

SPARK



A Newsletter for Don Bosco University family, alumni and friends

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INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMME 2015

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Message from the Vice Chancellor

"You can win; you can ride the wind... Don't be afraid to fly! Don't be afraid to fly!"

"Don't be afraid to fly!" is the theme of a song written by Rachel Harvey and sung by Sandy Geroux, a motivational speaker.

"And I'll be there to cheer you on, and raise your spirits high... You can win; you can ride the wind... Don't be afraid to fly! Don't be afraid to fly!" she continues...

(The full video is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qRVNoojecQ>).

Here at the University, as we are starting yet another academic year, that song reverberates with just the right note in so many different ways...

To the Freshers, here is the challenge on your first day in the University, "Don't be afraid to fly!" You have come to Don Bosco – the right place to provide you with just the 'lift' you need to take off and fly. You have chosen to come to Don Bosco, with stars in your eyes and dreams in your hearts, yearning to leave mediocrity behind, to set off on a trajectory of your own, to flap your wings and reach for the stars...

Be sure, as the song says, "... we'll be there to cheer you on, and raise your spirits high" because we believe and we want you to believe that "you can win; you can ride the wind..." And we want to assure you that all our resources – a team of highly motivated and dedicated faculty especially – are at your service to help you to realize your dreams, literally to take off and to fly...

To the others, returning to the university as you close in on the realization of your dreams, this song again strikes the right chord: "Now everyday you're growing, standing tall! You can win; you can ride the wind. Don't be afraid to fly! Don't be afraid to fly!"

.. and, more importantly, it says, "You grow a little stronger, you fall a little less... You'll always try your hardest, to be the very best... One day, you'll look back to where you used to be; and when you do, you'll realize you're free!"

To everyone alike at the University, it has a message too: "Some days you'll stumble, some days you'll stand. But you'll never have to wonder if you can... You can win; you can ride the wind. Don't be afraid to fly! Don't be afraid to fly!"

'Don't be afraid to fly!' is the mantra that we shall keep humming as we launch a number of new Study Programmes during



this academic year: 'Integrated Masters-cum-Doctoral Studies in Biochemistry, Microbiology and Biotechnology' under the School of Life Sciences, an 'Integrated Bachelors-cum-Masters in Computer Applications (Integrated BCA-MCA)', a Post-Graduate Diploma Programme in 'Embedded Systems', and another in 'Instrumentation and Design' under the Department of Electronics and Communication...

It is the same refrain, "Don't be afraid to fly" that shall see us through at last to the long-awaited inauguration of the Tapesia Campus – state of the art, an uplifting confluence of natural beauty and architectural excellence, with academic and administrative blocks, staff and student residences, recreational and sports facilities, utilities and services, plantations and orchards, parks and quiet corners, cycle paths and jogging trails, amphitheaters and a convention park, healthcare facilities and a wellness centre... and a herd of jumbos to keep us alert and on our toes...

16th August this year marks the 200th birth anniversary (bicentenary) of a man (Don Bosco) who started 'dreaming of flying' at the tender age of nine in the midst of the debilitating poverty that forced his mother to put him to work as a farmhand in the fields of a relative.

Today, 'that dreamer' has over 30,000 followers (members of Don Bosco Society), spread out over 132 countries, challenging roughly 15,000,000 young people with the same refrain: "Don't be afraid to fly... You can win, you can ride the wind... Don't be afraid to fly! Some days you'll stumble, some days you'll stand. But you'll never have to wonder if you can... Don't be afraid to fly!"

Don Bosco University is proud to be a torch-bearer at the vanguard of this vast movement of men and women...

A new year beckons! New opportunities are just round the corner! Don't be afraid to fly!

Fr (Dr) Stephen Mavelly
Rector & Vice Chancellor

First Doctoral Graduates of the University



Niranjan Agarwalla



Joseph K. Jacob

The University crossed a major landmark when two research scholars, belonging to the batch of 2012, appeared for their Viva Voce examinations on 23rd and 24th April.

Niranjan Agarwalla of the Department of Management defended his thesis on “Customer Satisfaction in the Telecom Sector in India – A Study on Assam and North East Circle,” on the 23rd April, thus also securing the distinction of being the first PhD scholar of the University. The thesis was guided by Dr. P.K. Jain of the Department of Business Administration, Gauhati University.

On 24th April, Jose K. Jacob of the Department of Northeast India Studies defended his thesis “An Anthropological Study of Religion among the Rangdani Rabha of Assam,” becoming the second doctoral candidate to defend his thesis. The thesis was supervised by Dr. Gautam Kumar Bera, Anthropological Survey of India, Northeastern Regional Circle, Shillong. Both the research scholars were among the first batch of 20 doctoral students registered in 2012.



