in the class but also many books for competitive exams. All the members in ADBU were so friendly and had kind-hearted soul.

The University gave us opportunities to showcase our talents and skills through various co-curricular activities. ADBU was a very strict university and students are not allowed to leave the campus during class hours without a permission from the HoD. Even with that, I was very happy. It was really nice to move around and taking walks in the campus as the air was always fresh and clean owing to the abundant trees, flowers and fresh water bodies.

With all the experiences I have shared, I would like to thank everyone in ADBU. I wish each and every person in ADBU a long and happy life ever and my best wishes to the University as well. May it rise higher and higher from days to weeks, from weeks to months, from months to years and so on. May ADBU be blessed by God in all fields.

Liza Changkakoti

MSc Zoology

Mindfulness! For my batchmates from Tapesia, this word must have been a hard-to-miss across the Block I auditorium and the canteen. When I first set foot on campus, this word and the images of the smiling and frowning padlocks around it were something that grabbed my attention. The then version of me wasn't receptive to the message it was trying to convey. Fast forward to today when I am drafting this account, it finally makes sense. The two-long years at ADBU was nothing short of an impeccable journey towards continuous growth and self-discovery.

Academic knowledge is something one can avail from any institution. What really stays is the experience, the journey and the version of ourselves that we discover through the journey. Now as I look back, I am flooded with countless memories and lessons, but most importantly, I am reminded of the precious process of self-discovery and growth that ADBU facilitated for me.

The lush green campus which is home to n number of life forms taught me how to live in harmony with nature. The diverse background of students from different programmes showed me new perspectives. The excellent faculty taught me books and beyond. The warm and loving Sisters at the hostel made me kinder and giving. The hostel life taught me to be more loving. The most excellent aspect about life at ADBU has to be the cultural diversity it houses. Finding myself amidst this diversity taught me to be more respectful and accommodating. I learnt how to learn from what people my age group from different cultural backgrounds had to offer. Best of all worlds, isn't it?

Being the 'Covid batch', everything was tougher. But watching my friends, classmates, hostel mates, teachers, staff and everyone in the ADBU family fight through it all to just show up every day, instilled in me strength, in ways I cannot express. The word count I am allotted for this article doesn't allow me to address the significance of every single person I met at ADBU. Please know that I value you and I am grateful to you from the core of my heart for everything. I hope you are smiling recalling the brief but fond memories we shared because I sure am. :)

Within the realms of this infinite existence, the microcosmos of life, love, harmony, learning and everything in between that I was able to discover during my two years at ADBU is something that I'll always cherish. Standing at the closure of my journey at ADBU, I am reminded of the word 'mindfulness'. I now realize just how much of a role 'mindfulness' has played in helping me grow to this version of myself. The serendipity now makes sense. In the huge incomplete puzzle of my being, ADBU has filled some of the missing pieces and prepared me for the journey towards discovering the rest.

I've learnt that we cannot always have everything but what we do always have is the opportunity to acquire the best from around us. There's so much to learn and it can be done best only when we are open and receptive to it. Thank you, ADBU, for teaching me this. Thank you for preparing me for the journey onward. So long.





Sibange Paul
MSc Biotechnology

It was the 14th of August, 2019 that I joined the university to pursue my Masters in Biotechnology. I had done my schooling and college in Shillong staying with my family and this was the first time I was going to stay in a hostel, away from home. I met two of my roommates who were from Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh, who were the best roommates I could have asked for, especially for sharing a room for the first time in a hostel.

Friday morning on the 16th of August I went for the Classes. I was a month late for having a late admission, and thus the classes had also begun. I had to catch up with what had been taught already and managed the current classes together. Thinking of it now sounds like a pretty difficult task, but I did not have a moment to think of that then, which later turned out to be of a great help itself. What was more helpful was a new friend I had just made in the class who shared with me all that I had missed out,

and the teachers who constantly helped me in this. Each and every teacher we had here helped me in the most appreciable ways, from clearing my doubts in the class to addressing the ideas and questions I had. I hope I could thank them enough for being such great teachers who explained things in such simple and effective ways.

These two years at the university was an unforeseen turn in my life from various aspects. It helped me notice a change in my thought process, to find a growth in my potential, enhancing my personality, and knowing myself all the more. The period from designing to completing my dissertation thesis was challenging because of multiple reasons including the COVID-19 pandemic. It was a difficult situation for not only students but the teachers as well. But amidst of all these, I feel so grateful for having a great mentor like Dr. Shiny C. Thomas, who always kept me and my other fellow mates motivated in her own ways. Without her guidance and direction, I do not think I could have come up with the quality of performance now people appreciate me for. Each and every step involved helped me widen my perspective towards scientific research, and life in general. Here at the campus, I tried to make each day meaningful not by doing something new everyday, but by doing the same things monotonously everyday wholeheartedly with sheer discipline. Now, on looking back I feel satisfied for knowing the fact that I gave my best to every little thing I did here. Of course without an aim it is pretty unreal to be able to achieve something, but I believe every little step is equally important and demands equal dedication to achieve our goal.



