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# SPARK



A newsletter for Don Bosco family, alumni and friends

# 11<sup>th</sup> Convocation

10 SEPTEMBER 2022

*Carpe Diem - do live every single day!  
... with relentless resilience to light your way!  
.. and unfailing grace to steer you home!*



## Message from the Chancellor

*It gives me immense joy to write this message as the University celebrates its 11th Convocation post Covid19 and in an offline platform. An occasion of this nature is an important milestone in the educational journey of any student as it marks the end of one stage in the journey through life, and the beginning of the next. It is also an important occasion for our society because the stock of educated and qualified human resources on whom it relies for its development and transformation is increased and strengthened by that number of graduating young men and women. Convocation thus provides not only an opportunity for celebration, for graduates, their friends and family, but also an occasion for us to reflect together and to strengthen our resolve to create better ambient and to provide better opportunities to for quality education.*

*Dear Graduates, my heartiest congratulations to you on completing another important milestone in your learning journey. I hope your experience at Assam Don Bosco University has been one of self-discovery, transformation and achievement of goals. Graduation signifies the start of a new chapter in your life – a chapter that builds on the foundation for excellence that this University has laid for you; a chapter that gives you the independence to define and create your life adventures. Wherever your path leads you next, I believe that your time at ADBU has prepared you well for the new challenges ahead. Undoubtedly, you will encounter many new and diverse situations, but I am more than confident that you can confront each situation and excel with astuteness, resoluteness, and resilience. Be brave, be forthright, go out there and contribute immensely to the development of our great nation.*

*Coping with challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic has not been easy for all of us. During this period, many of the activities you have participated faced tremendous disruptions. As an established institution of higher learning, we made many adjustments to how we teach, how you should learn and how you can interact with one another. I am heartened that we have worked together as ADBU family to adapt to changes around us.*

*I am sure you would agree that education at ADBU is like no other. ADBU has offered an authentic learning environment, leveraging the strengths of Don Bosco's system of Education based on the Reason, religion and Loving kindness. As ADBU graduates, you are now well-poised to contribute to the ever-changing economic landscape of our state and our country.*

*I encourage you to embrace challenges as you progress. Continue to seize opportunities to learn, grow, innovate, adapt and be resilient. Whatever you choose to do next, remember that learning is a lifelong journey. The world is evolving at a faster pace than ever before. To help prepare for your future, ADBU has not left any stone unturned and I hope and pray that our hard work and investment on you do not go waste.*

*As I congratulate you on your graduation, let me also remind you that learning is a continuous and life long journey. Your commitment to*



*learning, acquiring knowledge and life skills has so far led to your success and I am confident that the skills you have acquired will help you stay relevant in your work place or your further pursuit of studies.*

*On this note, I am happy to inform you all that we, the Salesians of North East are celebrating this year the Centenary of the arrival of our pioneers to this sacred land which we all love so dearly. I am delighted that we will celebrate this milestone with you in the presence of our Rector Major on 25th October 2022.*

*Dear graduating students, as you embark on the next phase of your life, do stay connected to the ADBU family and continue to keep ADBU close to your hearts by joining ADBU Past pupils association and following our social media platforms.*

*On my own behalf and on behalf of the management, teachers and other stakeholders, I wish you the very best for your future endeavors. God bless you all.*

*Fr Januarius Sangma  
Chancellor & Salesian Provincial*

# Message from the Vice Chancellor

**Dear Graduates of 2022...** It is no exaggeration when I say, on behalf of all of us here in the University, that your presence and your life here have brought us much joy. It has been a pleasure to see you grow in immeasurable ways; and, today, we are proud to see you launch out into the wider world as Graduates of Don Bosco University.

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

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You start your career at a time when challenges are formidable, economic downturn is all around us, the aftermath of the pandemic is still haunting our lives, and rapid change is the order of the day. It is a daunting time for anyone to be starting out on a career... However, opportunities are huge as well

Protectionism is everywhere. Unvarnished nationalism, pseudo-patriotism and the cultivation of majoritarian agendas are sweeping the world, and spreading from country to country. White supremacy, racial intolerance, religious fundamentalism, predatory business tactics, blatant displays of military might are all being given a sheen of respectability! Manmade barriers and trade wars are corralling the world economy into what could be a long recession. I am painting a gloomy picture, I am aware. But I do have a purpose in touching upon this uncomfortable situation in the world and in our country today.

What’s happening right now is turning out to be a perfect storm; and that’s where the challenge lies, the challenge for each one of you

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

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

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

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One final thought: Our theme for this year is on ‘resilience’... In the wake of the pandemic that literally stole two years or more from our lives, we have been resilient, and cultivating this new found ‘resilience’ is the key to hope



and thrive once again... resilience involves these five principles:

- A sense of Gratitude for all that has been and will be
- A deep felt Compassion for everyone, especially the less fortunate
- An Acceptance of the unfolding reality in the world around us
- A never-ending Search for Meaning
- A cultivated capacity for Forgiveness, and
- A reliance on a Power greater than your own - God - on whom we can lean, on whom we can pin our dreams and aspirations, our joys and sorrows... and our frustrations too.

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

Carpe Diem! Seize the Day! ... and may God bless you every day and in every way! ...Thank you!

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



## Reminiscences from the Gold Medalists

### Resmin Sultana

Winner - Chancellor's Gold Medal

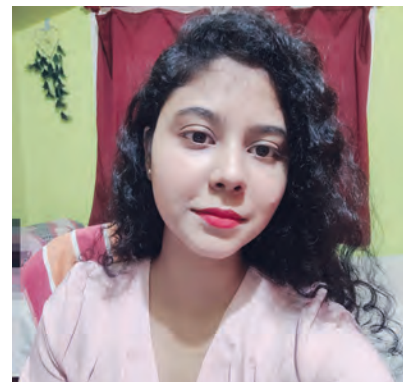
Gold Medalist - MSc Zoology

William Shakespeare once said “some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them”. In life however, we cannot always count on being born great, or having greatness thrust upon us, but we must always remember that the opportunity to achieve greatness is within our grasp.

I have found that the harder I worked, the more luck I seemed to have. And it was with utmost patience and endurance that entitled me to become what I am today...a gold medalist. My journey here at Don Bosco University in the beautiful campus of Tapesia, was profound. It was enlightenment in its best form. And it transformed me, for good.

In retrospect, I've tried to recapitulate the same with utmost justice to the people involved and to the teachings they tried to inculcate in me over the last 2 years.

I joined DBU at a time when my entire family, including myself, had only just recovered from Covid-19. And the first day I joined as a student of M.Sc. Zoology Batch of 2020, appearing for the first Class Test, still remains visibly fresh in my memory. It was that day in November 2020 and it is this day today in August 2022 that I can really, actually fathom how far I have come.



The pandemic not only brought with itself stagnant years of growth, but also created “digital divide”-the gulf between those that were book-savvy, and those that were tech-savvy. The curriculum framework at DBU during the pandemic bridged this very gap and made sure that education was imparted in all forms: online, offline and hybrid mode and that it did not become stagnant. In this process of learning, I also perceived the tremendous effort of my University towards producing morally, socially and ecologically committed graduates each year. The Department of Zoology and its teachers provided me with a scientifically stimulating and facilitating environment for the growth of my scientific acumen and materialization of my research work. It was within the walls of the Department that my research took wings and flew into uncharted territories like that of presenting research papers at International and National seminars, that would go on to sculpt my scientific temper as it is today.

The two-year M.Sc. Zoology programme is meticulously designed in alignment with UGC guidelines and in such a way that it covers not only the basic understanding of the subject matter but also makes one ready for competitive exams. Whereas, the online mode made sure we got the right amount of learning time while also attending our classes, taking tests and meeting the course outcomes at the end of each semester. It was through this dual studying model that I could crack GATE (Life Sciences) 2022 in my first attempt. As a student of Zoology, it is a given that I must learn about Animal Science. But the M.Sc. curriculum at DBU is framed to encompass courses such as Service Learning, Constitution of India, Project Management, Photography and Journalism, Research Methodology, and Teaching Skills to ensure our holistic knowledge acquisition. And because of this dynamic program, I could broaden my horizon of skill-sets and enhance my know-how in many fields. I always believed that one can never truly be the master of something. Because that would require one to be deeply focused on only one thing and sideline the rest. It was during a conversation with one of my professors here at the Department of Zoology, who stressed that my belief wasn't entirely true. He had asked me to wait and see for myself. A year later, after that encounter, not only have I become the Jack of all trades, but I believe I now am, indeed, the Master of a few.

DBU not only helped me rekindle my lost passion for extra-curricular activities, but also to discover my abilities like writing and performing dramas, street plays, mimes, public speaking, hosting and organizing events, community engagement as well as representing the Department, School and University as and when required. To achieve greatness, one needs to go out of our way, out of our comfort zone and get involved. The ocean wouldn't come offering us water. So, when thirsty, we need to seek our own paths towards the ocean. I pushed myself harder, beyond my limits. And I made sure my platter was filled with colourful medals and trophies. The thirst to never settle for less, be it in the academic, co-curricular, or personal front, kept me reaching out for bigger platforms that could give way to my potential. DBU gave me the space and freedom for all-round growth, in the truest sense.

