



PATHWAYS TO FUTURE an industry-academia interaction



The Training and Placement Cell of the College organized an 'Industry Academia Interaction' on 10 April, 2010. The programme was aimed at putting forward the present scenario of the IT industry and to make the students acquainted with the methods of recruiters in this sector.

Dr. Jaydip Sen, Senior Scientist, Innovation Labs, Tata Consultancy Service (TCS), Kolkata was the resource person. He started off the session pointing out one of the important essentials required to succeed in life: to be a good human being who is so-

cially committed and possessing adequate moral values. He emphasized that one needs to be a good human being before he/she embarks on the journey of seeking lucrative jobs, and preparing for it by attending to mastering the core academic curriculum.

He spoke about IT industries, their working strategies and their recruitment policies, and more especially about the expectations of industry from the freshers' of an Engineering College. He also stressed on the importance of 'C' language and its pivotal role in IT field; and emphasized that in order to get recruited in companies like TCS, Wipro, etc., a student must have a good mastery of 'C' language, together with competency in two or three other programming

languages and good soft skills. To get into innovative fields, he underlined, core engineering knowledge plays a major role. He advised the students not to get carried away by IT jobs alone. To have a satisfying career, he advised the students to focus on fields that excite them, and for which they have a passion.

He also urged the students to go beyond their curriculum and to keep themselves abreast with advanced topics from the internet and other sources. During the student interaction session, Dr. Sen answered the queries put forward by the students and suggested ways and means to realize their dream of working with the IT giants.

**Subir Paul, MCA
DBCET**



Collaborations and Exchange Programmes



The Vice Chancellor, Fr Stephen Mavely, was away on a visit to the States in the month of May, with a view to firming up on possible collaborations with a number of universities that had expressed interest in doing so. Here is a report:

- De Sales University, run by the Oblates of St Francis de Sales, located at Center Valley in Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, shares the same spirit and vision as the Salesians of Don Bosco. Their website (www.desales.edu/) states, "At DeSales University, you'll find a positive approach to life. May be it's the friendly, unpretentious nature of our students, faculty, and staff, or the upbeat spiritual perspective of the Oblates of Saint Francis de Sales, who have shaped the University and its character. May be it's because of our great academic programs, the personal atmosphere of our small suburban campus in Pennsylvania's scenic Lehigh Valley, and our supportive learning environment. At any rate, there's a remarkable experience to be found at DeSales University". Fr Stephen spent two days at the university looking at the programmes of study offered by the university and interacting with the President and Heads of various academic programmes. The President of the University, Fr Bernard F. O'Connor, will be visiting our University in March 2011 to carry forward the discussion.



Fr. Stephen Mavely with Fr Bernard F. O'Connor and Dr. Ashoke Dutta, Director, IIM, Shillong

- Drexel University, Drexel University is a private co-educational university located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States. It was founded in 1891 by Anthony J. Drexel, a noted financier and philanthropist. Drexel is composed of nine colleges, including the College of Information Science and Technology and the College of Arts and Sciences; and the Drexel University College of Engineering, for which Drexel is perhaps best-known. The Goodwin College of Professional Studies - full-time programs include Sport Management, Culinary Arts, and Applied Engineering Technology. The Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts and Design houses Design and Merchandising, Graphic Design, Interior Design, Digital Media, Architecture, Fashion Design, Photography, Visual Studies, Performing Arts, Music Industry, Entertainment and Arts Management,



Film and Video, Screenwriting and Playwriting, and Dance.

Fr Stephen spent one day at Drexel University looking at their schools in management and performing arts, and interacted with several Chairs of Departments. Prof Douglas Michele Turco from the School of Management will be visiting our university in July 2010 to look at possible areas of collaboration or exchange.

- Salve Regina University at Newport, Rhode Island, USA, is a co-educational university owned and managed by the Mercy Sisters of America. They have strong programmes in Nursing and Teacher Education as well as an eminent Campus Ministry Programme. We intend to collaborate with them when our own departments of Teacher Education and Nursing start off.



- Brown University at Providence in Rhode Island, USA, is one among the Ivy League Universities of America. Professors involved in Anthropology and Cultural Studies are keen to link up with our university for study, research and exchange programmes as our study programmes in these disciplines take off at the main campus.