Uwora Moses Paul
Master of Computer Applications (MCA)

One of the finest things that happened to me is being able to study at Assam Don Bosco University. This period of my life will live on in my memory for the rest of my life. I remember those times with such delight and gratitude. My time at ADBU has provided me with practical knowledge and skills, altered my opinion of India, and deepened my awareness for our shared humanity.

In 2016, I began my studies at ADBU as a Bachelor of Computer Applications student. This period's experience inspired me to pursue a Master's degree in the same line. Throughout my studies at Assam Don Bosco University, I have found and enjoyed many amazing moments.

The first thing I want to mention is the strong sense of family that pervades the ADBU community. We are one large family at ADBU, and each department is the nucleus. Everyone on campus feels a sense of belonging and solidarity as a result of this family experience. This attribute may be seen in all of ADBU's relationships and work ethics. We witness faculty members who give up their free time to accompany and support students. Students are also encouraged to work together and help one another to improve their ability to grasp deeper concepts in their particular fields of study. The value of collective accomplishment above individual success is emphasized. Here, the African proverb that says "I am because we are" comes alive.

Another important experience I value at ADBU is friendship. As a foreign student at the university, this is really important to me. I was made to feel really welcome and accepted by everyone at the university. This experience inspired me to give my utmost in all of my endeavours. I am grateful to the ADBU family for fostering such a welcoming environment that promotes the holistic development of each student.

I will love to applaud the Management for the various activities and infrastructures put in place to stimulate and enable theoretical and practical learning of all kinds. The daily assembly and the mentorship plan have helped me to set my priorities right and focus on the essentials so that I can become the pride of my family, country and the world at large. I treasured these activities, for they have indeed enriched my experience and growth towards being a better person.

Finally, I will like to express my gratitude to God for the opportunity to study at ADBU. I appreciate the management's efforts to create an enabling environment by providing all of the necessary facilities for studies and recreation. My gratitude and appreciation to all: teaching and non-teaching faculty, as well as my companions, particularly those who have accompanied me in various capacities. I thank the ADBU hostel family for the wonderful experience of living together. I shall always treasure and carry these memories in my heart.

Baridondor Umyiap

Master of Commerce

I have always wanted to be a student of Assam Don Bosco University, an educational institution of repute nestled in the State of Assam. When I first visited the University Campus, I immediately sensed the pleasant and welcoming atmosphere of the Campus.

My experience in the University has been special and uplifting. I remember almost giving up my dream of pursuing higher studies but my family insisted that I should not give up on my dream but embrace the opportunity and fight whatever battles may come along the way, and so I decided to enrol at Don Bosco University.

To be a student of the University was a dream which was fulfilled and in return this University has given me a golden chance to make my parents proud. I was always excited and enthusiastic about every opportunity that the University had to offer.

I was an active participant in almost every extracurricular activity conducted by the University. I attended workshops and seminars organised by my Department, the Department of Commerce, and I participated in sports like football, cricket, and other outdoor activities.

I had great experiences in class, both online and offline. The online classes were as fun and as engaging as the offline classes, despite the challenges the Covid-19 Pandemic brought about. The University played a vital role in instilling a positive and optimistic behaviour in each of us and always kept pushing us to achieve new heights in our lives. The depth and detail of what we learned, the knowledge, the values, the whole learning process was far beyond what I had expected. As a student, this had a tremendous impact on my overall development.

My mentors from the Department were excellent and approachable. I am fortunate and blessed to have had teachers like Dr. Biju Mani Das (HoD), Dr. Rashmita Barua, Dr. Pramod Sharma, Mr. Abhishek Choudhury, Ms. Bijita Sarma, Mr. Amarjit Deb, Ms. Chayanika Das, Ms. Rimakhi Borah, Ms. Chayanika Sarma, Mr. Amit Saha, and Ms. Neha Khaitan. I will forever cherish their tireless efforts and dedication they put into their works only for us to continue to march forward especially during the Pandemic. Indeed, I am very grateful to them for constantly guiding and helping me to become a better student and achieve success.