But no amount of accolades could ever justify the life-changing experience I had here. It's not the place, but the people. And rightly so, it wasn't just the University in its full glory, but the teachers, the students and the fraternity that came along with it, that made my student life worthwhile. I found gems in my teachers and jewels in my friends. They are the most precious possessions I have attached myself to. Life here was an amalgamation of cultures, languages and celebrations. It transcended barriers. I was welcomed as if I was their own, as they were mine. Being a day-scholar never made me feel detached. I looked forward to each new day at the University. Such was life here.

At DBU, I learnt to not lose hope and to never quit. But most importantly, I learnt to be resilient and steadfast. I believed in my calibre. I believed in those who had put their faith in me. For without them, my existence would be meaningless. And hence, my achievements are Gurudakshinas to my Gurus. They are all deserving.

I am proud of my classmates, of the results they produced, and of the way they managed to carry themselves forward, in the past two years. I wish I had more time with them, and with the juniors, who showed me that one doesn't have to be of the same feather to flock together. Nonetheless, I hope my best wishes and blessings find them all when most required.

My highest reverence and gratitude are due to Father (Dr.) Stephen Mavelly, Vice Chancellor, Don Bosco University, for creating a beautiful tapestry of bonds in the University and for always being a beacon of hope in difficult times. His words "Grace under pressure" and "Search for meaning" have resonated within me time and again. Thanks to him, I have finally found my purpose in life. And I intend to make the best out of it.

If there's anything I take away from my student life, it's to "leave a legacy" and to leave those with whom I crossed paths, with a little more happiness and hope. My time at the University shall not be remembered by grades, popularity, likes, or favourites, but by my relationships. The kind of person I was and the lives I inspired. The University requires us to carry on our shoulders the task of living up to the expectations and to uphold the values and principles of a Bosconian with just as much grace, nobility, and agility as our seniors once did. These are the legacies, the kind we must leave behind.

Today when my loved ones cheer for me, I believe I have achieved something in life. That I have brought glory to my alma mater.

As my book of accolades gets thicker from here on, I take this moment to pause, and reflect on my yesteryears, on what I have today and what I can make of it. Out there, a world awaits with endless opportunities. Nothing is impossible. And my best is yet to come. All we need to do is dream. To believe. To seize the day. "Carpe diem!" "Make your lives extraordinary."

## Chingangbam Snehpriya

*Winner - Vice Chancellor's Gold Medal & Gold Medalist - BSc Botany*

Three years ago, when I looked for Universities and Colleges to pursue my higher education, of the many qualities that I felt they should possess was safety and security. That is again, one of the many reasons why I decided to choose to study here at Don Bosco University. Why did I choose Botany? It's definitely my interest in plants and my urge to have a deeper understanding about the magnificent forms of life in Kingdom Plantae. As I looked up Google to find out more about the University, I was definitely drawn to its lush green Campus. Why wouldn't one get attracted to a place of study with such divine, serene beauty of Mother Nature? As luck had it, I was admitted to this prestigious University in 2019 to the BSc Botany programme and I have never once regretted the choice that I had made to study here.

Since my hometown is in Imphal, Manipur, I decided to stay in the Campus' Hostel. It was my first time staying far away from my sweet home. The first month was a tad depressing but nevertheless, I was comforted by the best roommates. Though it was hard for me to cope up with the hostel life, I never felt the need to leave the hostel in search of another place as I was surrounded by loving friends and our caring wardens of Hostel Poinsettia.

My interest in Botany kept expanding as I proceeded into the successive semesters. I take this opportunity to thank the Professors for their immense guidance and support. Half of the semester of this three-year degree course was crippled by the COVID-19 pandemic and the other half was completed in the Campus. Though there were challenges with online classes, yet I was still able to connect with the Professors and clear my doubts. Also, I was able to connect with my friends, seniors and juniors through the Department Programmes organized even on online platforms. DBU has helped me in developing leadership skills in addition to promoting my academic growth. It brought out the best in me. Once again, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the University for all the opportunities I could seize in terms of the curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Finally, I thank my mother who has always been with me through thick and thin and for her great guidance and support. Although the three years of being a student at DBU ends here today, I will never forget the days I spent at this prestigious University. I will forever cherish my days at DBU.



**Rinaldo Snaitang**  
*BTech - Civil Engineering*



Greetings to all!

I am grateful for this opportunity to share my experience at Don Bosco University. This is a proud moment for me and all the credit goes to my parents and my family for their unconditional support and love and for always believing in me. To all my professors for always sharing the knowledge they have that guided us throughout our journey, and nurtured us to bloom in our own colors. To my dearest friends for always being there for me whether at my peak or at my lowest, for the adventures we had together and the all-nighters we pulled when projects and assignments were due. I am forever grateful.

The first day at DBU still feels like yesterday but the years went by so fast. I recall being in a completely new environment, away from home for the very first time and meeting new people. I was very nervous but excited at the same time to start my adventure. I remember joining the first day of class and we had an induction program where we sat around a circle and Sir Joseph gave topics for us to engage in among ourselves. It was a wonderful experience listening to each other's perspective and opinions on life and

many other subjects. DBU has taught us to be actively involved in the activities and events during Fresher's Day, D'Verve, Prajyuktum, Cultural programmes, to name a few. D'Verve allows the students to showcase their talents which help build our confidence. Through these events we learn that life is not just about being academically excellent but it is also important to excel in various aspects in life.

I am a bit of a reserved person or as others would have it, I am an introvert. I seldom engage in conversations or make new friends but what is beautiful about University life is that eventually everyone in your class is set to become family. The memories I made with my closest friends will always have a special place in my heart - the silliest but fun arguments, the hardest high-fives, and the endless conversations on project works in the quadrangle (until we were asked to go home by the guard). I consider myself lucky to have found such a group of friends who truly understand the meaning of friendship, and are always there for each other at all times. Without them, my journey in DBU would have been quite a dull and dreary one. As everything else in life, every journey has its ups and downs. Similarly, ours was not always a smooth one. But DBU has taught us to be even more resilient and creative. To always think 'out of the box', explore our most vulnerable thinking and turn it into something beautiful. As one of the philosophers Ralph Waldo Emerson rightly said, "The reward for a thing well done is to have done it." Every ending has a new beginning. Thank You DBU for the most wonderful memories with the most awesome people I have ever met. These years will forever be treasured. *"Carpe diem, quam minimum credula postero!"*

**Anisha Yesmin**  
*BTech - Electrical and Electronics Engineering*

Nervous yet excited would be the best way to describe the first day at Don Bosco University. 11th July 2018 was the day I began my journey at the University in the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering for the B.Tech. programme. We started with a Student Induction Program (SIP) that lasted for 11 days. At the induction programme, I met many wonderful people, some of whom turned out to be my best friends. We participated in many activities and performances together, and we also went on trips.



As classes commenced, I put in the same effort that I did during my school days. It did not take long for me to acquire traits of an engineering student. Critical thinking, creativity, effective communication, and a collaborative spirit was important. However, mass bunking, late night study, and procrastination – these were the ones I enjoyed and laugh about when I reminisce. Our seniors had already warned us about the hectic schedule - endless assignments, practical sessions, and internal and external examinations. How these three years passed by, I'll never understand. It was just too quick. Soon after the internship programme, we were in the final year of our study. I felt like this journey I embarked upon came to a stop all of a sudden. The end of the final year was nothing less than an emotional scene of a Bollywood movie. It is true that time flies and it did right through our laughs and gossip. Never have I ever imagined that there will come a time when all of this will become only a beautiful memory. I will always be thankful to my teachers who have always supported and guided me with their knowledge as well as their blessings. The time I spent in DBU will always be my golden four years.



## Upal Ranjan Sharma

*BTech - Electronics and Communication Engineering*

College life is considered one of the most memorable years of one's life. It is a paradigm shift from school life. College life exposes us to new experiences and things that we were not familiar with earlier. Indeed, college life remains a memorable time for all of us. Not everyone is lucky or fortunate enough to experience college life. People do not get the chance to go to college due to various reasons. Sometimes they do not have a strong financial background to do so while some others may have commitments and responsibilities to fulfil. The ones who have had a college life always wish to go back in time to live it all once again.

Don Bosco University is a renowned University, and to me, the best University in the entire Northeast India. I joined Don Bosco University in 2018 for the BTech programme. Initially, I enrolled in the Department of EEE but later on in the Third semester I switched to the Department of ECE. I spent four years in the Azara campus and they are one of the best years of my life. Studying here, I was awarded State Topper at Skill India Assam and I had the opportunity to represent Assam in Skill India 2021 at the Regional and National level in Electronics Skill.

Besides academics, I enjoyed the annual festivities of the University. Every year, our University organizes an annual fest that lasts for two to three days. In this annual fest, various inter-college competitions are organized. Another event called D'Verve, one of the biggest events of the University, is organized every year where we can participate in various events. Such events have encouraged me to socialize and also to showcase my talents which eventually has built the spirit of confidence in me. My days at DBU have been remarkable and to all my juniors, I say, enjoy it to the fullest and participate in activities and make as many connections as possible. College Life offers so much more than just lectures, presentations, and tests. It offers us opportunities to discover and rediscover ourselves, and to develop skills that will help us in the future.

Very recently, our University won the Smart India Hackathon 2022 (SIH-2022). It is the 5th time for our University. I hope more and more such achievements accumulate in our University Wall of Achievements.



