

SPARK



A Newsletter for Don Bosco University family, alumni and friends

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STCESD 2016

SHORT TERM COURSE ON
ELECTRONICS SYSTEMS DESIGN

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Message from the Vice Chancellor

The other day I came across a write-up that had struck me a few years ago about 'graced moments' – moments that cannot be manipulated. Moments that come to us most simply as a gift when we live in such a way as to be open to them...

Katherine Norris (in her book 'Quotidian Mysteries') compared them to the significance of manna (the bread from heaven), which was provided miraculously by God as nourishment for the Israelites during their forty-year sojourn in the desert. It was the nature of this gift that it was offered daily. While sufficient for one's needs, it could not be stored. It could be received only as 'gift', not as commodity that could be stockpiled, warehoused and traded!

Every single day, there was only one choice and one opportunity - You could grasp it for the day, or it just evaporated away in plain sight... Graced moments of opportunity!

'Carpe diem' is the pithy Latin phrase emblazoned on our coat-of-arms – 'Seize the Day'. It's a line we picked up from the Latin Poet, Horace (from his collection of four books called 'The Odes' written in 23 BC). The full verse reads as follows: 'Carpe diem, quam minimum credula postero' usually translated as 'Seize the day, put very little trust in tomorrow, the future'.

Often it is interpreted in the light of the Epicurean leanings of Horace, and given the connotation of enjoying/exploiting life as long as it lasts with little concern for tomorrow – Epicureanism in its stark simplicity... We have, however, given it a new interpretation: 'Seize the day that you may have life in its fullness.'

In tandem with this idea we have selected our theme for the new Academic Year 2016-17. It reads as follows:

Moments of grace...

Flashes of inspiration, nuggets of creativity, chance encounters,
The joys of team work, experiences of awe and wonder,
The call of opportunity, the pain of failure...

Grasp them, cultivate them, reflect on them... be nurtured by them...
Moments of grace... THE road to happiness, to growth, to fulfilment...

Like manna in the desert, they are here for the day!
Seize them now... and reach out... Carpe diem!
Elusive mirage... the tales of yesterday!

Our days present us with limitless opportunities for learning, for creativity, for growth. If we grasp them, we shall grow. Life is indeed a blessing – how we live it is a choice!



That short statement contains two of the most important lessons that one can learn in life. First, life truly is a blessing - happy and well-adjusted people tend to truly appreciate the opportunity to live the life they've been given... It also says that the life we create is the result of the choices we make. If we truly appreciate our lives and understand the impact of our daily choices, we can actually create a wonderful world around us. Life is definitely a blessing and how we live is a choice!

There is a catch, however: radical choices come rarely in life... smaller choices confront us every day.

Let me end this message drawing your attention to another significant milestone that we shall cross during the summer holidays this year – the move to Tapesia, our permanent campus. Five departments of the School of Social Sciences (Social Work, Human Rights, Psychology, Mass Communication and Education) and the three integrated Masters-cum-Ph D programmes of the School of Life Sciences (Biochemistry, Biotechnology and Microbiology) will start the New Academic Year at Tapesia in early August.

A few months ago, at a thanksgiving service held at the Azara Campus, here is how James Famkima, our OSD, picturized the journey from Azara to Tapesia...



It is faith that has sustained us for so long; it is hope that has fueled our determined march towards Tapesia; it is the generosity of the many friends and collaborators that saw this dream take shape – friends who walked with us, shared our burdens, propped us up when our spirits sank, and rejoiced with us at every tiny step that took us forward... We remember them gratefully today. May God bless them! May he bless us too as we step into Tapesia, the campus of our dreams!

*Fr Stephen Mavelly SDB
Rector & Vice Chancellor*

SUMMER PROGRAMMES

International Student Volunteer Exchange Programme

A team of 15 volunteers from the Department of Social Work in collaboration with 10 volunteers from University College Dublin – Volunteer Overseas worked on community development projects in partnership with local communities in Sonapur District for a month 13 June – 11 July, 2016.



Some of the project activities included the repair of a well, capacity building workshops for livelihood development, English classes, and refurbishment of Anganwadis at Ural/Kachari Basti and Tapesia No.2 villages. The volunteers also organized a sports day and talent show for local youth and children as a conclusion to a month long project activities.