He also met with Fr Mark Hyde, the Director of Salesian Missions at New Rochelle and explored ways of finding sponsors, agencies and foundations that could be approached for fund-raising.

DBU Delegation Meets Governor of Assam



Fr. Stephen Mavelly, Vice-Chancellor of DBU along with Fr. Joseph Nellanatt, Prof Basil Koikara and Prof Manoranjan Kalita met with the Governor, His Excellency, Janaki Ballabh Patnaik at the Raj Bhavan in Guwahati, on 18 June 2010.

The Governor is ex officio, the Visitor to the University - the top official in the hierarchy of the University. The occasion offered a wonderful chance to brief the Governor about Don Bosco University, and its present and future developmental plans. The

meeting that lasted for 45 minutes had an informal tone and discussions were held on varied subjects. His Excellency consented to come as the Chief Guest at the inaugural function of the next academic year at DBCET, Azara on 27 July 2010.

From Events Diary



Governing Body Meeting of DBU

The Board of Management of the University met on 10 May; and the Governing Body of the University met on 16 June 2010 at its temporary Headquarters at Azara to discuss a variety of issues concerning the growth, development and administration of the University.

Health Check-ups

It has been said that health care is vital to all of us some of the time, but community health is vital to all of us all the time. Considering the importance of 'health care' for all, the College has introduced a health care service in collaboration with the NGO, 'Society for Promotion of Health and Lifestyle Consultancy'.



The agency conducted its first annual medical checkup of the students and inaugurated the maintenance of the health records of each student on 7 May, 2010.

As part of the health care programme, an experienced Nurse is on duty at the college everyday with an ambulance in attendance for emergencies.

Updates from the Training and Placement Cell, DBCET

In our drive to find pathways to future, the stage is now set for the IV semester students of B. Tech courses to undergo summer training/internship in various organizations. The Training and Placement Cell (TPC) of the College has initiated summer training programmes for the IV Semester students in Assam State Electricity Board, LG Electronics, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd., North-East Institute of Science and Technology, ONGC, OIL India Ltd., IOCL, Doordarshan Kendra, NF Railway's Signal & Telecom Division, IT Division and Electrical Division, AMTRON, Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd., Bongaigoan Refinery Pvt. Ltd. Etc.



Even though summer training is not mandatory in the IV semester, the TPC's initiative has resulted in successfully placing over seventy students for internships at various organizations.

Many of the organizations have acknowledged that they don't entertain IV semester students as per their norms and informed that the students who want to pursue summer training must have at least completed his/her VI semester.

The TPC also persuaded NIIT, Guwahati to assign individual and group IT projects to students during this summer vacation. It has also initiated steps with AMTRON, National Power Training Institute, NIIT, IBM, RedHat etc. for the training and certification programs in the coming years.

Mr. Pijush Chandra Das, TPC Officer

Counselling - Follow up Programme



A follow up programme in counselling was held on 6 April, 2010 for the faculty of DBCET by Fr. George Palamattathil, sdb. The members were called to share their experience in dealing with the students and review the methods they used in counselling students. Fr. George appreciated the genuine interest of the faculty and made suggestions to further improve their counselling skills to help and guide the students.

Social Commitment ... *a way forward*

Considering the importance of orienting students to social commitment, one of the key building blocks of education today, the College organised a study session with Fr. Jerry Thomas sdb, Director of Bosco Institute, Jorhat and Mr. Joseph, Lecturer, MSW, Bosco Institute, Jorhat, on 20-22 April, 2010. The interactive sessions on all three days with the students in different



groups, opened up a way forward to plan a series of social commitment programmes. Signing up for an issue and clarifying each other's perspective on the issue, gathering relevant information of the issue, selecting an area or locality, getting to know the people and the place, and making action plan together with them, fund raising and sorting out the ways of implementing the project etc. were some of the steps touched upon during the sessions.

To get the project done, the students were encouraged to take up responsibilities, organize events to

raise funds such as fetes, melas, exhibitions and get public figures to endorse events, find sponsors and approach the government departments. There were also suggestions to organize activities in the community and also in the campus to raise awareness among other students and get in touch with organizations and groups engaged in similar work to learn from their experiences.