## Khandeep Bharali

*BTech - Mechanical Engineering*

11<sup>th</sup> July 2018 was the day when I stepped into Don Bosco University towards new beginnings and possibilities. These four golden years equipped me with all that I needed to face the challenges that I had and will face in the future and it has not failed to build a strong foundation of knowledge.

The University has indeed proven that learning never ends. It has presented several opportunities to explore my abilities, skills, and talents. Several events allow those of us who share common interests to work together. I consider myself an introvert. However, after coming here and building new relationships, I realize that I might have been wrong. Through the course of interactions with my friends, who represent different cultures and backgrounds, I learnt the power of communication. These interactions have also instilled in me the spirit of confidence.

The faculty of the Department of Mechanical Engineering has been tremendously helpful and available for us whenever we require their assistance and guidance. My special thanks goes to Dr. Buljit Buragohain, Head of the Department, and Ms. Leena Nemade, Assistant Professor, for their tireless efforts in my education and also for their constant encouragement and motivation.

I am sure that I speak on behalf of all my classmates when I say that our professors have been amazing supervisors in the field of research. We were just beginners and amateurs in this field but having been guided by an excellent team of faculty, we did it!

These four years at the University are indeed filled with beautiful memories and beautiful people I will cherish for a lifetime. Finally, I thank my superiors and benefactors for their support and guidance.

Carpe diem!

Adieu, DBU!



**Gaurav Kalita**  
*Bachelor of Computer Applications*

Three years of my time at Don Bosco University felt like a few days. It was an experience indeed. From the very first day till the last, I have grown to become the person that my younger self would be proud of. Meeting new people, making friends, and building relationships that I hope will last forever. I noticed the way we all changed since our first year, when we were all too eager to finish classes for the day and go home, to the last year, when we would find any silly reason to stay in college. Besides excellence in academics, DBU provides the perfect platform to develop skills that are not prescribed in the syllabi, like communication, making new friends, planning workshops, working in teams, to name a few.

Life at DBU was really something special. The professors care so much about the welfare of the students. The support they give is commendable. I have learnt immensely in these past three years, in both academics and about life in general. Also, it was during these college years when I found my passion for game development and fortunately, my hobby turned into a career for me. I am forever grateful to my family, my friends, and my teachers for all their best wishes, support, and motivation that led to multiple amazing things during my college life.

For those of you reading this and are still pursuing your studies and chasing your dreams in the University, enjoy every day of your college life and make memories to look back on when your time comes to leave its portals. I encourage you to explore as much as you can beyond the curriculum. Try new things, find your passion, find things that you enjoy doing, learn something new. Sooner or later, you will realise that the dots always connect backwards, and the hard work and effort you put into something never goes to waste. And if you ever feel hesitant or scared to try something new, which definitely could be your biggest challenge, just remember these words by Robert Frost-

*"I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less travelled by,  
And that has made all the difference."  
- Robert Frost "The Road Not Taken"*



**Angelika Kalita**  
*BA (Honours) Mass Communications*

When I first visited Don Bosco University, it took me seconds to fall in love with the scenic beauty of the Campus. To be honest, its beautiful campus was one of the primary reasons why I chose to be here. However, as the days went by and as life at DBU unfolded, I realized there was so much more to love about this place than just its amazing campus! It's about the wonderful people you meet in your journey, the memories you make, the knowledge you'll hold on to once you leave. All of this is part of the package. On a serious note, I joined the University with the intention of gaining knowledge about the field of study I chose, which is Mass Communication, and also accumulating as many memorable moments as possible.

Besides imparting education, DBU has offered me so much more. It has given me wisdom, it has given me wonderful friends whom I'll cherish for life; it has given me mentors I'll always look up to; but above all, DBU has given me the confidence that will accompany me in life from here on. I still vividly remember the day it all happened. It was during a lecture on Foundations of Education offered by Professor Ranjita Chanda. I was caught talking to my classmates while the Professor was delivering the lecture, and the punishment I received was to give a presentation the very next day on a topic that I was not familiar with. This was supposed to be the first public presentation in my life so I had to stay awake all night preparing for it. The next day I walked up to the podium and surprisingly, I wasn't as nervous as I thought I would be. In fact, I felt more at ease. A new wave of confidence took over me as I delivered the presentation. For the very first time in my life, I felt good in my ability in public speaking which caught me by surprise. That moment was a turning point in my life. Up until that moment, I always avoided participating in events that required me to address an audience. While at school, public speaking terrified me not



because I was shy but because I was not confident enough and so I thought I would never be good at it. So, this presentation on 'Sociology and Education' which was supposed to be a punishment turned out to be one that boosted my confidence on oral presentation and public speaking. It made me realize my potential. For this, I am thankful to Professor Ranjita Chanda for the role she played in helping me find this confidence. That one moment changed my life and made me see my life differently. When I look back, I realize that the decision I made on joining this prestigious University has to be one of the best decisions I've made so far. I knew for a very long time that I wanted to pursue a degree in Mass Communication and I am glad to have done so in DBU mentored by the best teachers one could only hope for. Through this opportunity of penning down my experiences at DBU, I would like to thank the professors of my Department for guiding me throughout these three years and all the faculty members of the University. My experience in DBU has been one filled with pleasant memories. It has indeed left me with greater knowledge, wisdom, and virtues. I will forever cherish the years I spent here and I will definitely miss its beautiful campus!

## Farhana Ahmed

BA (Honours) Psychology

*"Gather ye rose-buds while ye may,  
Old time is still a-flying;  
And this same flower that smiles today  
Tomorrow will be dying."  
- To the Virgins, to Make Much of Time*

The experience of being a part of Don Bosco University has taught me one fundamental thing - life is unpredictable. The experience one receives during the college or university phase can be uncanny, good or bad. Literally, anything unexpected can happen! And if you ask me about mine? Well, I would describe it as a 'roller coaster of emotions'! Fortunately, DBU has prepared me for all such uncertain things from the very first day I stepped into the University. It was indeed a beautiful and flawless blend of delightful experiences and hardships. My experiences and benefits from here can be described as an album filled with pictures. If you imagine looking back upon your education and coming across a picture of each encounter and gain, my album will include three primary folios - the pride taken by myself and my family upon emerging as the gold medallist in the bachelor's degree; the abundance of knowledge of both things one believes they will never use; and those that surprise them when they do along with the differences in people we befriend and come across during our college years.



This life that we choose for ourselves is the bridge between our school days and our adulthood but keeping this bridge well-built and secure is the responsibility of the teachers. They complete an institution and I can proudly say that I have had one of the finest teachers who have assisted me and equipped me with the skills required to be able to fight my own battles. They have prepared me well with the best academics and given me a platform to turn my dreams into reality. Throughout my journey in all these years as a student of DBU, I have come across different types of people, interacted with them, learned about their cultures and have grown, in every aspect possible, into a sensible human being. It has given me the opportunity of being the artist I have always wanted to be by teaching me how to hold a brush and paint my life the way I wanted.

Every nook and corner of the University is filled with people and you can never fail to find a peaceful spot surrounded by nature, the value of which I now realize. I still vividly remember the early morning foggy scenes, lovable moments with the hostel wardens, campus dogs and puppies or even the grumpy yet caring stationery shopkeepers. However, while sharing the memories about my life here, I can never get away without mentioning about the most important aspect of a college life, friendships. The friends we make during our college life give us strength and, some turn out to be our knight-in-shining-armour. I found mine.

These moments of my university days hold a special place in my heart and have a deep sentimental value for me that I will forever cherish. You could be that amazing dancer or the vocalist of your dreams, you could even be a wonderful photographer. To me, DBU is like Santa Claus – always giving...giving many marvellous opportunities. All you will have to do is recognize them and seize them! When I look back on all the good times of my life, only a few will stand out as exceptional and I believe this is one of them. So, one major lesson that I am carrying with me as a parting gift from DBU and one that I will be passing on is its motto that I have followed throughout these three mesmerizing years of my life as a 'Bosconian' – "*Carpe Diem*" translated, *Seize the Day!*



**Shibani Das**  
BA (Honours) English

My life at Don Bosco University gave me an opportunity to experience the most interesting and glorious stages of my life. A place where my friends and I dove deep into the ocean of new beginnings and possibilities. In these three years, I have realized that life is indeed, as some say, unpredictable. It has been a perfect blend of joy and hardships. I have met students from different cultures, learnt about their rich culture, interacted with them, exchanged thoughts and ideas, all of which have helped me to grow as a person.

DBU grants you opportunities where you can become all that you have always wanted to be in life. I recognized and interacted with students who share common interests which helped me to discover my hidden talents. I participated in several events organized in the University where I could showcase these talents.

Despite the gripping Covid-19 Pandemic, we learned and enjoyed our classes with the faculty, fellow classmates and friends. I have learnt immensely from the motivating, inspiring, and impressive lectures of the faculty. The University has equipped me with the skills to meet challenges I encounter along and has also created a strong foundation of knowledge, especially in my field of study. It was at DBU where I decided the career path I wanted to take. This is a place where you can dream and maybe even make them happen, a place of innumerable paths that can help one gain the satisfaction of being a humanitarian. In its lovely Campus, you can attain 'peace of mind' while enjoying its natural, green, well-maintained surroundings. Something I will miss dearly.