The student volunteer exchange programme which had been organized for the third time envisages promoting understanding of multilateral issues at the global level, enhancing the competencies of the participants, and building skills and ability to work in close collaborative social, economic, political, environmental and development concerns in the context of rapid globalization.

Short Term Course on Electronic System Design – 2016



A two week Short Term Course on Electronic System Design (STCESD) was conducted by the Department of Electronics and Communication from 31 May - 11 June, in collaboration with Tevatron Technologies Pvt. Ltd, Noida, Uttar Pradesh.

Speaking at the inaugural function Mr. Aditya Mudgal, Trainer, Tevatron Technologies invited the students to raise questions and make the best use of the expertise in the field of Embedded System to be provided during the workshop.

In this function, the Convener of the Workshop and HoD of the Department of Electronics and Communication, Prof. Sunandan Baruah expressed his hope for further collaboration with Tevatron and said that the workshop aimed to expose the participants to three domains of Electronics – Embedded System (mainly AVR micro-controller), Cadence and Verilog.

AVR Microcontroller Session was conducted by Mr. Aditya Mudgal from 31 May to 6 June, 2016. Some of the vital topics covered included LED Interfacing with AVR Micro-controller, DC Motor Interfacing with AVR, IR Sensor Module Detection, RFID Reader and Obstacle Avoider Robot.

On 7th and 8th June, Cadence Session was conducted by Mr. Basob Das and Mr. Agnimitra Borah, Assistant Professors of ECE Department at GIMT. During these sessions, some of the important topics like Inverter, Designing Transistor Switch Modules, Voltage Transfer Characteristics and Noise Margin Calculations were covered and discussed.

Verilog Session was conducted from 9th June to 11th June by Mr. Ujjwal Kaushik from Tevatron Technologies. Designing of Combinational Circuits, Gate Level Modeling, Dataflow Modeling were some of the important topics covered.

The workshop was concluded on 11th June with Mr. Mriganka Gogoi, Co-convener of the workshop giving an overview of the workshop.

NSIWAD 2016

The Department of Computer Science and Engineering & Information Technology organized a two week National Level Workshop cum Summer Internship on Web Applications Development (NSIWAD 2016) from 30th May to 11th June 2016 in collaboration with Zantrik Technologies Pvt. Ltd. and Usense Innovative Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Guwahati.



The Summer Internship was organized with an objective to expose and acquaint the participants with state-of-the-art tools and technologies involved in designing and developing professional web applications.

The workshop panel comprised of twenty experts in several sub-areas of web applications development. Mr. Shantanu Goswami, Technical Director from Zantrik Technologies Pvt. Ltd gave hands on training on Node JS while Ms. Diptee Kashiram Suryawanshi, UX Director and Mr. Rahul Agarwal, Mobile Lead from Usense Innovative Solutions Pvt. Ltd. gave hands on training on Angular JS.

There was also an interaction session with some of our University alumni, who are working in organizations like Larsen & Toubro, InfoTech Limited, Just Dial, Zaloni Technologies India Pvt. Ltd., Kyungpook National University, South Korea and Australian National University etc.

38 participants took part in this Summer Internship, coordinated by Dr. Pranab Das and Mr. Sarat Kr. Chettri, Assistant Professors from Department of CSE & IT, ADBU.

10 Day Training on AutoCAD and ABAQUS

The Department of Civil Engineering organized a 10 day Short Term Training on AutoCAD & ABAQUS from 30th May – 10th June 2016.



The training course aimed at making the participants understand about the drafting knowledge and modelling capabilities of these softwares.

ABAQUS is used in the automotive, aerospace, and industrial products industries. The software is popular with academic and research institutions due to the wide material modeling capability, and the programme's ability to be customized.

AutoCAD is a computer-aided drafting software program used to create blueprints for buildings, bridges, and computer chips, among other things.

Asst. Prof. Ningombam Thoiba Singh of Civil Engineering trained the students in both the software and coordinated the programme with the support of Mr. Tapash Biswas, Laboratory Instructor, Civil Engineering Department.