Finally, I must mention my classmates, whose friendly and kind nature I will never forget. They always lent their helping hands whenever I needed them and they stood by me through thick and thin. I had the best two years in Assam Don Bosco University and I am glad, fortunate, and thankful to all who made my two years a pleasant and memorable one.



Duanreiliu Kamei

MSc Botany

Firstly, I thank the Almighty God for bringing me this far and to the University for giving me this opportunity to share my experience here in DBU.

After completing B.Sc. in Botany, I had a keen desire to continue my Master in the same subject and I was fortunate to have been accepted in Don Bosco University, the best private university in North East India. It has provided me with the best resources including a team of dedicated teachers, a rich library, laboratories, hostels with warm company and the best environment which have helped me greatly in the successful completion of my study.

The Department of Botany has provided me with a safe place to learn, to grow and to express myself. I extend my sincere gratitude to all my teachers for providing me with the best resources, guidance, encouragement, and for being so kind and patient with me. It is by their grace that I am what I am today.

Life in DBU was never dull. An early morning walk around the tea gardens, a heavy breakfast in the food court, a run from the hostel to the academic block for the morning assembly, a sound sleep during lunch break avoiding long line for food coupons, nerve-wrecking class seminars, a quiet time in the library, long hours of practical, good hot shower after class, cleaning of hostel bathrooms, loud chatter with friends on our way to dinner deciding whether to eat 'veg' or 'non-veg', rushing for 8:30 hostel attendance, late night assignments in the WIFI hall, evening musical events at the Rotunda, Saturday's shopping spree, Bosconian Fellowship every Sunday, and many more. All of these activities kept me preoccupied and there was no time to be nostalgic or depressed. It is true that DBU is 'a home away from home'. With regrets the journey to enjoy fully the beauty of the campus was cut short by the Covid-19 pandemic, yet the University provided me with the best platform for online activities keeping me busy throughout the semesters.

I am extremely proud to say that I graduated from Don Bosco University, and this pride I shall wear it to encourage and push myself through life's journey.

I can thus say that choosing DBU was the best decision I have ever made so far. GOD BLESS DBU!



Dame Iaki Kharpuri

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

I started my journey with DBU after I completed my Bachelor's degree. I was very enthusiastic and excited to start my Post Graduate life at the University. What stood out the most to me was the diversity present at the University. I completed my bachelor's from South India and I was surprised to find out my new roommate at the University was also from South India. We shared memories from our time in the South India and I made my first friend at DBU. Fellow students from different cultures and educational backgrounds also helped me broaden my knowledge base and it proved invaluable to me at the start of my higher studies.

I was also privileged to had had the best faculty who taught us not only conceptual knowledge but also helped us convert these conceptual ideas to real-life practical skills. Apart from the curriculum, the faculty also took the responsibility of transforming us from students to professionals. As I was adapting to my new life, unfortunately, the covid-19 pandemic started unravelling and we were all back home before we knew it. However, our faculty members made quick adjustments to the so-called "new normal" and our learning experience continued through online medium. We had a personalized online platform that had all our study materials and it allowed us to track our progress throughout the semester. The swift actions of our faculty members ensured time was not lost and our learning experience continued amidst a pandemic.

The campus life was also one that I have fond memories of. In my short time at the University, we were involved in many



programs which showcased many cultures and art forms. We were also encouraged to take the stage and interact with the audience. These activities helped us get rid of stage fright and gave us confidence going forward in life. We also had talks and seminars from various peoples of various expertise. One such seminar was when a representative of SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India) conducted a seminar. At this seminar, we were taught practical knowledge on how the stock market works and the benefits of investing. We were also taught financial planning which could not have come at a better time as we were all young professionals entering the job market.

I am filled with gratitude for all my experiences at the University. As I come to the end of my journey at the University, I am optimistic, confident and eager to continue in my life's journey taking all the knowledge and experience at Don Bosco University with me.

Reshma Shreya Kancharla

Master of Social Work

My time at Assam Don Bosco University was filled with great experiences which is not limited to only academic learning but one in which I became a part of the most loving and caring family. Now that I have graduated, I realize that the time I was in campus, was as fresh as the tea gardens around me.

Back in 2019, when I entered the campus, I felt flushed. I was starting a new chapter of my life away from my family and with a whole new group of people. All my life I had lived in the hustle and bustle of city life and coming to DBU just felt slow and at times too slow. This is when I realized that this was the essence of life. The serenity of the morning surrounded with the greenery and honestly, nothing could be more calming to one's eyes and soul. My first day in the university is still etched in my memory – walking up the hill to get to my class, the morning assemble, the teachers being so humble and welcoming and not to forget, my classmates who made me feel welcome. I surely felt different in the beginning, rushing to get things done only to realize that the same things can be done with a calm mind.



