

SPARK



A Newsletter for Don Bosco University family, alumni and friends

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NATIONAL CONFERENCE EMERGING GLOBAL TRENDS IN ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Vice Chancellor	2
Staff Development Programme	3
National Conference - EGTET 2016	6
Fund Raising for Neighbourhood Children	10
3-Day Workshop on Astrophysical Data Analysis	13



Staff Development Programme

3-Day Workshop on
Astrophysical Data Analysis



Community Self Help Week
(Fund Raising for Neighbourhood
Children)

Message from the Vice Chancellor

Participating in a discussion the other day on 'The Internet of Things' left me wondering about the momentous changes taking place from the beginnings of the World Wide Web to our own days, especially about our sense of identity.

There was this famous cartoon by Pete Steiner in The New Yorker (5 July 1993) that showed a dog sitting in front of a computer and telling the younger fry on the floor "On the internet, nobody knows you're a dog".



"On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog."

In those days of slow dial-up connections, the internet provided a way for people to re-engineer their identity on line. Cyber space offered enormous potential for anonymity to its members. To use a contemporary term, that cartoon went 'viral' – the concept of 'going viral' came only much later with the advent of 'YouTube'.

Last year (2015) the magazine published another cartoon, one by Kaamran Hafeez. This time, the two dogs are watching their owner surf the web; and the caption read: "Remember when, on the internet, nobody knew who you were?"



"Remember when, on the Internet, nobody knew who you were?"



The internet has had a huge impact on our sense of identity since its explosion into popular use about 25 years ago. It has brought into our lives people, ideas, and view-points and cultures that, otherwise, we would never have met or heard of.

And that has forced us to reconsider our identities in comparison with theirs. It has allowed us to ally with people with a similar outlook and become part of their group, even if they live thousands of miles away. And, above all, it has given us multiple ways to re-engineer our identity almost continually and discover what it is like to be someone very different from our "real" selves. But, today many complain of the difficulty of finding their "true" identity amidst all the conflicting messages and demands of the world around them.

This idea, that, somewhere deep down, is the "real" us, is as old as philosophy itself. And it is probably the bedrock of our identity, because it involves things like our values, our sense of purpose, the beliefs that make us who we are. This is a long way from identity as defined by our culture or ethnicity, or as defined by the things we buy and 'Like' on the net.

It is more intimate than that, the part of us that keeps us understanding who we are when the rest of the world becomes overwhelming and confusing. The internet has brought the opinions of others flooding into our own lives as never before, and it is threatening our ability to understand who we really are.

To discover our true selves, maybe it's time to disconnect. Not for ever, that would be throwing away the baby with the bathwater, but for significant periods of our days, weeks, months. Because, with disconnection comes quiet, and with quiet comes the ability to reflect, and with reflection comes the opportunity for and the pleasure of rediscovering the physical world around us and the world of human-to-human interaction, unmediated by computers.

Increasingly, the question today is "Are you living the life you want to be living, or the life other people want you to live?" (*It comes from Socrates*). Disconnecting gives us a chance turn the tables - to see the internet not as something that overwhelms us but as a tool, which we use as and when we need it. Only then can we really understand who we are and what we can give the world. And that, deep down, is the real root of our identity.

Fr Stephen Mavely SDB
Rector & Vice Chancellor

Staff Development Programme 2016

Aligned with the holistic developmental policy of its staff and faculty, the University on 22-23 January organized a two-day development programme at the School of Technology's auditorium. Mr. Neville Lobo, former Global Head of Training and Development, Larsen and Toubro (L&T) conducted a lively and interactive training on 'Relationship and Communication...the key to success'.



The training programme aimed at helping the participants to have a better understanding and relationship, and also to recognize their own communication styles and personality traits and how these styles and traits differ from one another.

Through interactive activities, self-assessments and discussions, participants gained an awareness of their communication styles and learned strategies to resolve conflict and how to adopt strategies for communicating effectively with others. Participants also learned skills to communicate and listen effectively, and how to maintain relationships through inspiring trust and giving and receiving feedback.

"Disorderly information and knowledge make us disoriented, culminating our minds to be in a state of confusion. But, whenever all these get organized in terms of some order, sequence, process or scheme, we are out of the confused state and feel enriched with a wealth of knowledge – the importance of this was one of the many things I learned during this development programme", said Dr. Manoranjan Kalita, the Director of the School of Technology.