Consultation on Ending Violence against Children

The Vice Chancellor Fr. (Dr) Stephen Mavelly inaugurated a two day National Children's Consultation on Ending Violence Against Children, organized by NACG-EVAC India (National Action & Coordination Group for Ending Violence Against Children), in collaboration with Don Bosco University and UNICEF, on 21 June 2016 at the Azara Campus of the University.



There were 46 children, from 11 different states, and 20 chaperons participating in the two-day consultation.

Explaining the rationale behind the Consultation, Dr. Chiranjeeb Kakoty, Director, North East Society for the Promotion of Youth & Masses, said, "This Consultation has been organized with the express intention of listening to children, to hear their voices and to focus on steps to stop Corporal Punishment. Even though the RTE Act discourages corporal punishment, it is still quite prevalent in our country. The Government of India (MWCD) Report on Child Abuse has found that 2 out of three children still face physical punishment. We are trying to address this issue".

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Guest, Fr. Stephen Mavelly said, "Don Bosco, our founder, started Don Bosco Society on the very same ideals – to give shelter to youngsters and provide them with an ambience of safety, security, love and nurture. It is just befitting that the University plays host to this event".

Also speaking at the inaugural session was Ms. Serena Tomasino, Specialist in Corporal Punishment Issues, UNICEF, Delhi. In her short speech she invited the participants to share their experiences saying, "We want to hear your voices, your opinions – we want you to share with us what makes you happy and what makes you feel safe".

This Consultation was organized with an expectation to strengthen the capacity of NACG-EVAC India to understand and address Corporal Punishment better at the local and national levels so that they can take collective actions together with other Civil Society Organizations and Government of India



General Counsellor at the University

Fr. Guillermo Basanes, General Counsellor, as Extraordinary Visitor representing the Rector Major of the Salesians visited the University on 9-12 May 2016. Fr. Basanes, originally from Argentina and currently residing in Rome had been making the extraordinary visitation of 28 centres of the Salesian province of Guwahati spread out in parts of Assam and Meghalaya since 19 February 2016.

During his visit Father Basanes sat down with each Salesian of the University for a one on one interaction and also interacted with the Board of Management, Governing Body, Heads of Departments and the faculty members of the University.



Addressing a group of 120 faculty members on 10th May, Fr. Basanes urged the faculty to "fight globalization of indifference with service". He also challenged the faculty members of the Schools of Technology, Humanities & Social Sciences, and Life Sciences, asking, "What creative contribution have you done in the last five years?"



While complimenting the faculty for their commitment in mentoring students, Fr. Basanes underlined the fact that “Young people are the powerful creative resource of the present, not of the future”. “You are blessed with so many creative young people ready to serve,” Father Basanes said, and recalling the motto of the current academic year, ‘Don’t be afraid to fly’ he added “Don’t be afraid to fly – to serve.”

Students should be encouraged to fly high so that they could serve better said the General Counselor recalling the words of Pope Francis who warned world leaders of “the growing globalization of indifference.” Young generation should be helped to be socially committed and be creative said Fr Basanes posing a question, “Are you promoting young generation by empowering them to serve?”

He also emphasized the fact that “diversity of young people with togetherness is our strength.”

In an hour-long interactive session, Father Basanes fielded several questions and had a sampling of the best practices initiated by various faculty members.

Born in Washington (USA) to Argentinian parents, Fr. Basanes had his initial Salesian training in Argentina before venturing into the African Mission of Angola.

Over two decades of missionary life in Africa, he has been serving the Salesian missions in various capacities. He was elected as the Mission Superior for the Salesian Missions worldwide at the last General Chapter held in Rome in April 2014.

Visit to Tapesia Campus by Archbishop Salvatore Pennacchio (Apostolic Nuncio to India)



On Wednesday evening, 15th June 2016, His Excellency, Archbishop Salvatore Pennacchio, the Apostolic Nuncio to India, visited the Tapesia Campus of the University. He interacted with the University management and administrative heads, architects, contractors and construction workers.

In a short get together held at the Salesian residence of the University, the Vice Chancellor Fr. (Dr.) Stephen Mavely gave a brief presentation on the vision and mission of the University, the Courses that have been started from 2008 to 2016, the rationale behind the choice of each study programme of the University, and an overall picture of future developmental plans of the University.

