

# SLS MIRROR

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## Let's Talk



Shakuntala Devi, who is popularly referred to as the Human Computer, once interestingly remarked, "Education is not just about going to school and getting a degree. It's about widening your knowledge and absorbing the truth about life." Well, she could not have been any truer. Education, indeed, is not about degrees. It is about preparing the groundwork for a successful and fruitful life ahead. It is also about setting out in the pursuit to be a good human being. On the professional front as well, globally renowned

employers such as *Google, Apple and IBM* have stopped looking for degrees amongst prospective employees. In the contemporary job market, skills have emphatically trumped degrees.

The democratization of education is another distinct trend that has started dominating the academic fraternity. Collaboration, and not competition, is becoming the buzzword. Thus, there is an increasingly demand for universal availability of education, which was once considered to be a fiefdom of the social and economic elites. Inclusivity has become the global indicator of educational quality in any country. In the given backdrop, it is nothing but obvious that MOOCs or *Massive Open Online Courses* are becoming increasingly popular. The joint phenomenon of unlimited participation and open access is making MOOCs the hot academic commodity. However, it is essential that we make an honest effort at understanding as to what MOOCs are all about.

To put it in very simple terms, MOOCs could be classified as open-access academic programmes that are offered online for people across the spectrum. Geography and economy no longer act as barriers. In addition, by definition, MOOCs offer liberal education. Therefore, a student can take up as many courses of his/ her choice as he/ she wants. MOOCs could be considered a logical progression over distance or correspondence courses that were introduced towards the later part of the nineteenth century. MOOCs employ both traditional and non-traditional teaching modes including recorded lectures, videos, study materials, interactive platforms and collaborative learning mechanisms. MOOCs could again be classified primarily into two categories:

- i. cMOOCs harp on curricula and study materials that are not structured and are developed dynamically through deliberations.
- ii. xMOOCs, on the other hand, are more conventional in nature and thereby have well defined and structured curricula and study materials.

With its genesis at the globally renowned Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 2006, MOOCs are being increasingly adopted by universities from across the world. The emergence of MOOCs has successfully universalized quality education with students getting access to the best academicians in the world at the click of a button. MOOCs could also be used as an additional learning tool along with the usage of conventional educational platforms.

While we are at MOOCs, we can also look at the unique *SWAYAM* (Study Webs of Active –Learning for Young Aspiring Minds) programme launched in India at the behest of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) under the Government of India (GoI). Through the programme,

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academicians from leading institutions such as the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) are providing online open courses to Indians sans geographical, cultural, technological and economic barriers. Directly funded by the University Grants Commission (UGC), MOOCs are set to change the educational landscape of the country.

Having firmly established its footprints in conventional education, Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (PDU) in Gandhinagar is all set to rock the domain of online education as well. The University is expected to release a number of online courses in the near future. Make no mistakes! It is indeed a masterstroke!

Have a great read!

Amrita Chakraborty  
Editor, SLS Mirror  
Lecturer, Media & Communication,  
SLS, PDU.



# *Distinguished Lecture Series*

## DISTINGUISHED LECTURE BY H.E. ERNEST RWAMUCYO, HIGH COMMISSIONER OF RWANDA TO INDIA

Rapporteur: SLS Correspondent

**24 Apr. 2019:** Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (PDPU) hosted a Distinguished Lecture with His Excellency Ernest Rwamucyo, High Commissioner of Rwanda to India on 24th April, 2019. The topic of the lecture was “United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: Role of India and Rwanda in South - South Cooperation”. The event was hosted at Block – B at PDPU Campus.

Prof. Nigam Dave, Director of School of Liberal Studies at PDPU hosted Mr. Rwamucyo in the campus. In 2011, Honorable Prime Minister Bernard Makuza had also visited PDPU.

Mr. Rwamucyo talked about sustainable solutions of Rwanda. He also talked about the growth of current economic condition of Rwanda and its policies such as women empowerment and open economy. He also called for investors to invest in their economy as Rwanda is a new market for the growth of any new venture.

H.E. Rwamucyo is accredited to Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. Prior to his appointment to India, Mr. Rwamucyo was High Commissioner of Rwanda to the United Kingdom and Non-Resident Ambassador to Ireland. He has extensive experience working on development and poverty reduction policies in Sub-Saharan Africa. He has worked with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in New York as Policy Advisor on the Millennium Development Goals.



High Commissioner of Rwanda H.E. Ernest Rwamucyo for Distinguished Lecture



H.E. Ernest Rwamucyo Signing the Visitor's Book with the Backdrop of Prime Minister Makuza's Photo



# *Key Events of SLS*

## PANEL DISCUSSION ON UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES FOR INDIA

Rapporteur: Department of Social Science

**5 Apr. 2019:** A Panel Discussion on Universal Basic Income (UBI) was organized by Department of Social Science, School of Liberal Studies (SLS), PDPU on 5th April, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. The panellists of the event were Shri CK Koshy, IAS (Retd.) Former add. Chief Secretary, GoG; Dr. Rasananda Panda, Registrar, MICA; Dr. B. Jagannatham, Faculty, Centre for Gandhian Thought and Peace Studies and Dr. Prashant Panda, Head of Department of Social Science, SLS, PDPU. The moderator and the coordinator of the event was Dr. Anurag Srivastava and Dr. D. Sriram.

