

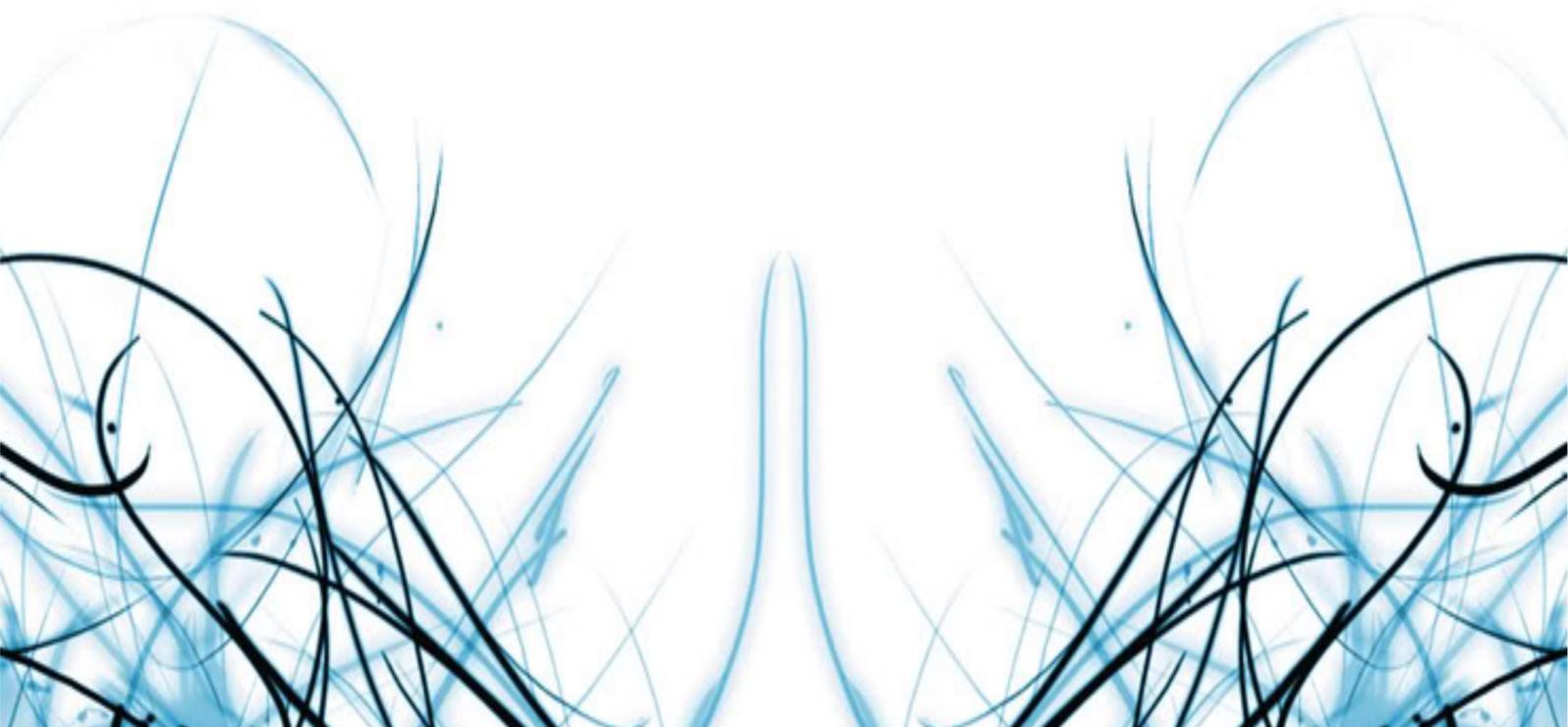


SLS MIRROR

SEPTEMBER 2015

VOLUME IV

ISSUE 6



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EDITORIAL TEAM

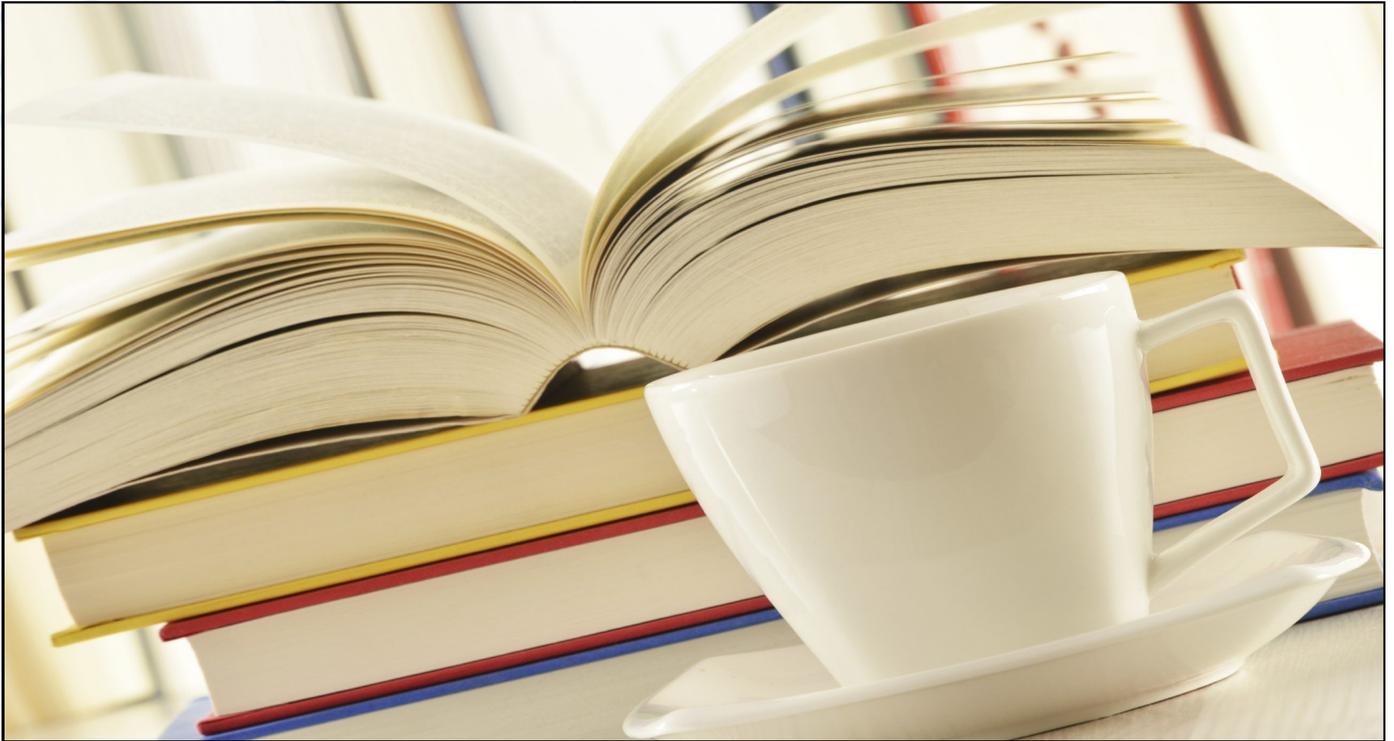
Ms. Niyati Trivedi

Anmol Jain | Urvi Shah

Jasmine J. Pereira | Manas Daxini

Special Mentions: Khushboo Patel

Editorial



Friend, philosopher and guide, are the terms often used to describe a teacher. But I'm sure, to most of us; a teacher means a lot more than that. A teacher is also a source of inspiration, motivation and a dynamic leader. An ideal teacher is the one who is easily approachable and can empathize with the students. She is kind, compassionate, generous, understanding and forgiving. An ideal teacher is someone we look up to.

In our Indian culture, we call teacher “The Guru (गुरु)”, ‘गु’ means darkness and ‘रु’ means light; and when we put the syllables together it means “a person who takes you out of the darkness in order to see light”. We at SLS observed the celebration of Teachers Day on the 5th of September and marked the importance of our 'Gurus' who have constantly been our mentors and pillar of support.

This issue of SLS mirror includes the Pandit Deendayal Memorial Lecture, Teacher’s Day celebration, visit of Mr. Robert J. Gould and the visit to Canada and US by PDCU officials

Hope you enjoy reading this issue of SLS Mirror!

Teacher's Day Celebration

On the occasion of Teacher's Day, PDPU felicitated seven eminent people from different façades of the teaching world who have contributed to the society tremendously. Teaching and Research gave the much needed purpose to their lives, while few of them bumped into teaching, it was a dream come true for the rest who believed in the magical power of teaching.



In the pursuit of acknowledging the contribution of teachers in our lives, PDPU felicitated eminent teachers from various realms of academics on 5th September , 2015 .While highlighting the position of a teacher in our society, the celebration recalled the generous wish of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam who wanted to be remembered as a teacher, instead of a missile man, a satellite man, or peoples President.

Prof.Veena Mistry, recalled her teaching period of her life as the most productive time of her life as she learned the most amidst students and challenges of changing times. Her 'proverbial' sense of humor was backed up by an anecdote. She believes humor lightens mood and helps in learning concepts easily. 'People with sense of humor will be adept in handling stress' concludes Veena Mistry.

Kathak Dancer Kumudhini Lakhia, Padmabhushan awardee and founder of KADAMB narrated the need for her setting up a dance institute in Ahmedabad as dance wasn't looked upon as serious

discipline. The journey has been fruitful as her institute is of huge repute and has helped shape successful careers from dance and is of International fame. 'I am proud to be here among conventional modes of disciplinary teaching, it is a baby step towards accepting dance as a career oriented discipline' adds Ms.Lakhia.

