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SLS MIRROR



Editorial

The ant is knowing and wise, but he doesn't know enough to take a vacation.

~ Clarence Day

As the end semester exams come to an end for our fellow SLSites, we look around us for more inspiration as we approach the future. Time is ticking and at such a rigorous pace that holding onto anything in life is difficult. The School of Liberal Studies is getting older and older day by day as its second batch enters their ultimate semester. In this semester break, while some students have started internships, some are already chalking out plans for their future and working upon it. There are also a number of SLSites, especially the final semester students, who have made a bucket list for their last few months together and while the year approaches its end, we all are looking forward to new beginnings.

This month's issue is short and is dedicated to the importance of a sabbatical to hone your goals and get your aspirations back on track. It reminds us of a quote by Nelson Mandela - *There is nothing like returning to a place that remains unchanged to find the ways in which you yourself have altered.*



Plethora of Activities

Study USA

Ms. Kamyra Suri visited the School of Liberal Studies on 29th October to have an open discussion with the students on “*Studying USA*”. She is presently associated with the Indo American Education Society, a non-profit organization directly affiliated to *EducationUSA*. Ms. Suri has been working efficiently in promoting higher studies in the United States of America within Indian students from a very long time. Since three years she has been working as the Center Chief in Indo American Education Society.

Ms. Suri enlightened the SLS students with some very important aspects of enrolling into various US universities. This helped the students as they came to know about how to decide and select amongst various courses offered in various universities and institutions. She started by explaining the pros and cons of pursuing a post graduation in the US for engineering students vs. social sciences students. Students were given information about the entire admission process.

She talked about developing our *circum vitae* by enhancing our experience through internships and field work. She then explained how quality research work and dissertation along with a good CGPA and GRE score can make us a better candidate while applying in Grade-A universities and colleges and can further help us to earn a scholarship. She also told us about ways in which students can settle down in the US. Her session was indeed knowledgeable and helpful as she answered all the questions and was very prompt. The students got a clear idea in their mind as to how to think and capitalize their ambitions of studying gradational studies in the USA in a focused manner.



Plethora of Activities



AIESEC: Internship
By Riya Ramani

This September, I went on an AIESEC internship to Wroclaw, Poland. AIESEC is an international organization, active in over 113 countries. This organization facilitates a huge number of international exchanges; these exchanges aim to provide young people with an experience that helps them understand cultures other than their own.

My internship, enjoy my origin, was a project in which my main job was to teach English to primary school children, aged between 6-13. The children made me feel special in so many ways that every morning I used to wait to go to school.



No word is enough to exactly describe how amazing my internship was. This experience has changed my life completely. It has changed me as a person. This exposure was much needed in my life. It didn't only help me to get out of my comfort zone but also helped me achieve something that I hadn't even dreamt of.

These 6 weeks made me more confident and independent. After this internship I can feel the change inside myself, I feel much more responsible now. I feel good about myself; now I know that have the potential to bring the change in the world.

Before this I was just a student, but in this internship, I was the teacher. Thus, I developed a different set of skills. I had to be more organized and aware. Time management and planning were the most important skills that I learnt.

Meeting the other interns, getting to know about their countries and culture was so interesting that it changed my way of thinking. Prior to the internship, I limited my learning source to the academics taught in the college. But now, every day I want to learn and explore more. I never stop myself now. I want to seize every opportunity.

The internship also gave me the opportunity to explore the world. During this internship, the fellow interns and I visited 4 different countries.



I am glad that I made the decision to go to an AIESEC internship. It didn't only give me the opportunity to explore the world but also the opportunity to explore myself. It had been a 2-way process for me; I wasn't only teaching but learning so much myself.

I think this experience is very necessary for every youth because it's us who are going to be the leaders of tomorrow. AIESEC actually prepares you for exactly that. It brings out the leader within you and opens a wider gate for your future tomorrow.

This was undoubtedly the best thing that has happened in my life. This experience was totally worth everything. Every student should at least once have this experience in his/her life.



Audit course

Vegetable Dye Printing

School of Liberal Studies had organized a Vegetable Dye Painting Workshop for first semester students under the Audit Course 2013-14. The duration of the program was two and four days respectively with a participation of thirty students.