Also, commenting on the two-day programme, the Director of Human Resources, Ms Juhi Baruah said, "Neville delivered an excellent programme; meeting the objectives of a Staff Development Programme targeted at relationships and communication as a key to success in a working environment. The 'role plays' were relevant and the participants immersed themselves with great enthusiasm."

National Youth Day Celebration

12 January 2016 marked the 153rd Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, a renowned patriot of our country and this day is celebrated all over India as the National Youth Day. In commemoration of this event, the University paid humble tribute to Swami Vivekananda by holding a special assembly in fond remembrance.

The programme began with a short speech on the life and teachings of Swami Vivekananda by Asst. Prof. Nabamita Das, who said, "Vivekananda believed in education by which character is formed...strength of mind if increased, the intellect is expanded by which one can stand on one's own feet".

This was followed by readings from the *Complete Works of Swami Vivekananda* by the students of the School of Technology – Chinmoyee Neog and Abhijit Talukdar.

The programme ended with the rendering of a devotional song – *Man Mei Takat...Dil Mein Himmat* by Senior Asst. Prof. Bikramjit Goswami.

Posters on the life and contributions of Swami Vivekananda were displayed in the atrium by the students of the School of Life Sciences.



Video Conference on National Digital Library

The Vice Chancellor, Fr.(Dr) Stephen Mavelly along with the Pro Vice Chancellor, Fr. Joseph Nellannatt, Registrar, Prof Basil Koikara and the University Departmental Heads and Librarians attended video conference on 'Digital Library' conducted by IIT Kharagpur on 3 February 2016.



Prof. Partha Pratim Chakrabarti, Principal Investigator and Director, IIT Kharagpur and Prof. Partha Pratim Das, Joint Principal Investigator and Professor, Computer Science & Engineering, IIT Kharagpur addressed the heads and librarians of various institutions and also answered questions raised by the participants. The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India, under its NMEICT mission, has entrusted IIT Kharagpur to host, coordinate and set-up a pilot project of National Digital Library (NDL) towards building a national asset.

The Video Conference, attended by all the institutions and universities connected on NKN was held as per the instructions given by Shri R. Subrahmanyam, Addl. Secretary (TE), MHRD, who is spearheading the launch, to make them aware about the forthcoming launch of National Digital Library (NDL).

MHRD plans to launch this pilot version of the National Digital Library (NDL) portal in steps and the first of this limited launch was held in February 2016 to the users of some selected centrally funded technical institutes, especially those who have contributed contents to NDL. Ultimately this will be launched for all institutes and for the entire nation.

Student Development Programmes

The Student Development Programmes (SDPs) in spring semester 2016 were conducted on every Friday and Saturdays of February and March. This semester's SDPs concentrated on personality growth and leadership. The principal sessions were on confronting and overcoming stress, preparing a self-portrait, overcoming fears and on leadership qualities. Each SDP was



conducted for a group of around 110-120 students of two or three courses combined. This assured that the students from different branches of study would be able to meet students of another branch, interact with them and learn to live and work with others with different academic backgrounds.

A different type of SDP was organized for the 6th semester students of B.Tech. Some batches were taken to Shanti Dhan, the home for the sick and the aged, run by the Missionary Sisters of Mother Teresa at Lankeswar, about 3 km distant from the University.

6th Semester students of Civil Engineering went to visit the Central Jail, Guwahati, with the purpose experiencing the life of people in a very different and difficult condition, and at the same time to bring a certain amount of joy and serenity to the inmates of the Jail. A cultural programme was organized for the inmates, which proved to be a resounding success and a welcome experience for the students as well as the jail inmates.

The University welcomes Professors from Stanford University

Two eminent Professors of Stanford University, USA, visited the University's Azara Campus and Tapesia Campus, and interacted with faculty members and research students.



On 29th February, Prof. Aynur Unal, who is a high profile semiconductor manufacturing supply chains professional of Silicon Valley, visited the University. She had worked at Siemens, LSI Logic and Flextronics as an executive for global manufacturing information systems and has been a principal consultant with Dubai Internet City and Konya Teknokent amongst others. Most recently she is bringing in the social responsibility dimension into her incubation and innovation activities by getting involved in social entrepreneurial projects on street children and ageing care. She is also the Strategic Adviser for Institutional Development to IIT Guwahati.

During her interaction with Assam Don Bosco University officials, she laid stress on open innovation. She lauded the efforts of the Nanotechnology group of the University under the leadership of Prof. Sunandan Baruah in developing customized instruments for research and also coming up with innovative products.