Baharul Islam



Utpalparna Kalita

The month of May saw two more students appearing for the viva voce examination. On 1st June, Baharul Islam of the Department of Social Work successfully defended his thesis, “Transitional Justice in Post-Conflict Societies - A study of Mizoram and Assam Peace Accords”. He was guided by Dr. Subhram Rajkhowa, Professor and Head, PG Department of Law, Gauhati University.

From the Department of Chemical Sciences, Utpalparna Kalita defended her thesis entitled “Synthesis, Structure and anti-inflammatory Activities of 1,2,3,4 Tetrahydropyridimine Adamantane Hybrids” on 6th June 2015. Dr. J.N. Vishwakarma, Director of Research, Don Bosco University, guided this research that led to the synthesis of more than 20 new molecules.



Subimal Bhattacharjee at UN Meeting

Subimal Bhattacharjee, a member of the University's Governing Body (IT Expert) was nominated as a member of the **Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on "Advancing a Sustainable Information Society for All"** set up by the United Nations DESA's Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM). Mr Bhattacharjee spoke on cyber security in this meeting, held at UN Headquarters, on 8-9 June.

The meeting brought together international experts to discuss ICT-related issues in the context of two important policy milestones: the emerging post-2015 sustainable development agenda and the General Assembly's Overall Review of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), commonly known as WSIS+10, to take place in December 2015.

The focus of the EGM was the role of ICTs as key enablers of sustainable development. It examined ways in which governments along with other stakeholders can address increasingly complex development and information society issues through more effective use of ICTs.



Indo-German Chamber of Commerce Team Visit



Two representatives from the Indo-German Chamber of Commerce (IGCC) on a visit to northeast India made their first stop at the Azara Campus of the University on 15th May 2015, at the invitation of Prof. Ashoke Dutta, former Director of IIM, Shillong, and a member of the University's Governing Body.

The Pro-Vice Chancellor, Fr Joseph Nellanatt, and the Registrar, Dr basil Koikara, received the Regional Director of IGCC Kolkata, Ms Sabina Padey and Executive Member Ms Sharon Mogose for a briefing on the Don Bosco University project.

IGCC is engaged in vocational training in India especially in the field of mechatronics, metal working and tool handling. They also organize 'Training the Trainer Programs' for small enterprises and start-ups. Their flagship enterprise is 'The Vocational Education and Training Network (VETnet) Project', funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and supported by the Association of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce (DIHK). Currently, it is being implemented as a pilot project at Don Bosco Tech, Pune. They were keen to start a collaboration with Don Bosco University along the same lines.

Similar vocational training projects are being implemented by the German Chambers of Commerce in Brazil, China, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Portugal, Russia, Slovakia, Spain and Thailand. With more than 6,700 members in Germany and India, the IGCC has close links with the Indian industry.

International Student Volunteer Exchange Programme 2015



The International Student Volunteer Exchange Programme 2015 (University College Dublin Volunteers and Don Bosco University Volunteers) was inaugurated at Kachari Lower Primary School on 14th June 2015 in the presence of a large gathering of the local children, youth, and parents.

The 3 hour inauguration programme was attended by the village leaders - Mr. Manik Boro, the Headman; Mr. Durgashewar Boro – the School President; Mr. Carols Toppno – Adivasi Community Secretary along with Dr. Riju Sharma, Head and Director of School of Humanities and Social Sciences.



This programme will see 21 Volunteers working in two villages around the Tapesia Campus of the University for a month. Re-innovating the Anganwadi Centers, working at improvement of community relationships, teaching English to the village children, and organizing puppet shows, street plays etc. are a multi-faceted approach to create awareness on issues connected with hygiene, health, education and alcoholism.



World Environment Day at the Campus



In commemoration of the World Environment Day, the faculty and students planted Neem Trees on the grounds of the School of Technology. The day also saw plantation of 1000 Kg of Ginger and 1200 Kg of Turmeric at the Tapesia Campus of the University.

Two-week ISTE Short Term Training on Environmental Studies



The University played host as a Remote Centre of IIT Bombay and IIT Kharagpur for a Two Week Short Term Training programme called 'Empowerment of Students and Teachers through Synchronous and Asynchronous Instruction', held on 2-12 June 2015. This initiative is a part of the 'National Mission on Education through ICT,' supported by MHRD.

Faculty from Assam Don Bosco University, Assam Engineering College, Royal Group of Institutions, Tezpur University and Rangia College were the participants at this Course that attracted more than 4000 participants from across the country through various remote centers.