Exhibitions, seminars, organizing interactions between students, community people, civil authorities, social activists, experts etc. were picked out to be some of the activi-

ties in the campus. The students were also advised to run web campaigns, using blogs, cartoons to highlight the issues, writing in the newspapers and magazines, using theatre, music, art, etc. to educate the community and others about social issues.

To make the activities meaningful and to draw lessons for themselves, they were told of the importance

of meeting together to reflect on their involvement at the end of each activity.

Clarifying the objectives of the programme, Fr. Jerry stated that at the end of whatever the students do, those involved (students, people, teachers), should feel more confident and more empowered, and that leadership should be promoted. He also said that the students should get a firsthand experience of the life of ordinary and poor people, and as far as possible they should be encouraged to seek consensus decision making.

**Jyotirupa Pathak,
IV Semester, DBCET**





DBCET Students to NEHU for Workshop on Robotics



The Students of DBCET participated in a workshop on Robotics at NEHU, Shillong on 1-2 May, 2010. The programme was conducted by Robosapiens, India, in collaboration with the Institute of Technology, Benares Hindu University. 26 students from DBCET, accompanied by

four faculty members, attended the programme.

This exposure offered the students the opportunity to learn the application of electronics as well as computer programming in Robotics. The use of 'embedded C' was something new that fascinated the partici-

pants. They were also taught about the applications of microcontrollers. The workshop was an eye-opener for them to learn the importance of practical applications which is very essential for engineers.

Avinash Gogoi & Co.
DBCET

Ms. S. Nissi Paul from the department of Computer Science and Information Technology, DBCET, Azara, received the best paper award among the fifty seven papers presented at the first National Conference on 'Emerging Trends and Applications in Computer Science (NC-ETACS)' held on 9- 10 April, 2010 at St. Anthony's College, Shillong. Her paper on 'Security Implications of Pervasive Computing' aimed at highlighting various threats to security and suggested a possible strategy which could be used as model-based approach to enhance security in pervasive computing environments.

The two days' presentations covered a vast area of subjects such as Adhoc Networks, Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning, Bio-informatics, Cloud computing, Data mining & Data Warehousing, Distributed Systems, Embedded Systems, Green Computing, Image Processing & Bio Metrics, Nanotechnology, Network Security, Neural Networks, Neural Networks & Fuzzy Logic, Parallel & Grid Computing, Pervasive Comput-

Nissi Paul of DBCET Receives the Best Paper Award at a National Conference, Shillong



ing, Quantum Computing, Speech Recognition and Open Source Saga.

In view of the fast pace of development and progress of the subject with applications in all spheres of life, the conference was a signifi-

cant step to find solutions for needs of the times. It provided a National Level arena for exchange and discussion of research ideas in emerging trends and applications in the areas of computing.

Researchers, academicians, professionals, engineers and students from all over the country participated in the conference. The presence of resource persons from the IITs, TCS, CISCO, and various Universities made it a life time experience.



Motivational Programme

Accompanied by the Rector, Fr. V.M. Thomas, the students of DBIM had a three-day programme at Siloam, Meghalaya from 30 April to 2 May 2010.

The purpose of the programme was to train and instruct the stu-

dents who were about to start their summer internships in various organizations.

The students had sessions on different topics by Fr. VM Thomas, Fr. George Palamattathil and Faculty members. They also visited

a number of places in Meghalaya and were encouraged to see the several initiatives taken by the Salesians and other Church Bodies in the field of education and social welfare.

