

# ASE

## NEWSLETTER

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- GREECE BAILOUT
- NATIONAL CONFERENCE
- AYP
- FAREWELL
- SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

*June 2017*

### DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to present another issue of the ASE Newsletter.

Academics is not just about classroom learning. Students must perpetually hone their skills by keeping abreast with the world around. This newsletter will provide the students a platform for exchanging ideas and showcasing their creativity. It will also work as a stimulus to encourage ASE to organize and participate in various events with zeal and enthusiasm. Like every year students are taking up summer internships and trainings in order to carry out their

research papers.

These kind of activities help students in adding new information to their existing knowledge. The Faculty of Amity School of Economics will always be there to guide the students whenever needed. All the best and I hope the students will work hard to achieve great heights.

-Prof Dr. Shalini Singh Sharma



*Dr. Shalini Singh Sharma*



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### EDITOR'S MESSAGE

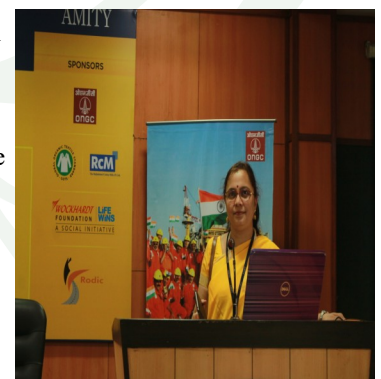
I am feeling proud to present yet another issue of Amity School of Economics newsletter which encourages students to display their skills and beautifully capture the activities of ASE.

The summer vacations are fully utilised by the students by taking up various summer internship or training programmes. This helps students

to plan for the immediate and distant future. It helps them to explore new avenues and helps in expanding their knowledge with regarding the real world experiences.

I wish all the best to the students of ASE for their future endeavours.

-Prof. Dr. Kavita Indapurkar



## GREECE BAILOUT 2017

Greece has unveiled a four-year budget proposal that assumes sharply lower growth rates after months of wrangling with international creditors over reforms needed to unlock further bailout aid and open the way for medium-term debt relief.

To this, Thousands of Greeks walked off their jobs and marched through central Athens in an angry protest against continued austerity measures being demanded by international lenders in exchange for disbursing bailout funds. There were isolated clashes with police, but the demonstration was peaceful.

The strike was called by the country's main public and private sector unions a day before Greece's parliament is due to vote on reforms that would help unlock the funds from the 86-billion-euro bailout, the country's third in seven years.

New austerity attached to the funds release include the 13th cut in pensions since 2010 and a reduction in tax-free allowances on income. They come after years of cuts that

for a time threw the country into deep recession. Unemployment is running at close to one in four and there is a 48 per cent jobless rates among the youth. A few domestic flights were grounded and public transport was disrupted throughout Athens. At least 15,000 people including pensioners, teachers, doctors and lawyers, marched to parliament as lawmakers debated the new measures.

Protesters held banners reading "No to austerity, yes to debt relief!" and "Bring back the conquered rights that you stole from us!". They chanted "They talk about losses and gains and we talk about human lives".

Some of the demonstrators expressed anger at the coalition government of Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras, whose leftist Syriza party came to power in 2015 promising to stop the cuts.

Greece has agreed to the further spending cuts to end a logjam in talks with its foreign lenders, the European Union and the International Monetary Fund, over its bail-



out progress.

Once the new measures are approved by Greek lawmakers -- as is expected -- euro zone finance ministers will then discuss the disbursement of the loans at the next scheduled Eurogroup meeting on May 22.

Greece had needed three multi-billion bailouts since 2010 and additional belt-tightening is a contentious issue for Tsipras's leftist-led government, which now trails its conservative opponents in polls.

- SOMYA VERMA

## INQUISITIVE

Amity School of Economics hosted a fun filled mind-boggling quiz 'Inquizitive' on February 17, 2017, as a part of Amity Youth Fest. The event was sponsored by Lava, Domino's, Looks Unisex Salon and Gautam Plywood Industries Pvt. Ltd. The quiz witnessed around 50 buzzing participants from

various colleges of Delhi-NCR. The Quiz had ,any intriguing rounds like Pictionary, Rate Your Brain, Ad Mad and Just A Minute, covering areas like Sports, News, Entertainment and Fashion. The winners were then awarded a cash prize of 10,000. The event was a

great experience for the participants as well as the host, each of the members involved cherished this day and left the room with knowledge and appreciation. -Saloni Modi



## HUMAN VALUE QUARTER: STORY TELLING

The Human Value Quarter of Amity University conducted a story telling competition at Amity School of Economics attended by the M.A Economics students and guided by Prof. (Dr.) Kavita Indapurkar.