Prof.Y.K Agrawal, an enlightened speaker expressed his zeal to contribute more to the field of Science, Research and Development. He stressed age shouldn't be a barrier to do good work, instead it should trigger towards more growth.

Fr. Durai, an academician of repute expressed his need for teachers to keep upgrading their skills. He noticed that the attention span of the present generation spans not more than a few minutes and storytelling as one of the effective methods to teach students.

Prof. Rohit Shukla, expressed his happiness at the rare opportunity of meeting Vinobaji. He believes that teaching has helped him in reaching out to thousands of students and learning at the same time and his association with SPIPA as one worthy experience. He was elated as he shared the same platform with his Doctorate guide, Prof. Yoginder Alagh.

Prof. J.R. Dave articulated his venture into the field of teaching as he had never dreamt of anything else but govt. service oriented career. However, after three stints, he tried his hands at



teaching and soon realized his calling seemed to find meaning as an academician.

Prof. Yoginder Alagh, narrated his experiences as JNU Vice Chancellor. It was how smart students would outwit their professors into disrupting classes and how smarter tactics, he had to employ in order to run the University. He also believes that Research and Teaching are places he finds the most potential into transforming India towards a developed nation.



H. B. Raghavendra, Director General, SOT, PDPU and Dr. Nigam Dave, Director of SLS, PDPU felicitated the dignitaries. The dignitaries were overwhelmed with emotions as they recalled their career and thanked for the respect shown by PDPU as this will drive them towards contributing better work.

Dipika Chakravorty

Guest Lecture on Conflict Management



School of Liberal Studies organized a guest lecture on “Harmony and Conflict Management” on 28th September’15. The interaction aimed to help the students understand the need to find moments of satisfaction and peace in our day-to-day lives, and probed into the possibility of the emergence of a conflict-free society.

The lecture witnessed Mr Balraj Malik, Mr. Jagat Shah, Dr Surendra Pathak and Mr Yogesh Upadhyay sharing their views upon the subject, urging the students to introspect the microcosm within the macrocosm and encouraging us to appreciate the harmonious co-existence of dualities in nature. The thirst for success and the desire to outdo our counterparts has triggered the rat race

–which we all have fallen a prey to. Our fragmented society is in a dire need of a healing hand and resolution of difficulties which plague the society.

We humans, with our varied cognitive abilities may conclude the debate with a difference of opinion, but finalement we do upvote the decision that serves the interests of both the parties. Change begins from within and the idea of this utopian society can transform into reality by re-vamping our “Vichaar, Vyavhaar,Vyapaar “and applying these ideas upon our community .The lesson that we took home that day redefined Darwin’s Theory of Evolution –Evolution seeks to emphasize upon the interdependence of organisms for growth and development rather than a indulge the living entities in a struggle for survival.