The event was inaugurated by presenting mementos to the panellists to greet them. The welcome address was delivered by Dr. Nigam Dave, Dean and Director of School of Liberal Studies. Dr Dave briefly talked about how the idea on conducting discussion on UBI has emerged. As a moderator in his opening remarks Dr. Anurag Srivastava underlined the context and background of UBI by articulating few important things in the context of UBI in India. He gave a number of example of farmers, as India is basically an agricultural country. In the Interim budget of year 2019 government had declared to give Rs.6,000 per annum to farmers with less than 2 hectares of land and at the same time Telangana State Government is providing an income support under '*Rythu Bandhu*' scheme by giving Rs. 4,000 per acre per season, irrespective of the size of their land holding. Further he also talked about the recent political manifesto of congress government on providing universal basic income per month of Rs.6,000 for farmers. At the end, he commented on the increased issue of automation and made the discussion open for panellists. The detailed remark of each of the panellists are given below:

### **Shri CK Koshy, IAS (Retd.) Former add. Chief Secretary, GoG:**

Initiating the discussion Koshy said debate on Universal Basic Income for India is having its essence from the concept of socialism and capitalism. As per socialism it is a responsibility of state to serve its citizens from womb to tomb, on the other hand capitalism is saying citizens may take care of themselves and government is just needed to perform its administrative functions. But in reality neither of this system helps in solving some major social issues such as poverty. Vicious cycle of poverty is still there since the independence. At present it is slow but continuous. To justify it he gave an example of drought of Gujarat. In the year of 1968-69 monsoon failed in Gujarat for consecutively three years and state was not having adequate infrastructure such as bridges, canals etc. Hence people became helpless. At that time as a part of administrative duty the State Government had launched scarcity relief work under which government provided various types of ancillary work like digging to workers who willingly want to work to earn their momentary livelihood. With the help of such example he made a point that government provided money in return of the work as it is believed as per traditional ideology that government cannot give direct money to needy. However today the scenario has changed. At present with the current way of economic growth, there is a surge in the inequalities of income and hence assured income is a necessity for a certain class of population. Concluding his points, he gave an example of pilot project of Canadian government on UBI and its positive impact on lives of people. He also pointed out his ideas optimistically on how it should be implemented in our country and what will be the measures to practice it.

**Dr. Rasananda Panda, Registrar, MICA**

According to Dr. Rasananda Panda the idea of Universal Basic Income is relevant but not new. It was came before many centuries ago and at present all around the world people are discussing it with some newness. Basically UBI is a Public Spending Programme. To justify his arguments from the point of view of an economist, he explained the concepts of welfare economics and principles of distributive justice and social justice. Inequality is a fact of life and a perfect mechanism to reduce it is with distributive justice. He made his arguments strong by raising questions that the schemes are excellent but what about transaction cost, who will be the provider, what mechanism will be used and for how long it should be continued. As per his perspective, no policy is efficient and effective. But with the proper public finance it is possible to maintain its efficacy and looking at the political economy it will work. He also elucidated various economists' view points and their diverse principles in the field of Micro and Macro Economics to validate his arguments. He concluded his arguments by giving positive vision that government should implement it once but only for limited time period without pressurising citizens for tax.

**Dr. B. Jagannatham, Faculty, Centre for Gandhian Thought and Peace Studies:**

Dr. Jagannatham began by quoting that in India today almost 22% population is living below poverty line and about half of them are from reserved cast i.e. Schedule Cast (SC) and Schedule Tribe (ST). India is a welfare state and to the some extent believed in an ideology that state will think of each and every individual. The Indian constitution also mentioned important role of the state towards citizens of the country. Indian population especially people live in rural areas are dependent on agricultural activity to earn their livelihood which is uncertain and natural and that's why farmers of poor states such as Bihar, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and the likes face so many problems in earning their livelihood and which leads to increase in farmers suicide. Today, focus of country has shifted from statism to capitalism and hence the state has merely became a facilitator. Another aspect of UBI is about globalisation, due to which people are migrating to other countries for a higher expectations of earning and a better livelihood. The elected representatives of the country are from the affluent class and thus, they don't understand the plight of the people from lower strata of the society. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Conventions of United Nations , ASEAN Human Rights Declaration, etc. talk about to support needy people. Our state government can partially start an implementation of UBI in rural areas especially for less-privileged people. So far in this context government had implemented Public Distribution System and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment policies. At last he concluded his thoughts by emphasising that human angle have to be seen in such policies and government should modify and enforce it from time to time.

**Dr. Prashant Panda, Head of Department of Social Science, SLS-PDPU:**

Dr. Panda commenced his debate with the recent provisions related to income tax declared by government in this year's interim budget. As government had declared that people who will buy second house will get reduction from the tax on the income earn from the other house in a form of rent. However, it has been found out that the government has not changed its ideology and it's the time for the citizens of India to take necessary steps in order to modify the orthodox ideology of government. The world is changing and with that the idea behind universal basic income is changing. No appropriate and necessary steps have been taken by the government in the last few years. As time is changing and automation is increasing, policy makers should think about giving tax exemption to companies who have more labourers. At last he concluded up by saying that such policies

were non-avoidable and government should implement it on timely basis.

### **Responses from the panel with respect to questions raised by the floor:**

At the end of the discussion, students have asked various questions out of their curiosity which includes: What UBI look like from an economic man's perspective? What will be the impact of it in the country like India where in some states such as Gujarat government spend almost one crore to create 4 jobs and at the same time half of the population in rural areas don't have BPL card hence implementation of this idea will be critical or will it become a game changer?

In response of these questions, panel respectively tried to satisfy students by explaining various principles of economics. UBI is not an intellectual statement and is not attached with the lifestyle of people. Here, universal in this context is government reach to all the citizens. As per Chief Economic Adviser Arvind Subramanian, India should follow quasi UBI concept. It also lead to inflation because as income increase spending will increase and consequently it lead to increase in national income and per capita income. The spending in creation of jobs will differ from place to place as it depends on the economic condition of a state, in states such as Gujarat where development is on a peak, the government have to put more money to create job as per the microeconomics concept of production-function.