5th March saw another visitor from Stanford University, Prof. Arogyaswami Paulraj, who is an Emeritus Professor at Stanford. Prof. Paulraj has over 30 recognitions which include the 2014 Marconi Prize and the 2011 IEEE Alexander Graham Bell Medal. He is a member of seven national academies including the US National Academy of Engineering, the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences and The World Academy of Sciences and also is a fellow of IEEE and AAAS.

He has received a number of recognitions in India including the Padma Bhushan, the nation's third highest civilian honour. He is known as the Father of MIMO-OFDMA used in 4G technology. Apart from meeting the Vice Chancellor and other officials of the University, he also interacted with the faculty members and Masters and Doctoral students of the School of Technology.

In his interaction with the students, he mentioned that the key areas that will make an impact in the near future include Biotechnology, Information Technology, Nanotechnology and Alternate Energy. He also visited the Nanotechnology labs and interacted with the members of the Nano group of the University. He said that he is "very impressed with the work done by the group" and assured his guidance and support.

University Outreach Programme

As a part of the University Outreach Programme, Asst. Prof. Sabiha Alam Choudhury and Neelam Bara from the Department of Psychology and Counselling conducted a one day session during the Faculty Development Programme at Asian Institute of Management and Technology held from 28th January – 4th February 2016.

The theme of the session was 'Self-awareness and Student Mentoring'. The training session included both lectures as well as one on one counselling sessions for the faculty members.

Lately, with the introduction of Mentoring System in the Colleges, many college lecturers are facing with challenges they had never faced before, and they are quite open to learning ways of handling the students' emotional problems, techniques of counselling and skills to become a good mentor. This is where the University team has been lending a hand to the Colleges.

The faculty members in their feedback of the sessions shared that they were fully engrossed throughout the programme and learned various skills through the activities, and that they look forward to many more such sessions in the future.



EVENTS AT THE SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

National Conference - EGTET 2016

The second national conference on 'Emerging Global Trends in Engineering and Technology' (EGTET) was held at the University on 26-27 February, 2016.

Scholars and researchers from 17 institutions participated in this Conference and discussed latest developments in the various branches of engineering and technology. The Conference is the 7th National Conference organized by the School of Technology since its inception.



Dr. Dharma Ranjan Das, Advisor, Ministry of Renewable Energy (North East Section), Government of India, was the Chief Guest at the inaugural function. Over 70 scholars, scientists and technocrats from across the country participated in both paper and poster presentations held during the two-day conference.

Speaking about the importance of interdisciplinary research at the opening function, the Vice Chancellor Fr. (Dr.) Stephen Mavelly said, "Though Nobel prize will continue to be awarded to researchers of pure science, human life will be better served by inter-disciplinary research".

At the plenary session, the invited speaker Prof. S.C. Mehrotra spoke on the coming crisis in India in the areas of healthcare, clean water for all, quality education, providing food for everybody, generating energy at low cost and making our cities and villages free from air pollution, water crises and violent crimes. "Only technology can help to solve these problems," said Prof. S. C. Mehrotra. He is a former Srinivasa Ramanujan Geospatial Chair Professor, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad, Maharashtra.

There were 5 sessions, 23 oral presentations and 17 poster presentations, all focusing on the initiatives that promote research and developmental activities in the disciplines of Computer Science Engineering, Electronics and Communication Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering and Basic Sciences.

"The findings from the conference could contribute practical implementation of different development policies and also in the economic transformation of the region. It was a great platform for exchanging the know-how technologies and new findings" said the Convener and HOD, Department of CSE & IT, Prof. Yumnam Jayanta Singh.

AmazingNano - 2016

The Electronics & Communication Engineering Department of the University in collaboration with the Department of Physics, Tezpur University, successfully conducted a week-long workshop on Nanotechnology titled 'amazingNANO-2016' from 1-6 February 2016.

The workshop was the second in the series (the first being 'imagineNANO-2015' held last year) and was organized to provide a unique platform to the young and enthusiastic researchers especially from the north eastern part of India. It aimed at getting the participants initiated into the latest in Nanotechnology from around the world, through natural analogies, theoretical concepts, practical sessions and logical analysis.

