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Editorial Team

Dr. K. Elavazhagan, Prof. Upam Pushpak Makhecha, Prof. Hari Sreekumar.
From the Editor

We at Campus Connect wish all of our readers a very happy and prosperous 2019! Incidentally, the newsletter is now five years old, and these past five years have seen momentous events and many transitions. Apart from our major program inaugurations, it is noteworthy that we held a Vice Chancellors’ conclave. The theme of the conclave was on redefining the role of universities in the era of Industry 4.0, and it was held in collaboration with the University Grants Commission. IIM Trichy wishes to play a constructive role in promoting its fellow educational institutes, and the conclave went a long way in supporting this mission. Our faculty members have published in numerous prestigious outlets, and attended international conferences. Students, both the PGP and doctoral students have won competitions and made other achievements. We are sure that this issue will provide you with an idea of the numerous activities and achievements of the Institute over the past few months.
PGPM Inauguration

IIM Tiruchirappalli (IIM Trichy) inaugurated its eighth batch of Post Graduate Programme in Management on 25th June, 2018. The occasion was graced by Chief Guest Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Gupta, MD & CEO, ‘Lahari’ - Advanced Electronics Testing Facility and Guest of Honour, Dr. Jibitesh Rath, General Manager (HRD), NMDC Ltd.

The event began with an invocation and the lighting of the lamp, followed by a welcome address by Dr. Godwin Tennyson, Chairperson, PGPM. Dr. Bhimaraya Metri, Director, IIM Tiruchirappalli then addressed in which he mentioned that it was a historic day for IIMT as PGP 2018-20 was the first batch to be inaugurated in the Permanent Campus. He reaffirmed the institute's stance on gender inclusion with the batch consisting of a sizeable number of female students. This was followed by the address by the Guest of Honour Dr. Jibitesh Rath where he asked the students to have a role model in their lives. He also stressed on the fact that one should align their purpose of life with what they do. Chief Guest Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Gupta told the students that they should feel proud and blessed as they are a part of IIM Trichy’s fraternity. He enlightened the students by sharing personal incidents of challenging situations in his life.

The Guest of Honour also presented the Term Wise Merit Awards for best academic performance in the first year of the PGP 2017-19 Batch to Mr. Deepesh Agarwal, Mr. Arun A and Mr. Jagtap Sachin Suresh. The Guest of Honour presented the Director’s Merit Awards to the top 5% of the students in the entire batch identified based on their academic performance during the first year.

International Yoga Day

Yoga is a practice that assures physical and mental health to the practitioner. It is also a way of life that encourages harmony within oneself, and with nature. Due to its numerous benefits, yoga has achieved popularity all over the world. June 21st 2018 was celebrated as International Yoga Day at IIM Trichy. Director Dr. Bhimaraya Metri inaugurated the event and spoke about the importance of yoga. He also joined faculty and staff members of the Institute in a training programme on yoga. The participants took home a first-hand experience of the simplicity and elegance of yogic postures.
PGPBM Inauguration

IIM Trichy inaugurated its seventh batch of Post Graduate Programme in Business Management in a ceremony held on 4th August, 2018 (Saturday). Shri. S. N. Pandey, Managing Director, Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The event began with an invocation and the lighting of the lamp, followed by a welcome address by Professor, Karthik Dhandapani, Chairperson, PGPBM. He emphasized the uniqueness of the programme for working executives as a 24 months programme with 800 hours of contact classes held over weekends at the Chennai campus of IIM Trichy.

Mr. P. Santhanam, Director, TransBiz Consulting and an alumnus of PGPBM 2014-17 batch, congratulated the incoming batch for making it to IIM Trichy and guided them through the key elements of the program such as management competency, critical thinking, strategic thinking, leadership skills, ethical reasoning, collaboration, communication and entrepreneurial spirit.

Dr. Bhimaraya Metri, Director, in his address congratulated the students on their achievement of joining IIM Trichy. He said that the PGPBM 2018-20 batch was notable because it is the first PGPBM batch to have its inauguration ceremony at IIM Trichy’s own campus and also because it will get an MBA degree. With a batch size of 36 and average work experience of 11.5 years, this batch is comparable to other international executive program batches. The Chief Guest presented the Term Wise Merit Awards for best academic performance and Best Industry Project. In his address, Shri. S. N. Pandey congratulated the students and appreciated the hard work they must have put in to make it this far. He spoke about the global economy and his experience of more than thirty years in the oil and gas industry. He left the audience with two tenets to think about: One, they have to be very clear about what they want to do and why; and second, he urged them to take impossible targets, to take risks and achieve the impossible.