### **Conclusion:**

Concluding the discussion Shri. Koshy told one funny story to justify all the arguments in accordance with Indian man perspective and proved that there are people in country who do not require help of UBI but ultimately wish to take it. He also put forward various challenges in the enforcement of it such as lack of banking and technological facilities, high population of migrant and tribal and identification of poor people in backward regions of a state. In the solutions of all these challenges he explained that our country need to take precautions like high policing and auditing and more time and deep relevant analysis before taking such initiative. This idea is good but before taking it into consideration first we have to question that whether we are prepared or not? Other panellists agreed to this sentiment. At last Charvi Agrawal, student of School of Liberal Studies thanked all the panellists for gracing the session with their presence and to enlighten students through such a fruitful discussion.





## PLACEMENT DRIVE AT SLS

Rapporteur: Dr. Nausheen Nizami

**8 Apr. 2019:** The month of April at SLS began with some great opportunities for the Final year students to streamline their career as Yuva Unstoppable (a premier NGO based in Ahmedabad) which came for campus interviews on 8th April 2019.

Yuva Unstoppable was incepted in the year 2005 with a vision of social advancement through the force of the youth. It has mobilized more than one lakh twenty thousand volunteers and has transformed the lives of more than two lakh forty thousand children. In the mission to boost student's higher education, it has provided the scholarship to more than 600 students who aspire to become doctors, engineers, architectures, C.A., etc. Also under the mentorship of the Education Minister of Gujarat, YUVA Unstoppable is creating a platform to help all the bright yet needy students.

Swati Shah, HR Manager and Pawan Jain, Vice President came to SLS to conduct interviews for two posts for recruitment which are Project Executive and Corporate Communication Executive for their Ahmedabad office. 15 students applied for the said posts out of which 3 students were selected. The starting package offered to them was 1.8 lakhs which was negotiable as per the student's performance, skills and post.

The Training and Placement Cell, SLS congratulates all the selected students for their achievement and wish them a great career ahead.

## CAPSULE COURSE ON GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Rapporteur: SLS Correspondent

**8-9 Apr. 2019:** A Capsule Course on Global Citizenship was organized on 8th and 9th April, 2019 at the School of Liberal Studies (SLS), PDPU. The capsule courses are skill focused short term courses provided by PDPU to hone the talent of the youth. Capsule course on Global Citizenship is modelled on the UNESCO SDG goal of providing understanding of Global Citizenship and inclusivity to students. The course was conducted by Prof. Nigam Dave and the sessions were taken by SLS faculty members along with Preyan Mehta. The participants of the course brainstormed on the global challenges and solutions.



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## WORKSHOP ON 'HOW TO BUILD AN IMPRESSIVE CV'

Rapporteur: Dr. Nausheen Nizami

**17 Apr. 2019:** A precise and comprehensive Curriculum Vitae (CV) is the need of the hour in today's professional world. Many a times, the first impression of a prospective intern or employee is made right by looking at their CV. Students at undergraduate level often are confused on the right format for a professional CV. In order to train them effectively, a workshop was organized by the Training and Placement Cell, SLS on 'How to build an Impressive CV'. Phalgun Kumar, Principal Consultant at Education Mural was invited as an expert to train the students on 17th April 2019 at SLS.

The workshop began with a discussion on the general understanding of a CV. The expert discussed the importance of a short and impressive CV with the students. Some specimens of the CV were shown to the students by the expert after which every student got a chance to discuss their own CVs with the expert. Phalgun Kumar patiently guided each student on how to modify their existing CV in order to improve its visual appeal and consolidate all the required data. The workshop ended with some career related advices and was found to be very useful by all the students who attended it.

## WORKSHOP ON 'HOW TO USE LINKEDIN FOR PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING AND CAREER GUIDANCE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION'

Rapporteur: Dr. Nausheen Nizami

**19 Apr. 2019:** The Training and Placement (T & P) Cell of SLS organized a special session on 'How to use LinkedIn for professional networking and career guidance for higher education' on 19th April 2019 and invited Phalgun Kumar, as the external expert. Kumar, who is currently working as the Principal Consultant at Education Mural came along with his core team comprising of Anushka Chandran and Karan. The workshop was attended by students of different streams of SLS.

The session began with a warm welcome to the expert and the audience by Dr. Nausheen Nizami, current coordinator of T & P Cell of SLS. She stressed on the need to network professionally through LinkedIn apart from the peer social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram and the likes. Phalgun Kumar initiated the discussion on the importance of 'Professional Networking' in today's world and the opportunities in everyone's life to build their professional networks. He stressed on how attending seminars, conferences, internships, outdoor activities and workshops gives everyone an opportunity to connect with the like-minded people and its importance in maintaining such connections online for future collaborations.



Clockwise: Group photograph of experts and audience, Mr Phalgun Kumar discussing importance of professional networking, demonstration of LinkedIn Page and participants discussing their queries with the expert team

A demonstration of LinkedIn page was done by the expert to guide the students on how to use their own page effectively. It was found that most of the participants had their LinkedIn accounts but were not using it for networking. Kumar explained how one can look for internships and placements in fields of interest and specialization by narrowing down the 'search' criteria and look for opportunities in preferred geographical regions. Further the expert explained how the second and third connections in LinkedIn can be useful networks for future. He stressed that spending few minutes on a daily basis is enough to actively maintain one's profile and one should be mindful on sharing posts on LinkedIn platform as they reflect one's interest and alignment to a specific field.