The proposed theme for the event was "Hope and Optimism", sharing their own stories, the students realised that hope and a positive outlook to hardships in life is the only way one could break through the same. The sharing of each others' experiences helped understand the simple rule of

"happiness shared is happiness multiplied"

The end of the session filled everyone with a new zeal and enthusiasm. Every story has a beautiful ending and if it doesn't, hold on to the hope that it is not the end.

The students were inculcated with a better and more free perception of the world.



Story Telling Session in Progress

## ADMISSIONS 2017

With admission season going across the corner, admission in amity school of economics, amity university Noida began in the month of may.

With immensely adept mass of teachers, ASE is the chief grooming school of Amity University expecting further back-breaking, laborious set of students coming for admissions to be a part of ASE.

Along with following a cordial procedure of admitting the freshers, the admission procedure involves fill-

ing up an admission form ( available both online and offline ) followed by clearing a written test and then an interview.

The students entering Amity enjoy its magical paradise. ASE provides an equal opportunity for all to be another success story with all provided Knowledge and an era of excellent working environment.

Moreover, the Research Domain of ASE is at its best which further will help the freshers to inbuilt a researcher within, at first!

Looking forward for new best experience both in fun and fortune with the fresh aspiring researchers!

Sakshi Gogia



## CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

AMITY SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, Tuesday, March 7, a session on creative writing was conducted by Neha Thureja (M.A. Eco 1<sup>st</sup> year) under Literary Club. Around 40 students attended the session.

Session was started with a brief on the meaning and necessity of creative expression in one's life, different forms of creative expression, difference between

creative writing and academic writing. The interactive section included many activities such as writing one's random thoughts on paper in five minutes, creating a piece of art out of the three words written on a sheet of paper. These activities churned the brains and many creative master pieces came out during the session.

The attendees found the session informational, helpful and enjoyable. They admitted that conduction of such events



frequently will enhance their writing skills. Overall, the event was a huge success.

Rimi Gupta



## PLACEMENT CELL AT ASE

The Amity School of Economics placement cell has been working hard to help it's students find their desired job platforms and explore their area of interest through an efficient and enthusiastic process. At ASE we aim to provide the students all the facilities to shine and bring out the best they have, the team of students and faculty members along with our respected Head of Department, Prof. Dr Shalini Singh Sharma have made this possible. The batch of students appearing for the in-campus placement scored of about 60 from both , Bachelors and Masters in Economics and PPE. The placement cell has been in contact with various companies such as the **Quality Council of India (QCI)**, **NIESBUD**, **NPC**, **NITI AAYOG**, tied up with various job and internship engines like the Internshala and Intern Theory. The institution was visited by the members of the Gandhi Fellowship, the workshop was conducted and many of our students showed their interest in the above mentioned fellowship. The team achieved it's mission when 4 students from Masters in

Economics and 4 from Bachelors in Economics were successfully placed under Quality Council of India, as Junior Associates and Junior Interns. Government institutions such as **Rashtriya e -Market Services Pvt. Ltd.** a new start up by the Government of Karnataka, hired about 4 trainee interns from the Masters who would be heading to Bangalore during the month of May- June for their summer internship. The students of ASE have also faced other Government interviews such as the **National Productivity Council** and **NIESBUD**. The placement cell is credited with 4 interns being selected by the **Center for International Project Trust (CIPT)**. A well coordinated team, a good leadership and a good quality assurance of knowledge and hardwork are patent to the working and recruitment process of the placement procedures of ASE. We congratulate the team and the respective students who have envisaged on their professional journey



and wish them all the luck and growth, to achieve greater heights and carry the passion and zest of life that this institution helps them inculcate

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Our Students at CIPT

## EXAMS

You know there's something special about it. Something that makes words incapable of explaining that exact feeling you go through. That thing which makes you go sleepless at nights and procrastinating all day. The power of that *four letter word* doesn't allow you to think of anything besides it. It can make your life or break it. It comes with its own set of lessons and teaches you many lessons when it goes. Sooner or later, you know something like this would definitely come in your life. It

would demand commitment, dedication, attachment, understanding and passion. All your life you have experienced it in some form or the other, but whenever it comes, it gives that same, tingling, nervous feeling that makes you feel kind of unprepared for it. But, does it really care if you are prepared or not for it? It will come in your life when it has to, it won't wait for you to get ready and sorted. Does that mean nothing can be done?