Among the experts in this field who gave lectures during this Workshop were Prof. Sunandan Baruah of Assam Don Bosco University, Dr. P. Deb, Dr. G. Ahmed and Dr. S. Das from Tezpur University; Prof. Utpal Bora from IIT Guwahati; Prof. Pranayee



Dutta from Gauhati University; Prof. Louis Hornyak from Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok; Dr. Hassan Jafri from Uppsala University, Sweden; Prof. Achintya Bezbaruah from North Dakota State University, USA; and Dr. Pankaj Thakuria from Forschungszentrum Jülich, Germany.

The participants included students and researchers from Gauhati University, North Eastern Hill University and Assam Don Bosco University. The participants had ample opportunities to interact with renowned research persons in different areas of Nano-science and Nano-technology.

The Vice Chancellor, Fr. (Dr.) Stephen Mavelly, while giving out the certificates in the valedictory function, expressed his appreciation for the initiative taken by the organizers of the workshop and hoped that 'North-East India excels in research in nanotechnology'.

A 3-Day Entrepreneurship Camp

A 3-Day Entrepreneurship Awareness Camp was organized by the School of Technology from 28-30 January 2016 at Azara Campus with an aim to nurture the young minds of the University to become not only job seekers but job providers, to have skills and the courage to break away from tradition and indirectly support freedom by reducing dependence on obsolete systems and technologies.

At the opening ceremony held on the 28th morning at Conference Hall, the Pro-Vice Chancellor, Fr. Joseph Nellanatt addressed the participants and invited guests, highlighting how the timing is perfect for going deeper into entrepreneurship awareness programmes as Central Government has also recently come up with an initiative 'Start Up India, Stand Up India', geared towards encouraging entrepreneurship in the country.

The keynote address was delivered by Prof. S. K. Kakoty of IIT Guwahati, who is also an Acting Co-ordinator of RUTAG-NE. Prof. Kakoty spoke on the importance of innovation in entrepreneurship and said 'every person has an innovative mind but some use it to develop a venture and some do not'. He said entrepreneurship is 'the capacity and willingness to develop, organize and manage a business venture, and a combination of technical as well as managerial knowhow'. The first technical session presided by Mr. Biswajit Chakrabarty, Head, FICCI, North-East Council focused on the opportunities that are available in NE India for entrepreneurs to explore.



The second technical session dwelt on 'Opportunity Selection Framework and Opportunity Identification through investigation of the environment', and it was presided by Dr. Rashmita Barua of Don Bosco University. The third technical session focused on 'encouraging the participants to take risks in entrepreneurship' and it was chaired by Asst. Prof. Victor Narzary from the University's School of Social Sciences.

The last session of the day was conducted by two eminent entrepreneurs of the state. Mrs. Atreyee Barooah Thekedath, Founder Director, Web.Com India and Mr. Arindam Hazarika, Founder Director, Arohan Foods who interacted with and shared their experiences. Both the entrepreneurs emphasized on the need to have perseverance to embark on a new venture. The second day of the camp was dedicated towards familiarizing the participants with the practical aspects of industries. The participants visited Supreme Industries and Varun Beverages.

The Training and Placement Officer, Mr. Shanowaz Hussain chaired the third and final day session, where participants learned the intricacies of starting an SSI Unit and the distinction between Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

Symposium on Electrical Machine Design

The Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE) organized a symposium on 'Electrical Machine Design' for the EEE students with an aim to boost the knowledge and understanding of the students in this area, 4th March 2016. Prof. P.K Bordoloi, HOD of Applied Electronics and Instrumentation Engineering Department, GIMT delivered the technical talk.



The talk began with the basics of electrical machines, their principles, classifications, importance and depth of the knowledge on Machine Design and went on to the specifications of different types of machines and their applications in various fields. Prof. Bordoloi also explained in detail, the various working circuits in electrical machines and different types of core material, winding connections, types of cooling and insulating materials etc. used for electrical machines. He further illustrated the constructional design of rotating DC and AC machines, and lastly he talked about the different types of transformers and its features.

Electrical Machines is considered as one of the core areas of Electrical Engineering and Electrical Machine Design is an important area of learning in Electrical Machines.

Students bagged First Prizes at Science Marathon

Two Engineering students bagged two first prizes at the Science Marathon NEGC 2016 held at RIST, Baridua, Ri-Bhoi, Meghalaya.

Indrajeet Bhuyan and his batchmate Deepjyoti Barman won 1st prize worth Rs 8,000 in Scientific Model Presentation among 80+ participating groups from entire Northeast India at a 3-day event held at Regional Institute of Science and Technology, 26-28 February.