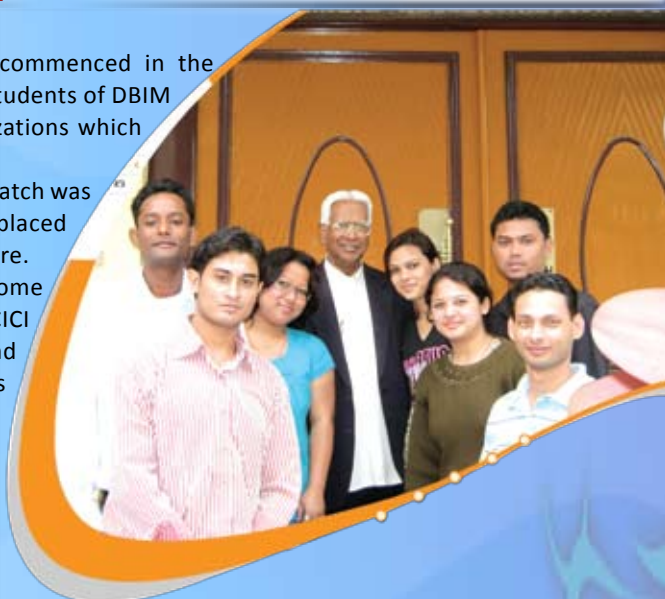
Summer Internships for MBA Students

The summer internship of DBIM Students commenced in the month of May ending on 27 June, 2010. All the students of DBIM were able to gain placements at various organizations which helped them get gain valuable experiences.

The Summer Internships process for the new batch was an instant success with all the students getting placed within one month, starting from the Career Centre.

They were offered a good set of projects in some reputed organizations like HSBC, AMUL, GNRC, ICICI Pru, RGVN, Orchid, IOC, OIL and many more. And the interesting part was that there no students left over to send to companies like AVIVA, Pepsi Co. , HCL etc. which were also eager to recruit the students of DBIM.

Mr. Amlan Dutta, DBIM



DBCET Releases its First Magazine, 'Creazone'



The first College Magazine, 'Creazone' was released on 25 June 2010 during a small get-together at the College auditorium. Fr. Stephen Mavely, Rector addressed the assembly and acknowledged the joint effort of

the Faculty Editor, Mr. P. Joseph and Student Editor, Arpit Das and the team. He also made a special mention of the contributions made by Prof Basil Koikara, Mr. Rahul Regmi and Sr. Shiji James and called on Mr. Rahul Regmi, the Graphic Designer, to release the Magazine and present the first Copy to the Editor.

Prospects for Entrepreneurship Development

A two-day National Seminar on "Industrialization in Assam: It's Problems and Prospects", held at Lalit Chandra Bharali College, Guwahati, on 7-8 May 2010 provided an opportunity for Mr. Biju Mani Das, Lecturer, DBCET to present his paper on "Prospects of Entrepreneurship Development in Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Sector in Assam".

Mr. Biju dealt with the problem of unemployment in the state of Assam and the need of encouraging self-employment through entrepreneurship. He stated that Assam is a state with

abundant and valuable human and natural resources, but that a number of reasons kept the State lagging behind in the line of development and prosperity. This was because of the underutilization of its resources. At present there is a total of 22 lakhs registered unemployed educated youth and 5-7 lakhs unregistered unemployed educated youth in Assam. In this perspective, the only means to reduce the unemployment problem is self-employment through entrepreneurship. But the youth are not interested to involve themselves in the field of entrepreneurship and thus

the number unemployed educated youth keep on growing. He emphasized the need for creating awareness

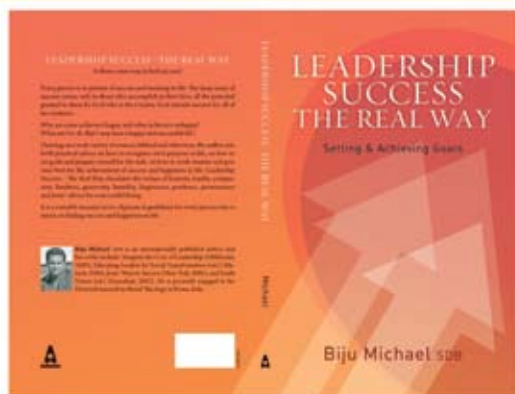
among the new generations about the importance of entrepreneurship and suggested to incorporate some subjects and courses on entrepreneurship in the schools, colleges and universities that would help to generate interest in seeking self employment.



Leadership Success the Real Way

The newly released book, "Leadership Success the Real Way" by Fr. Biju Michael SDB (former Vice-Principal of Don Bosco Junior College, Azara) offers the reader a wide variety of ways and means to reach one's goal and a sure path to success. The book is made interesting, lucid and simple with stories, practical tips, inspiring quotes, life stories of important persons, and success stories of people etc. It outlines the importance of setting goals, focuses on 'preparation' towards the achievement of those goals, brings out the practical 'work-techniques' to achieve the established goals, underpins the web of relationships with others that forms the basis to success and endeavors to make 'success' complete with a blend of ethical and moral values.