Of course not.

Let's be a little smart. You know it is surely going to come in your life. And every time it will test your efforts that you put in to excel in it. So, why not put these efforts in small doses on a regular basis. Why not try to understand its lessons when you know they'll be helpful one day. Why not give it some time and give yourself some time to work upon your strengths and shortcomings.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> National Conference on Shaping India 2030: Sustainable Development Socio- Economic Perspective and Challenges 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**23rd March 2017**

### **Inaugural:**

Amity school of economics organised second conference in collaboration with Quality Council of India and CII-CESD. The event started in a traditional way by lighting of the lamp, followed by Saraswati Vandana by Arushi and Dhanya. As Prof. Dr. Shalini Singh Sharma, Mrs. Seema Arora, Mr. Rajat Kathuria, along with other members lit the lamp, their faces also lit with the smiles and all experienced the power of knowledge in the room.

Prof. Dr. Shalini Singh Sharma, Director of Amity School of Economics, started the welcome address by thanking founder president, Dr. Ashok K. Chauhan for his continuous support and inspiration. She also welcomed distinguished guests, speakers, HOIs and faculty members from different institutions inside and outside of Amity. She also put light on the reasons and aims for exploring how sustainable development will help to shape India 2030. Later, she bestowed Mr. Rajat and Mrs. Seema with a sapling of Tulsi plant, a shawl and a memento as a token of remembrance. Dr. Kavita Indrapurkar and Dr. Kalpana bestowed the other guests with a tulsi plant.

Mrs. Seema Arora, the executive director, CII-ITC highlighted that there is an urgent need to sensitise the youth and bring students in the mainstream of

growth and development policies. In her opinion, students are the champions of new ideas and can play a major role in achieving sustainability goals. She concluded by saying that consumers have a huge voice and companies do what consumers want them to do. So as a consumer, we should demand environment friendly products.

Next speaker, Mr. Rajat Kathuria, director & CE, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, graciously welcomed everyone. He started his speech by highlighting the mainstreaming of Sustainable development, occurred a bit late because sectors such as agriculture, industry etc are given more importance in early 5 year planning. Economic planning ignored urbanisation and sustainability.

The inaugural session ended with Dr. Kalpana giving vote of thanks to all the guests and speakers.

### **Panel Discussion 1**

The first session entailed a panel discussion about "Promoting Skills For Sustainable Development," which was held at 12 PM in the F3 Seminar Hall, Amity University.

**Professor Dr Ravi Srivastava**, an alumnus of Delhi School of Economics and Cambridge University, kick started the session by shedding light on how the way we interpret economic



*Inaugural Ceremony*

growth needs to be changed, and put greater focus on education. He was of the view that even with a gross enrollment ratio of 30 per cent in higher education, the education in India lacked the last mile approach which contributes to employability of a person, thereby contributing to nation's growth. Initially, the education system was predominantly based upon the British ideology of producing clerks. Even in the post independence era, the proliferation of education has been on similar lines. There has been no distinction between education and skills. In India, education has increased in numbers but skills are lacking, with only 2-3 per cent of the population being formally skilled. However, since 2007-08, India has embarked upon an ambitious journey to imbibe modern skills.





It was followed by **Ms. Mona Gupta**, introducing the gathering to how the concept of sustainability was present in India since the last century when Ratan TATA came back from United Kingdom and set up his industry in a city like Jamshedpur on lines of sustainability. She threw light on how the textile sector is the largest unorganized sector in India dominated by women and migrant workforce. So the skill development has to deal with seasonality and migration of workers. This requires an approach where a professional needs to be well versed with the skills to understand the industry. Not only this, any profession needs to calculate the opportunity cost of what it does to the environment.

**Ms. Renu Bajpai**, an educationist by profession, talked about how improbable it was to discuss sustainable development without talking about quality education. The quality education imbibing the characteristics of both education for the masses as well as for the downtrodden sections of the society. She discussed in detail of the ground realities of the cur-

rent education system as well the society being very different from the prevalent notion. Unless and until we address, the socio-economic challenges prevalent in the society, we cannot achieve sustainable development.