Second semester Computer Science student Indrajeet Bhuyan also won another first prize worth Rs 4,000 at paper presentation at the same fest competing with 14 presenters including M.Tech and Ph.D scholars.



Crashing WhatsApp - Indrajeet

The 18 year old Computer Science Engineering student at the University has found a new bug that can crash Whatsapp.

Last month, his work on "crashing the wildly popular WhatsApp messaging application" got featured in Business Insider, The Independent(UK), International Business Times, Mirror (UK) and various leading newspapers in the world and on CNN.



Indrajeet says, "Yes, you can crash your friends' WhatsApp, both WhatsApp Web and mobile application, by sending them not any specially crafted messages, but just 4000 smileys."

Indrajeet, an independent researcher, has reported The Hacker News a new bug in WhatsApp that could allow anyone to remotely crash most popular messaging app just by sending nearly 4000 emojis to the target user, thereby affecting up to 1 Billion users.

He is a security researcher and tech blogger who have previously made a code of 2kb which could crash Whatsapp and also reported security holes in the WhatsApp web client that in some way exposes its users' privacy.

In its February 2016 issue, popular magazine North East Today entitled Indrajeet, "one of the best security analysts from Northeast."

EVENTS AT THE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Fund Raising for Neighbourhood Children

The Department of Social Work organized Community Self Help Week from 25 - 30 January to raise funds to help educate the neighbourhood children.

The Vice Chancellor Fr. (Dr.) Stephen Mavely and Prof. D.K. Bhattacharjee of Computer Science Department, Tezpur University inaugurated Community Self Help Week, 25th January at Azara campus.



Speaking at the inaugural function Fr. Mavely highlighted the sense of 'students getting involved with the people of the neighbourhood to help them to help themselves.' "The second annual Community Self Help Week event is organized to support Swastyayan – the outreach programme of the University to educate the neighbourhood children," said Director of School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dr. Riju Sharma.

Swastyayan project started in 2013 has today around 130 students studying in classes 8, 9 and 10. They receive free tuition from some 50 University student and faculty volunteers who teach in batches every evening Monday to Friday basic subjects like English, Maths and Science. During Self-Help Week, after the regular morning classes, each day the programme began with different fund raising activities such as challenging fun and chance games like car race, fishing, tailing the donkey, lighting candles, car wash, Karaoke, lottery, share-a-pakoda, momo, and ethnic food fest.

Orientation Programme on Neuro Linguistic Programming

The Department of Psychology and Counselling in collaboration with MIND India organized an Orientation Programme on Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP), 8 February 2016.

The workshop aimed at transforming and helping the participants to have a better understanding of what NLP is all about and how it can help a person to think more clearly, communicate more effectively and acquire skills and attitudes to do things better.



Dr. A. Abraham, Director and Life Coach, Mindmasters, animated the programme where 64 participants from Gauhati University, Handique Girls College, University of Science and Technology – Meghalaya (USTM), NES College, Sarla Birla School, Sanskriti Gurukul and Don Bosco University attended the day long programme.

Stressing on the importance of NLP, Dr. A. Abraham said, “NLP is a lot like love, you don’t spell it out, you feel it. It is experiential and therefore is not possible to teach online...It helps you realize the importance of being in the present to be the best you can be”.

NLP is a model of interpersonal communication chiefly concerned with the relationship between successful patterns of behavior and the subjective experiences underlying them. It stresses on the importance of living with conscious purpose and provides one with a set of techniques that enables a person to manage effectively his/her response to things that happen around him/her.

Swital bagged Photography Trophies

Laishram Swital Singha, second semester student of the Department of Mass Communication won second prize at the Photography Competition held during the National Youth Festival (Yuva Shatha Sambrama – 2016) at the University of Mysore, 15-19 February, 2016.

The competition was an ‘on the spot photography’ where participants had to shoot on two themes – ‘Miracle of Light’ and ‘Nature’s Mystery’ for two and half hours with no digital manipulation allowed.

The participants in the competition were the State Level Youth Festival Photography Competition winners from various states in India.

Swital had also secured the same prize earlier at the East Zone Inter University Youth Festival called “Brahmaputra Mahotsava 2016” held at Tezpur University, 3-6 January 2016, thus securing a ticket to the National Level Competition.

National Inter-University Youth Festival was started in 1954 under the aegis of the then Prime Minister of India Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.