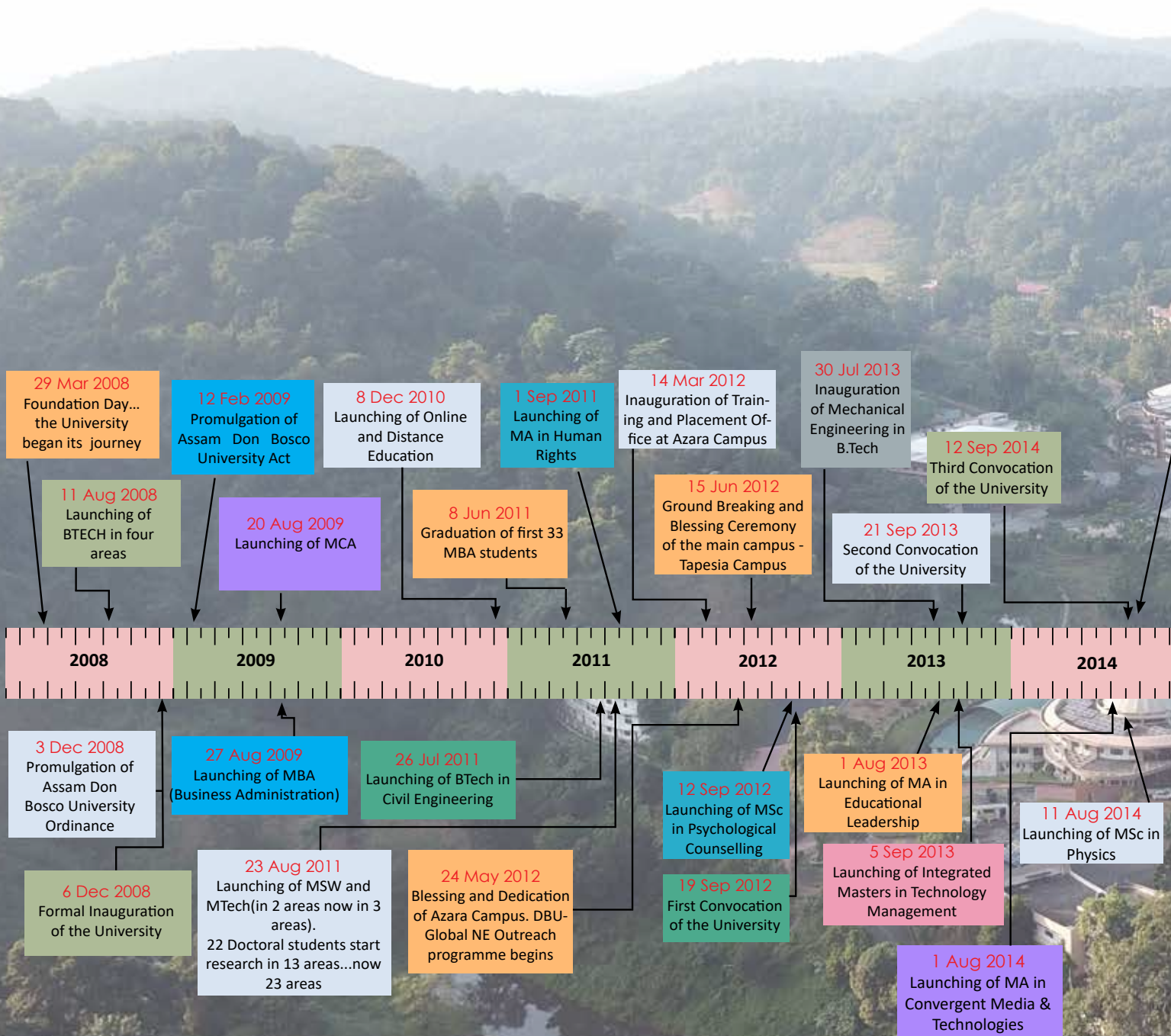
Living on campus was one of the best decisions I had taken at the inception of my college life. I surely had minimum to no travelling but also living with my friends helped me learn how to live independently. Adjusting to a life wherein I had to manage everything starting from my laundry to cleaning my room to managing my work was very difficult. Everything was all over the place. Along with me adjusting to this life, I learned so much from and about the culture through fieldwork which was fundamental to our course. Many things were going against me in the beginning, be it adjusting to the food, adjusting to the people around me, understanding the acceptable ways of interacting with the people with whom we were to meet during our fieldwork. Gradually, I learned everything with the help of my classmates.