Topics covered during this short term training included Sustainable Development, Ecology, Biodiversity, Natural Resources (food, water, energy, forest), Environmental Pollution, Social issues and Environment, Ethics, Economics and Global Climate Change.

Field Study Trip – Mass Communication

Students of Mass Communication went on a Field Study Trip to various towns and cities including Kolkata, Darjeeling, Bigha, Mirik and Bandel, 27th May – 7th June. Interacting with entrepreneurs in the field and outstanding personalities in the media world, the students got an exposure to the day to day realities of media production and dissemination.

The study tour included also various academic activities, such as, compiling a photo journal of the trip, making a video documentary on media issues, and writing feature articles on their experience in local and national papers and magazines.



5-day Workshop on Big Data Developer

The Department of Computer Science Engineering & Information Technology held a 5-Day Workshop on Wrox Certified 'Big Data Developer' at the Azara campus from 1-5 May 2015.

Designed to introduce professionals aspiring to make a career in Big Data Analytics to Hadoop Framework, the workshop focused on important components of Hadoop like MapReduce, PIG and ETL Process, HBASE, HIVE, SQOOP and R etc..

After Hadoop was installed in the IBM Design Lab of the University on the first day, Dr.Y. Jayanta, HoD of the Department of Computer Science Engineering & Information Technology said, "Now, our department is equipped with HADOOP, Datasets for ETL and DATA Mining etc., I invite our students to start doing BIGDATA projects using HADOOP".



The Pro-Vice Chancellor, Fr Joseph Nellanatt inaugurated the workshop, the first workshop of its kind in Northeast India. The workshop was facilitated by Dr. Subkarajyoti and Dr. Biswajyoti Kar of Data Brio Academy, Kolkata.

Summer Workshop on Web Applications Development (NSIWAD 2015)



The Department of CSE & IT in technical collaboration with Technodata Solution conducted a 13 day 'National Level Workshop cum Summer Internship on Web Applications Development' from 1-13 June, jointly coordinated by Dr. Bobby Sharma and Mr Rupam Kumar Sharma.

The workshop aimed at exposing the participants to advanced tools and technologies in designing and developing professional web applications, using Java, Jsp, Php, Python, Javascript and JQuery etc. They also interacted with senior architects from ORACLE (Mr Opendra Singh) and other ICT Companies.

Summer Workshop on Personality Development (Empowering Personal Change)



A two day workshop aimed at empowering personal change was organized by the Department of Psychology and Counselling on 1-2 June 2015, conducted by Ms Loya Agarwala, Counsellor and TPD Consultant and a Guest Lecturer at the University.

Starting with an 'Emotional Intelligence Appraisal Test (EIAT)' at the beginning of the workshop, the wexercice took them deep into some of the core areas in personality development - Self Awareness, Self Management, Motivation, Social Awareness (Empathy) and Relationship Management.

Electrical and Electronics Engineering Students Lauded for Energy Project



Nine students from Electrical & Electronics Engineering Department of the School of Technology, participated in “Konnnect North East & Beyond” organized by the Indian Electrical and Electronics Manufacturers’ Association (IEEMA).

The Fifth IEEMA Eastern Regional Summit was held at Maniram Dewan Trade Centre, Guwahati on 23rd and 24th April, 2015.

Three different projects exhibited under the guidance of Mr. Jesif Ahmed, Assistant Professor, EEE department included: (a) “PC cum Android Mobile based Electrical Appliances Control – Both Wired and Wireless” by Abhijit Talukdar, Kailash Laishram, Kime Tayu (EEE 6th Semester); (b) “Centralized Monitoring And Controlling Of Electrical Loads in Residential Or Industrial Campus” by Bhaskar J. Das, Rintu Tamuli, Biraj Mohan (EEE 8th Semester) and (c) “Electricity Generation from Garbage Using Microbial Fuel Cell” by Himanshu Buragohain, Mridul Haloi and Nilutpal Muchahary (EEE 8th Semester).

“The project prototypes were highly appreciated by the visitors and leading industry experts who participated in the event,” said the Coordinator of these teams Mr. Ahmed who accompanied the students.

In another event, the University’s M.Tech and EEE students attended a 2-day workshop entitled ‘**emPOWERing Make in India**’ with the Utilities of NE States and IEEMA top officials.

The 5th Konnect summit brought together all stakeholders from the electrical-power industry in North-East India. About 80 exhibitors showcased their technologies and product solutions in the low, medium and high voltage segments.

Konnnect was an attempt to facilitate capacity building in the North-East power sector by connecting with organizations in power generation, transmission, and distribution equipment.