Workshop on Academic Writing

The Journal of Development Practice (one of the Journals published by the University), and the Department of Social Work, organized a 2-Day Workshop on Academic Writing with an aim to develop and promote the skills required for academic writing and publication among the academicians, scholars in Social Sciences and Development Practitioners.

The workshop focused on the structure, texture and lexicon of academic articles and was animated by Prof. N. Jayaram, the Managing Editor of Sociological Bulletin and Visiting Professor at the National Law School of India University, Bengaluru and Ambedkar University, Delhi.



Workshop on ‘Community Radio’

Prof. Kandarpa Das, Founder-Director of Community Radio, ‘Radio Luit Guwahati’ addressed the faculty and students of the School of Social Sciences at Azara campus on Community Radio, January 11, 2016.



Prof. Das insisted that “Community Radio is a powerful medium to give voice to the voiceless and programmes are planned and designed to ensure maximum participation of the community members”. After explaining in detail the various aspects of starting a community radio in the context of an educational institution Prof. Das encouraged both faculty and students to exploit the medium of community radio and come up with programmes of social relevance to the community.

The students and faculty had a vibrant interactive session when they clarified various doubts regarding the medium and programming for it. The University’s Mass Communication Department students prepared and broadcasted seven radio programmes last November with Radio Luit.

EVENTS AT THE SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES

Lecture on Emerging Biological Technologies

The School of Life Sciences organized a lecture on ‘Emerging Biological Technologies in the Changing World’ by Dr. Santanu Raychaudhuri, a DBT-Visiting Professor of Assam University, Silchar on 20th February 2016 in the conference hall at 12.00 noon.

In this lecture, Prof. Santanu introduced emerging trends in the field of Biotechnology. He said, “Since the discovery of Double Stranded DNA structure by James Watson and Francis Crick in 1953, there have been an ‘avalanche of advancements in genomic information. The process of genotyping has reduced drastically with the advent of new sequencing technologies”.

He also introduced to the students various technologies like DNA Sequencing, Discovery of Non-Coding RNAs, Metagenomics, Microarray based high throughput data set, nanotechnology based drug delivery, several human biotechnologies on the shelf, synthetic biology and ethical issues to be considered in Biotechnological research.



Lecture on Biodiversity

Dr. Lok Man S. Palni on 29th February gave a lecture on “Biodiversity is Life-Biodiversity is our Life” for Post Graduate students and staff of various departments. He is a Professor and Dean of Biotechnology at Graphic Era University, Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

Speaking on the importance of Biodiversity and green planet, and how these are crucial for the survival of mankind, he said, “Trees are the caretakers of this planet. Without them, life won’t be possible. If human beings outgrow trees, we will not survive”.



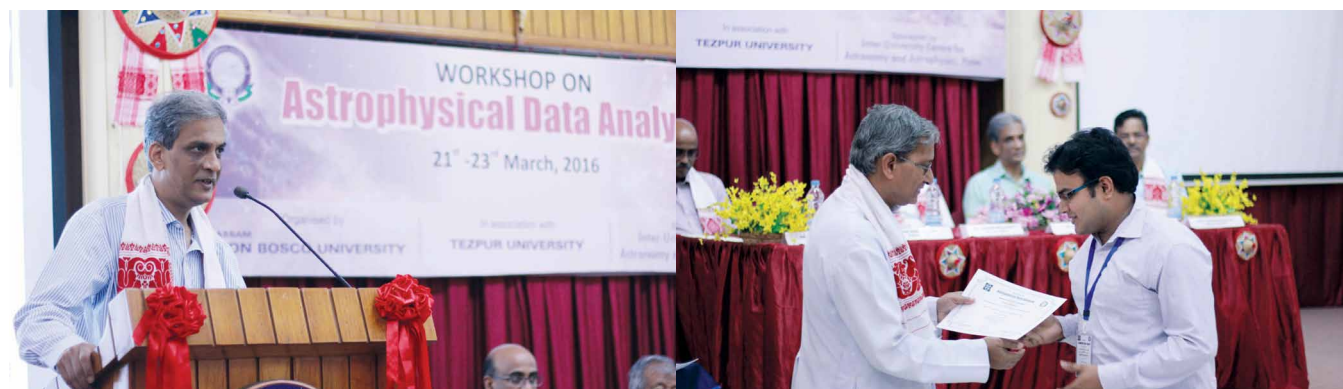
His lecture can be summarized as follows: “The fight to stop biodiversity loss is at a critical moment. Species are currently going extinct at up to 1,000 times the natural background rate. Sixty per cent of examined ecosystem services worldwide have been degraded. We should be alarmed because humans are not detached from the consequences of this loss. We should preserve the diversity of flora and fauna to maintain the balance of the ecosystem. Resources are there in nature for our need not for our greed. If we could satisfy or limit our life with our needs we can preserve this earth for the future generation, Technology can be used for the betterment of the resources based on the necessity of the people. When we waste resources, we must be aware of the people who live without food and other kinds of primary needs”.