I will always reminisce about the early morning fog we experience as winter approaches, the hostel's adorable puppies, and the mischievous monkeys! I will cherish the memories that we made here and the bonds created with special people in these three years. My friends have been a constant source of strength and I will miss the times we spent arguing about some random topic and those times we would plan to visit my home at Khanapara. DBU is a fantastic place to learn. I recommend this University to those who wish to pursue higher education.

Au revoir, DBU!



**Surajkumar Soram**  
BA (Honours) Economics

It was the month of July, the year was 2019, where I came in contact with this heavenly abode. I'll be honest, I didn't come all the way from my home state of Manipur to Assam to be admitted into Don Bosco University due to lack of connections with people and also it was relatively quite a new University at the time. Cotton college was my first choice and also that of my parents. However, failing to get admission into Cotton college, I returned with my uncle, seated in the rear seat, lost all hope and thought of what to do next. That's when my uncle suggested checking out Don Bosco University which is close to where my uncle lives, in Sonapur. Just after entering the University gate, as we took a stroll around the campus, I felt something deep down my spine, a feeling, an emotion, almost like I had died and was in heaven. I have never seen any Campus as mesmerizing and as connected to nature as DBU. I fell in love instantly and I knew I had to study here and nowhere else.

So, I was admitted to the University in the Department of Economics although what I wanted was something else. I had in mind Political Science. However, I still chose to consider Economics, because like I said I was sure I needed to study here and nowhere else, so nothing was going to stop me from studying in DBU. I met some strangers from 6 different states of North East who turned out to be my classmates, it was my first time meeting anyone from a different state. I came to realize they're just as crazy and as wicked as I am and yeah, we 'vibed' and got along quite fast and thus, three years passed in three hours, arguably. I can't bring myself to describe how much fun I've had here, be it in sports or cultural events or music and arts, it is overwhelming. People I met as strangers, very soon became friends, and some ... family.

DBU has not failed to shape me into a better person. I was a timid, (slightly) introverted guy with extreme stage fright. I've gained enough courage to not only speak in front of a crowd but participate in events such as singing, cultural performances, to name a few, which would be impossible for the old me. This place has undoubtedly brought out the best in me, made me a leader, and helped me to grow as an individual, spiritually and socially. I will forever cherish these golden three years deep in my heart, till my last breath. Although I wish it was longer, being short is what makes my college days in DBU much more special. Thank you DBU, for everything.

**Sylvia Tungdim**  
*BA (Honours) Education*

First and foremost, I would like to express my gratitude to all the members of the faculty and staff, my friends and everyone who is a part of DBU. I am glad to have been a part of the DBU family. They have showered me with love, support, and guidance that I needed in the journey.

My experience has been amazing. From the very first day, I felt at home here in Don Bosco University. I have had many opportunities to grow and explore my skills. I have always found the environment here to be positive and healthy. The University imparts holistic education by providing excellent education and encouraging all students to discover themselves through events that it regularly organizes through co-curricular and extracurricular clubs. These events have helped me to be able to connect with people of different cultures and backgrounds.

My classes were great and I enjoyed most, if not all, the lectures. The depth and detail of what we have learnt here is far beyond my school experiences. To be honest, sometimes we felt exhausted and restless when there were so many classes in a day but in the end, I realized, it was all worth it. I have learnt important lessons that will be treasured all the days of my life.

The successful completion of my study could not have been possible without the participation and assistance of so many people. Their contributions are sincerely appreciated and gratefully acknowledged. I thank all the faculty members of the Department of Education, for all the love, care, guidance and support. I thank my friends, relatives and all who have contributed to my success in one way or another. Last but not the least, I express my sincere gratitude to my parents and family members for their faith in me and unwavering support without which I would not have experienced such an amazing journey in my life as part of the Don Bosco University Family.

Congratulations to all my friends and seniors and all the best for your future. To all my friends, juniors and seniors who are still pursuing their dreams at DBU, I wish you the very best for your future.

**Anmol Kumar Sethi**  
*MTech - Civil Engineering*

I consider it an honour to be a graduate of Don Bosco University, a prestigious institution. The days I have spent in this University will always be one of the most memorable years of my academic life.

As I graduate from the University today with flying colours, I express my sincere gratitude to the Department of Civil Engineering, all the respected faculty members of the University and my friends and peers who supported me in every step in this journey. The experiences I shared with my teachers and the support that they showed towards me have always been the biggest sources of motivation.

I thank Dr. Girija TR, Head of the Department, for her continuous support during my journey. I thank my Professor Ankur Goswami, my project supervisor, for inspiring me to strive for the better so that I can achieve bigger things in life. I am also grateful to my friends and batchmates for always being there for me whenever I needed them. All in all, I convey my sincere gratitude to the University for providing its students many platforms to grow and develop our skills to match the industry standards.

To end this message, I affirm that the love and support I received in the last two years is something that I will cherish forever and I will give my best to uphold the name and the glory of Don Bosco University.

Thank you very much for this.





**Larisa Wahlang**  
*Master of Computer Applications*

After a period of three years, my time in Don Bosco University has finally come to a close. My time here has been nothing short of memorable. I recall my first day in the University back in 2019. For a few weeks, I was the only student in the first semester of the Department of Computer Applications. My classmates had only joined a few weeks later. Being the only student in those weeks, I remember being overcome by feelings of fear, nostalgia, and loneliness. However, the faculty ensured that I was comfortable in this new place despite having no classmates (yet). Soon after, more students were admitted to the programme and these feelings slowly faded. I had a great time in the first semester as a student of the University and as a resident of the Ferrando Hall Girls Hostel. The joy and excitement were unfortunately interrupted by the Covid-19 Pandemic and we had to switch to the 'Online' mode of learning.

Despite the challenges in learning the pandemic brought about, I managed to meet beautiful souls, my friends. I consider myself fortunate to be part of this Convocation held on campus unlike the batches of 2020 and 2021 whose Convocation was held 'online'.

I convey my sincere gratitude to Professor Manoranjan Kalita, Director, School of Technology, Dr. Pranab Das, Head, Department of Computer Applications, and all the faculty members of the Department of Computer Applications for their contribution towards my holistic growth and development. I conclude this note with a message to the juniors: Enjoy your time in the University to the fullest!

God bless, DBU!



**Anupa Soren**  
*Master of Commerce*

It was a privilege granted to me to be part of this Institution. Even though it was never in my imagination to pursue my higher education in Northeast India, yet I believe it was my destiny that led me to the portals of DBU. I never thought that my life was going to take such a wonderful turn. I started my journey at Don Bosco University as a student of the master's programme in Commerce (M.Com.) in the year 2020. This was at a time when the world was shrouded with fear brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic. Under the circumstances back then, we were bound to spend the rest of 2020 learning in our own homes through online platforms. Nevertheless, the online learning experience was not too different from on-campus interactions. Our professors were able to teach and uncover the syllabi despite the challenges.

My life at DBU was full of undaunted vigour and enthusiasm that enkindled the spirit of learning. A student who graduates today and stops learning tomorrow is uneducated the day after because, in the words of the Late APJ Abdul Kalam, "learning is a life-long process". To further quote John Heywood, "Rome was not built in a day...but they were laying bricks every hour". These adages kept me going through these years towards achieving excellence and growing in both wisdom and knowledge.

Besides providing me with practical knowledge and skills, DBU has eventually deepened my awareness for our shared humanity particularly through my friends. Arduous efforts and painstaking labour made my presentations, examinations, group studies productive which I will cherish forever. As a representative of my class (CR) for two consecutive years, I was able to discover my hidden talents and gain a spirit of confidence. It was an opportunity for me to be the best in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. I am sure these experiences will contribute to my growth in the future too. My experience in the hostel was wonderful. The warden and his entire team were supportive and I always felt at home. I am grateful for the experience of living together as a family in spite of our varied background.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to my project supervisor and all the Professors of my Department who guided me and helped me complete my project on time. I thank all the teaching and non-teaching staff for their commitment in moulding us into responsible global citizens. I am proud to have been a part of this University. From the depths of my heart, I salute Don Bosco University for imparting knowledge and giving me memories I will treasure forever. I wish all my dearest classmates and fellow graduates a hearty congratulations and all the very best for your future. I wish you all the success, happiness, and blessings in your future endeavour.

## Eleonora Feodore Chullai

*MTech - Electrical and Electronics Engineering*

My journey in the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Assam Don Bosco University began in September 2020. The session commenced in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. Online sessions were regularly conducted and it was fun interacting with my classmates and teachers. Months went on without realizing that it was time for our online first End Semester Examination. Soon after, we were asked to step into the Campus, for the first time, for the Second Semester. I was nervous and excited to meet friends whom I had only met virtually. We had the most wonderful time together during the Second Semester but the pandemic restrictions forced us to return home, making this whole excitement on campus very brief. The second semester continued online and soon it was already time for the Third Semester. Teaching-Learning in the Third Semester onwards was held on Campus. We had the time of our lives from classes, to projects, to different functions, and to top it all, we were part of the exciting moment when our University was accredited with A grade by the NAAC.