The session ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Tejas Dave and Dr. Nizami and a group photograph was taken with all the participants.

## URBAN GOVERNANCE AND SMART CITIES: CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS

Rapporteur: Department of Social Science

**24-25 Apr. 2019:** The School of Liberal Studies hosted a two day national level workshop on '*Urban Governance and Smart Cities: Challenges and Prospects*' from 24th April 2019 to 25th April 2019. The workshop was organised by School of Liberal Studies in Collaboration with International City/Country Management Association and Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies, Osmania University, Hyderabad. The event was coordinated by Dr. D Sriram and Dr. Anurag Srivastava,

Faculties of Public Policy and Public Administration of SLS, PDPU. The Chief Guest of the event was Prof. Y. Pardhasaradhi, Director of Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental studies, Osmania University, Hyderabad. The Guest of Honour was Shri C.K.Koshy, Retired IAS, Former Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Gujarat. Prof. Shivanand Swamy, Executive Director, CoE-UT, CEPT University was also invited as the special guest of the event.

The workshop brought together 180 undergraduate and post graduate students of *Public Administration and Urban Governance* who extensively participated in discussions and interactive dialogue to collaboratively understand the challenges and prospects of Urban Governance and Smart Cities. In the direction of building up a holistic understanding of the topic distinguished government officials, professional practitioners from the field of public administration, urban planning, electronics and communication, gender studies and police administration were invited to facilitate few sessions for the participants.

The course was introduced with the intent to impart knowledge about various challenges and prospects in dealing with Urban Governance and Smart Cities in today's era. The topic covered in lectures and discussions by Prof. Y Pardhasaradhi included *Urban Governance and Smart Cities* in India which helped students to understand concept of urban governance, role of delivery agencies in city planning and in this third civilisation how youngsters are going to inculcate this innovations.

Experts such as Shri. CK Koshy talked about *Policy Paradigms in Urban Governance* whereas Prof. Shivanand Swami and Prof. Saswat Bandyopadhyay talked about *Urban Mobility and Urban Governance* as well as *Smart City Planning* respectively. Mr. Neeraj Tyagi briefly talked about *Urban Governance and Smart City Planning* while Dr. Sundaravalli Naraynswami discussed about *Business and Policy Perspectives of ICT in Smart Cities and Urban Transportation*. Mrs. Hetal Shah and Dr. Akshat Mehta gave valuable insights on *Engendering Urban Development and Smart Security in Changing Scenario of Urbanisation* respectively. At last Mr. Lalit Dashore talked about *Smart Urban Resilience Strategies* in various cities of India with reference to Surat, Gujarat.

On the other day the workshop started with various activities which mainly included identification of problems in creating smart cities and solutions for the same. Students identified the problems in the *Problem Wheel* which was categorised into: Core, Interlinked, Practical and Others and pinned their problems in the wheel as per their understanding. Simultaneously, there was a different section for the solution where students wrote the solutions to the problems they identified in the wheel. The course concluded with presentations from participants to assess their overall learning experience by Dr. D Sriram, Dr. Anurag Srivastava, Dr. Subranshu Goswamy, Mr. Abhikshit Chauhan, Mr. Aditya

Joshi, and Mr. Rajdeep Raut. The participants gave various models of smart cities which showcased their learning outcome of the workshop. At the end of the workshop, certificates and prizes were distributed to participants as a token of appreciation by the Director General of PDPU, Prof. C. Gopalkrishna, Registrar of PDPU, Mr. Tarun Shah and Director of School of Liberal Studies, Dr. Nigam Dave.

The two days national workshop proved to be a significant learning experience for the participants who have the utmost desire to understand the concept of urbanisation and its pros and cons in creating Smart Cities. ICMA Team Members Anurag, Tanay Abhijeet, Drashti, Utkarsh, Yashvi, Kshitij and others Charvi, Deshna, Kuldeep, Mahima, Pinal, Riya, Ryan, Sohini and Shashwat worked as the student coordinator of the event.



Chief Guest Prof. Y. Pardhasaradhi being welcome by Dr. Ashish Joshi



Anurag Velaury welcomes Neeraj Tyagi, VP GIFT City



Guest of Honour Shri. C. K. Koshy being welcomed by Prof. Nigam Dave



Dr. Anurag Srisvasta of SLS PDPU briefing participants



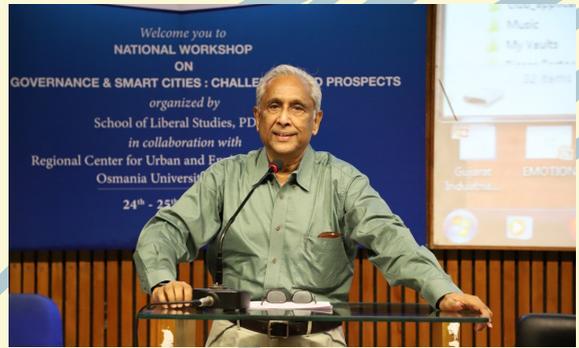
Participants of the Workshop



Speakers of Day 1



Session on Urban Governance and Smart Cities in India by Chief Guest Prof. Y Pardhasaradhi, Director of Regional Centre For Urban and Environmental studies, Osmania University, Hyderabad



Session on Urban Governance: Policy Paradigms by Mr. C. K. Koshy, IAS (Retired), and Former Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Gujarat



Session on Urban Mobility by Prof. Shivanand Swamy, Executive Director, CoE-UT, CEPT University