Training on FOSS

The Department of Computer Science & Engineering and Information Technology, School of Technology, organized a two-day ‘Training on Free and Open Source Software (FOSS)’ on 29-30 May 2015.



The primary objective of the programme was to promote FOSS and to create awareness about the benefits of using free and open software rather than proprietary software that are so expensive. The training provided an opportunity for the participants to explore new developments in Linux and other open source software.

With over 40 years of development since inception, Linux has become a powerful, robust, stable, and flexible system that allows programmers to tailor the operating system to run on a variety of hardware from phones to supercomputers. It is heavily used in the academic and scientific communities because of this versatility.

A day with Ferrando Children

The Department of Social Work organized a day at the University Campus for the students of Ferrando Speech and Hearing Centre, Umiam on 11th April 2015 at the University.

The fun-filled day served the purpose of bringing some cheer into the lives of these children as well as providing an opportunity to the University students to understand better the dynamics of 'inclusion-exclusion' logics at play in society. It also highlighted the challenges, issues and experiences that hearing impaired children face every day.

Ferrando Speech and Hearing Centre established in 1996 reaches out to hearing impaired children from all over India, especially from the North East Region. The Centre, established by the Missionary Sisters of Holy Help of Christians (MSMHC) have a pre-school and a High School for hearing im-paired children.



3-Day Workshop on Project Cycle Management

A 3-day workshop on 'Project Cycle Management' for the final year MSW students was held on 11-13 May. The workshop entitled, "Project Cycle Management: A Results Based Approach," aimed at building the skills of the outgoing 47 MSW students in project management.

"Most academic institutions while preparing students for social work stress too much on theory and field work, often neglect important components of social work - project planning and management," said the resource person Dr. Lukose Jacob, who conducted the workshop.



Associate Professor of the Department of Social Work, Dr Lukose conducted the workshop for almost 12 hours a day with hands on training for project planning and writing. Beginning at 9:00 a.m., the program ran into late night with breaks for lunch, tea and dinner.

Students were trained in project identification through a process of situational analysis and problem tree analysis which helps to design the project. Following the logical framework approach, the students were taught Input-Output-Outcome-Impact Indicators, Means / Source of Verification and Assumptions.

The above sessions were followed by project budgeting, monitoring with specific performance indicators, and evaluation which would gauge effect-impact. Dr Lukose has over 30 years of field experience heading the Departments of Programme Support Services, Human & Institutional Development Services, Thematic, Quality Management and Capacity Building at Caritas India, New Delhi.



2nd National Conference
on
Emerging Global Trends in Engineering & Technology
26-27 February, 2016



For details please visit: conferences.dbuniversity.ac.in/egtet2016

Farewell to the Graduating Batch of 2015



The University bade farewell to the graduating batch of 2015 at a farewell function held at the School of Technology Atrium on 4th May 2015.

Placement Report from the School of Technology

The recruitment season began with a strong promise as students secured job offers at the very beginning of this Academic Year. With the change in the political landscape of the country, India Inc is showing positive signs in general. The recruitment scenario has picked up pace in recent times. The effect was very visible within the campus.

Given below is a partial list of BTECH and MCA students who secured job offers as of April 2015.



“Our expectations are soaring with respect to the response from India Inc, as we believe that where there are quality students, there are quality recruitments” said Mr. Shanowaz Hussain, the Training and Placement Officer.

The University congratulates those who have already secured job offers and wishes best of luck to those who are yet to secure the same.

Placement Report from the School of Commerce & Management



The MBA placement season kick started with Star Union Dai-Ichi conducting interviews on January 17, 2015 soon after the students returned from the Industry visit. This was followed by Vodafone conducting campus interviews on February 5, ICICI Prudential on February 10, Aarohan Foods Pvt. Ltd. on February 12 and Max Cement on February 13. A number of companies have expressed their interest in hiring DBIM students. Pepsi Co, Taj, AVIVA, HDFC, Kotak Securities, Pantaloon (Futures Group), Pearson Education being a notable few. By April, we had recorded 83.3% placements.

University Plans Towards Sustainable Development



In its attempt to create and maintain an eco-friendly campus, and also taking a big leap towards the promotion of sustainable development, the University has ventured into more plantations in the Tapesia Campus. Apart from the existing Tea Garden which spreads over 160 acres, 10 acres each of Coconut, Rubber and Cocoa Demonstration Farms have been started.