As we entered into the final semester, it was time for our final presentation and while we were still busy preparing for it, it dawned on us that it was almost time to say goodbye. We were given a grand farewell by the college and the Christian Fellowship. We had so much fun during these two events - singing out loud, crying our hearts out as we hugged, bidding farewell to each other. The D'Verve 2022 was the most memorable. So much talent around. The preparation for the final day went on for many days, but the presentations seemed to be done within no time because it was so much fun.

I thank God for the opportunity to pursue my M.Tech at DBU. My gratitude goes to my family who have strongly encouraged and motivated me in these two years. Special thanks goes to Rev. Fr. (Dr.) Stephen Mavelly, Vice chancellor; Rev. Fr. Joseph Nellanat, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Professor Manoranjan Kalita, Director, School of Technology and all the faculty and staff of the University for their support. I could not have achieved this if it weren't for my Teachers who were there right from the start. Thank You for taking care of me since the beginning of my journey with you. My words will not be sufficient for the sacrifices you have made for me and all of us, dear teachers. To my friends and classmates, thank you. I had the best time with you. I appreciate each and every person that I had the chance to interact with during my two years at the University.

I wish each and every one of us success. To my juniors who are yet to graduate, I just want you to "Dream big and aim higher, and believe that you can do it and that you can achieve your dreams". Well, here I am signing off officially. This is Eleonora Feodore Chullai Mtech student of the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Don Bosco University, Guwahati. Thank you.

## Atrayee Sarma Baruah

*BSc (Hounours) Chemistry*

2019 was the year I joined Don Bosco University's Bachelor's programme in the Department of Chemistry. At first, I was confused whether I should pursue this subject but through my professors' support and encouragement, I figured it was what I was meant to be doing. The professors and my friends – they are the reason for this achievement. They have supported me throughout these three years of study. Our three years of study were interrupted by the Covid-19 Pandemic. So, we spent a year learning from home, and the remaining two years on Campus. I have many fond memories of these years despite the difficulties we encountered in shifting our learning mode.

One of my fondest memories of the University is its resplendent beauty. It's always a joy entering the main gate. We are greeted by green tea gardens along the way which makes me feel like I am in a different world, one filled with peace and tranquillity. The Campus is blessed with clean and pollution-free air which is something that city folks can only dream of. '

A normal day in the University begins with the morning assembly where members of the faculty, staff and students assemble together to share their thoughts and it ends in the recitation of the morning prayer which serves as a morning affirmation for me. I will definitely miss these early morning gatherings.

The friends I have made in this University have become so important to me. As I think of this friendship, it is an overwhelm-



ing moment for me because we have been through so much together that at this moment, I can't imagine staying apart from them because we have spent so much time together and these past three years with them have been amazing because of them. Our preparation for the final semester examination is especially worth remembering because of how we sat together and studied for the exam while enjoying the taste of raw mangoes from the Campus!

The classrooms are well-equipped for both theory and practical sessions. I will miss my professors and most of all, my mentor and Head of the Department, Dr. Nibedita Kapil. Ma'am Nibedita was always ready to solve any problem or issues I faced. She has seen me at my best and at my worst. She accepted me like I was one of her own. I am thankful to all the Professors: Ma'am Sontara and Ma'am Pallabi for their constant support, Sir Bhaskar and Sir Subhasish for their persistent efforts in moulding me and my classmates as a whole, and Ma'am Lopa who was always there whenever I needed my doubts to be cleared. The laboratory assistants were always ready to help us whenever we needed them. I have grown to become more confident and I have developed skills that I am grateful for.

I am indeed blessed to have been a part of the Department of Chemistry and this University as a whole. Thank you, DBU!



### Rajkumar Dilipkumar Singh

*BSc (Honours) Zoology*

First of all, "Heartiest congratulations to the Class of 2022!". Today, we are proud graduates of Don Bosco University.

My time at DBU was a rollercoaster ride. It was in the month of June, 2019. After I graduated as a high school student, my father was in search of universities and colleges to admit me to for my higher education in Guwahati. To be honest, I had never heard of Don Bosco University prior to joining it, so while my father and I were strolling in the streets of Paltan Bazaar, we came across a banner on the street 'Admissions open. Assam Don Bosco University'. We decided to explore it further. So, the next day, my father and I went to the Tapesia campus to see the University for ourselves and to know more about it. As soon as we entered the gate, I fell in love with the lush green eco-friendly campus and its peaceful environment. It was on that day itself that I enrolled for the

BSc programme in Zoology, and the rest is history.

My first year was kind of a mess since it was my first time studying and staying away from home. It took a while for me to adjust to the teaching environment in my classroom, as a lot of things initially were confusing. It was hard for me to cope with all that this programme had in store for me. I needed my friends for almost everything – shopping; calling a taxi, an Uber; or communicating with the locals – as I was not very fluent in Hindi. However, I soon got the hang of it and I was no longer (completely) dependent on my friends for such communication.

There is a saying, "We don't meet people by accident. There is always a reason, that is, it is either a blessing or a lesson". This holds true in my experience at the University. I have been able to interact with people from various parts of the country, learn with them and from them, through events organized at the University. Although the COVID-19 pandemic cut short a phase of our campus life, nevertheless, the times where we were able to reside on Campus have been memorable.

I will miss the beautiful, lush green Campus; the beautiful scenic view the lakes provide; and the breath-taking landscape view from the top of our Vice Chancellor's residence. I will be missing those times: running towards the basketball court at 5:00PM (sharp, almost) playing with my mates; piling up the classroom chairs and taking a nap on it whenever there are no classes; going out for dinner with my friends at the Highway on Saturdays and Sundays. These little moments will stay with me forever. I am eternally grateful to our teachers, staff, the fathers, the brothers, and the sisters for their kind support. They have directly or indirectly influenced me, helped me overcome many challenges that I faced as a student, and have moulded me into a better person with a wider perspective on life. I am so blessed to have made so many good friends during my stay at the University. They are the ones that add beautiful colours to my youth.

As a proud graduate bidding farewell to this great alma mater, I am very grateful that I have been a part of this University and I am glad that I have made the right choice by choosing to study here. I promise to bring laurels to this great Institution and make the University proud! Adieu, DBU!

## R Lalhmangaihzuali

*BSc (Honours) Mathematics*

The past three years spent at Don Bosco University have been one of the most amazing time of my life. So, let me share a few of my experiences.

First of all, the beautiful campus! Our university has such a beautiful and clean campus and I feel so lucky to have studied here surrounded by a variety of both flora and fauna. Secondly, the faculty and staff of the University are so kind towards the students and are always ready to extend their help whenever we need them and I cannot thank them enough. I am so grateful to have been guided by a team of the most dedicated and hardworking teachers. Their efforts and dedication have made me who I am today. I don't know what I would do without my friends in this University. Whenever I was sad, they always found a way to cheer me up. They are one of the best people I have ever met and I am so grateful to have them in my life. I also have the most caring classmates and I am grateful for them as well. I will miss being in the same classroom with them and playing games with them during the free hours. They are unique in their own ways but sometimes I wished they would be (more) punctual to the class! I enjoyed attending the Department and University programmes. I am amazed to have been surrounded by a talented group of people. I am grateful to the University for allowing us to discover all these talents we have and motivating us to improve ourselves by giving us the platform every chance possible.



I will always remember the fun times in the hostel. I had the most understanding roommates and they have always been there for me. I will miss the times we had together – eating, playing, teasing each other and even the discussion sessions. I am grateful to our wardens who took such good care of us especially when we were unwell.

Don Bosco University has taught us so many things and helped us grow in so many ways. It brings together different people, creates a sense of unity among them, and teaches how to live together, grow together and help and support each other. I am proud to be a graduate of this University. I will always cherish the precious moments I had here.

## Flavia T Sangma

*MSc Chemistry*

Without a shadow of a doubt, I can state that DBU has given me a sense of confidence and provided me with many wonderful opportunities. Every beginning has an end, and each end marks a fresh start. Every element of our existence is governed by a relentless cycle. The voyage that began with reluctant, cautious steps while bearing fear was fun and engaging. It has been a privilege to share in this voyage which has been filled with acknowledgement and many memorable moments.

It takes tremendous joy in sharing my success since joining DBU. As a student of the "Covid-19 batch", as we call it, everything about academics was challenging. Despite all these difficulties the epidemic brought, lessons continued in full force whether they were conducted online or offline or using Google classroom or traditional classroom settings.

These two years spent here in DBU were nothing short of a perfect voyage toward ongoing development and self-discipline and they flew by in a flurry of learning, patience, and delight. The sphere of life, learning, and everything in between, that I was able to find throughout my two years at DBU is something that I will cherish.



I am indebted to my mentor, Dr. Nibedita Kapil, for her unwavering support and encouragement in these two years, especially in my project. Without her direction and advice, I may not have been able to work on a project that many now find appreciable. I express my gratitude to the Vice Chancellor, Rev. Fr. (Dr.) Stephen Mavelly, and the entire fraternity of DBU for all their contributions which have brought me this far. I am grateful to my friends, classmates and hostel mates for being part of my

life. It was in the hostel where I learnt the importance of cooperation and taking responsibility. I also appreciate the efforts of our wardens who treated us like family.

Above all, I thank the Almighty God for his immeasurable blessings and kindness bestowed upon me. I am forever grateful to my parents whose support, hard work, and constant encouragement have helped me grow and develop into the person I am today. I will always find myself smiling softly with tears in my eyes whenever I think back on my time at DBU. So, to sum it all up, it was a remarkable period in my life.