Expressing his deep appreciation for the tremendous progress that the University has made both in the variety of Courses of Study being offered and the enviable campus being developed at Tapesia, His Excellency said, "I am happy to see that the University is focusing on transforming lives through Social Sciences and by engaging in socially and scientifically relevant research".

He also congratulated the University for 'the careful utilisation of the funds made available to the University' and added, "I promise to keep supporting the University Project".



His Excellency also had a brief meeting with the Social Work students of the University, who were engaged in an International Volunteer Exchange Programme with 10 students from the University College Dublin, who are currently working as a team in the villages of Uralbasti and Kamarkuchi, teaching English to the children, and organizing the villagers through a variety of social interventions.

Addressing the Volunteers His Excellency said, "I love being with young people, that is why I am here. I admire your spirit of volunteerism and wish you all the best as you continue the good work".

Before leaving the Campus, His Excellency also promised to come back for the inauguration of the Campus.

Archbishop John Moolachira and Fr. VM Thomas, the Provincial Superior of the Don Bosco Province of Guwahati accompanied his Excellency.

Vice Chancellor Among '100 Most Influential Vice-Chancellors'

The Vice Chancellor, Fr (Dr.) Stephen Mavelly has been awarded with the award for the '100 Most Influential Vice-Chancellors' in Asia-Pacific region by World Education Congress, held on 23rd June, 2016 at Taj Lands End, Mumbai. The 100 awardees spanned most of the countries of Asia and Africa.

The award, instituted for Asia-Pacific and African countries, was based on criteria such as the importance given to strategic planning in the university, quality of infrastructure, future orientation, body of research, emphasis on sustainability, proven record of performance, personal integrity and ethical practices.

The theme of World Education Congress this year was "Quality Education for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth" apart from an open discussion on "Evolving Trends in Education". Development of mental, emotional and physical skills to cope with present day challenges and achieve personal excellence and societal well-being were among the other topics touched upon by the Congress.

The award was received by Mr. Raunak Singh Ahluwalia, Executive Director of DBU Global who attended the event on behalf of the Vice Chancellor.



MoU with Institute for Plasma Research

The University has signed an MoU with Centre of Plasma Physics – Institute for Plasma Research (CPP-IPR), Nazirakhat, Sonapur on 3 May 2016.



CPP-IPR is a research center of Institute for Plasma Research, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, which is an autonomous body under the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Government of India. A group of Scientists initially formed the center in 1991 under the Department of Science and Technology, Government of Assam. However, in 1999, it was taken over by DAE, Govt. of India.

Both the Institutions agreed to collaborate in scientific research, lend hands in setting up of laboratories, mechanical/electronics workshops and sharing of infrastructure. The immediate areas that open up for collaboration are scientific research in nano-materials, thermal engineering, numerical simulation etc.

In addition, the University students of science and technology will also be able to do their project works with CPP-IPR facilities under the guidance of CPP-IPR faculty.

The MoU was signed by Prof. D. Bora, Director, Institute of Plasma Research, Gandhinagar and Fr. (Dr.) Stephen Mavelly, Vice Chancellor, Assam Don Bosco University, with two witnesses from both the institutions – Prof. K.S. Goswami, Center Director and Associate Professor Mayur Kakati from the CPP-IPR, Prof. Sunandan Baruah, HoD, Department of Electronics and Dr. Monmayuri Barua, HoD, Department of Basic Sciences, ADBU.

MoU with ACCA and ISDC

The University on 28th May 2016 signed MoUs with Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) and International Skill Development Corporation (ISDC) at Azara Campus of the University.

As per the terms of the MoU signed with ISDC, ISDC will support the University in developing the B.Com International Finance and Accounting (one of the specializations offered in B.Com Professional course under the University) course and in this regard organize training programmes for the teachers. ISDC will also support students who opt for B.Com International Finance and Accounting in getting internship and placements.

According to the MoU signed with ACCA, the University agreed to create a platform for students to achieve ACCA qualifications. Both the parties agreed to work together in conducting joint seminars, conferences, research projects. ACCA also agreed to conduct relevant train-the-trainer programmes for the faculty of the University.