EVENTS AT THE SCHOOL OF APPLIED SCIENCES

3-Day Workshop on Astrophysical Data Analysis

The University’s Department of Physics in association with Tezpur University organized a 3-day Workshop on ‘Astrophysical Data Analysis’, 21-23 March 2016 at the Conference Hall, Azara Campus.

The workshop, organized for Post Graduate/Doctoral students and teachers in Physics was sponsored by Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune.



Delivering ‘words of encouragement’ at the inaugural session, the Vice Chancellor Fr.(Dr) Stephen Mavely reminisced about a drive out in the desert on a wintry night and looking into the sky how he felt that he was ‘looking into the heart of the Universe’. He also said that the new campus being developed at the Tapesia Gardens will also have an ‘observatory’ set up. Expressing his best wishes to the participants he said, “I hope that this workshop will open a whole lot of windows and possibilities for imagination”.

The Guest of Honour and also the Workshop Resource person, Prof. Ranjeev Misra, Scientist G, IUCAA, Pune, in his introductory address explained the aim of the Workshop saying, “The workshop is not about teaching Astronomy or Astrophysics. It is not going to be a lesson on Data Analysis. I have spent 15 years in observing and analyzing these data and it is not something one can learn nor teach in 3 days. However, in this workshop we will explore the prospects of where you want to go in future as an academician, whether you would like to take up a study in Astronomy”.

The 3-Day workshop saw lectures from Prof Dhruba Jyoti Saikia (Radio Astronomy: An Introduction), Prof Ranjeev Misra (Astrosat), Dr Sukanta Deb, Cotton College State University (CCD Photometry of variable stars), Dr Rupjyoti Gogoi, Tezpur University (Introduction to Infrared Astronomy), Dr Sonali Sachdeva, IUCAA (Introduction to galaxies and their evolution), Prof Gazi Ameen Ahmed Tezpur University (Image Processing). Participants spent half of the workshop getting hands-on experience working on stellar data and galactic data at the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory with Prof. Ranjeev Misra and Dr. Sonali Sachdeva.

EVENTS AT THE SCHOOL OF COMMERCE AND MANAGEMENT

An Interaction with Mr. Jairam Ramesh

Mr. Jairam Ramesh, founding member of the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad, an Indian economist of repute and Congress Party MP in the Rajya Sabha visited the School of Commerce and Management on 4th February and interacted with the MBA students.

Mr. Ramesh was one of the distinguished speakers at the two-day conference organized by the ‘Indo-Global Social Service Society - IGSSS held at Kharguli Campus of the University. He took some time out and had a lively interaction with the MBA students addressing their concerns and sharing his experience with them.



Workshop on ‘Developing Mental Capacity’



Fr. Joe Mannath, Associate Professor in the University of Madras (India) and an Adjunct Professor at the Catholic Theological Union, Chicago (USA), conducted a workshop on enhancing mental ability and brain capacity for the two batches of MBA students, 16 February 2016.

The workshop began with Fr. Joe demonstrating his capacity to remember things and explaining how students can develop their own thinking capacity. During the workshop, he shared a number of tips that students can use to enhance the ability of their brains. He also suggested that the faculty take classes on multiple intelligence along with regular coursework so that students are able to exploit their potential to the fullest.

RESEARCH PULSE

Assam Don Bosco University in its emphasis on promoting research had recently started the School of Life Sciences (Department of Biotechnology, Biochemistry and Microbiology) and had opened an opportunity for students as well as faculty to participate in this emerging research area. As many as two hundred research scholars are currently pursuing their Ph.D. programs at Assam Don Bosco University in Basic Sciences, Engineering & Technology, Social Sciences & Humanities.

Ph D Research Proposal Presentation-Registration: The following research scholars have submitted their Research Proposals and their registration is in progress.