**Puja Dey Sarkar**

*MSc Mathematics*

It was love at first sight. I fell in love with the University campus the moment I stepped inside its campus. I always prayed to God that I would be admitted to a prestigious university and the moment I entered the Campus, I knew my prayer was answered.

It feels a bit cliché, but ‘gratitude’ is the word that best describes my feeling as I pen down my thoughts. I cannot be more grateful to my God, my friends, my teachers and everyone I met in DBU for making my memories worthwhile.

DBU is a hub of diverse people from various parts of the country coming together to learn with and from each other. In fact, when I was asked to write this article, I immediately thought of the friends I made here, friends who will remain close to my heart for my entire lifetime. There is so much DBU has to offer, we just need the right people with us, and I must say, I was surrounded by the best people and I learnt an umpteen number of things from each one of them.

It was a place where I discovered and rediscovered myself because of the many opportunities it offers. I am blessed to have met people who believed in me and encouraged me to grab those opportunities to explore my weaknesses and strengths, to identify them and to mould and shape them to my own advantage.

If there is one thing that I hate about DBU, it is definitely that uphill road leading towards my hostel, especially after a long day! The complaint would last only for a moment during the climb because the moment we reached the hostel, we would be greeted by smiling faces - our wardens who were always very kind, loving, and welcoming.

Academically, I have always loved mathematics since I was a kid but as I graduated to higher classes, the subject became more and more difficult that I eventually lost interest in it. Thankfully, I did not give up but gave this problematic relationship with mathematics another chance at DBU where I was able to reignite my interest in the subject. I began to enjoy the subject (again). That is something I believe only great teachers are capable of doing and I am really thankful to have been mentored by such great teachers.

Our University motto ‘Carpe Diem’ has taught me the importance and advantage of seizing opportunities. As I cherish all the beautiful memories I have made in DBU, I will also continue to live by this motto.

To all my fellow Bosconians, as you live the best of your life, remember, ‘Carpe Diem’!



**Sabita Dalu**

*MSc Microbiology*

My life in DBU has been amazing and I have a truck load of memories! Owing to the Pandemic, our classes began virtually in the online mode. When the time came for us to finally join the campus for our regular contact classes, I never ceased to be astounded by the beauty of the Campus.

I identify myself as an introvert, so I am not someone who can connect with just anyone. However, I managed to build a special bond with two wonderful souls, Shiphrah Bhengra and Deepom Deori. We have made many memories together which are not only limited within the four walls of our classrooms. There were many funny incidents,



as I recall, in the laboratories, canteen, bus stop, and the rotunda. I was also surrounded by many others who have also contributed to my growth throughout this journey.

I thank my teachers for being supportive and always encouraging me and the entire batch. A special mention for my mentor Dr. Nazneen Hussain, who has been an exceptional supervisor and a confidante. I have learnt immensely from her despite the episodes of reprimand. I wish you the very best, Professor Hussain. What I am today is because of the sacrifice of my parents. They have ensured that I receive the best education. You deserve all the love and I hope you are proud of me just as I am very proud of you.

Finally, cheers to all the ones who have always pushed through and through especially when I was tempted to procrastinate. I hope I have made you proud.

Thank you DBU for everything and adding such a beautiful chapter to my life. I'll cherish it forever.

## Sohini Saha

*MSc Biotechnology*

*"Why Don Bosco University?"*

*"Why Assam?"*

When people learned that I had travelled from Kolkata to Assam to continue my post-graduate studies at Don Bosco University, these were the questions that they had asked me. My sole response to them was that I had made the finest choice in selecting DBU and that it was an honour for me to study at such a prominent institution. My experience at DBU was nothing short of poetic. It seemed like a fantastic world studying in the hills amidst the verdant stretches of tea gardens.

Living on campus in a dorm actually made it possible to fully experience university life. It was always a "busy" day for hostel residents, with activities like midnight birthday celebrations, group study sessions the night before examinations, and late-night work on preparations for various university programmes. The diversity of people in the campus, though, was what made it the most intriguing. I was able to comprehend and appreciate the immense cultural diversity that exists in North East India and India in general through interactions with individuals from various states, tribes, and communities. It's crucial to acknowledge DBU's inclusivity when discussing diversity. From having different options for cuisines to celebrating festivals together to arranging pride marches, DBU is a safe haven for students from different states, race, tribes, communities, orientation, and gender.

Thus, it should come as no surprise that my two years at DBU have been a journey of self-discovery and have made a significant contribution to my development as a person. It was a risky move to pursue a postgraduate degree in Biotechnology after having received a degree in Chemistry for my undergraduate study. In fact, it may not have been possible without the constant support of the Department of Bioscience of the University. Looking back, my professors and fellow classmates may have made the greatest contributions to my development. I am very appreciative to have had the opportunity to learn from Sr. (Dr.) Shiny C. Thomas, Dr. Probin Phanjom, Dr. Supriyo Sen, Dr. Jayanti Dutta Roy, Dr. Vedant Vikrom Borah, Dr. Nazneen Hussain, Dr. Maitrayee D. Swargiary, and Dr. Monika Soni, who personally took on the challenge of moulding and reshaping us from students to competent professionals. From not being able to use a micropipette in the first semester to completing my dissertation work in the fourth semester on my own, I will always value how the Department has always encouraged us to never be ashamed of learning. It was also in those laboratories and classrooms, that I have learnt the art of voicing my own opinions and making myself visible amidst everybody.

So, as my time at DBU comes to an end, I am incredibly appreciative of the people I have met here and the experiences they have given me. The knowledge I have gained from this experience and the traits I have developed along the road will always be a part of me.





**Zenithka Chanam**

*MSc Botany*

First and foremost, congratulations to the class of 2022. Let us take pride in how far we have come, and be grateful for all the sleepless nights, battling procrastination, last-minute coverage of certain topics for the next day’s exam, surrendering series and movies in times of examinations, presentations, intense dissertation work and all that we had sacrificed.

My two-year course of study taught me several things, but two of the most important things I learnt are to “enjoy the process and believe in the process” and to “surround yourself with good company”. Here’s why I consider myself lucky.

About two years ago, I wasn’t even certain that I would be pursuing a Postgraduate degree. With doubts and confusions, I attended my online classes alongside 37 of my batchmates. Despite the fact that the classes were online, I gradually grew to appreciate the classroom atmosphere because our teachers worked really hard to get the students involved. With God’s grace, pandemic’s restrictions were lifted and we were able to resume our regular offline classes. My first day at the campus was emotionally crushed when I was involved in an accident with my father and aunt near my hostel area. I used to often think that coming to DBU was a mistake, a judgment made so early. But when I started living my hostel life, I had by far one of the best moments of my life, I would say. I encountered the most wonderful group of people that would support one another in times of adversity, sorrow, and even tolerating faults. Academically, we were also always there for each other, studying together, decoding problems together, preparing and rehearsing for seminar talks and so on. And for most tests, we would undertake group study, which was quite beneficial for us. I believe that by the end of our course, we had instinctively turned ourselves into better beings.

Two years before I was a bit lost, vague, and inarticulate but life in DBU, though brief, helped me develop my personality, build self-confidence in my work, and believe in myself. I owe what I am today to my dear friends for not letting me go through this journey alone, my teachers for constantly being there for us to clear our doubts and bring out the best in us, my parents and entire family for all the blessings they have showered on me and their unending support. Last but not least, I want to praise and appreciate God for all the blessings I have received.



**Sukumari Chakma**

*MA English*

I remember an incident that took place several years ago. It feels as though it happened just yesterday. I was in the seventh standard, and we were just learning how to write sentences using past, present, and future tense, and converting active voice into passive voice; my favourite teacher had the entire class applaud for me when I scored full marks for the third time in our grammar assessment. It was that day that I realised that the reason I did well in English, be it in grammar tests or essay writing competitions, was because I enjoyed listening to the lectures delivered by my English teachers; the stories that they narrated existed on paper but they would live within my mind, where they felt as real as though I had witnessed the stories myself. I knew that English was the subject I would choose to continue my further studies in.

During my Bachelors, this dream of mine became a reality, and there I learned just what it takes to understand how the process of writing works. However, for a naïve and immature young girl, there were a series of distractions and uncertainties. I spent my entire time during my undergraduate studies attending barely any classes. I was eager to learn but not eager enough to put in the effort that it demanded.

When I completed the degree and was stuck in my hometown for a year due to the pandemic, I was finally ready and excited to put in the effort. I had the epiphany that it’s a blessing to have new things to learn rather than have nothing productive to do all day. I applied for Post graduate studies in three universities, I was accepted into two of them but I had my mind set on Don Bosco University, Assan. Due to my low grades, I was kept waiting for two months. The day I finally got accepted into the university, I made a promise to myself that this time it was going to be different; this time I was going to give my best. Luckily enough, DBU gave me all that I had hoped for and even more. Amidst all the online and offline classes, I found myself craving for new knowledge and experiences.