Session on Business and Policy Perspective of ICT in Smart Cities and Urban Transportation by Dr. Sundaravalli Narayanaswami, Professor, PSG Area IIM-Ahmedabad



Workshop Participants of Day1



Session on Urban Governance and Smart City Planning by Mr. Neeraj Tyagi, Vice President (Planning), GIFT City, Gandhinagar



Session on Engendering Urban Development by Mrs. Hetal Shah, Director- Development Quest Foundation



Session on Smart Urban Resilience Strategy by Lalit Dashora, an Independent Consultant



Session on Urban Planning and City by Prof. Saswat Bandhyopadhyay, Professor, CEPT University



Session on Urbanisation and Smart Security by Dr. Akshat Mehta, I/C Registrar, Raksha Shakti University, Gandhinagar



Skit by Student on Day 1



Participants de briefing on activity on Day 2



Participants in Activity on Day 2



Organizing Team of Public Administration Dept.



Wheel on Problems of Smart Cities



Solution Provided by Workshop Participants to Problems of Smart Cities



Dr. D. Sriram Addressing Audience on Day 2



Workshop Participants Making Posters on Day 2



Dr. Shubrانشu Goswami Judging Student Poster Presentation activity on Day 2



Dr. Reddy Welcoming Prof. Pradeep Mallik



Dr. Tejas Dave welcomed by Dr. Anurag Srivastava



Prof. Pradeep Mallik facilitating students with Certificate

## FAREWELL CEREMONY OF FINAL YEAR STUDENTS OF THE SCHOOL OF LIBERAL STUDIES

Rapporteur: Department of Languages, Literature and Aesthetics

**30 Apr. 2019:** Every new beginning is often disguised as an end and heavy-hearted with this sentiment, the School of Liberal Studies bid farewell to yet another batch. While goodbyes are often difficult to say sometimes it's not necessary that everything must be said. But more often than not, even articulation does not cut it. With this responsibility, the school, on 29 and 30 of April held informal and formal farewell ceremonies for the Under-graduate batch of 2015 & Graduate batch of 2017. The programme was organized by the batch of 2016, under the guidance of a senior student Vidhi Thakkar, and Dr. Niyati Trivedi.

The informal events were to celebrate moments of merriment and laughter lived to the fullest. The first set of event began at three-thirty on 29, with a round of Antakshari, followed by an improv comedy session. This is where the batch came in the limelight and continued to break into songs in an unanimous voice as they had for the last four years. The batch of 2015 is famous for its collective-happy-go-lucky-attitude and this was the best way one could pay a tribute and honour their ways. This was followed by *Santra-Kela Awards* which kept a lot of our seniors thrilled. The awards are an informal tradition at SLS conducted by the juniors in order to pay tribute to the graduating batch.

The next set of informal events was staged in the auditorium from nine in the morning on the 30. The event was inaugurated with a dance by the batch of 2018 which resulted in an adrenaline charged commencement of the programme. The batch of 2017 shortly followed suite with their well-choreographed dance. A good amount of special performances from the batch of 2015 were also a part of the program. They danced in groups, some sang for the first time, some read poetry out and some belly-danced. Jahnvi Gala, Nishi Shah, Bhavya Bhatt, Sakshi Thakkar, Devarsh Gandhi, Pranav and Roma Patel gave their performances to name a few. A one hour long video was also showcased which comprised of pictures from all four years of their journey in SLS. The gargantuan task of making this video was undertaken by Bharat Garg from the batch of 2015. The event was concluded with fifteen minutes long batch dances from 2016, and 2015. The latter didn't show any signs of getting down from the stage. For this zeal and energy, the batch of 2015 was congratulated but soon had to depart to prepare for the formal event.



The formal event started by 3.30 pm attended by Dean and Director, School of liberal studies, Prof. Nigam Dave, members of faculty, students of all batches and the graduating class of 2019. The event began by a welcome to everyone followed by a formal presentation on all the achievements of the students of SLS 15 batch. The event was emceed by Crystal Magotra. The presentation included the international exposure experiences, Research paper presentations and internships done by the students.



Crystal Magotra as the Emcee of the Event



Prof. Nigam Dave, Dean and Director of SLS

The farewell address was given by Dr. Nigam Dave in which he elucidated the importance of giving back to whichever organisation the students be a part of and to always believe in themselves. He also spoke about the wonderful experience he had while interacting with the 2015 batch.

The audience was addressed by CFO, Mr. Abhinav Kapadia who gave inspiring lessons to the students for them to be able to successfully step out into the world. Members of faculty came forward to share the experiences they had with the students and the lovely times they cherished.



The students of 16 batch and 17 batch came forward to reflect on their interactions and experiences with the graduating batch in an emotional speech given by Aastha Maheshwari of batch 16 followed by other students.

At the culmination, the students of the UG 15 batch and MA 17 batch came forward to share their wonderful experiences at SLS. The event was concluded with everyone moving to the convocation lawn for group photographs.

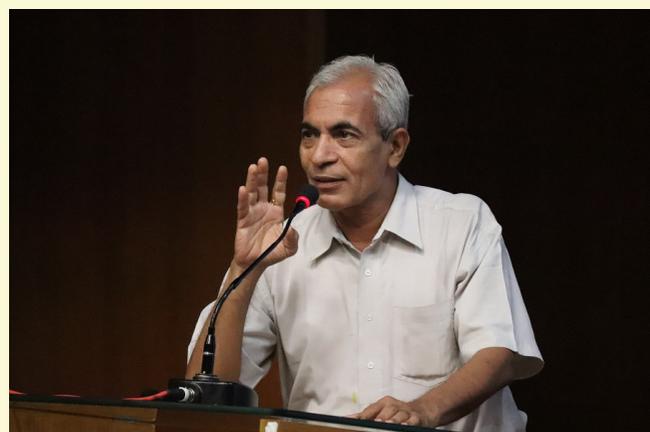
The event was enjoyed and cherished by all, we bid farewell to the graduating batch of 2019 and wish them luck for their future endeavors!