Moksha Pillai



Pandit Deendayal Memorial Lecture

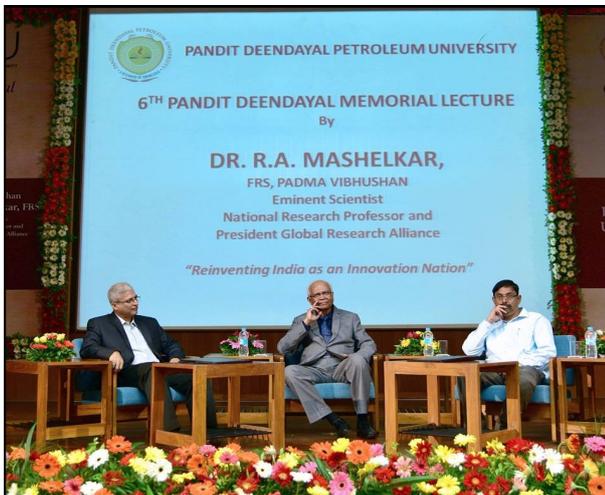


Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay believed in the philosophy of integral humanism and had an incredible vision for India. As a mark of respect, the 6th Pandit Deendayal memorial lecture was held at PDPU on 25th September 2015.

and collective efforts should be put in to achieve a goal.

The lecture inspired the young minds of Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University to think how innovation could transform our societies, conduct

Dr. R. A. Mashelkar, FRS, Padma Vibhushan was invited to share his insights on “Reinventing India as an Innovation Nation.” Dr. Mashelkar pointed the fact that India was always innovated, but there was a missing link when it came to technological innovation with respect to the industrial innovation. He also suggested that innovation was



the key to accelerated inclusive growth, competitiveness and denial was the greatest driving force for any innovation. He talked about how ecosystem was important for innovations. According to him, innovation should have action, relevance and excellence and that can make India a leader in various sectors. He suggested that people should develop a tolerance for failure and the idea that an individual has tried to achieve something even though he fails should be celebrated

businesses, create new ideas and overcome the social and environmental challenges.

Jasmine J. Pereira

Visit of Mr. Robert J. Gould



The Washington & Jefferson College is one of the oldest universities of the USA established in the year 1781. Named after two of USA's prolific early President's, this university has one of the richest histories as an institution.

Mr. Robert J. Gould, the Vice President for Enrollment at the Washington & Jefferson College visited PDPU on 16th September, 2015. He interacted with the students about the tremendous opportunities awaiting students at his college. He announced with much enthusiasm the various programmes that faculties of both, PDPU and Washington and Jefferson College had worked out for students. He announced with enthusiasm, how Washington and Jefferson College is willing to intake students for the final two years of their undergraduate schooling at less than half the tuition charged to their full time students. This announcement was followed by another one for the graduate programs where a few students would get to pursue their graduate studies in a few

courses at their institute. We found out that, their college like ours has an active student body which engages students in activities like Drama, Debate, Community service, etc. PDPU is one of the few colleges around India which has such a direct tie up with their institute. He later gave reference to how with increasing globalization it is absolutely essential to gain an international education experience. After the session he was overwhelmed by the amount of inquiries coming his way, showing interest in the program.

Saksham Singh



US and Canada Visit of PDPU Officials

At PDPU, internationalization is aimed at strengthening links with global institutions of higher learning by facilitating opportunities for joint learning and exchange of ideas in the fields of energy, technology, management and liberal studies. We believe that internationalization is a key component in improving student preparedness, faculty development, pedagogy, curriculum, promoting research and enhancing the profile of the university. Pdpu has already established collaborations with the leading international universities and organizations to reaffirm its standing as a world-class research led university.

PDPU believes in preparing global leaders who would contribute to the national and global economy and society at large. The main objectives of the International Exposure Programme

(IEP) are to prepare students for dynamic international careers.

Since the commencement of IEP in 2010, more than 400 students of PDPU have got the opportunity to go for various International Exposure Programs in foreign universities like University of Saskatchewan, University of Wollongong, University of Oklahoma, Technion University, Texas A&M University, University of Houston, Seneca College, The University of Tulsa, etc. From these, 17 SLS Students visited Seneca College, Toronto In 2013, 12 and 30 SLS Students visited University

of Wollongong, Australia and in 2014 and 2015 respectively.

Recently PDPU Delegation went for US-Canada Visit to strengthen international collaboration and also to explore other international opportunities for PDPU Students & Faculties. The PDPU Delegation comprised of Mr. D J Pandian, Director General & Chairman-Standing Committee, Dr Nigam Dave, Director-SLS and Mr. Kishlaya Misra, Manager-International Relations. They are managed to get very positive outcome from this visit.

The details are as per below:

Sacred Heart University & PDPU: Outcome

PDPU and SHU decided to move ahead with 2+2 twinning program for PDPU B.Com (Hons.) program and SHU BS in Finance program

SHU has shared its

Summer Institute for Global Business Management (SIGBM) program for SLS, PDPU students which is going to be held during July-August 2016. The main feature of this program is that students would qualify for GMAT/GRE waiver, if they successfully complete the SIGBM program and wish to pursue their Masters at SHU Business School. Program topics includes Business and Financial Analysis, Strategic planning, Global financial markets, Leadership, Working Effectively in Teams, Critical Thinking and Decision Making, Communicating effectively in a business environment.

A customized summer's program was offered for



Media and Communication during July-August 2016.

SHU has agreed to send their faculty members in the areas of Business Administration, Finance and Communication to PDPU and deliver workshop/seminars for 2-3 weeks duration. Prof. Rupendra Paliwal, Vice President and faculty in Finance and Prof. Andrew Miller, Associate Professor and Director of CMS Graduate Programs, Director, Sports Communication and Media Graduate Program, School of Communication and Media Arts, Sacred Heart University are visiting in Jan Feb 2016 for 2-3 weeks seminar.



Washington & Jefferson College & PDPU: Outcome

PDPU and W&JC decided to move ahead with 2+2 twinning program for PDPU BA (Hons.) and BBA (Hons.) program.

W&JC has agreed to send their faculty members to PDPU and deliver workshop/seminars for 2-3 weeks duration.