As my journey in DBU comes to an end, I am grateful for all that I learned here. The University provided me with the best faculty who were extremely hardworking, friendly, interactive, and sheerly devoted to their jobs. It was their passion for the subject that made me want to learn more and do good in my studies. I was also surrounded by the best classmates who added nothing but positivity to my life. The library and its staff also deserve a shoutout for providing the space I needed to keep me sane and help me go on when days were hectic and overwhelming. Lastly, if it weren't for my parents who believed in me even at my lowest, I wouldn't have had the chance to study in a University that shaped me into the person that I am today. Second chances are important, DBU gave me mine, and for that, I am truly grateful!

## Sagarika Chowdhury

### *MA Mass Communication*

How do I sum up my amazing time here in a limited number of words?

Let me begin by testifying that the two years at Don Bosco University have transformed my life! Learning to do things properly and carefully (once more) was a great lesson, a lesson that I will absolutely never forget. Not everything that we learn can be remembered but there are some things, some lessons that just do not fade away from your memory. To be surrounded by people who were so kind, friendly, and helpful was a blessing to me and I feel lucky to have spent my time at DBU with them. These two years have moulded me into a persevering human being, perseverant in my studies and in all my relationships.

Although the last two years have been challenging and difficult owing to the Covid-19 Pandemic, yet I enjoyed both 'online' and offline classes! I still remember the first day of my class (ONLINE). The professors were so welcoming and friendly and tried their utmost in delivering the best to us.

Despite the advantages of these online classes, predominantly for a student, I looked forward to having regular classes on Campus. I believe these on-campus classes were beneficial to our growth as individuals. Of all the teachers I have had, the professors at DBU are the coolest! They impart lessons not just from textbooks but life lessons. We were, and still are, more of a family than a Department. I will miss all of them dearly.

At first, it was not an easy task for me to connect with my classmates so creating a bond with all of them was definitely not easy. But with time, everything worked out for all of us as a family. I also spent most of my leisure time with my juniors and my friends from other departments. Everyone has impacted my life in their own way and there are few special people who have touched my life in a very profound manner. These people were like my survival kit at the University. They have made my days at the University the most memorable ones. From crying to laughing together, from sharing horror stories to personal problems. Now that my time at the University has come to an end, trust me when I say this, I will always miss my University friends. The memories ... I will always cherish it forever.

About the programme that I chose to study, well, it has always been my dream to study Mass Communication. When I decided to pursue this course, at that moment, every dream of mine was shattered (a little dramatic, right? I know!). But let me tell you, because of some circumstances, for my undergraduate study I had to study Business Administration. I did well in that programme as well but I wanted something else. So, by God's grace and with my parents' support I enrolled in the Masters programme in Mass Communication here at DBU. It now seems like everything is coming into place. I will continue to make my parents proud and to fulfil my dreams (buying my dream sports car and a house on my own).

Thank you to my classmates and friends who turned these crazy years into a great one, and made those chaotic phases a lot easier to experience. I thank all the members of the Faculty and Staff for their kindness and help. A BIG thank you to mom and dad for their endless support, and thanks to my sister for her support as well. I can now say, I have successfully finished the degree with flying colours. Finally, thank you DBU for letting me be a part of your family!



## Romero Luciano D'Souza

*MA Education*

The purpose of life is to live a life of purpose and this comes only by living life to the fullest. 2020-22 has evoked this sense in me looking at the world during the pandemic era with the so-called online and offline university life. To me, life is a never-ending journey, and in this journey, I am blessed and grateful to have come across the DBU family for giving me wings to grow into an 'intellectually competent, morally upright, socially committed, spiritually inspired and civically responsible in the quest for professionalism and service to humanity as dependable nation builders and global citizens'. It has indeed fostered such a cheerful, healthy, friendly, and welcoming environment that promotes students' holistic growth and development. An abode of education is an abode of God when you realize the respect and love given to you in the place imparting this education. Thanks be to God and to DBU for this gift and blessing bestowed upon me.



I owe my sincere gratitude to Rev. Fr. (Dr.) Stephen Mavelly, Vice Chancellor of the University for always encouraging us, as students, to live and abide by the motto of the University *Carpe Diem!* and to the Salesians of Don Bosco of the North East province and Mumbai province for their constant care and support; to Dr. Riju Sharma (Director, School of Humanities and Social Sciences) for her positive presence and for always giving me the space and freedom, and granting me the permissions I needed to pursue projects.

I am extremely grateful to Dr. Tania Sur Roy (Head, Department of Education), a friendly and kind person, for giving me the freedom to live my creativity; and all the faculty members of the Department of Education, Prof. K. C. Kapoor, Dr. Bonnie Amonge Crerar, Dr. Ranjita Chanda, Dr. Agnes Humstoe, Ms. Ritu Sarkar, and Dr. Zacharias Tirkey, for their valuable advice, guidance, and encouragement. I am also grateful to my batchmates and the students of the Department for their constant support and friendly gestures in all academic initiatives and intellectual endeavours. I extend my gratitude to the administration, non-teaching staff and the entire DBU fraternity. I will always be grateful to Rev. Fr. Narendra Lakra (Superintendent of the Hostels) and Rev. Fr. Abraham Kanattu (Hostel Warden) and my roommates and other companions at the hostel because of whom Hostel life was fun and will always bring a smile upon my face. I am thankful to my parents, family, and friends for always being there for me.

If at all I could accomplish and achieve, take initiatives and be part of curricular, co-curricular and extra co-curricular activities, it is only because of all the above-mentioned persons. The learnings will forever be fondly etched in my mind – life is broken yet beautiful, life is muddy and messy yet endearing, life is challenging yet cheerful, life is a struggle yet satisfying.

DBU continues to inspire me to go forth and endure in my journey with these words, "Live by example, live to inspire, live as a legend, leave a legacy for the best, for the future". With a positive attitude and passionate heart, with humility and kindness, with optimism and convictions, anyone and everyone can achieve this.

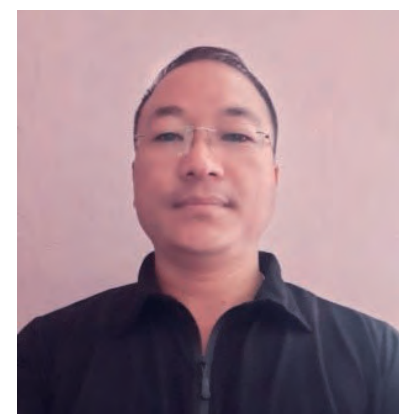
## Gwayhunlo Khing

*Master of Social Work*

Don Bosco University, Guwahati, is an institution where knowledge meets humanity. One of the most surprising factors in human life is the emergence of new knowledge daily. This has inspired the young and old to venture out into different unknown worlds. One such world is the educational world at DBU.

I chose DBU for various reasons. The distinguishing mark of the University is its quality. This has attracted students from across the country to be part of the University either as students or as members of the faculty and staff. The green campus adds to the joy of living in the campus which strongly advocates for sustainability by ensuring that we achieve the UNSDG goals.

To be part of the University as a student of Social Work is something to be cherished. The Department of Social Work has a team of committed faculty with students from



different cultural backgrounds. Learning various aspects of life through books, interactions, discussions, presentations, field-work, and service-learning made my life even more adaptable to the new environment. The well-furnished combination of theories and practice of the Department gave a refined touch to my life. I was not just a mere student or a learner but rather I was transformed into an engaged student. I gave my best in all the activities I had participated in which contributed to growth, both personally as well as the Department. I strongly believe that there can be no real learning unless the best self is activated. The positive thrust kept me going. It has shaped my attitude towards the broader vision of life.

My greatest appreciation is to Rev. Fr. (Dr.) Stephen Mavelly, the Vice-Chancellor, for his efforts in maintaining an eco-friendly environment in the Campus. There is a purpose behind this green campus. The green synergetic mind must emerge from the green campus. I have always appreciated his love for nature. The green lawns, the green shrubs, the evergreen trees, and the variety of birds and animals on the campus add to the joy of belonging to DBU. The chirping of the birds, the monkeys on the trees, the elephants taking an evening stroll, made life even more memorable.

Life is not just about studies. It is more about continuously educating the mind and the heart. This is possible when we give the best of ourselves in all our endeavours. Books may get torn, and uniforms may wear out, but the values we receive through them will last forever.

Long live DBU! "Learn to live and live to learn because you never know what you know."

Knowledge is ever changing."

## Roger Paul

*Master of Business Administration*

Our College gave us precious memories that are truly priceless. The day when I first walked into the College premises is still fresh and new in my mind. It was at a time when life was hit by the Covid-19 pandemic. Little did I realize that those were the best days of my life.

Friendships and social interactions are one of the best aspects of College life. I never imagined that I would not only build friendship but a bond of brotherhood for many years to come. I will miss those crazy times - playing in the grounds, chilling in the canteen, chatting in the corridors, the midnight jamming sessions, and those memorable trips we had together. There are innumerable such moments which I will cherish for the rest of my life. There is a belief which I think you all will agree with. This belief is that friendship formed during childhood is certainly the strongest but I must add that College friendships are truly unbreakable.

Dear professors, what we are today is because of you. Our teachers have provided numerous opportunities for us to grow intellectually, build dreams and nurture those dreams so that we become great human beings. This is a manifestation of the unconditional love our teachers have for us. The knowledge they have imparted to us will always be one of the most valuable things in our lives. This knowledge that our professors have shared with us will be in our arsenal for the life ahead of us.