Mr. Abhinav Kapadia, CFO-PDPU



Prof. Pradeep Mallik, HOD of the Dept. of Languages, Literature and Aesthetics



Prof. Ashvin R Dave, HOD of the Department of Commerce and Business Administration



Dr. Prashant Panda, HOD of the Department of Social Science





*Events Organized by Various  
Departments of SLS*

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WORKSHOP BY HIMANSHU DESAI, INTERNATIONAL ART CURATOR AND MUSICIAN ON  
'CONTEMPORARY ART AND LITERATURE'

Rapporteur: Dr. Neeta Khurana

**5 Apr. 2019:** The School of Liberal Studies at Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University organized a Workshop by Himanshu Desai, International Art Curator and Musician on 'Contemporary Art and Literature' for the postgraduate students of Semester 2 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on 5th April, 2019.

## FIELD VISIT AT HOSPITAL OF MENTAL HEALTH, SHAHIBAUG

Coordinated by Dr. Ritu Sharma & Mr. Taronish Pastakia

**8 Apr. 2019:** On Monday, April 08, 2019, 21 students of Psychology Minor Batch '16 visited the Hospital of Mental Health, Shahibaug, Ahmedabad, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. IST. This brief but intensive field trip provided first hand practical insight into the workings of a mental hospital and the day-to-day activities of mental health professionals including but not limited to psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, occupational therapists, psychiatric nurses, mental health social workers and psychometrists to name a few. The major objective of the field trip was to get students to relate their classroom knowledge of symptoms and treatments of mental disorders to the real-world setting, observing similarities as well as discrepancies.

Other than observing patients with common disorders like schizophrenia spectrum, bipolar, addiction, neuroses, etc. they also got a chance to observe the medico-legal, emergency, out-patient, IQ assessment and occupational health departments in action. Fortunately they got an opportunity to observe live cases of patients being diagnosed via the ICD-10 as well.



## SPECIAL LECTURE ON MEDIA ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Rapporteur: Shreya Sharma

**19 April, 2019:** The School of Liberal Studies organised a half-day lecture on Media Entrepreneurship on 19th April, 2019. The event was coordinated by Mr. Mukund Shukla, Lecturer of the Department of Languages, Literature and Aesthetics. The first session was conducted by Mr. Vinod Dave on *Media Entrepreneurship*. Mr. Dave runs an advertising agency and a digital news portal.



Mr. Vinod Dave while conducting his Lecture



Mr. Nadeem Jafri sharing his entrepreneurial journey

The second session was conducted by Mr. Nadeem Jafri on *Innovations and Promotions*. Mr. Jafri conducted his speech by narrating his own entrepreneurial journey of *Hearty Mart* which is a chain of supermarkets in rural Gujarat.



# *Faculty Achievements*

## DR. SITAKANTA MISHRA

Dr. Sitakanta Mishra was invited by Pacific Forum (USA) to represent India at the meeting of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament in Bali, Indonesia on 07 April 2019.

He was also sponsored by Stimson Center, Washington DC, to present a paper on *'Revision of India's Nuclear Doctrine: Repercussions on South Asian Crisis Stability'* at the International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention, Toronto, Canada on 30 March 2019.

Dr Mishra wrote a book chapter *'Pursue a Triangular MIRV Restraint Regime in Southern Asia'* in Michael Krepon, et al., eds. *Confrontation in Southern Asia*, Stimson Center, Washington DC, USA.



Dr. Mishra at Bali



Dr. Mishra Presenting at International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention, Toronto, Canada



Dr. Mishra at International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention, Toronto, Canada



## DR. NEETA KHURANA

Dr. Neeta Khurana presented a research paper titled '*Gender Justice and Empowerment: A Study of Chhara Bootlegger Women in Ahmedabad*' at the 2019 WEI Vienna International Academic Conference, in Vienna, Austria on 16-18 April, 2019



Neeta Khurana Vienna Conference April 2019



## DR. NIYATI TRIVEDI

Ph.D. Viva Voce of Ms. Niyati Trivedi

Ms. Niyati Trivedi, a research scholar from the Department of Languages, Literature and Aesthetics, SLS under the able guidance of Prof. Nigam Dave, successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis on 19th April, 2019. Her thesis '*At the Intersection: A Study of Select Indian Performing Artistes' Self-Narratives*' leans on the intersection of narrative study, self-life-writing, performance study and gender study. The thesis examined the act of textually constructing the self by a theatre artiste which creates a space to study nuanced layers of conceptualizing, constructing and representing the self.

The external examiner Prof. T. S. Satyanath, a former professor in the Department of Modern Indian Languages and Literary Studies, University of Delhi appreciated the work and provided his expert suggestions for taking the work forward..



Audience of the Event



Dr. Niyati Shah with the Group of Faculty Members



## DR. RITU SHARMA

Dr. Ritu Sharma was invited by Adani Institute of Infrastructure Management for the expert lectures on the module of Managing Negotiations.

Dr. Sharma published paper titled '*Satisfaction of Life of Slum Dwellers Pre- and Post- Rehabilitation in India*'. Sharma, Ritu; Khurana, Neeta; Bagrij, Anna. Scholedge International Journal of Multidisciplinary & Allied Studies ISSN 2394-336X, MIAR ICDS Rank: 3.5 (2017), International Peer Reviewed Indexed with EBSCO.