Shri Sanjaybhai Chitara and his brother Shri Vasant Manubhai Chitara are one of the five families who are carrying on this three hundred years old tradition of painting clothes. The government has recognized the art and given laurels to the artisans for their skill and mastery by awarding them both state-level and national-level awards.

The process of making vegetable dyes is one of the oldest forms of art and dates back to the dawn of civilization. The beauty of vegetable dye painting is that it is an eco-friendly form of art as all the materials used are basic household items and thus, organic. The materials used in making the colors are Heena Mehendi, Turmeric, Dhaudi Flower, Magenta, Harda Powder, Kattha, Indigo, Imli Powder, etc. With the experimentation and gradual development the vegetable dyes have resulted into a highly refined art.

Students got a chance to learn and understand this art form during the workshop. They were taught about history of the ancient art, process of making eco-friendly natural colors out of basic ingredients, and they also came to know about the conventional methods for dyeing and painting. Students had prepared beautiful art work in the form of various types of *mata ni pachedis* in the workshop.

Student's Opinion:

“Vegetable Dye painting- an exquisite art. This art is most beautiful, rare but labour intensive. It shows us the beautiful cultural hemisphere of India. It teaches us eco-friendly ways of art. It can be used on sarees, shawls, table cloth, wall etc. It was a really amazing experience.”

-Vidhi Joshi

“Vegetable Dye Painting... rich, ethnic, beautiful. It truly shows the depth and beauty of Indian culture. The organic and eco-friendly art was a total break through and so rare. I am so glad I could learn it and will carry it ahead. Art worth promoting and preserving. Awesome experience!”

-Riti Shah

“Vegetable Dye Painting is a dying but beautiful art, which was introduced to us by Mr. Sanjaybhai Chitara and family. This rare and fascinating handcraft drives home the fact that nature contains multitudes within her. It really just brought me back to my roots: not just India, but ‘Kudrat’.”

-Vaishnavi Venugopalan



SLS reaches out to Academia

- Dr. Neeta Sinha presented a paper titled “**Organization Culture and Its Dynamics – A Case Study**” in an International Conference organized by the ‘International Association of Academics and Researchers (INAAR)’, The Global Open University, Nagaland , The Indo Global Chamber of Commerce Industries and Agriculture and Indira Gandhi Technological and Medical Sciences University, Ziro. The conference was held at Hotel Royal Park, Singapore on 23rd and 24th October.
 - Dr. Ritu Sharma conducted a training session on "**Demystify Fear and Nervousness**" for senior scientists of a leading research and development public sector unit at Ahmedabad.
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SLS Scaling Heights

SLS11 batch students Shraavya Siri and Sanjana Mehta have been playing for the Gandhinagar Girls Football Team for a year now and have participated in the recently occurring tournament – *Girls 2nd Inter District Championship for Claris Cup* held at Children University Ground, Gandhinagar from 23rd October to 27th October 2013. They have secured the First Runners-up



Trophy in this state-level championship earning silver medals. Also Shraavya Siri has been awarded the Best Midfielder Award of the tournament and has got selected for the *Girls Football National Camp 2013*.

SLS Recommends

Apps:

- **Share Your Board**

Not that we'd ever discourage you from taking notes in class, but if your wrist happens to hurt from all that scribbling, ShareYourBoard promises sweet relief. Simply take a picture of any white board in sight—it helps to snag a good seat toward the front of class—and this app will adjust the white balance to give you a crystal-clear snapshot of that day's lesson. Then it's up to you to decipher your professor's teaching. (Free for Android)

- **Waterin**

Sure, drinking and college do not go hand-in-hand, but here we are talking about drinking water. WaterIn tracks your water intake and reminds you to drink water when you haven't had enough. Here's to hydrating!

Cost: Free

Sites:

- [Scribd.Com](http://www.scribd.com)

www.scribd.com is a mixed bag just like SLS; it is a treasure trove of documents and original works with easy-to-identify authorship and publishing info. This is about the closest thing on the list to an actual library.

- www.youtern.com

A great site for SLSites for scouting internships during their free time

Blogs:

- **Harvard College student Blog**

[link](#) : Know about the lives of Harvard students

- **College Dieting Fitness blog [link](#)**

No more fretting about the “freshman fifteen!” A “blog dedicated to all of the college students battling their weight and hectic lifestyle,” “College Dieting” is a fitness blog that will avoid telling you all of the fitness facts you already know, and instead provide you with inspiration for maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

“THE WANDERER”

Beneath the horizon the sun disappeared,when the pain slowly made its way back & reappeared!