The 158 page book is published in India by Authentic Publications and is available in all OM Bookstores in India and can be ordered online at www.christianstore.in Those who would like to order by telephone may call +91-40-40307540. The first edition of the book, published in New York for USA and Canada has sold out and the present edition is on the 'bestseller list' of OM Books.



An Imperative to Reach for the Stars



Employer: What do you mean by telling me that you had five years' experience when you've never even had a job before?

Young man: Well, you advertised for a man with imagination!

Well imagined! The young man might either end up with the door being shown or, he might be asked to join the very next day... depends whether the post is for a design engineer in a firm or organization or it is for an advertisement professional in a production house. Whatever the nature of job, today's youth are fairly conscious of the need to be smart and presentable along with being subject-masters in their chosen field of study. A first timer, most likely a fresher one from the campus, may feel challenged by the plethora of things to prepare upon. 'Interpersonal' as well as 'Intrapersonal' skills need to be honed. Awareness about strengths and weaknesses, potential for success, achievements and failures in student life- all need to be revisited. Moreover, a student learns from observations as much as s/he does from experiences.

'Campus-to-corporate-change-over'- while being in full tune with its preparation, it becomes imperative to reflect upon this... "It is important to build a life, not merely to earn a living". One might willingly or by the sheer word 'imperative' allow oneself to be scanned. For how many of us earning a lot of money and riding the high waves of a posh life occupy the hot seat of our dreams? One may or may not explicitly make a show of this desire right now. But somewhere down the line it is possible to get de-

voured up by this. Is it immoral to be so, or anything insecure to feel about this? Surely not. But to ride high, one needs to have a sturdy vehicle, a reliable one. This vehicle is made up of nothing else, but strong values of life which should be part and parcel of one's characteristic traits - honesty, integrity, dependability, compassion.

Richard Nelson Bolles said, "I have always argued that change becomes stressful and overwhelming only when you have lost any sense of the constancy of your life. You need firm ground to stand on. From there, you can deal with the change". Our character is formed over the years by our attitudes and core belief system. The character gets reflected in our behavior, which again affects our interaction with people and decides our place in the world. So in order to acquire one's position and to be mentally, emotionally and spiritually satisfied at all times, one has to be firmly grounded in character. It does not happen overnight. One has to cultivate slowly but steadily, by careful introspection of one's attitudes and beliefs. Mahatma Gandhi was such a firm believer in the efficacy of receding into one's self for self-appraisal, self-analysis and introspection that he used to fast at regular intervals and observe total silence once a week. Moments of introspection afford us opportunities to weigh the wisdom of the sages.

Petrarch says: "Five great enemies to peace inhabit with us: avarice, ambition, envy, anger and pride..." Of course, ambition here is meant in the negative sense. Ambition should be a spur to progress and not an of-

fensive weapon with which to harm others. And 'peace' here applies to both 'within self' and 'in the society'. Another important aspect is to remain true to oneself. Dr. Alfred. P. Haake has said, "Do the thing that is right, even when the boss isn't looking, because the boss isn't a criterion. The real boss is standing alongside you every moment of your life." And let us keep in mind that it is not the employer who pays wages - he only handles the money. It is the product that pays wages. One should strive to deliver the best product one can, to have the best wages one can dream of.

While being a student, some inevitable questions arise- Am I moving in the right direction? Why am I studying this subject? What are its applications? How will, when will and will it benefit the society? Will the quality of life or the standard of living improve? Why do I do what I do? Will my earnings be of value to others? ... and so on.

One must make it a habit to listen to one's intuitions frequently. One must explore one's own depths to discover what he/she wants out of life. When we look deep inside us and find our purpose, we discover our actual selves and the world we live in will never be the same. Let us then set our path clear by living in tune with who we really are, and live a life of purpose.

Ms. Sanzida Tasmin Ali
Faculty, DBCET

Reminiscences of My First Year

My first one year in DBCET will remain ever etched in my memory lane; it has been one of the best years in my life until now. I have seen, learnt and experienced so much.