Independence Day 2018

IIM Trichy celebrated India’s 72nd Independence Day. The flag hoisting was followed by the Director’s address. The students presented an interesting cultural performance on the occasion.

Sadbhavana Day

The former Prime Minister Late Shri. Rajiv Gandhi was one of the great leaders of India. In his memory, on his birth anniversary, the nation observes Sadbhavana Diwas. On 20th August, IIM Trichy’s faculty and staff members observed Sadbhavana Diwas, and took the Sadbhavana Diwas pledge.
A Jan Andolan for Swachhata was observed in the run-up to the 4th anniversary of the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), i.e. from September 15th to October 2nd, 2018. As part of the event, IIM Trichy organized a tree plantation drive, and cleanliness drive on the campus. Students, faculty members and staff enthusiastically participated in cleaning up the campus. The Institute staff and faculty members also took a Swachhata Pledge.

The student body at IIM Tiruchirappalli on 2nd October 2018 (Tuesday) witnessed an engrossing Philatelic Exhibition at the IIM Trichy Campus. The three-day long affair, starting 2nd October 2018, showcased stamps relating to the life of Gandhi. The Philatelic Club of Trichy took an active role to enable the exhibition. The inauguration of the exhibition began with the invocation song and lighting of the lamp. This was followed by an introduction to philately by Mr. Kuchitapadam, ADBD, Trichy Head Post Office. He stated that there were mainly two types of stamps: definitive stamps, that are used regularly while sending posts and envelopes; and the commemorative stamps, which are issued for particular occasions, in remembrance or to honour a leader or about the flora and fauna etc. He further explained how rare and commemorative stamps are collected by philatelists as a hobby and through this we acquire knowledge. The stamps are not just meant for exhibition alone, but the main purpose is to disseminate knowledge and to learn more about our socio-economic and cultural condition about the country and about the region. Dr. Bhimaraya Metri, Director, IIM Trichy said that in the digital age people may not use post office services but having his roots in a village, it was a part of life for him. The real internet in rural areas is the post office, where post offices are present even where the concentration of people is small.

The exhibition was coordinated by Mr. K. Karthikeyan, Mr. G. Satheesh Babu and Mr. Maharaja, who are the members of the Trichy Philatelic Club. IIMT faculty member Dr. Nithyananda, who coordinated this event, proposed the vote of thanks.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was the first Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of India, and is one of the greatest Indian leaders. He is popularly known as the Iron Man of India for his key role in integrating the newly independent nation. In his honor, on his birth anniversary, 31st October, India observes National Unity Day. IIM Trichy observed this day with the National Unity Pledge which was taken by faculty and staff members of the Institute.

Dr. Bhimaraya Metri was honoured with the ‘AIMA – Kewal Nohria Award for Academic Leadership in Management Education’ by the All India Management Association. The award was conferred upon him in the award ceremony organized by AIMA held at Taj Palace in New Delhi on September 26, 2018. The award recognizes the outstanding contribution made by Dr. Metri in academic institution building. His illustrious professional career and academic achievements in the area of Management Education, Dr. Metri is admired among the community of management scholars and practitioners. He is the first serving Director to receive this prestigious award.
Vice Chancellors’ Conclave 2018

The first ‘Vice-Chancellors’ Conclave on Redefining role of Universities in the era of Industry 4.0’ was held at IIM Trichy from 22nd to 23rd October 2018. The conclave was in collaboration with University Grants Commission which discussed how Indian universities may contribute to the social and economic development of the nation in an era of Industry 4.0.