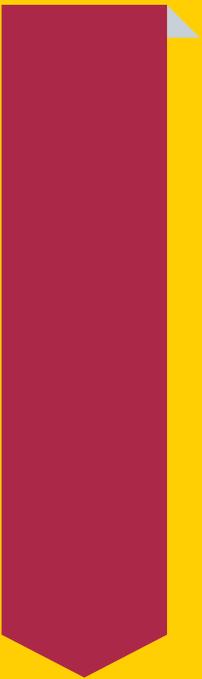
She was also invited to serve as the Program Committee member for 64th ICSB World Congress in 2019 which will be held in Cairo, Egypt, on June 18-21, 2019.

## MR. SHANTI P. CHAUDHARI

Shanti P. Chaudhari presented a paper at the Delhi University on 19-20 April, 2019 in the 3rd DLA-SRFLIS Summit 2019 - International Conference on 'Digital Age Strategies in Information Management for Sustainable Librarianship' in the topic '*Creating PDPU Library website through Joomla! (CMS)*'.



Shanti P. Chaudhari at 3rd DLA-SRFLIS Summit 2019



# *Students' Achievements*

SR NO	FULL NAME	CONFERENCE DATE	FULL CONFERENCE NAME	LOCATION	PAPER TITLE
1.	HARSHIT GOYAL	03 APRIL 2019	International Interdisciplinary conference on Human Resource Management	Sweden	Analysis on learning transfers in academics & non-academics.
2.	MILONI OZA	03 APRIL 2019	international interdisciplinary conference on HRM	Sweden	Analysis of Green Human Resource Management
3.	SIDDHI TANWAR	04 APRIL 2019	International interdisciplinary conference on HRM, Gothenburg,sweden	Sweden	Analyzing Professional Quality of Life of Workers in Textile Industry in Surat, India.
4.	PRANAV THAKKAR	04 APRIL 2019	International interdisciplinary conference on HRM, Gothenburg,sweden	Sweden	Employment of specially challenged in gujarat, INDIA
5.	TANYA DESAI	05 APRIL 2019	13th International Conference on Language, Education, Humanities and Innovation 2019	Japan	A Study of The Youtube Promotional Content of Amazon India and Flipkart To Understand Their Agenda to Create a User-Focused Brand.
6.	ABHISHREE KHANNA	05 APRIL 2019	13th International Conference on Language, Education, Humanities and Innovation 2019	Japan	The Psychological Impact of Colour Usage in Bollywood Upon Audience: Studying Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Works

SR NO	FULL NAME	CONFERENCE DATE	FULL CONFERENCE NAME	LOCATION	PAPER TITLE
7.	FARIBURZ IRANI	06 APRIL 2019	TFCR 2nd International Conference on Humanities, Business Economics and Social Sciences	Turkey	Development and Validation of self-regulation process to increase Heart Rate Variability coherence
8.	DEVANSH RAMAKRISHNAN	09 APRIL 2019	Review of Socio Economic Perspectives Multidisciplinary Conference	Austria	Growth of Cryptocurrencies: An Assessment
9.	PAARMITA ANIKET SANGHVI	10 APRIL 2019	2019-4th international conference on Business, Economics, Law, Language and Psychology (ICBELLP)	United Kingdom	Transforming human resource strategies to cope with diversity: literature review
10.	ANKITA SHARMA	10 APRIL 2019	International Conference on Research in Teaching, Education and Learning (Eurasia Research)	United Kingdom	Seeing Through The Lens of Gender Fluidity in Inclusive Education
11.	BHAVYA DALAL	10 APRIL 2019	4th International Conference on Business, Economics, Law, Language and Psychology (ICBELLP)	United Kingdom	A Study on female labour force participation rate in India.

SR NO	FULL NAME	CONFERENCE DATE	FULL CONFERENCE NAME	LOCATION	PAPER TITLE
12.	ADITYA AJAY MEHTA	11 APRIL 2019	Global Entrepreneurship and Business Management Summit 2019	Canada	An Analysis on Adoption and Acceptance of E-Wallets in the Cash Dominated Market of India
13.	LAJJA MISTRY	15 APRIL 2019	International conference on communication and managements	Greece	Integrated marketing solutions- becoming one with digital
14.	HELY DESAI	16 APRIL 2019	2019 West East Institute Conference on Education and Humanities and Social Sciences	Austria	China's Footprint In The North Korean Imbrogio
15.	AKSHIT BADIANI	23 APRIL 2019	12th RSEP International Social Science Conference	Spain	Impact of Social Media on Political Campaigns
16.	PRIYANKA DANI	23 APRIL 2019	12th RSEP International Social Science Conference	Spain	Analysing the perception of mental illness in gen x, gen y and gen z
17.	YASH MALVIYA	23 APRIL 2019	12th RSEP International Social Science Conference	Spain	Retaining brand value through building Ecosystem : Studying Apple Inc.
18.	FIZA ANAND	23 APRIL 2019	12th RSEP International Social Science Conference	Spain	A Study of the Effects of ASMR (Autonomous Sensory Meridian Response) Stimuli in Advertising Campaigns
19.	POOJA PIPALIA	23 APRIL 2019	12th RSEP International Social Science Conference	Spain	The Relation Between Curiosity and exploration, personal growth initiative and identity processing styles: a comparative study on indian youth