The University is introducing B.Com Professional Programme from the upcoming academic year with an aim to produce industry-ready business professionals.

The University held a 2-day Yoga Fest

Holding a yoga fest in a university campus in northeast India is a rare event! The University took a bold step to hold a two day Yoga Fest in anticipation of the International Yoga Day scheduled for 21st June.



With the help of two Yoga experts Mr. Deba Kumar Baruah and Mrs. Bibha Baruah, from the Art of Living foundation the Assam Don Bosco University (ADBU) held yoga fest in its Azara campus, 28 and 29 April.

Taking active part in the yoga sessions was School of Technology Director Prof Manoranjan Kalita who stood by the side of ADBU Pro Vice-Chancellor Fr. Joseph Nellanatt along with faculty members to perform the various asanas.

In the ice-breaking session on the first day, Mr Deba Kumar Baruah stated that yoga is not doing physical exercises, nor is it a religion, “but union of the body, mind and soul with the help concentration and breath control.”

Mr. Baruah revealed a secret to Engineering students to study better saying, “Yoga will teach you how to focus on yourself by helping you to listen with the heart to what you hear in the class with your ears.”

He further explained the practicality of yoga saying, “One can practice yoga at home while waiting for the water to boil, or in office between two stressful meetings with no equipment or expansive spaces.”

“Unlike gym exercises, yoga builds heat and works your muscles,” said Mr Baruah assuring the audience that “yoga can’t cause injury to your body, like lifting weights. While yoga eases your aches and pains, gym exercises could increase them. Yoga stretches muscles and opens the energy channels of the body, automatically increasing the flexibility of the body.”

Research Methodology Workshop

The University held a 10 day Research Methodology Workshop at Azara campus from 3-12 April 2016. The workshop, organized by the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and Sponsored by Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi saw 18 resource persons and 30 research scholars participating from 20 universities across the country.

In his keynote speech Chief Guest of the inaugural programme Prof. V.K. Srivastava, Head, Department of Anthropology, Delhi University underlined the need for ‘scientific honesty and rigour to be ensured in research undertakings.’



Prof. Srivastava bemoaned ‘the plague of plagiarism’ that has surfaced in the recent past dragging very senior and reputed academicians into great embarrassment in academic circles.

“The workshop aimed at building the competency in the participants to understand the meaning and objectives of research in the Social Sciences while introducing various methods, techniques and strategies for research in social sciences, humanities and communication studies,” said Coordinator of the workshop and Head of Dept. of Mass Communication, Dr Machun Kamei.

There were 31 participants representing Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh; Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh; Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow; Central University of Gujarat; Gauhati University; Assam agricultural University, Jorhat; International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai; Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi; Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur; Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli; Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi VishwaVidyalaya, Wardha; Patna University; North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong; Assam Don Bosco University, Guwahati; Nagaland University, Kohima and Sikkim University, Gangtok.

Prof. Mini Bhattacharyya, Head, Department of Anthropology, Gauhati University was the ICSSR Workshop Observer.

Dr. Upendra Choudhury, Director, ICSSR, New Delhi was the Guest of Honor at the valedictory function on April 12. He also conducted sessions on ‘Social Science Funding Opportunities in ICSSR’ and ‘How to Write a Good Research Proposal (from ICSSR Perspective)’.

University bade Goodbye to two Pioneers

The University on 26th evening bade farewell to Fr. C.M Paul, the leader of Social Networking and the pioneer and former Head of Department of Mass Communication, and Fr. Paul Pudussery, the pioneer and Head of Department of Education at the University.



In an evening get together held at the Conference Hall a number of farewell speeches were delivered with each speaker sharing about how their lives have been touched by these two amazing educators and networking experts, whose presence in the University have brought in various developments in their areas of expertise in the University.

The Vice Chancellor, Fr. (Dr.) Stephen Mavelly, giving glimpses of how these two educators work said, “Fr. Paul Pudussery is a man of restless action, brimming with ideas who crisscross the country for seminars and workshops and animation series...indefatigable! We will miss his lively and energizing presence in the University. And, Fr. CM Paul, a networking expert par excellence, who has always been up to date and in touch with the latest events around the world...a gentle critic, a warm hearted person and a restless soul till the work is done. We will miss his friendly presence in the University”.