W&JC has decided to organize a summer's program during Jan - April, 2016. The program to be of 2-3 weeks duration for BA(Hons.) and BBA (Hons.) min 6 students and 20 students, 2 faculty (one week academic and one week cultural exposure, Niagara area falls, Washington D.C., Pittsburgh city).

Memorial University & PDPU: Outcome

Memorial University has shared that possibility for BBA twinning program can be taken ahead over a period of time.

Dean, faculty of business, MUN has agreed to send faculty to PDPU during Dec 2015 to Feb 2016.

Faculty of Arts, MUN has offered Queen Elizabeth II Scholarship for Masters Study in Gender Studies for PDPU students.

MUN has agreed to send their Faculty of Arts faculty members to PDPU and deliver workshop/seminars for 2-3 weeks duration. The focus areas can be of majors area of BA (Hons.) offered at SLS, PDPU: Economics, Psychology, English Literature, Public Administration, International Relations, Environmental Studies and Mass Communication.

Brock University: Outcome

Dean Brock business school shared the new regulations for accountancy course and suggested that PDPU students must apply for masters of management with research component. All the students admitted for this program are offered scholarship in form of TA/RA. Dean, Brock business school also shared that SLS BBA students can apply for MBA ISP. Brock University shared the interest for 2+2 international exposure program.

University of Saskatchewan & PDPU: Outcome

2+2 twinning program / Semester study in Economics, English, Gender Studies, Studio Art, Public Administration, Psychology, Political Studies, and International Studies has been agreed in principle.

Graduate Semester study or Research collabora-

tion in English, International Studies, and Public Administration discussion has been agreed in principle.

University of Alberta & PDPU (Arts): Outcome

PDPU students are welcome to join UOA as visiting students at any point in time without a formalized partnership agreement.

Exploring articulation agreements (either 2+2 or 3+1+1)

The priority areas of collaboration are: Economics; English; International Relations; and Psychology.

Mr. Maulik Shah,
Assistant Manager-Planning & Development, PDPU



Interview: Mr. Kamlesh Udasi

Mr. Kamlesh Udasi, an international and national award winning filmmaker, is currently a visiting faculty with the Department of Mass Communication, School of Liberal Studies. With over 300 films in his repertoire, and twenty-two long, rich years of experience, who could be more interesting to interact with than he?

SM: When you started your career, the field of film and television wasn't very developed ; there were a lot of risks inherently involved in a gestating industry?

KU: I started my career with television, more specifically, television production. I worked in the Developmental and Educational Communication Unit, ISRO. We set up a community TV initiative in rural villages in India, and produced social instructional films to be broadcasted on this community TV. We worked chiefly in the Kheda district of Gujarat, and the Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh, where we contributed to infrastructure development, as well as social, moral, and legal awareness. Side by side, however, I did my own thing. I made films for my own satisfaction, my own learning and self development. I began experimenting with this medium.

I did my masters after this stint at DECU. I did my masters in Development Communication, with specialization in films. That's actually how I got into this industry.

SM: Why did you choose to specialize in filmmaking?

KU: (Chuckles) As a child I had always been rather fascinated my cinema – that is mainstream cinema. I always wanted to be a part of that glamorous life. Of course, back then I had no idea what filmmaking actually involved. As I grew up, I began to understand the medium, and the vast potential it holds. So, films it was!

SM: Do you think films hold any advantages over other media?

KU: No, no, no. It would be very wrong and obtuse of me to make that statement. No form of media can completely substitute the other. They each have their own pros and cons. The only reason I didn't go into print was because of its limited reach

two decades ago when literacy rates were low. I didn't prefer radio because it only harnesses sound. They each have their own audience, their own dissemination advantages. It was just a matter of personal opinion that made me want to go into an audio-visual field.

SM: You have a long association with the film and television industry now. How would you say the industry has transformed from when you started off till today?

KU: Well, it has changed quite a lot. For starters, the technology used in film and TV production today has drastically changed. From reel-cameras, to tape cassettes and linear editing software, everything has now become digitized. Life has become a tad simpler for filmmakers. Other than just the technicality, the reach of films and television to the nooks and crannies of India has increased exponentially. In fact, over all media literacy has increased. This provides a wider platform for filmmakers. The obvious too has changed – the themes that films are based upon, the language used, the motifs covered. The method of story-telling has changed; the duration of films has changed. Shorts are becoming more popular. Moreover, previously, you needed a contact or reference in the industry to have the technical know-how and the resources to produce films. Today, knowledge is open-source, and that I'd say, is beautiful. All in all, I'd say it's a positive change. Any change that happens in keeping with its time is a positive change.

SM: What skills would you say are required to enter and survive in the industry?

KU: Firstly, Passion. Without passion, there is nothing. If you do something you do not inherently, innately want to do, you will never be able to do it well. Second is the storytelling ability. Storytelling is an art; words have to be constructed artfully and aesthetically, not simply thrown out. Only a good storyteller can be a good filmmaker. Third is the wiliness to grab the right opportunity and the right time. As they say, "God helps only those who help themselves." And its true, without this wiliness, you will never have the fourth factor that is Luck.

SM: What would you say makes a sure-shot award

-winning film?

KU: Generally, films aren't made for the awards, but it does boost your confidence to see your work being appreciated and acclaimed by an experienced jury. Now, there is no formula to an award winning film, no hard-and-fast rule. It's not an exact science. But having been on a few award panels, I can say that there are certain things we look for in films. On top of the list is honesty. Honest films are the ones that speak to you. You can't make a phony film and expect people to relate to it. Second is a freshness and novelty to the work, be it in technique or thought. Third is the subject of the film, what it talks about, its themes. And the last thing we look for is technique.

SM: Which film would you say speaks to you the most?

KU: (Laughs) Never ask a filmmaker what his favourite film is. The list will go on and on. But I'll make this simple for you. I'll just tell you a feature film that has stayed with me is Dev Anand's "Guide". It's a movie from when I was in college. The depiction, the story telling, the technique, it's simply magnificent.

SM: Nowadays there is a huge hue and cry about censorship in films, and how it infringes upon the freedom of expression. What is your opinion in that?