SR NO	FULL NAME	CONFERENCE DATE	FULL CONFERENCE NAME	LOCATION	PAPER TITLE
20.	SHRESHTHA DANDNAYAK	24 APRIL 2019	5th International Conference On Information Management	United Kingdom	Consumer Perception & Acquaintance of Food Ordering Services in India
21.	ABHINAV JINDAL	24 APRIL 2019	Review of Socio-Economic Perspectives (RSEP) International Conferences on Social Issues and Economic Studies	Spain	Mobile Banking: Comparative Analysis of Banking and Private Sector Banks in India
22.	DRUTA BHATT	24 APRIL 2019	Review of Socio-Economic Perspectives (RSEP) International Conferences on Social Issues and Economic Studies	Spain	Demographic Analysis of the Rightist vote
23.	AYUSHI SHAH	24 APRIL 2019	Review of Socio Economic Prespectives	Spain	The Impacts of Book Cover Graphics on Impulse Buying Decisions
24.	MEGHAN VORA	25 APRIL 2019	Review of Socio Economic Prespectives	Spain	Business Challenges in Ship Chartering
25.	PARTH ZAVERI	25 APRIL 2019	Review of Socio Economic Prespectives	Spain	Effectives of Jingles and commercial music: A comparative study on adults
26.	VIPANSHI CHHEDA	27 APRIL 2019	International Conference on Cognitive Behavioural Intervention	India	Decision Making in Internal Assessment



# *Media Corner*





### Colleges organise awareness campaign

PDPU recently organised a camp to demonstrate how to cast vote via EVM and verify paper slip in VVPAT machines. Over 500 students turned up for mock voting and District Election officials explained voting procedure using EVM machines.

Dr Anurag Srivastava, a faculty member at PDPU, said, "We organised the camp as part of ECI initiative that no voter should be left out. A lot of debate is taking place on reliability of EVMs and VVPATs and through the camp we clarified lots of queries. Those voting for the first time saw it firsthand how to cast the vote properly."

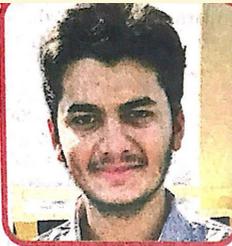
DA-ICT and GNLU, both in Gandhinagar, took part in a marathon organised by State government. DA-ICT assisted Gandhinagar collectorate to organise "run for voter awareness" programme. Students of GNLU also participated alongside Army & BSF jawans. GNLU also organised street plays and skit sessions."

21-04-2019

**KAMAL WAGHEL**

**PDPU**

**TRAVELLING TO: SURAT**



■ Lok Sabha elections come once every five years and as a young citizen of India, I believe that the youth should check the credentials of the party as well as the candidate thoroughly before voting for them. We can skip college for a day, as election day is vital for our country. The future of India for the next five years will be decided based on our votes and so, the youth must vote.

15-04-2019

**JAYRAJSINH CHUDASAMA**

**PDPU**

**TRAVELLING TO: DHANDHUKA**



■ My constituency is a very small place called Tangdi, which has a population of 2000 to 3000 people. If I don't vote, the percentage of votes will go down. I will be going back just to vote and then come back immediately, as I have my exams. I hope that I can somehow motivate people to cast their votes."

15-04-2019

## MIRROR NOW



Mirror Now

19 April at 07:30

#MyFirstVote | MIRROR NOW's Avni Raja speaks to the students of Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University in Gandhinagar Gujarat about their expectations from #LokSabhaElections2019



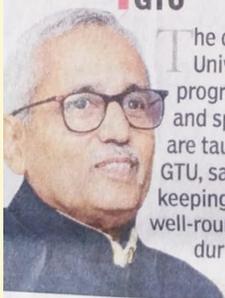
19-04-2019

heroes and villains. Some authors that the budding techies read as part of their curriculum include O Henry, Saki, Ray Bradbury and Shirley Jackson. "Language and literature are part of the first semester BTech course. Students are introduced to unabridged works and are encouraged to prepare a review by the end of the semester," said Dr Shweta Garg, a senior faculty member and coordinator for the initiative.



**PDU**

In addition to the English and Communication core course for engineering students, Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (PDU), offers capsule courses. Students have had to take three such courses over four years, since the 2018 intake. Prof **Nigam Dave**, the director of School of Liberal Studies, PDU, said that the aim of the course is to strengthen core and soft skills. "Student clubs run events to improve communication skills," he said.



**GTU**

The colleges under Gujarat Technological University (GTU) have a 30-hour compulsory programme in which communication, written and spoken English, and personality development are taught. Prof **Navin Sheth**, vice-chancellor of GTU, said that the programme was introduced keeping in mind the market requirements for a well-rounded professional. "The course, introduced during the recent course upgrade, has helped them improve their skills," he said.

29-04-2019

**ELIMINATING PLASTIC @PDU**

Students of PDU make paper bags to replace plastic bags on campus

Students from different campuses are not only striving to eliminate the use of plastic, but also promoting use of other products in place of plastic. Kejal, president of environment club at PDU says, "As a part of the club, we make sure that the students do their best to save the environment. The club made sure that the stationery and canteen vendors on campus do not provide plastic bags to whoever is making a purchase. Instead, students are asked to get their own bags. We even started an initiative where we made and distributed paper bags in our campus and to shops around it. The idea was to replace plastic bags with paper bags."

**TIMES interact**  
services  
GYM EQUIPMENTS

02-04-2019



## **Editorial Team**

Prof. Pradeep Mallik

Ms. Amrita Chakraborty

Ms. Niti Samani

Ms. Vishruti Ranpura

## **Graphics**

Ms. Niti Samani

Ms. Vishruti Ranpura