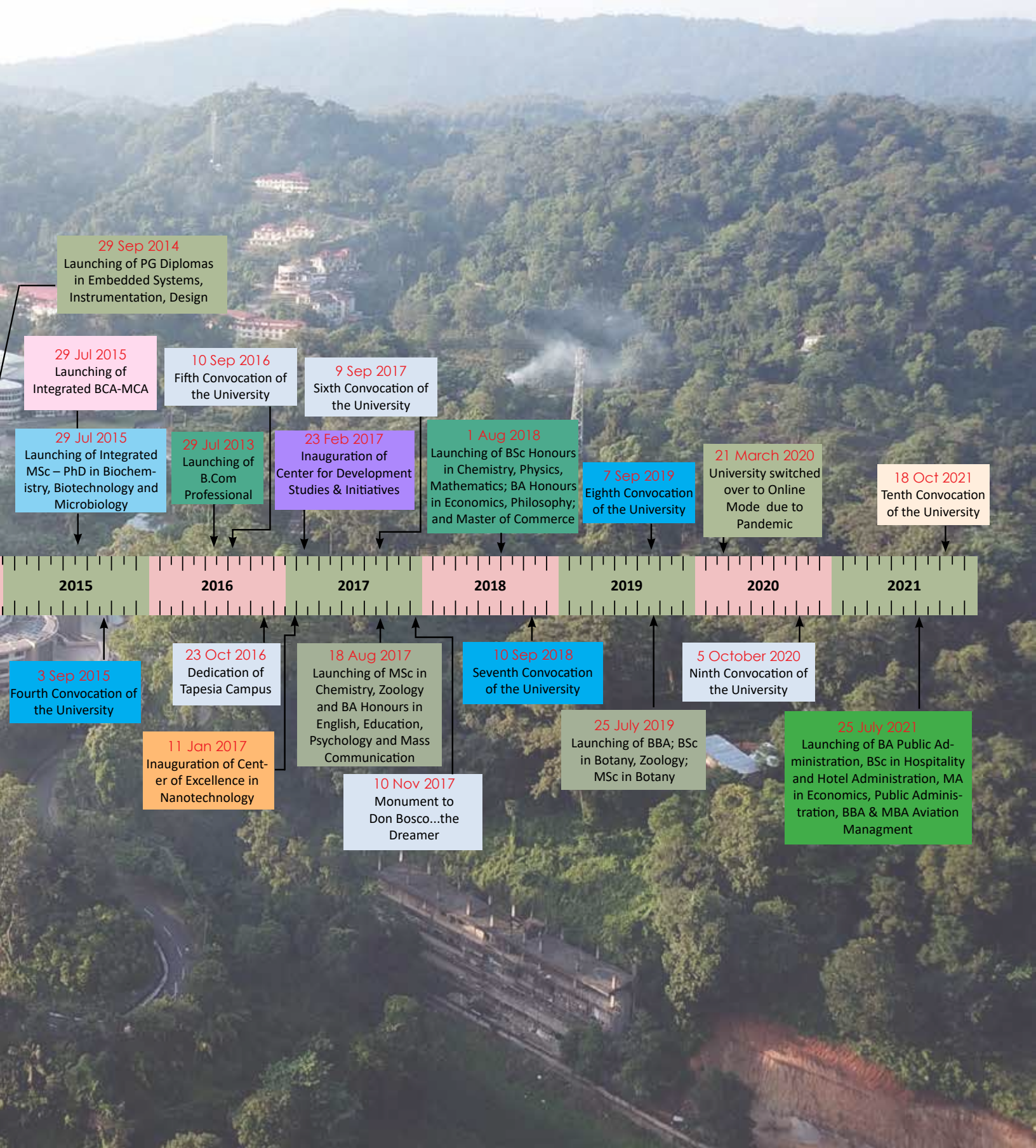
Walking around the larger-than-life campus in the evening, discovering new places during our every stroll was a safe and an extraordinary adventure. In contrast, the calming campus was the perfect place to focus on academics and nurture my mind. Little did I know that I would, one day, grow to love it so much.

Sitting in one of the largest classrooms of Academic Block-2, the teachers surely had tough times with us. Looking back at that time, it was here where I learned how to make myself visible. My teachers were an integral part for making me who I am today.

Tapesia Campus nurtured me to my core and filled me with experiences and memories that I would cherish – be it my academics, my life on campus, my life out of campus and the friends that I have made for life.

Journeying in hope... a timeline of the University







*... Journeying still in hope!
... Searching afresh for meaning!
... In a disjointed world amidst fragmented lives!*



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