KU: Earlier on, when we were under British rule, there were no censor boards, but obviously, there were such structures. So people then didn't really follow any norms. Censor boards have brought in

some sort of regulation. Moreover, India is such a diverse nation. There are so many sentiments to be cared for, so many communities' rights and sensitivities to protect. True, we are entitled to freedom of expression, but this right is not infinite. There is a clause that freedom of expression is not provided at the cost of harming others. Take for example, Kamal Hassan's 'Vishwaroopam'. It was a brilliant movie, but dealt with a sensitive subject that would lead to an uproar. Hence it had to be censored. See, it's simple. In India, everything is Politics, but this Politics has to be controlled, regulated. That is the problem for us creative minds today.

SM: What is one piece of advice you would give aspiring filmmakers?

KU: Watch good films, create good films. And welcome, to this exciting, fast-paced world. There are tremendous opportunities here, but you have to be quick to grab them. The saying "time and tide wait for none" stands true here.

SM: A last word for the brand new Department of Mass Communication, established by School of liberal Studies?

KU: My hearty congratulations to SLS for having the vision to set up this department here, in Gandhinagar. It is a most potent field, and I wish the department all the luck in the world. Here's hoping that the Department has the best faculty, the best mentors, and the brightest students.

Vaishnavi Venugopalan

Audit Courses

Glass Engraving



School of Liberal Studies organized a workshop on redesigning and glass engraving for first year B.Com students from 4th to 6th August. The program was headed by Mr. Mayurbhai Lekhadia, director of Gaurang Institute of glass design technology and information, and his team. The first half of the two hours session on 4th and 5th August saw the students practicing high speed engraving on a piece of black tile along with the help of the veterans. Later a glass tile decorative item was made eagerly by each student. During the second half of the session, a good brain storming among the students took place followed by the faculty suggest-

ing a few sites for the students to visit and re-search. On 6th August the workshop opened with the introduction of designing and editing software -adobe Photoshop. The session revolved on how to focus and bring attention to an image by making its background black and white while leaving the main subject in full color. The mirror image effect, resizing, cropping, blending of photos was illustratively taught. The students were keen enough to learn, who simultaneously practiced on their laptops.

Team Audit Course



T-Shirt Designing



School Of Liberal Studies organized a workshop on T-shirt Designing and Printing for first year B.Com students in the month of September. The program was conducted by Mr. Mayurbhai Lekhadia, Director of Gaurang Institute of Glass Design Technology and Information and his team. Firstly the students were taught how to do designing for T-shirt printing using computer software such as Photo Collage Maker, Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. Then with the help of his team, students were given a practical session on T-shirt printing along with the help of machines. The whole session was being carefully looked over by Mr. Mayur Sir. The students were illustrated on the basics of T-shirt printing and they were also told about the points to be taken care of while printing the designs on the T-shirts. The students during the session learned about the designing and created their own innovative and beautiful designs for the T-shirts. Some students designed the t-shirts for their family members, friends and closed ones while on the other hand few students made T-shirts for PDPU and SLS Faculty which were really appreciated by the faculty. The students showed their keen interest in the workshop and enthusiastically participated during the workshop.

Team Audit Course

Alumni Speaks

Q. How far has Liberal Arts pedagogy has been helpful to reach where you are today in comparison to the conventional way of learning?

Liberal Studies Pedagogy has conditioned me to take up interdisciplinary outlook in everything I do .Such an approach becomes really helpful in analyzing issues from different perspectives and thus obtaining a balanced understanding of a situation and life in general.

Q. What are your essential learning outcomes from the School of Liberal Studies?

SLS has substantially contributed in developing my ability to accept, appreciate and thrive in a diverse environment. During my masters education in the UK, I was exposed to different cultural realities by the means of interaction with students from different parts of the world. My liberal studies education helped me to thrive in such a multicultural world due to its strong emphasis on embracing diversity in personal and professional life, apart from academics.

Q. Your message to current liberal studies student as alumni of SLS.

I would like to request SLS students to make best use of these four years by taking deep interest in academics, participating in various extra-curricular activities and pursuing significant internships. This wonderful culmination of theoretical grasp, practical adaptability and exploration of different facets of their abilities will definitely change their life. It will increase their prospects to excel in all endeavors by expanding their vision and making them more confident and courageous to strive in different kinds of circumstances.

Q. Anything that you would like to add/ incorporate from your end (exposure of various kinds/activities/ expert sessions /internships etc.)?

I would really like to see more academics, like Prof Geeta Ranjan, from other excellent institutions to conduct short courses for SLS students. A semester exchange program with foreign universities can also be a great learning experience

Jainisha Chavda



Faculty Reflections

Food Security for A Hunger Free World

Food Security in its simplest terms as defined by World Bank is “**Access by all people at all times to sufficient food for an active, healthy life**”. Although food security depends upon sustainability, availability, access and utilisation, and not production alone, the need to enhance the food grain production is one of major concerns for development planners, policy administrators, researchers and scientist. However for creating a hunger free world it is equally important to produce sufficient food with nutritional value for feeding the world population and the contribution of rich biodiversity is vital in this regard. The world population is expected to grow by over a third, or about 2.3 billion people, between 2010 and 2050. In order to cope with food requirement for rising population enhanced food grain productivity will be needed throughout this period. Considering all these factors, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has suggested that global food production will require to increase by about 70% by 2050 relative to production in 2005 to meet the expected demand especially in countries having high population. The loss to the biodiversity has further aggravated the problem of food security and weakened the efforts towards eliminating hunger. As per the FAO during the last century, 75 percent of crop genetic diversity has been lost, a phenomenon referred to as genetic erosion and only 12 plant crops and 14 animal species today provide 98% of world’s food needs. FAO further observes that biodiversity is essential for food security and nutrition. Thousands of interconnected species make up a vital web of biodiversity within the ecosystems upon which global food production depends. ‘The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2015’ by FAO, International fund for Agri-