The first thing that comes to my mind is the morning assembly, which makes each day unique and special. The assembly is usually taken by the members from the management and faculty, and sometimes the opportunity is given to the students of different branches. Subjects of varied interests are shared, discussed and we are enriched with new insights and knowledge. In fact, it helps us view the world around us from a different perspective and reminds us of the immense possibilities that lie ahead.

We are blessed to have a friendly atmosphere that contributes to our well being and development. I am greatly moved by the way the faculty and the management render their services in this College. A lot of care is taken to see that everything is in place and all the programmes of the year run smoothly. Every section of the year is tightly packed with varied programmes in addition to the course outlined. Industry academia interaction is one among the series of events intended to make us aware of the actual scenario of present day.

It provides us with chances to interact with eminent persons from various industries and companies.

The activities assigned by the teachers aim to make us self-reliant and independent. Their constant assistance and support encourage us to do our best in all aspects of our learning. The individual and group assignments are done with great fervor and each time we keep improving with new findings from the materials we gather from the library, internet and other sources. In this aspect I want to say that we are motivated to learn for life and to make quality presentations.

One of the interesting events of the year was 'Bosco Tarang', the College Festival, which taught me about the true spirit of participation. I learnt that there is a lot more joy when we give up selfishness and ego. It's nothing but participation that makes the game worth playing.

Among the several things that I wish to continue narrating, I want to say that I am privileged to be surrounded by persons who enrich my life in so many ways. I have realized that the greatest gift is not found in a store nor under a tree, but in the hearts of true friends. My one year at DBCET has brought in many such



treasures into my life and I cherish those among the most valuable gifts. I have learnt a lot from my friends and each new day I spend with them turn out to be a great learning experience. They encourage me whenever I feel low and stand by me during the most trying times. There is mutual love, care and understanding between my friends and me and it provides me with an ambiance to grow in freedom and joy.

I believe, each day that I spent in the College has had some kind of strong impact on me. All the twists in the kaleidoscope of life are experiences that helped me grow mature. Even though I may not understand all its implications right now, these will certainly equip me with all the essentials to face the tough times ahead. I greatly hope that the coming years will also be loaded with such kind of enriching experiences.

Deepshikha Mahanta
II Semester, DBCET





TO KNOW IS TO BECOME

*A mountain to be scaled,
Sea to be sailed, every moment there's
a challenge to face
And a cause to willingly embrace.*

Even before I put down my thoughts on "...striving to learn, grow and serve," may I say a word or two on the overtone of the phrase, "...striving to." The sense of striving to learn boils down to a positive tension about finding better and more efficient ways to a fuller and richer life. The sense of striving after a goal / purpose / dream doesn't accommodate and necessarily mitigates the sense of complacency of "Good! Enough!" Things we strive after may at times be unrealistic at best and impossible at first. Rather, may I put it like this: to strive after is a call to realize the dream I have nurtured from long and pursue the dream with all vigor and enthusiasm barring the hurdles ordained to accompany the path of this journey.

I must admit that, it is with nostalgia I cherish and treasure in my mind's eye the musical "The Man of La Mancha," which I had witnessed a few years ago. Ever since, I have been positively disturbed by the lyrics of a song in which Don Quixote explains his quest and the reasons behind it. In doing so, he captures the essence of the play and its philosophical underpinnings:

*To dream the impossible dream...
To bear with unbearable sorrow
To run where the brave dare not go
To right the unrightable wrong
To love pure and chaste from afar*

*To try when your arms are too weary
To reach the unreachable star
This is my quest, to follow that star
No matter how hopeless, no matter
how far to fight for the right, without
question or pause
To be willing to march into Hell,
for a Heavenly cause*

This in essence is what striving after a dream means in all its complexity.

I hope I would not be wrong in articulating my view that life is but a bundle of choices; choices to meet up to its challenges.

And what more, life teaches me the ways to stand up to these challenges and brave the storm of the sea as well provided I am ready to learn the lessons. What's more paradoxical is that I never know what the next lesson is going to be, because we're not supposed to know; we're supposed to trust ourselves to discover it. That is exactly why I have to constantly seek to learn, relearn and at times unlearn as well.