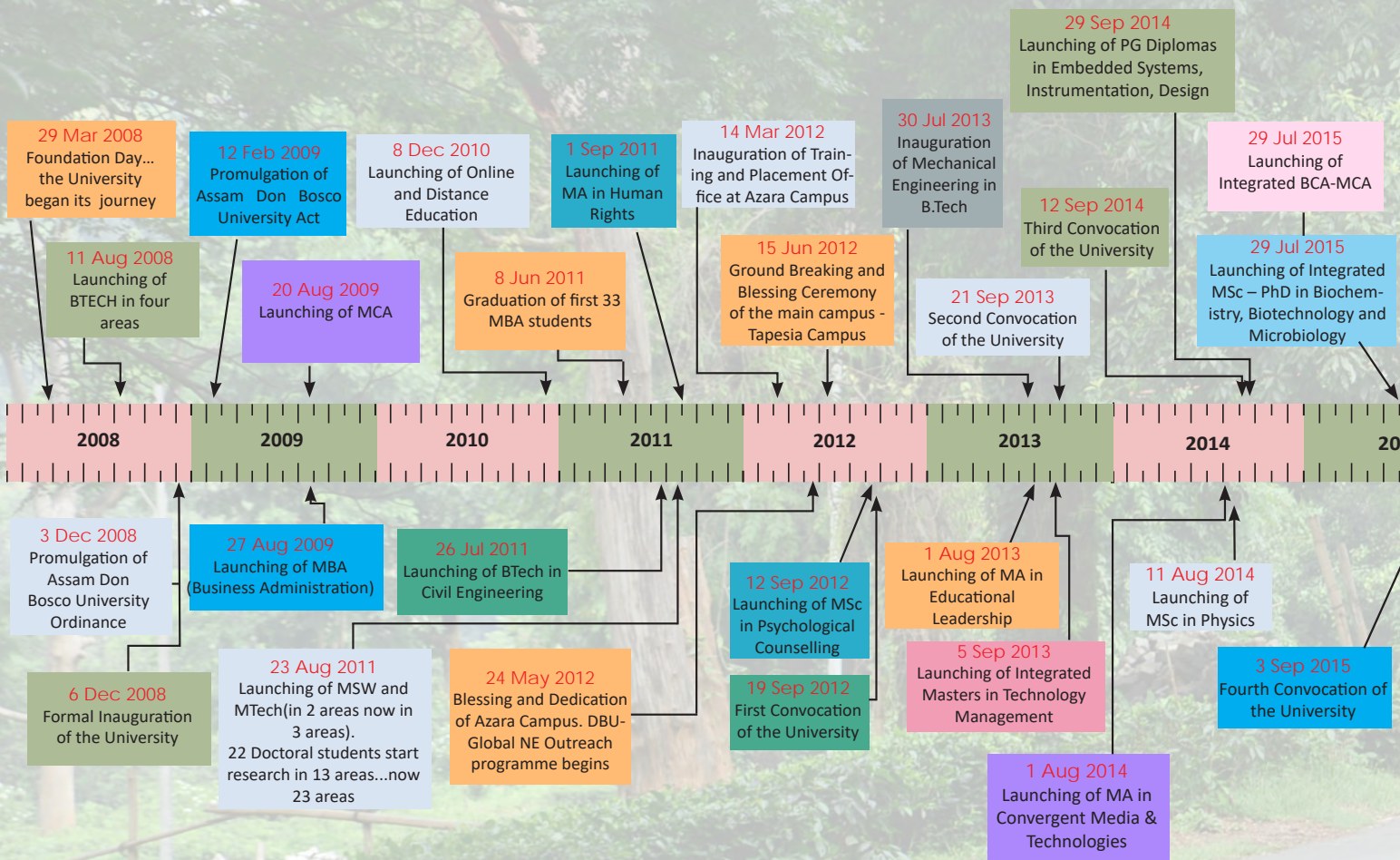
I will forever remember the life lessons of our respected Director, Fr. P.D. John and all the teachers who instilled in us so much confidence that we can readily take on any challenge. Once again, I thank everyone including the faculty, administration, and my fellow classmates and friends for their unwavering support and kindness. On this special day, I am sure we are all overwhelmed about the good old days we spent at DBU. We are anxious about what will be our next step and what awaits us. I wish you all a very successful life ahead and once again thank you all!

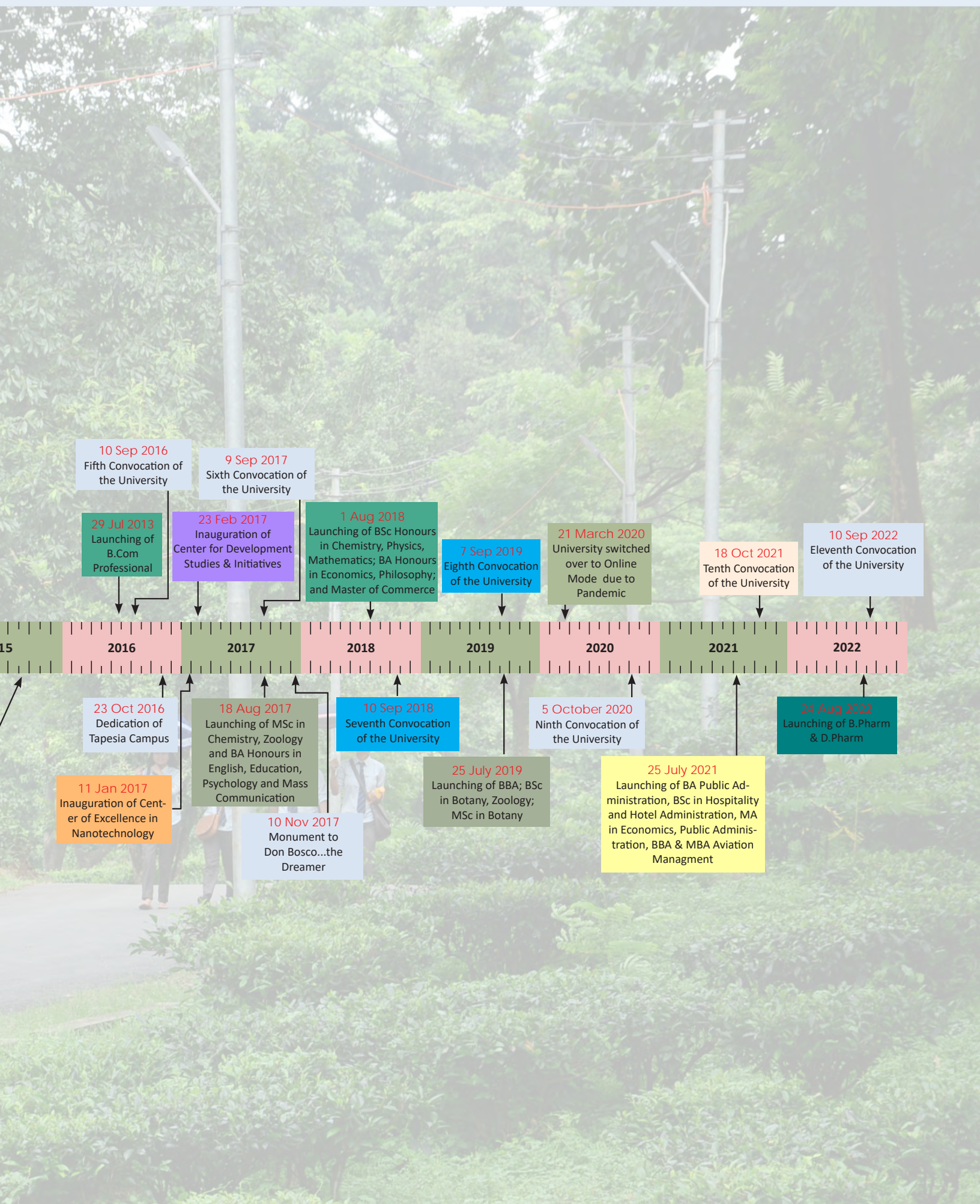
*"As strangers we met but as brothers we will depart."*

This is Roger Paul signing off.



## Journeying in hope... a timeline of the University





May Grace and Resilience  
Light your path!

*J. Stephen*

Make a difference  
wherever you are.

*Johns*

"Everyday try to  
become the best  
version of yourself:  
kiss you all the  
very best for today  
& forever."

*Alpana Choudhury*

I hope it's a mutual feeling that  
we had a great time together → Best  
of luck for your future.

*Polakshi Bhattacharya*

Wishing you all the best for  
your CAREER. May God bless you.

*Buljit Buragohain*

Congratulations -  
the sky is your limit!

Fly high!

*Dr. Probin Phanjom*

Best wishes for your  
New life Opportunities.

*Arun Bhard.*

Dear Students

Wishing you the Best  
as you step into the  
next phase of your life  
Dream Big and keep  
your 'Spurs High'

*Dharma*

Best wishes,  
Spread happiness wherever you go...

*Arun*

Congratulations on graduating,  
I wish you happiness and success in  
your life. May God be with you always.

Wish you all the very  
best for your future. Keep shining

*Samrat*

Work hard  
because you  
have a dream.

Best wishes

*Dr. Nibedita Kapil*

Heartiest congratulations to all the  
graduated students. I wish you  
a very happy and successful  
life ahead.

*Arjun*

Hard Work is the Key to Success

*Arjun*