culture Development (IFAD) and World Food Programme (WFP) reflects some vital statistics depicting the grim scenario of rising food insecurity and growing hunger, for instance about 795 million people remain undernourished globally, down 167 million over the last decade, and 216 million lower than in 1990–92. This means that just over one in every nine people in the world are currently unable to consume enough food to conduct an active and healthy life. About 780 million people, or the vast majority of the hungry, live in the developing regions. The year 2015 marks the end of the monitoring period for the World Food Summit (WFS) and Millennium Development Goal (MDG) hunger targets. The latest projections suggest that, as a whole, the developing regions have almost reached the MDG 1c hunger target. From a statistical perspective, the target was missed by a small margin, but from a development perspective, Key findings the essence of the MDG 1c commitment has been fulfilled, at least globally. The WFS target, by contrast, has been missed by a large margin. The estimated number of undernourished people is some 285 million above the envisaged target for 2015. Wide differences persist across regions. Some have made rapid progress in reducing hunger, Latin America as well as the Eastern and **South-Eastern regions of Asia** have all achieved both the MDG 1c hunger target and the more ambitious WFS goal. As far as, Southern Asia is concerned progress has been achieved but at too slow a pace to reach the MDG 1c target. Serious concerns are emerging in the Central Africa and Western Asia region where there is a higher proportion of undernourished in the population now than in 1990–92. More than 800 million people, about one in eight, suffer from chronic hunger,

and approximately two billion people are malnourished. In the coming decades, the demand for food will continue to grow as the population increases to 8.3 billion by 2030 and 9 billion by 2050. The “**Zero Hunger Challenge**” launched in 2012 during the Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20. The “Zero Hunger Challenge presents the vision of a world free from hunger, where at the same time, it is possible to face the growing demand for food and meet new environmental challenges. The **first** of the **eight Millennium Development Goals (MDG)** aims to halve the proportion of people suffering from hunger by 2015. Significant progress has been made, but the total number of undernourished people is still too high. To reach zero hunger we must enable all people to access adequate and nutritious food at all times through nutrition-sensitive agriculture and more inclusive food systems, marketing, decent and productive employment, a social protection floor, targeted safety nets and food assistance; boosting food supply from local producers; and through open, fair and well-functioning markets and trade policies at local, regional and international level, preventing excessive food price volatility.

The objective of food security and hunger free world can be successfully achieved by focusing upon the biodiversity of food and agriculture. This focus requires policy, social and financial support by involving the entire stake holders. The agricultural practices should be changed according to the changing climate and biodiversity patterns. Is it not possible to ensure that all people at all times have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious and sustainable food? This question raises ethical, moral, and humanitarian concerns and despite the world produces more food per person today than ever before the existing hunger and prevailing malnutrition is unfortunate, regrettable and inhumanitarian. The western way of consumption and consumerist life style which accounts for wasting almost 40% of the food consumed has further ag-

gravated the problem, for instance every year consumers in industrialized countries waste almost as much food as the entire net food production of sub-Saharan Africa (222 million vs. 230 million tons). Therefore the Indian way of considering food akin to God and according it a sacred status would help in minimising the wastage of food. This is high time specially in the wake of **World Food Day** to be observed on **16th of October 2015** to promote sustainable ways of agriculture, encourage food security and prevent food wastage for addressing the challenge of hunger and for making the world a hunger free world.

Dr Anurag Shrivastav

Department of Public administration



Student Reflections

The United Nations – The Other Side of the Coin

The United Nations was created as the last straw fell on WWII, with a vision similar to that of the League of Nations, but one much better planned, nuanced and *intentioned*. As the UN completes 7 decades at the helm of global multilateralism, I shall strive to address one of the key questions asked off it – *Is it still relevant?*

First and foremost, the United Nations is not, as many treat it, an exogenous entity capable of working miracles. *Au contraire*, it is but a global collective (and thus, endogenous) of the world's nation states recognizing the merits of Westphalian order and *legitimizing* the human race's faith in harmony *despite* conflict. To this end, the UN has racked up as many success stories as failures, a fact often conveniently overlooked. Secondly, at a rudimentary level, the primary – albeit informally codified – objective of the UN was to prevent a sequel to WWII, something it has achieved and should be given merit for. Thirdly, the United Nations provides, if not anything else, a platform for all of the world's states to give voice to their opinions and negotiate their interests. Furthermore, it accommodates not just states, but blocs, alliances, groupings at the regional, sub-regional, and super-regional level, and the world's minorities. Despite its endogenous nature, its structure enables officials of the UN to work objectively as well. Therefore, the UN has created a platform where none existed, as an alternative to something that may well have been in opposition to the very concept of freedom.

World politics in the last 2 decades is in motion with respect to several fronts. The first front is a trend I'd like to call **Engaging Multilateralism**. As opposed to its predecessor phases, we now witness a trend wherein countries are not accommodating multilateral endeavors but prioritizing them. Moreover, the earlier trend of geopolitical loci of groupings is being replaced by mutual interest-based ones, such as the BRICS. The second front is the **Specialized Agency** trend. The Cold War era saw multilateralism undertaken by bracket organizations in the UN. Post 1990, under the mandate of the General Assembly and the ECOSOC, countless sub-organizations,

standing committees and specialized agencies have been created to meet the needs of the shifting landscape across sector. Technological progress has been both a cause and consequence for the same. The UN's reconciliation with these changes is a massive institutional victory which cannot be undermined. The third front is something I'd like to call the **Diminishing Conflict Returns** front. The intensity of conflicts has largely diminished in the past two decades, despite an increase in the number of conflicts. This negative correlation can be explained simply – there are more things to fight for, and the quantity of these things is on a decline. Despite this, the intensity of conflict has reduced due to an offshoot of Ricardo's Theory of Comparative Advantage – it is beneficial to exercise restraint – deterrence and threat both serve as boosts. In my opinion, this realization has been largely enforced due to the principles of the Charter – a willingness to *project* adherence to the principle of good faith, and due to every state's R2P – a policy both intrinsic and external.