The event began with a lamp lighting ceremony where the Chief Guest, Prof. Dhirendra Pal Singh (Chairperson, University Grants Commission, UGC); Padma Shri Prof. Pritam Singh (Former Director, IIM Lucknow and MDI, Gurgaon); Dr. Bhimaraya Metri, Director, IIM Trichy along with Prof. Deepak Kumar Srivastava, Prof. Satish S Maheswarappa and Prof. Prashanti Gupta from IIM Trichy lit a traditional lamp. Prof. Deepak Kumar Srivastava delivered the welcome note in which he briefly touched upon what Industry 4.0 constitutes and its implications on the economy and the labor market. Prof. Satish S Maheswarappa, Chairperson- Executive Education and Consulting (EEC), spoke about how the EEC acts as a bridge between academics and the industry by facilitating knowledge sharing through various mediums like online spaces and hybrid studios. Dr. Bhimaraya Metri, Director IIM Trichy in his inaugural address spoke about the relevance of Trichy being the location for this conclave as it is a hub of several intellectuals and leaders from India. He stressed the need for educational institutions to manage their curriculum and administration to cope with the fast changing and dynamic world. He expressed his gratitude towards UGC for collaborating with IIM Trichy in organizing this conclave.

Prof. D.P. Singh, Chairperson UGC congratulated IIM Trichy on its progress on behalf of UGC. He thanked all the Vice Chancellors for participating in the conclave. He encouraged collaborations between institutions, industries, government agencies and NGOs in the era of networking and information technology. The conclave saw participation from 35 vice chancellors and senior academic administrators from across India. The conclave included sessions on “Higher Education: Leadership in the Era of Disruptive World” by Padma Shri Prof Pritam Singh, Former Director, IIM Lucknow and MDI, Gurgaon, “Industry 4.0: Employability & Industry Connect” by Shri Avinash Arora, ED & Global CIO, TrakItNow Technologies, “Leveraging Technology in Higher Education” by Shri. Richard Rekhy, Board Member, KPMG and a panel discussion on “Developing World Class Universities.”

Sudhir Vyas distinguished guest lecture

IIM Trichirappalli (IIM Trichy) felt honored by the presence of Shri Sudhir Vyas who addressed the students as a part of Institute’s Distinguished Guest Lecture Series on 14th July 2018, Saturday.

Shri Sudhir Vyas is a retired Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, after 36 years in the Indian Foreign Service. In the course of his career, he has served as Ambassador of India to Germany (2009-2011), to Bhutan (2005-2009) and to the UAE (2003-2005); as Deputy High Commissioner in Pakistan (1999-2003) and Tanzania; and in various other positions at the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations at New York; as well as our Embassies in Nepal, Algeria and Egypt.

Shri Sudhir Vyas pointed out that the primary objective of a foreign policy is to align with the national interests of that country. Instead of just being a propagation of the individual ideologies the policies framed should rather be an extension to the national endeavour. He also emphasized that foreign policies are defined based on the needs and capabilities of the country. Overall the lecture was an enlightening session about India’s foreign policy and its futuristic approach. Various concepts dealing with different attributes like social, economic and political were covered. The students were enthralled with the session and were happy to know more about Indian foreign policy, its association with different countries and the impact the policies had created from an insider’s perspective.
Research Activities

Book Chapter


Book Review


Case Studies


Journal Articles


- Vashisht, A. and Chakraborty, A., Service Research in Asia: Research Paradigm and Productivity, Services Marketing Quarterly

Conference Presentations

- Gajanand, M. S. (2019, January 05-06). Impact of hard and soft time window restrictions on fuel consumption. Paper to be presented at the Tenth POMS-HK International Conference 2019, Department of Management Sciences, City University of Hong Kong, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

- Gajanand, M. S. (2019, January 05-06). Mathematical model for assigning elective courses to limited time slots. Paper to be presented at the Tenth POMS-HK International Conference 2019, Department of Management Sciences, City University of Hong Kong, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

- Yamini, S. (2019, January 05-06). Why stakeholders prefer performance based contracting? and Behavioral aspects of inventory decision-making. Paper to be presented at the Tenth POMS-HK International Conference 2019, Department of Management Sciences, City University of Hong Kong, Kowloon, Hong Kong.


Working Papers

- Kushwaha, N. N., & Dixit, B. K. (2018). Large Stakeholders and RPT – Based Earnings Management in Indian Firms.


Sanskriti 2018

Sanskriti is an annual cultural event held at IIM Trichy, popularly referred to as the “War of the Sections” by the students. The three PGP sections of IIM Trichy, A, B and C battle it out in a fun-filled event which tests participants’ creativity, enthusiasm and energy. The event also provides much needed cathartic relief to the PGP students, and helps them recover from the stress of academics and placement activities. Sanskriti 2018 was celebrated with the usual fun and fervor this year with all the sections putting in their best. In the end, Section C was adjudged the winner of the event.