The University Plantations Project is envisaged keeping in mind four dimensions a) Research, b) Promotion through Co-operatives c) Demonstration Farms d) Marketing & Networking

- Research:** Being a University and having a plantation within the campus will enable multi-disciplinary research; such as seed culture, environmental impact, production of high quality seedlings, re-engineering suitable plants for NE India and experimenting on new products based on Tea, Coconut, Cocoa, Rubber etc.
- Promotion through Co-operatives:** There are 42 villages surrounding the University Campus with a lot of land suitable for the cultivation of cash crops. The University aims to promote Farmers Co-operatives, and to conduct a variety of awareness programmes.
- Demonstration Farm:** A Demonstration Farm, within the University campus, will serve as a living classroom, showcasing a number of practical techniques. The Demonstration Farms will show the farmers, what works, how it is done, and enable them to envision ways to incorporate these techniques on their own land. Arrangements will be made to exhibit the utility of the produce and financial possibilities of these plantations to the students, their friends and parents and visitors of the University. Also, well laid out plantations will serve as instruments of temperature control in and around the campus.
- Marketing & Networking:** The School of Management will promote business plans to assist the growth of these plantations in the region.



Preview: International Conference on 'Asian Values and Human Future'

The University in collaboration with Hubei University (People's Republic of China) is organizing an International Conference on "Asian Values and Human Future" on 7-9 July 2015 at Assam Don Bosco University, Guwahati. The Conference will bring together 80 eminent thinkers from 18 countries and 20 universities from around the world (40 international delegates and 40 Indian delegates). Participation is by invitation only. This conference is supported by Indian Council for Philosophical Research (ICPR), Indian Council for Social Sciences Research (ICSSR), Indian Council for Cultural Research (ICCR), the Government of Assam and several other national bodies.

Asian thinkers down the centuries have been the promoters of the unifying vision of reality behind every civilization. This conference is an attempt to take a long, hard look at the present day realities in the light of Asian values that have stood the test of time, possibly offering a fresh vision for the future of humanity.

Assam Don Bosco University with its commitment to ensuring academic excellence motivates faculty and students to work collaboratively in the advancement of knowledge. At present there are around 200 doctoral students in 17 academic departments covering diverse areas in Social Sciences, Engineering & Technology and Basic and Applied Sciences.

Ph.D Course Work for the Batch of 2015: The research scholars of this batch started their one semester mandatory Ph.D Coursework with effect from 20 April, 2015. This is to continue till October 2015.

Ph.D Degree Awarded:

Entry	Scholar	Supervisor	Department	Thesis Title
1	Niranjan Agarwalla	Dr. P. K. Jain	Management	Customer satisfaction in the telecom sector in India: A study on Assam and North East circle
2	Jose K. Jacob	Dr. G. K. Bera	North East India Studies	An anthropological study of religion among the Rangdani Rabha of Assam
3	K. M. Baharul Islam	Dr. S. Rajkhowa	Social Work	Transitional justice in post peace agreement societies: A study of the Assam and Mizo peace accords
4	Utpalparna Kalita	Dr. J.N. Vishwakarma	Chemical Science	Synthesis, structure and anti-inflammatory activities of 1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-adamantane hybrids

Ph.D Thesis Submitted: C. J. George (Social Work), Rashmita Baruah (Management) and Sandip Bordoloi (Electrical & Electronics Engineering) have submitted their theses to the University for Examination

Pre-Submission Seminar Completed: and K. S. Joseph (Social Work) have successfully presented their pre-submission seminars and are getting ready to submit their theses shortly.

Ph.D Synopsis Presentation and Registration: The following research scholars have submitted their Research Proposals:

Entry	Scholar/Department	Synopsis Title
1	Indrajit Chatterjee /Management	Entrepreneurial characteristics as determinants of business performance in micro and small enterprise in Darjeeling district, North Bengal, West Bengal
2	MV Johnson /Comparative Religion	A critical study of evangelizing mission of Franciscan Friars of South Asia, Australia and Oceania in the contemporary globalizing multi-religious world
3	Saibal Sengupta/North East India Studies	Culture and environmental conservation: A study of the Lepcha cultural ecology
4	Bikramjit Goswami / Electrical and Electronics engineering	A study on utility of microwave remote sensing for analysing flood and associated aspects
5	Arup Baruah/ Computer Science Engineering	Automated generation of algebraic equations for mathematics world problems



Published by: ASSAM DON BOSCO UNIVERSITY, Airport Road, Azara, Guwahati, Assam- 781 017
 Phones: +91 3612 139 291 / +91 9435 545 754, Fax: +91 3612 841 949
www.dbuniversity.ac.in / contact@dbuniversity.ac.in
 Editor & Layout Designer: James Famkima

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