Research Scholar	Department	Title of Research Proposal
Bikash Agarwal	Electronics and Communication Engineering	Development of a nanotechnology based water purification process for removal of chemical and biological contaminants
Vijay Prasad	Computer Science Engineering	Text detection and recognition in a natural scene
Mita Nath Bora	North East India Studies	Social transformation in Cluster Program areas: Role of cluster & cluster ecosystem in the socio-economic empowerment of the artisan community of the NE region of India
Suraj Marathe	Mechanical Engineering	To increase the overall performance of hydraulic die casting machinery and the process so that the end product is in conformity with the Six Sigma Quality Standard
Paul Cheruthottupuram	Mass Communication	Representation of Mother Teresa in the Calcutta Press between 1948 and 1962: An exploratory study
Daisy PJ	Education	Impact of life skills training on enhancing the study skills of school going adolescents

Pre-Submission Seminar: Chakradhar Das and Ranjay Das from the Department of Electrical & Electronics Engineering presented their pre-submission seminar on 20th February 2016.

Research Lecture Series: This lecture series is indented to generate a platform or opportunity to discuss topics in the current area of research and practice, thereby stimulating an interdisciplinary learning. The research lecture series is presented every Friday at 12.00 noon by faculty, research scholars and invited guests. A list of recent lectures is given below:

Speaker/Affiliation	Topic
Xavier Mattam, Computer Science	Cognitive Computing
Nesmita Das, Psychology and Counseling	Disaster Mental Health
Bikramjit Goswami, Electrical and Electronics Engineering	Utility of microwave Remote Sensing for detection of flood and associated aspects

Research grants of Dr. Prosun Tribedi (Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology)

1. Got a research grant entitled “Strategy development for the applications of biofertilizers into the soil to increase the soil fertility”: An efficient way to substitute the hazardous chemical fertilizer application from DST as a Principal Investigator. (Reference No: 192015000553). (Amount Sanctioned 23,20,000.00 Rupees)
2. Got a research grant entitled “Isolation and characterization of soil microorganisms capable of degrading poly ethylene (PE) and exploration of the underlying mechanism of PE degradation by isolated microorganisms” from Assam Science Technology and Environment Council (ASTEC) as a Principal Investigator (Sanction Number: ASTEC/S&T/192(157)/2015-16/3933 dated 02.03.2016 (Amount Sanctioned 3,25,000.00 Rupees)

Publications/Conferences/Seminars:

1. Ahmed RN, Bhattacharyya S, Purkayastha BB, Bhattacharyya K (2016) Low Resource FPGA Based Time-to-Digital Converter. ADBU-Journal of Engineering Technology, 4(1): 108-118.
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10. Borgohain R, Baruah S (2016) Design and analysis of UV detector using ZnO nanorods on interdigitated electrodes. ADBU Journal of Engineering Technology 4: 134-136.
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13. Das MC, Paul S, Gupta P, Tribedi P, Sarkar S, Manna D, Bhattacharjee S (2016) 3-Amino-4-Aminoximidofurazan derivatives: small molecules possessing antimicrobial and anti biofilm activity against Staphylococcus aureus and Pseudomonas aeruginosa. Journal of applied microbiology 120(4):842-59 (IF 2.34) (Wiley Publishing Group)
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15. Das M, Sarma M, Baruah H, Goswami U, Sarma D (2016) Automatic Detection and Recognition of Bird’s Voice found in the Fauna of Assam. National Seminar on Science & Technology for Sustainable Development, Goalpara College, Assam.
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MEGHALAYA PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES REGULATORY BOARD, SHILLONG

D.O. No. MPURB/47/2015/119

Dated Shillong, the 1st April 2016

Dear Fr Stephen,

Greetings from the MPURB.

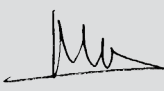
This is just to say thank you for the warm hospitality which you and your team including Fr. Joseph Nellanatt, Dr. Basil Koikara, Dr. J.N Vishwakarma and the others have extended to the IMPURB team when we came to visit your esteemed University on 9th March 2016. We are grateful to you for taking time to take us step by step through the process which the Assam Don Bosco University had gone through to reach its present impressive stage of development. We have no words to convey adequately our appreciation and admiration for your courage, your vision and your dynamism which have been amply manifested in what we saw and heard. We have learned so much during our interaction with you and hopefully have also caught something of your indomitable spirit.

We wish you and your team grand success in the fulfillment of your vision and may God grant you health and strength to carry forward noble endeavor.

With warm regards,

Your sincerely


Shri L. Roy


Dr. (Mrs) MPR Lyngdoh


Dr. S.K Chattopadhyay

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