Kurukshetra 2018

Sports Committee conducted the most competitive intra-college sports event, Kurukshetra – The Section Wars! It saw huge participation and enthusiasm from the entire 2018-2020 batch for Cricket, Football, Swimming, Table Tennis, Throw-ball, (Caroms and Pool). To prove their mettle, all the participants put forth best efforts to win the trophy. The tournament started at par for all of Ares (Section A), Bandits (Section B) and Agents of Chaos (Section C) but as it progressed, both Bandits and Agents of Chaos battled for supremacy. The stage was set for a dramatic final as both Bandits and Agents of Chaos came out to bag the final 5 points from the football match between them. The match saw both teams putting in their best efforts to dominate the game but ultimately it was the Agents of Chaos (Section C) that came on top to win.

Sangram 2018

Tree Plantation Drive

The Elixir Club of IIM Trichy organized a tree plantation drive on the campus. Students, faculty and staff members enthusiastically participated in the drive. The saplings planted by the students are now well on the way to becoming lustrous trees with strong roots!
Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat

Indian Institute of Management Tiruchirappalli has made active efforts in promoting ‘Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat’ through strategically planned events that involved the incoming batch of 2018. An essay writing competition was held on campus for all the students with the aim of leveraging the diverse population that come from all over India.

The campus also witnessed an entertaining Cultural Night on July 15th with multiple performances by students and faculty that made it a gala event. There were traditional dances, music, western dances etc that added flavour to the event. It was conducted immediately after the orientation sessions for the batch of 2018-2020 were completed to give them a diverse experience before classes commenced.

Swwach Bharat Internship

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Tholpavakoothu: a shadow puppetry show

The Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music And Culture Amongst Youth (SPIC MACAY) arranged a shadow puppetry show to imbibe the commitment towards creating awareness and a deep-rooted sense of pride in our rich cultural heritage.

Other initiatives from students

1. Donation for Cyclones

Elixir – the Social responsibility club in collaboration with other clubs and committees contributed its bit by to the social cause by helping raise monetary and non-monetary help towards the Kerala Flood Relief.
2. Joy of Giving

IIM Trichy conducted the Joy of Giving Week under which they conducted competition for small children, Dan Utsav and guest lectures.

3. Blood Donation

IIM Trichy’s students, faculty and staff members gave an overwhelming response to the special blood donation camp on the event of the 72nd Independence Day.

Students Achievements

IIM Trichy congratulates Maruti Bhandari, Indraneel Pise, Jaskrit Kohli, Ashwini Goyal, and Rutul Shah (L-R in the photo) for winning the Zonal round of the coveted CFA Institute Research Challenge in India.