**Mr. Salil Bhatia** envisioned an India where the biggest pool of beginners transforms into the biggest pool of billionaires. But this will create a high degree of polarization, creating a divide between 'Hindustan and India'. Only boosting the BPL (below poverty line) population, can bring some homogenous development in India and sustainability can be addressed and taken forward. He further called for a skilling plan for the service sector which contributes 60 per cent to the GDP, yet is overlooked. There needs to be education which includes and on experience, that is, education and skills must go hand in hand.

The highly motivated delegates were enthused enough to ask questions from various areas such as sustainability for all, role of capitalism in society, skills required to enter the arena of

sustainability, sustainable banking etc. This opened the house for further discussion about how there is a need to go from skilling to education, to create sustainable livelihood, to create homogenous economies and this can only be done by setting the standards for the same. Ms. Mona Gupta pointed out how CSR was a key driving factor for sustainability, and the only way to learn the realities of the same was to go on the ground.

The house concluded on a note that we are the threshold of beginning a regressive development process and we need to do so immediately. Globally, there are a lot of exemplary models to integrate education and skill development under the same umbrella for various kinds of economies depending upon their feasibility. In addition, on the world front, we are moving on a curve where the population will eventually stabilize. This makes it more imperative for us to develop skills and employment so as to move quickly on the demographic dividend.



### Technical Session 1- **TEXTILES & INDUSTRIES**

This session was chaired by 2 panelists: **Mr. Sumit Gupta**, Deputy Director Standards Development & Quality Assurance Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS), Mumbai and **Mr. Vinay Singh** who represented Raj Laxmi cotton mills Pvt. Ltd.

### Technical Session 2- **ENVIRONMENT & RELATED ISSUES**

The chairpersons of the session were **Dr. Kamal Vatta**, Director, CIPT, **Dr. Halima Sadia Rizvi**, Jamia Millia Islamia and **Dr. Nausheen Nizami**, Professor (Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University, Gujarat).

### Technical Session 3 **INDUSTRY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP & CSR**

The chair for the session was taken by Mr. I.C. Srivastava from Transparency International, India. He was joined in conversation by 2 panelists Mr. Sandeep Goyal, CEO of Shared Value Initiative and Dr. Shahid Ahmad, Professor of Economics at Jamia Milia Islamia University.

### Technical Session 4: **Innovative Management Practices for Sustainable Development**

The session was chaired by Prof. (Dr.) Ashok Mittal, AMU and Mr. Sudhir Sinha, CEO & Chief Coach, Centre for Sustainability and Responsibility Inc Pvt. Ltd.

### **24th March 2017**

The discussion which was based on the theme of "Environment and Sustainability: Industry Perspective". The discussion panel comprised of Mr. Bipin Bihari, Chief Executive Officer at AgriGenome Private Limited; Mr. Sandeep Srivastava, Head-Environment and Sustainability at Ambuja Cements Limited; Mr. Vishwa

Bandhu Bhattacharya, the Group Manager - Sustainability and Environment, CSR at Apollo Tyres Limited; and Mr. Sidharth Balakrishna, M.D. Sustainability Practice at Manthan Advisors. The session was aimed at underpinning the major ideas, motives and devices that form the basis for sustainable development from the perspective of the industry.

Mr. Bipin Bihari, an alumnus of IIM Ahmedabad, reflected upon the importance of sustainable development for India, protecting the environment, and most importantly nurturing the agriculture sector. Agriculture is the key to achieving the first 3 goals of sustainable development. He took the discussion further by emphasising the importance of biodiversity preservation and management. He was of the view that with a revolution of innovation in the production of food happening over the years, India will soon benefit in terms of sustainability of its growth.

Mr. Sandeep Srivastava focused on the issue of overpopulation as a hurdle to sustainability. He quoted "Earth is not inherited from our forefathers; instead it is borrowed from our children". He brought up the concept of inclusive growth by sharing relevant facts with the audience. He mentioned that India ranked 122nd out of 180 countries on the World Happiness Index, which was striking given the advancements that the country is making in different walks of life. It was understood that this maybe due to a lack of trust towards the government, not feeling secure in terms of

satisfying the basic needs, etc. The problems associated with the environmental and climate problems, are leading to the creation of what we call the 'climate refugees'. It refers to the shift in places that people will have to make because of changing shorelines and increasing temperatures. He was kind enough to take the time to familiarise the gathering with the 3 pillars of CSR activities: economic, environmental and social, and what they, at Ambuja Cement are doing for the same. Ambuja Cement has made efforts to manage waste, for instance, it uses fly ash to make cement. It has also reduced its carbon intensity by 30% from 1990.