Both of them have completed 3 years in the University and their congregations have given them new assignments. Fr. Paul Pudussery will be working in Sumer, Meghalaya while Fr. CM Paul will be leaving for Sonada, West Bengal.

The University wishes them well and pray that life will treat them kindly; that God will keep blessing everything that they put their hearts and minds to.

Symposium on New and Renewable Resources

The Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering organized a symposium on 'New & Renewable Energy Resources' on 23rd April 2016, aimed at building the awareness and interest among the students towards renewable energy research.

The regional office, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) also participated in the symposium. Informing about Solar Photovoltaic Cell Projects undertaken by Govt. of India, the Chief Guest Dr. Dharma Ranjan Das, Advisor to the Govt. of India, MNRE, said, "Central Government has set a target of 165 GW of power to be achieved by the year 2022, out of which 100 GW is to be harnessed from solar energy, 60 GW from wind energy and 5 GW from hydro-power". He also gave a detailed description on the Roof-top PV Cell Projects in India saying, "Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic power plants installed in 1000 residential buildings in Guwahati is capable of generating 1 MW of power from solar energy every day, which would be very essential to meet the peak load demand of electricity in the city."



It may be noted here that MNRE has launched the scheme of rooftop solar photovoltaic systems with a subsidy of 70 percent on the benchmark cost of the system for the North Eastern region. "There are 130 million houses with proper concrete roofs in the country with total potential installation of 25,000 MW capacity rooftop solar power plants", said Dr. Das.

Another invited speaker Mr. P. Handique, Retd. CGM, ASEB, enlightened the participants with his informative session, focused on hydroelectric power plants and their concerned socio-economic aspects. "Hydro-power has the highest potential in North East India compared to any other renewable energy." Mr. Handique said. He added that, to eliminate the power scarcity in North East India it is very much important to look into the Hydropower generation.

The last talk was delivered by Mr. Jesif Ahmed, Assistant Professor of EEE Department where he gave a detailed description on wind energy. Right from the basics, he elaborated controlled Wind Energy Conversion (WCS) system with various wind generator models and explained the strategic technical parameters and calculations. Showing interesting videos on wind energy, he assured that everybody can make a wind generator without much effort.

With the successful commencement of this second symposium on "New & Renewable Energy Resources", the Department of EEE has set a target of becoming a key player in the frontiers of renewable energy sector in the North East.

Workshop on Internet of Things

The University's Department of Computer Science & Engineering and Information Technology in collaboration with CDAC – Pune and Silchar organized a two-day workshop titled 'Internet of Things (IoT)' at the University's Azara Campus, 26-27 May 2016.



The workshop aimed at empowering northeastern work force with IoT Skills to support Digital India and Smart City initiatives by Government of India.

The IoT is a system of interrelated computing devices, mechanical and digital machines, objects, animals or people that are provided with unique identifiers and the ability to transfer data over a network without requiring human-to-human or human-to-computer interaction.

The workshop, conducted by resource persons from Center for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) Pune and Silchar was attended by 36 participants from eight different institutions including faculty members from the University's School of Technology.

Commenting on the workshop, one of the members of the Organizing Team, Asst. Prof. Vijay Prasad said, "The workshop was very insightful and interesting as we learned about projects of the Smart City Initiatives and how we can play a role in its success."

Head of Department, Computer Science Engineering Prof Jayanta Yumnam added, "The workshop aimed to introduce the concept of IoT Landscape and give deep and inside knowledge about IoT with industrial applications to build up each participant's overall understanding of this important area."

Workshop on Spoken Tutorials

In a major venture to train 300 teachers from rural areas of Assam's Kamrup district the University teamed up with Rashtriya Madhyamik Siksha Abhiyan (RMSA) in conducting one-day training for five batches of teachers.

"I am particularly grateful to Assam Don Bosco University for extending its support in organizing the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) based training for the teachers of secondary schools of Assam," said R. C. Jain, Mission Director, RMSA, Assam.