IIM Trichy congratulates team, The Shanti Team (Avadhut Pure, Hussain Bombaywala, Gaurab Mandal, Abhishek Agarwall) for qualifying for the Gold Tier of Mahindra War Room.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Round</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rahul Chiramana</td>
<td>L&amp;T OutThink</td>
<td>Under Top 25 from India to qualify to second round</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lilesh Barik</td>
<td>Summer Saga, InsiderIM’s Article Writing Contest on Summer Internships</td>
<td>4th Place (amidst 174 entries) under the Human Resources Category</td>
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<td>Ipshita Dutta</td>
<td>Solaris 2018 - (Sentalytics) – IIM Udaipur</td>
<td>Winners</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gaurab Mandal, Rahul, Sachin, Mayank</td>
<td>Credit Research Challenge hosted by Association of International Wealth Management of India (AIWMI), National Institute of Securities Markets (NISM) National Finalists</td>
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<td>Avdhut Pure, Hussain Bombaywala, Gaurab Mandal, Abhishek Agarwal</td>
<td>Mahindra War Room National Finalists - Gold Tier</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Maria Manaza, Neha Iyer</td>
<td>ICICI Bank - Beat the Curve Campus Winner</td>
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<td>Archit Garg, Ankur Silvastava, Mayank Lal, Jangam Pradip</td>
<td>The Smart Cube Winners</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kayya Mohan P</td>
<td>Godrej LOUD Winner</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shraddha S, Amitkar</td>
<td>Brand.I article writing competition hosted by Marketing cell of Delhi School of Economics Winner</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Shraddha S, Amitkar, Adda Roshini</td>
<td>Yes Bank Transformation Series Campus winner of first round</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Manju Meena, Hussain, Debabrata, Mithilesh, Nilesh</td>
<td>Master Plan hosted by IIM Ahmedabad Finalist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manju Meena, Hussain, Debabrata, Mithilesh Nilesh</td>
<td>AdvaithaLaunchPad 1.0 hosted by ISB Mohali</td>
<td>National Finalist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manju Meena, Debabrata</td>
<td>LaunchPad Intaglio hosted by IIM Calcutta</td>
<td>Finalist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parash Nagore, Riddhi V K, Yogeshwar Jadeja</td>
<td>Mulyankan hosted by IIM Raipur</td>
<td>2nd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hemant Kumar Alajangi, John Baaswanth D, I V Sarath Chandra Varna, Keerthana S</td>
<td>Cognizant CXO Challenge</td>
<td>Finalist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indrani Saha</td>
<td>Wossp “CEO For A Month” Challenge</td>
<td>Top 25 among 2,00,000+ participants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indrani Saha</td>
<td>Kathan, HR Article Writing Competition hosted by IIM Udaipur</td>
<td>1st</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maruti Bhandari, Indraneel Pise, Jaskrit Kohli, Ashwini Goyal, Rutul Shah</td>
<td>CFA Institute Research Challenge in India</td>
<td>Winner of Zonal Round</td>
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<td>Arshul Kapil</td>
<td>Olympus - Intaglio: The Annual B-school Summit of IIM Calcutta</td>
<td>2nd Runners up</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alekhya Sricharan</td>
<td>Consulting Knights - Intaglio: The Annual B-school Summit of IIM Calcutta</td>
<td>Runners up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deepesh Aggarwal</td>
<td>Virtusa-The Business Cipher</td>
<td>Winner</td>
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In our ongoing endeavor to promote best-in-class research and scholarship, we regularly facilitate various forms of interaction between eminent scholars and our faculty / doctoral students. We do so by inviting the eminent scholars from international schools to visit our campus and present their work or hold workshops for the doctoral students.

In the past 6 months, we have had the pleasure to host Prof. Raveendra Chittoor, University of Victoria, Canada, and Prof. Kumar Rakesh Ranjan, University of Queensland, Australia at our campus. Prof. Chittoor’s seminar was on tackling and answering ‘hard’ research question. Prof. Kumar Rakesh Ranjan held forth on research proposal design and new tools and techniques being employed in quantitative research. The FPM students also attended a webinar conducted by Prof. Rajiv Kohli, The College of William & Mary, USA. The session was on ‘How Digital Creates Innovative Business Strategies’ and gaining competitive advantage from Digital.

Mr. Mayank Kumar, Doctoral Scholar in the Management Information Systems area at IIM Trichy, was invited to participate in the prestigious International Conference of Information Systems (ICIS) doctoral consortium 2018, held at Pacific Grove, USA. ICIS Doctoral Consortium invites a select pool of 40 students annually from across the globe.

Mr. Manu Prasad, Miss Farheen Fathima S B and Mr. Parijat Lanke, research scholars from OB&HR area got acceptance for their work from PAN-IIM conference 2018 held at IIM Bangalore. This yearly gathering is considered as one of the prominent conferences in management in the country.

Awards for FPM Students

A large contingent of IIM Trichy Doctoral Scholars participated in the recently concluded Strategic Management Society 2018 conference held at ISB Hyderabad. The participants included Jitesh Mohnot, Arun Kumar TV, and Mueen Ahmed from Strategy Area, and Padmavathi Shenoy, and Nidheesh Joseph from OB&HR Area.

Mr. Jitesh Mohnot, Doctoral Scholar in the Strategy area has been adjudged as first runner-up for ‘That’s Promising’ Proposal Prize at Strategic Management Society 2018 conference. This award is conferred to “early stage research work that showed the greatest potential for future impact in the field of strategic management”.

Ms. Padmavathi Shenoy, Doctoral Scholar in Organizational Behavior & Human Resource Management Area was also nominated for the award in the same conference.