Well, with this in the backyard of my mind, I recount with nostalgia the exhortation of Socrates "Know Thyself." Undisputedly, it is the same stream of thought that runs throughout the writings and teachings of enlightened men / women of the ages. Knowing oneself well (probing into the depths of oneself) is perhaps the only way to connect oneself to the universe; for knowing yourself too well lets you understand others better. To learn more about oneself / to

know oneself is just what begets and adds true sense of significance and value to our existence.

The Bhagavad-Gita unequivocally bears this truth, "To Know is to Become." Getting to know ourselves well is a way to realize the well of potentials we have within. We are led to become what we are meant to be. Perhaps it is this "Becoming all what we are capable of" that's emphatically underlined in the phrase striving to grow. An option in favor of growing gracefully, at first would indeed prove to be a grueling end but sure enough the end would be much rewarded. Furthermore, at the end of the day it is this free choice / commitment to grow out of oneself, to grow out of one's false ego, to grow to be different that would fetch meaning and purpose to life.

The very moment I realize all my potentials, all what I am meant to be or what I am ordained to be I get to understand or come to the awareness that I'm not all alone. I am what I am because of all that is around me. This triggers me on to make a responsive option on behalf of all that is around me; in simple my willingness to make the world a better place.

Just as I bring the curtains to this article may I share a verse or two from the album "Spread Out Your Wings," that would definitely challenge one and all to a heightened call of enduring to the last in whatever one strives after.

*"...And dare to dream, and strive,
make it come true
To yourself be true, no matter what
the cost
And like the brave hearts, fear not to
suffer loss
Stand up to challenges, they will make
you strong
It's to those who dare, that trophies do
belong..."*

**D. Kolhandai Yesu,
IV Semester, DBCET**



From the Desk of the Vice-Chancellor

It's several months now that we, as an institution, have been discussing, planning, listening to inputs from social work experts, honing our skills in collecting relevant data on the social situation in the villages around us, and devising different strategies for launching out into a meaningful social commitment programme. Time well spent.

Quite a few episodic interventions have also taken place involving a number of you – students and members of the staff. It will be wonderful if the next semester will find us in action with a concerted and well-orchestrated work plan.

It is pertinent to remind ourselves as we set out on this path that we are bound to be disappointed if we look for immediate results and / or recognition of our efforts in the short term. Worthwhile change and development have longer gestation periods, and they call for a commitment for the long haul.

You are here at least for four years... If different batches of students target developmental projects that should bear fruit in, say, three to four years, when the time comes for you to wind up your studies here,

you could carry to your professional life not only a degree in engineering or management, but also a certificate or a testimonial from the University attesting to the goodness within you that made you reach out and get involved in the lives of others – an investment of your time and energy that brought a smile to them, and cheer and satisfaction to you personally... memories and attitudes to last a life time!

Reaching out and making a change can be so simple. Here is an example...

Six months ago, a young businessman, Rushabh Turakhia, launched an initiative called 'YTN Initiative'. Put simply, it boils down to this: "Next time someone thanks you, do not end it by simply saying welcome. Instead, hand over a 'Your Turn Now (YTN) card' and insist that they pass on the kindness or generosity, whatever."

He says, "The idea is simply to promote good deeds. If we look around today, we see everybody too busy or too indifferent to others. I want to make 'mankind' one word again. We need to realize that just a little effort on our part can make somebody's day." (He has a website, and one

could join their Facebook group too - www.yourturnnow.in/index.htm. The YTN website also has a facility for uploading your experiences in using these cards (By the way, they are supplied free – just sign up for them on their website).

In the six months since its launch, this simple idea has won acceptance with over 10,800 such cards being sent out by people across 11 countries. He aims to touch all the 6.2 billion people across the world least once in their life time... Power of an idea!

A regular user of the free YTN cards, Mihir Thacker, 22, businessman, says, "I was not the kind of person who would go out of his way to help somebody. But now, my attitude has changed. Moreover, you get a positive vibe when you know you have done a good deed."

Have a wonderful summer break - maybe also with some 'YTN Attitude' or 'YTN Cards' thrown in for a change - while we here at the campus get busy with the preparations to welcome the Freshers.

Fr Stephen Mavelly SDB
Vice-Chancellor

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