This question about the continued relevance of the UN has been posed for many years now. However, the answers are just beginning. Its continuance and growth are a function, largely, of the world leadership pipeline – the individuals that run the UN, and those run the states constituting the UN – the exogenous-endogenous duality. Leaders at every systemic level – local, national, and international – are key means to this end. The UN model has failed as many times or more as it has succeeded because of one of its core pillars – grass root implementation. Leaders at the local and regional levels must provide the right impetus for this transformation. At the national level, it is the leaders who maintain the UN's constituents. The principles of the UN invariably take its place in most constitutions. The functions of the UN are just as dependent on state support with finances and personnel as the functions of the state are dependent on an international system *facilitated* by the UN. Lastly, but by no means the least, the world is inching closer towards the hitherto elusive concept of a **global democracy**. It is the responsibility of leaders from every walk of society, from business to

level, it is the leaders who maintain the UN's constituents. The principles of the UN invariably take its place in most constitutions. The functions of the UN are just as dependent on state support with finances and personnel as the functions of the state are dependent on an international system facilitated by the UN. Lastly, but by no means the least, the world is inching closer towards the hitherto elusive concept of a global democracy. It is the responsibility of leaders from every walk of society, from business to welfare activities to carry the baton forward. The United Nations is more than a nominal entity with no viable alternative. It is a necessity for global interest. As global interest is met, national interests may lose small battles, but shall win the war.

Shashank Sreedharan



Faculty Achievements



Dr. Sitakanta Mishra

- Published an article titled "Nuclear Security Summit: To Where From Here?", INFOCUS, Centre for Air Power Studies, New Delhi, http://capsindia.org/files/documents/CAPS_Infocus_SM_12.pdf,



Dr Chaitanya Vyas

- The research paper titled "Online and Offline Marketing strategies by Indian colleges and Universities: A Comparative analysis of Students' Perception" authored by Dr Chaitanya Vyas, and co-authored by Dr Ritu Sharma was presented at 12th Knowledge Globalization Conference organized by Jindal Business School at O P Jindal University, Sonapat, Haryana, on 14th August 2015.

Student Achievement



SLS 12 student, **Yash Patel**'s article titled "Pakistan's Rejoinder to India's Operation in Myanmar" was published in the South Asian Voices on 9th September 2015

Link of the article: <http://southasianvoices.org/pakistans-rejoinder-to-indias-operation-in-myanmar/>



SLS 12 student, **Phalak Vyas**'s article titled "Counter-Balancing the Sino Pak Axis in the Indo-Pacific Region" was published in the South Asia Voices on 17th September 2015. Link of the article: <http://southasianvoices.org/counter-balancing-the-sino-pak-axis-in-the-indo-pacific-region/>



The innovative ideas and concepts of the ‘Grow, Cook, Eat’ club at P.D.P.U., earned a feature in the Ahmedabad Mirror, a popular compact newspaper (P.8, 1-Sep-2015.) **Manas Daxini** (SLS Class of 2016) is the President of the club.



Anmol Jain (SLS 13) and **Moksha Pillai** (SLS 14) have qualified for Stage -2 (City Finals) of The United Mind Quiz Hunt: Edition III from P.D.P.U.



Moksha Pillai and **Rootu Patel** from SLS' 14 have successfully completed a project with the HR Department of P.D.P.U. In the course of their 6 week long project, they got to learn about the nuances of HR, HR policies and practices followed across the continents and an opportunity to be mentored by Mr. Ankur Pandya (CHRO, P.D.P.U.).



Article by **Ishita Dave** (Sem VII, BA/BBA, IR Major Student) in South Asian Voices (Stimson Center, Washington DC), "India's Strategic Access to Chabahar", <http://southasianvoices.org/indias-strategic-access-to-chabahar/>



Article by **Devanshi Shah**, (Sem VII, BA/BBA, IR Major Student) in South Asian Voices (Stimson Center, Washington DC), "India and Pakistan Membership – A Strategy to Increase SCO Influence in Eurasia", <http://southasianvoices.org/india-and-pakistan-membership-a-strategy-to-increase-sco-influence-in-eurasia/>

Hrim Shah and Jash Dholani

Launch of T20 Public Speaking

The Times of India-Torrent Power Public Speaking Contest Sees 20 Participants Fight It Out For Top Honours In Ahmedabad Round

Rank	Name	Score	Topic
1	SURAJ CHANDWANI GCS Medical College	72.66	The future is shaped by your dreams, so stop wasting time and go to sleep
2	LIPEE DAVE Karnavati College of Dentistry	71.00	My cellphone my best friend
3	HRIM SHAH POPU	70.00	To err is human, to blame it on someone else is politics
4	ADITI KAVIYA Nirma University	69.00	"I will never live in an old age home"
5	JASH DHOLANI POPU	69.00	Why cricket needs to be an Olympic sport

Communicators steal the show

Team T20

Ahmedabad: The Times of India-Torrent Power Public Speaking Contest got off to a flying start at The Grand Bhagwati on Sunday evening with the Ahmedabad round witnessing some electrifying speeches and throwing up five winners.

The contest, being revived after ten years, saw almost 100 participants turning up for group discussions in the morning and going through a rigorous process before 20 were picked for the gala evening show.

Renowned tax guru Mukesh Patel played the anchor and jury, ably assisted in the selection process by Justice (retd) B J Shethna, Rasna CMD Piruz Khambatta and leading paediatrician and social worker, Dr. Minna Desai.

The evening saw youngsters - 8 girls and 12 boys drawn from colleges in Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar - take the stage with stern and discussing varied subjects like politics, corruption, love, old age and cellphones.

The next regional rounds will be held in Rajkot (Sep 29), Baroda (Oct 1) and Surat (Oct 12) before the grand finale in Ahmedabad on October 5. Prizes worth Rs 2 lakh are at stake here.

(L-R)- The top five winners: Lipée Dave (2), Hrim Shah (3), Suraj Chandwani (1), Jash Dholani (5) and Aditi Kaviya (4) who won the Ahmedabad round of The Times of India - Torrent Power Public Speaking Contest and qualified for the grand finale to be held at YMCA on October 5.

Create-Witty Corner

DANIEL

‘Daniel, when I first saw you, I knew that you had, a gleam in your eyes...’

Maintaining a yearly diary is something my friends know me for, and going through the pages of May 2007, is something my table-lamp knows me for. As I flip over the 2007 diary to the month of May, and then, eventually, to the dates of 2nd and 3rd, I contemplate. Could not things have been better in our lives? Will thinking and rethinking ever bring back things to square one? The entry of 2nd May, 2007 reads...