The one-day training programme started on May 27 for the teachers of Kamrup (Rural) District that has about 300 schools.

Each batch has some 60 teachers who attended one day hands on computer based training, which ended on May 31. These teachers will in turn become trainers for the rest of the faculty in their schools.

During the one-day Master Trainer Programme, the participants were taught how to use the freely available eResource called the Spoken Tutorials developed at IIT Bombay.

The Spoken Tutorial project is the initiative of the "Talk to a Teacher" project of the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology, launched January 26, 2010, by the federal Ministry of Human Resources Development. A variety of Spoken Tutorials on various Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) in various Indian regional languages are available at their website <http://www.spoken-tutorial.org>.

The philosophy behind this project is that learning is more effective when animation and narration are presented simultaneously through a video.

The objective of Spoken Tutorial, says ADBU Pro Vice-Chancellor and FOSS promoter Fr. Joseph Nellanatt, "is to assist a lonely boy or girl student in a remote village in the middle of the night to learn a computer related topic by merely watching and listening to a video on the topic s/he chooses, without assistance."

The target group, Fr Nellanatt adds, "is the community at large, including school and college students, working and retired professionals, housewives, teachers, trainers, research scholars, software users and developers."

Workshop on 'Healing our Planet'

The Department of Psychology and Counselling organised a one day International Workshop on 'Healing our Planet: Eco-sensitivity and Remediation' in collaboration with Sri Ramanuja Mission Trust on 24th April, 2016 at the Azara campus.

The workshop is a part of the Grand Global Peace Meet – IV. Three phases of the meet had been concluded in various parts of India and the workshop organized at the University was a part of the fourth phase of the global meet.



Addressing the participants, Professor S.A.R.P.V. Chaturvedi, Founder and Managing Trustee of SRMT, Chennai said, "Over exploitation of natural resources by mankind is creating changes in climate, vegetation worldwide" and "the department of Psychology and Counselling needs to provide "Eco-counselling" to the people as the emphasis on counselling revolves around 3Cs - Comforting, Convincing and Converting the person " He also suggested that workshops should be organized to cultivate eco-consciousness among the general public".

Ms Cynthia Carvajal, Founder, Ocean Lifeline, Texas, USA spoke about how our actions directly or indirectly affect the ocean life. Speaking on coral crisis she said, "75% of the world's coral reefs are in danger. The coral reefs are threatened by local and global impacts including climate change, dynamite fishing, pollution and overfishing. Regardless of where we live our actions impact the oceans."

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

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

Workshop on Projective Techniques for Personality Test

The Department of Psychology and Counselling organized a workshop on Projective Techniques for Personality Assessment on 14 -15 May, 2016.

The resource person, Dr. Ushri Banerjee, Assistant Professor from the Department of Applied Psychology, University of Calcutta, gave a lively lecture and organized various activities during the workshop. Dr. Bannerjee is not only an academician but also a practitioner in the field for the past several years and has ample experience in the psychological assessment and testing.

The workshop was attended not only by the students of Don Bosco University but also by the students from various Colleges and Universities in Guwahati, including the faculty members of Handique Girls' College and Royal Global School.



The Workshop Co-ordinator, Asst. Prof. Sabiha Alam said, "The workshop was very successful and during the feedback session, the participants expressed that they look forward to more of such events in the future".

Prajjwal Day Celebration

The Annual Prajjwal Day was celebrated on 10 April 2016, with Mr. Pabitra Kalita, Manager, Federal Bank as the Chief Guest.

Prajjwal Day is a special day for the neighborhood children who come for the Prajjwal programme every Sunday. This is a day when they can demonstrate their talents through songs, dances, and short plays.



Prajjwal is a social outreach programme with an objective sensitizing the society to different aspects of social issues, thereby contributing towards inclusive growth. The forum, Prajjwal zeroed in, on catering to one of the basic needs of the schoolchildren, by organizing free education workshops during the weekends.

Faculty Development Programme for teachers of Army Public School Narangi

The faculty of the School of Commerce and Management conducted Faculty Development Programme - Transformation in Education – Futuristic trends’ at the Army Public School Narangi on June 2, 2016

Of the three sessions conducted, Mr. Chandan Dutta started with a theme ‘Strategic Planning and Lateral Thinking’ with a focus on the need for a strategic planning and how the vision and mission of an organization can be aligned to achieve this plan. He then continued on the developing processes which can promote lateral thinking in schools.

