It is hard to believe that more than four years have passed since IIMT was founded! The fifth batch of PGP students and the fourth batch of PP students have entered the portals of this institution. It is a privilege to teach, mentor and guide these young minds on their way to professional and personal success. Not to be left behind, our PGPBM inaugurated its fourth batch. IIMT now has a judicious mix of “youth” and “experience” among its students and even alumni! Other significant events such as Independence Day and the newly designated Yoga Day were celebrated at the Institute. Our LRC organized the Fourth Book Exhibition, which was bigger and grander than the previous exhibitions. Many faculty members made their mark in reputed journals and conferences. Our students showed their versatility by organizing sports events, celebrating festivals, arranging guest lectures and engaging in much needed philanthropic activities. Students also won prestigious international business events and competitions held abroad. Altogether, within these pages, you will find a list of activities and achievements that should make any Institute proud!

Prof. Hari Sreekumar
(Editor)
The fifth batch of the Post Graduate Programme and the fourth batch of the Fellow Programme were inaugurated by IIM Trichy. Mr. Dinesh Kumar Khara, MD and CEO of SBI Funds Management Pvt. Ltd. was the Chief Guest at the inaugural programme. Mr. Khara appreciated IIMT’s students, and expressed hope that the incoming batch would prove their mettle and take the country to greater heights. Director Dr. Prafulla Agnihotri introduced the faculty members, and also listed the achievements of the Institute in the last five years. He also thanked NIT Trichy and its administration for providing infrastructural support to IIMT.

The fourth batch of PGPBM was inaugurated at the IIMT Chennai centre. Mr. L. Ganesh, Chairman, Rane Group was the Chief Guest. Mr. R. Venkatanarayanan, President (HR & IT), Rane Group also participated in the event.

The 69th Independence Day of India was celebrated at IIMT with the usual reverence and splendour. Director Dr. Prafulla Agnihotri hoisted the national flag and addressed the audience on the occasion. Students also staged various cultural events to celebrate the occasion. This was followed by a visit to the permanent campus site of IIM at Chinna Suriyur to plant saplings. This should go a long way in making the IIMT permanent campus a green and eco-friendly campus.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

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Indian Institute of Management Tiruchirappalli (IIMT) launched its SPIC MACAY chapter on 28th September with an inaugural performance by the immensely talented artists from the Manipur Academy, Imphal mentored by Padma Sri Guru Thanil Singh.

The event began with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by the honorary guest, N.G.Ramesh, A.G.M, State Bank of India, Trichy. Chinmaya Arjun Raja, State coordinator, SPIC-MACAY Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry, who delivered the welcome address, emphasized on the volunteerism aspect in SPIC MACAY, which has turned the idea initiated by a group of IITians in the 1970s into a sustained national movement spreading India’s rich classical and cultural heritage. This was followed by a splendid performance of ‘PungCholom’ – a dance (cholom) borrowing elements from the Manipuri martial arts performed to the beats of the percussion instrument pung, signifying how raga, taal and nritama come together to sanctify the space and the audience.

SPIC-MACAY, the acronym for the ‘Society for Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth’, is an organization that has about 500 artists and conducts over 5000 events annually in educational institutions around the world. It is a non-political, voluntary organization that organizes programs of classical music and dance, folk arts, crafts, yoga, classic cinema screenings and heritage walks in school and college campuses throughout the world to make students more aware about Indian and world heritage.
Yoga is a discipline which integrates body and mind through the use of physical postures, breathing techniques and meditation. It is a matter of pride for us that this ancient practice originated in India. Yoga is now a popular practice in much of the West, and scientific studies show that it confers benefits on both body and mind. Moreover, yoga is an important marker of Indian cultural power in the international community. Keeping this in mind, the Government of India has declared 21 June as International Day of Yoga. To celebrate Yoga Day, IIM Trichy organized Yoga classes for faculty members, staff and students for a period of one month. The Institute also conducted a live lecture-demonstration-workshop on Yoga on 21 June. The classes and sessions were anchored by Prof. G. Sethu, Dean (Accounts and Administration), who is also a certified yoga instructor.

International Day of Yoga

Dr. Ananta Giri, a reputed thinker and philosopher, was a visiting scholar at the campus in July. During his short visit, Dr. Giri gave lectures to both PGP and FPM students. To the PGP students, Dr. Giri spoke on business ethics. With his inimitable eloquence and engaging style, Dr. Giri introduced students to subtle applications of ethics in “rethinking business, economics, and development”. Two students were coerced into play-acting the roles of Maitrayee and Yajnavalkia, a couple from a story in the Brihadaranyaka Upanishad, whose seemingly mundane conversation on household budgets transforms in stages into deeper analysis of the necessity of excessive wealth accumulation and unimpeded consumption for happiness. The session concluded with his poem which expressed the “beauty of austerity”.