‘Two weeks left...just two more weeks to untie all the abstract friendship bands that had held us together for sixteen long years, to slowly forget the blissful moments shared with him, and to get back to the favorite maxim of my mother’s- “no one belongs to anyone in this selfish world!” I have always been ridiculing her for this sentence, but today, when it’s just two more weeks left for Daniel to lose in touch with this mortal earth forever that I realise the authenticity of this maxim...’ Daniel has stopped responding to his treatments”, was all that the doctor had to say in this regard. To continue with the sympathizing remarks, he said, “Two and a half weeks more, ma’am...You can take him home if you wish to, and take care of him religiously.”

This unacceptable truth had held me up in utter sorrow for almost three days, but soon after recovering, I assured myself that I would make these last two weeks the best two weeks of his life...oh I so love you, Dan! The perfect plethora of forlorn journey accompanied by the downpour of hot brimming tears- his condition every time I stood beside him these days...not because he was afraid to die, but because I had termed him ‘selfish’. Selfish enough to have left me behind to

survive alone, selfish enough to have not thought how his pampered pet would live without him.

The jubilant and obstreperous me is dying eventually...I am falling in love with slow, melancholic songs, and dark corners of my room. I just cannot accept the pain of losing Daniel for some stupid disease they call ‘leukemia’! I have started living in a different world altogether...the fervent hope that matters will be settled promptly has groped me to a great extent. One half of my heart knows that wishes would never come true, yet the other is waiting for magic and miracles to happen.

Existentialism says that everyone is responsible for the result of their own actions, and now I know the truth of this line...the selfless service and help that Daniel has offered to his family, the love and affection showered to me, the act of magically changing every drop of tear into a smile constitutes his action, and the result... DEATH!

Earnestly speaking, I don’t know the answer to this conundrum which he has caused within me. I know, it’s only Daniel who can cajole me to live again, to slowly erase his picture from my heart, to open the closed eyelids again, and see the world differently. But I was confused whether to remain aloof from light and music and stay locked up in a dark room, weeping or to accede to his request of moving on, and now, I have to take a decision.’

It’s been eight long years that he’s missing from our lives, but I can bet he’s as much in me as he was eight years ago. There undoubtedly isn’t anyone under the sky who can ever take his position...as he was, and will always remain, a friend with no signs of improvement but still the best

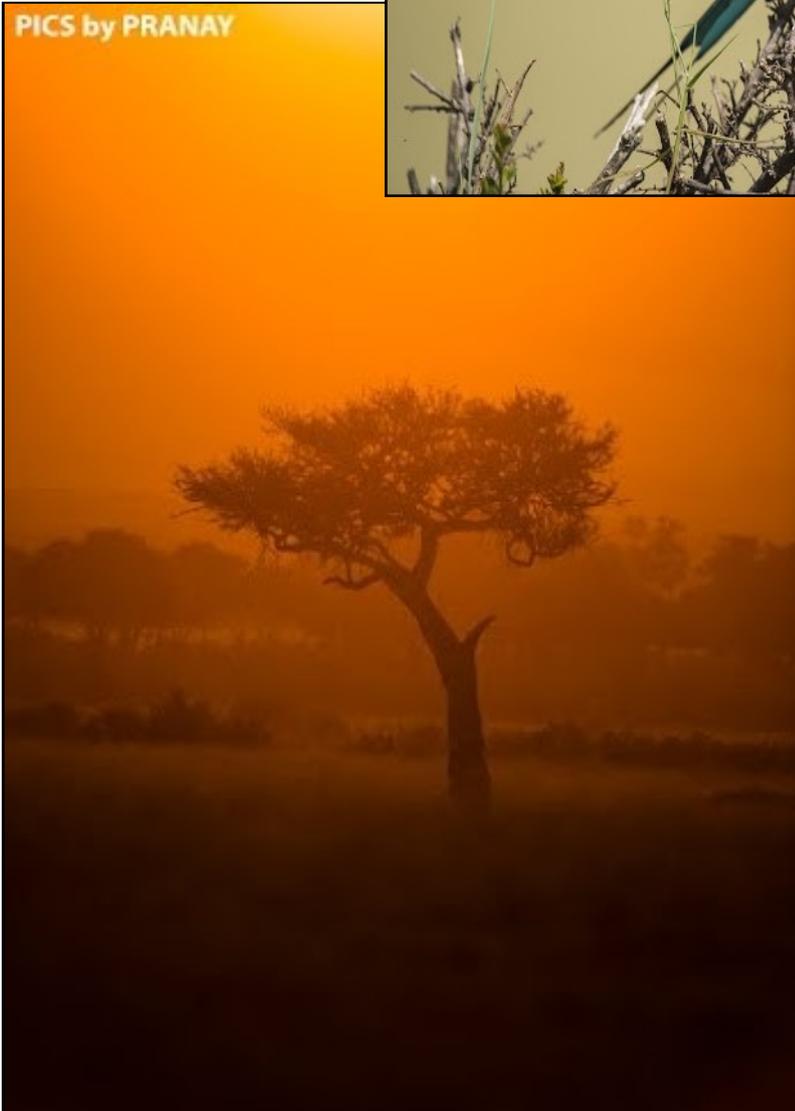
Mayuri Ghosh

SLS’15

PICS by PRANAY



PICS by PRANAY



Pranay Patel
SLS'15

Choices

On a path less trodden on,
I go exploring forward.
People mock me, people ridicule me,
I stop, bothered.

I wonder if it is the right thing.
I wonder what I'm doing is correct.
I just wanted to do something different,
I wasn't thinking of the path ahead.

I did not want to do something mainstream,
But to do something I liked.
But here I am, sitting clueless,
Waiting for the bulb in my brain to light.

And as I sit there, voices echo,
Screaming out at me, judging.
And I tell myself, "Don't listen, darling",
But I see my resolve crumbling.

My mind bickers, it gets to me,
But I have made my choice.
And I will stick to the path I've chosen,
Head held up with poise.

Because in the end, people don't matter,
What matters is what you want.
And people are just bystanders along the way,
Don't let them get to you, don't let them taunt.

Niharika Baldua



Upcoming Events

Brain Wave Fingerprinting Seminar

Navaratri Celebrations

PDPU Open Tennis Championship

Study Trip to Bhutan



SLS

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