This was followed by a session on “Creativity in School Curriculum” by Mr. Pradeep Deka. This was an interactive session where the teachers were made to identify bottlenecks, which they felt crippled creativity. The teachers were then engaged in a discussion to find out ways by which these bottlenecks could be reduced.

The concluding session was conducted by Mr. Bikash Kalita on the topic of “Project Based Learning”. The session highlighted the efficacy of using contemporary Project Based Learning strategies for addressing the three broad competencies of 21st century learners-- cognitive, intrapersonal, and interpersonal skills. The teachers were introduced to the ideology behind PBL, which focusses on an instructional method related to the investigation and resolution of messy, “real world” problems as a context for students to learn critical thinking and problem solving skills.

Farewell to the graduating students - School of Commerce & Management



RESEARCH PULSE

Come Spring and life is filled with activities.... In the Spring Semester, the Ph.D., research wing of Assam Don Bosco University was heaved with activities and rewarding results. Given below are some of the events that have gone-by with fulfilling results: Admission to Doctoral Programme: A total of thirty two candidates belonging to different discipline of studies were admitted to Ph.D., Programme for the batch of 2016. This batch of 2016 is currently undergoing the six months course-work on research methodology.

Award of Doctoral Degree: In this Semester, two were awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy having successfully completing the requirements of the programme. The candidates are:

1. Dr. S. Nissi Paul, from the department of Computer Science and Engineering. Her study was on Interpretation of Human Gaits using Tri-Level Unified Framework, under the supervision of Dr. Jayanta Singh
2. Dr. Kezhangunuo Kelio from the department of North East India Studies. Her study was on, Customary laws of the Angami Naga: A contemporary feminist perspective, under the supervision of Dr. Dominic Meyieho.



Submission of Doctoral Theses: Four candidates have submitted their Ph.D., theses and are awaiting their viva-voce. They are:

1. Ms. Shunan Kaping from the department Chemical Science.
2. Mr. Chakradhar Das from the department Electrical and Electronics Engineering.
3. Mr. Ranjay Das from the department Electrical and Electronics Engineering, and
4. Mr. K.S. Joseph from the department of Social Work.

Pre-submission Seminar: Two candidates have submitted their draft theses for pre-submission seminar and are awaiting the pre-submission presentation. They are:

1. Ms. Neikehienuo Mepfhuo from the department of Language Studies.
2. Mr. A. Husca from the department of North East India Studies.

Registration: On completion of the proposal seminar and duly approved by the Board of Research Studies of the University, the following fourteen research scholars are registered:

| Names | Department |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Jismon Mathew George | Management |
| Stella Thomas | Language Studies |
| Hoineichin Haokip | North East India Studies |
| Mintu Bhattacharya | Education |
| Janet S. Mendonca | Education |
| Joseph Mathew | Management |
| A.Nirmala | Education |
| Tapu Ghosh | Bio-Technology |
| Jahnabi Borah | Computer Science Engineering |
| Reena K. Joseph | Psychology and Counselling |
| Juhi Baruah | Management |
| Aparajita Dutta | Language Studies |
| Chandana Goswami | Language Studies |
| Kuntal Sarma | North East India Studies |



New Batch of Research Scholars taking oath

Ph.D., Proposals Approved: The following research scholars' Ph.D., proposals have been approved and recommended for registration by the Board of Research Studies on completing the proposal seminar.

| Names | Department |
|-------------------|--|
| Ankit Gour | North East India Studies |
| Jadav Pegu | Social Work |
| Edal Hussain | Physics |
| Subra Mukherjee | Electrical and Electronics Engineering |
| Rose Mary Koch | Education |
| Thomas MJ | Psychology and Counselling |
| Ranjan Das | Computer Science Engineering |
| Mitra Das | North East India Studies |
| Elizabeth Walling | Education |
| Alemla Longkumer | Education |

Glimpses of the Permanent Campus @ Tapesia Gardens



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