In his seminar session to the FPM candidates, Dr. Giri encouraged participants to consider “research as realization” of oneself, of one’s subjects. The realization consists of understanding that research is less about finding absolute truths than a practical approach to discovering the meanings attributed to life. This search for meaning, Dr. Giri stressed has aesthetic dimensions, the recognition of which gives wholeness to the research experience and the knowledge it generates. Dr. Giri stressed in uselessness in placing different epistemologies – positivist/objective, feminist/subjective, post-colonial etc. – in opposition with one another. Rather a “dance of epistemologies” with each other would offer multiple insights and better understanding of the phenomenon being studied. Unsurprisingly, he invited all attendees to rise up from their seats, imagine themselves as different epistemologies, and dance with each other. The creative bug immediately hit the FPM students, who set up an impromptu play in which hopeful candidates adhering to different epistemologies enter a selection process for a cricket team but face inherent biases.

Prof. Sari Mattila, Visiting Faculty at IIM Bangalore, conducted a Socratic Dialogue Workshop at IIM Trichy. The Workshop was well attended by FP students and faculty members. The workshop was preceded by an interactive seminar titled “From Particular to Universal – Using one’s own Experiences in Socratic Dialogue to Understand Linkages, Reciprocities, Ideas and Systems.”

Institute Lectures

Fourth Book Exhibition at LRC

The Learning Resource Centre (also known as the “Library”) plays a pivotal role in a knowledge-based organization such as IIM Trichy. The LRC, ably headed by Dr. K. Elavazhagan, effectively functions as an important node of knowledge accumulation and dissemination at the Institute. The Library also serves as an interface with publishers and book sellers. The Fourth Book Exhibition brought together faculty members, students, staff and publishers under one roof, helping faculty members to update themselves about the latest academic publications, and placing orders to expand the Library collection. Dr. Elavazhagan had also thoughtfully put up a children’s section, where some tiny tots placed their own orders!
Faculty Activities

Journal Papers


Conferences


Book Chapters


Significant Awards and Felicitations

1. Dr. K. Elavazhagan was recognized as one of the “50 Most Influential Knowledge Management Professionals” at the Global Knowledge Management Congress, Mumbai, India on July 23.

2. Dr. Prafulla Agnihotri was conferred the prestigious award for “Outstanding Contribution to Education” at the World Education Congress 2015, Mumbai, India on July 23.

Research Highlights


The paper is about understanding the shop-floor control implementation aspects in service organizations. Shop-floor control is mostly used to react quickly to unexpected deviations due to a low usage of forecasts and information systems. In manufacturing the practice is well understood and also widely implemented. The research presents the practices of Australian and German financial service providers regarding the implementation of shop-floor control within different types of service systems. Data is collected through expert interviews. 25 experts from Australian and German financial services industry revealed that methods and concepts from manufacturing are only used to a limited extent for shop-floor control. Thus, there seems to be improvement potential in the financial services industry in comparison with in the manufacturing industry in terms of shop-floor control.
EID VOLLEYBALL MATCH

On the joyous occasion of Eid, the Sports Committee of IIMT organized a volleyball match between the first year and second year PGP students. The match was well contested and provided some much needed physical exertion and excitement to the students. The match saw a number of momentum swings with the match hanging in the balance after the 4th set. But PGP-2 showed their experience and held on to take the 5th set in clinical fashion as PGP-1 wilted under pressure.

GANESH CHATURTHI

The Cultural Committee organized Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations in style, with a puja at the Beryl Hostel. The students had good fun welcoming Ganpati Bappa, and sending him off later!

TALK ON CONSULTING

Consulate club held its inaugural interaction with the PGP 2015-17 batch at IIM Trichy on Saturday, 25th July. The session was themed as an introductory talk on ‘Careers in Consulting’. Despite the hectic schedule, there was near complete attendance from the PGP 2015-17 batch and the feedback was excellent. The speaker, Mr. Subhajit Majumdar is a Principal at Infosys Management Consulting, outlined the career options, work life, opportunities of the field which greatly helped the audience get an understanding of the field of Management Consulting. The event also helped the club to rekindle its already existing relationship with Infosys Management Consulting.
On 29th July, E-cell conducted the first guest lecture for this quarter on the topic “Starting a Start-up”. The speaker for the session was Mr. Mahesh Ramachandran (https://in.linkedin.com/in/trmahesh). He is a distinguished Sloan Fellow of London Business School and Cofounder & Managing Director - Commonwealth Inclusive Growth Services Ltd. He is also a Chartered Member of TiE. Around 70 people attended the lecture from both the batches.

The Elixir Club of IIMT collected donations from students, faculty and staff of IIMT, and donated benches, desks, tables, chairs, fans and sports equipment to the Government Secondary School at Thuvakudi near IIMT. Professor V. Gopal, Dean (Academics) and professor of finance and accounting at IIM Tiruchirappalli, was the chief guest for the event. He inaugurated two classrooms (8th standard sections A and B) and addressed all the students of the school. Some faculty members and students of IIM Tiruchirappalli also attended the event. Mr. Raja Raja, Assistant Headmaster at Government Secondary School, Thuvakudi was immensely pleased at this gesture from IIM Tiruchirappalli.

We congratulate the Elixir team for this wonderful effort to help those who are genuinely in need. We hope the team engages in more such activities in future.

Keshav Pasari has won the CIMA Global Business Challenge held in Warsaw, Poland competing with 14,000 participants from 26 countries.
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