As she lost herself in the abyss of uncertainty,

Fake promises and broken trust clouded her mind or did she blame the overadmired vanity ?

She walked in the alarming silence of the night,

A strange kind of power rose in her or was it just lack of fright ?

Far away when she heard the leaves rustle n sway,

All she wanted was to be smothered in the confounding labyrinth & never find her way !

But something held her back, telling her everything would fall into place,

When her heart smirked,whom was she kidding ? She was the epitome of fallen grace !

The darkness soothed her & the silent murmur of the night held her captive,it was enchanting

She had arrived at a place with no hope which was a boon because hope had done nothing, it had just left her yearning...

Yearning for more,yearning for less, yearning for everything under the sky!

Heart soared & again it drowns in misery as the same old question haunts, why her,oh why ?

Engulfed in a place with no hope,she felt a dangerous thrill,an eerie survival instinct on which she was high,

A place where she least expected to find solace had turned out to become a sanctuary, now she closed her eyes & sighs.. !

- Neha Gurudatt

I started a new journey.
I jumped on a brand new life
There is no trace of past
I had revived my inner self.
While protecting my fragile soul
I saw her screaming ferociously and miserably
as she was drenching in her pain again.
I realized I loved her the most.
No one else could save her but strong me
hence, I was born.
She needed a shade , her own people betrayed her.

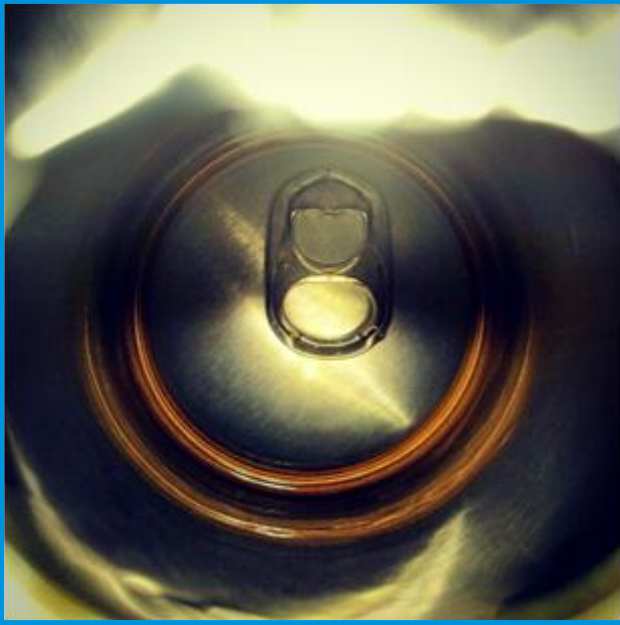
Her beloveds tried to save her but she went on being exploited.
She begged for a saviour, a hero I must say!
She tried finding that guardian vehemently in the darkest of woods and brightest of light
But she discovered a mirror instead!
In the reflection she saw herself wound-free, beautiful
but most importantly absolutely pure.
She saw her real self!

Others dream of becoming like someone great
she dreamt of becoming herself.
In the thirst of reaching herself she tripped, she was hurt
but the dream of being a dream struck her so strong
that she kept running or sometimes crawling
Ah my girl never stopped!

No she did not reach glory yet
and that is not the picture perfect climax here.
The happy ending was that she stood up,
no matter what.
That was the victory!

Now, sky was not a limit.
She would fly high
No, she would not let herself cut her own wings again.
She entered the dream
as she was finally free...

- Simran Parikh



GHANIA SIDDIQUI
SLS13



MAYANK PARIKH
SLS13

RUSHANK AGRAWAL
SLS13



SHIVANI SHAH
SLS12

The Editorial Team

Dr. Chaitanya Vyas

**Durva Vyas | Gayatri Chauhan | Harpalsinh Vaghela
Hrim Shah | Jasmine J. Pereira | Saksham Singh
Shinjali Divanji | Shivani Shah | Yash Modi**



PANDIT DEENDAYAL PETROLEUM UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LIBERAL STUDIES

**Off Koba—Gandhinagar Highway
Raisan, Gandhinagar, 382007
Gujarat, India**

**Phone: +91 79 23275231 Fax: +91 79 23275030
Visit us at: www.sls.pdpu.ac.in**