It was followed by Mr. Vishwa Bandhu Bhattacharya expressing his views on how the most difficult task was to define sustainability. He was of the view that a sustainable organisation can only be created by all the disciplines coming together. Mr. Balakrishna in his talk focused on the problems in achieving the solutions to the problem of achieving sustainable development. This he tried to explain by taking two themes for sustainability, namely solar energy and education. He shed light on the problems of storage and mobility, when we talk about sustainable development as a solution to our energy needs.

The panel discussion concluded with a question and answer session in which the students were enthused enough to clarify their doubts regarding the viability of the ideas discussed, to challenge the ideas, or to deepen their insights of those ideas. .





#### Technical Session 5: Skill

##### Development & Human Capital

The Chairpersons of the session were Prof. (Dr.) Alka Munjal, Amity University and Mr. Bikramjit Ghosh, Joint Managing Director & CFO (Danieli India Limited).

#### Technical Session 6: AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED SECTORS

The chair for the session was taken by Mr. Ashok Batra, who is a Consultant with The Rainforest Alliance which is an American NGO working in 100 countries in 55 crafts. He was joined in conversation by Dr. Rizvi, the Head of the Department of Economics at Jamia Milia Islamia University, and Col. Dr. Rajul Batra, ACMS Director Armed Forces Medical Services (Health) Ministry of Defence.

#### Technical Session 7: INNOVATIVE TRADE PRACTICES, POLICY INITIATIVES & INFRASTRUCTURE

The Chairpersons of the session were Mr. Gurdeep Singh, Commissioner (Appeals) Central Excise and Service Tax Appeals and Dr. Prabhjot Mahal, Prof., Chandigarh Group Of Colleges, Jhanjeri campus

#### Technical Session 8: Inclusive Growth

The technical session number 8 on inclusive growth was graced by Dr. Deepti Maheshawri and Dr. Sangeeta Johari from AISECT, Bhopal. The 12 diverse papers covered various themes, focussing on matters like, SDGs and Decent Work Agenda being a path for inclusive growth in our country.

#### Valedictory Ceremony:

The highlight of the ceremony was the address by the **Founder President of Amity Group, Dr. Ashok Chauhan**, who with his words of wisdom, graced the occasion and instilled a spark among all those present. ASE is really thankful to have Dr. Ashok Chauhan Sir's blessings with us.

There were addresses by the Chief Guests, Sir Dr. Huzaifa Khorakiwala, Wockhardt Foundation and Dr. Harsha Vardhana Singh, Executive Director, Brookings India.

The session was further followed by a report presentation by Prof. Dr. Kavita Indapurkar.

The 2 day National Conference was wrapped up with Dr. Mahua Bhat-tacharjee giving a Vote of Thanks and National Anthem at the end.

By: Saloni Modi



## WHY INTERNSHIPS ARE IMPORTANT?

Internships are a great way to learn the ropes so even if you find yourself filing or making coffee, as long as you're learning about the field take advantage of the opportunity and don't take the experience lightly. Asking questions is one key to learning in an internship and keeping yourself flexible throughout the internship can open many doors.

Internships and volunteer experiences make candidates more

competitive in the job market. In addition to gaining exposure and experience in the field, they also provide an opportunity to see if the particular career field is the right one based on getting personal experience in the field. No matter what opportunities you engage in, it's important to maintain professionalism and take on the individual responsibility that is required.

By doing a great job and completing more than what

is required of you in your internship, you will be creating a great impression that can provide a great reference letter at the least and may even potentially lead to a potential job offer. When you leave the organization at the end of the internship, you should ask for a recommendation letter that you can keep on file for future reference.

-An extract from an essay by Penny Loretto

Placement cell of ASE which works really hard for its students to help them get internships



# End Year Events

## Farewell 2017

Action Replay - themed farewell for the outgoing batch of Bachelors (2014-17) and Masters (2015-17) was hosted by Dramity and was a entertaining and light hearted event , enjoyed by all . The stage and the auditorium was decorated beautifully by the creative club .The event was filled with captivating dance and melodious musical performances . Guided by Ms.Manisha Raj , ‘Farewell 2k17’ was a cultural extravaganza , refreshing the students before the final exams . Farewell 2k17 saw a few seniors performing for the last time in ASE as well as new faces taking the stage by fire . Shubham Sharma received the title for Mr.ASE while Tripti Garg became Ms.ASE .



## Alumni meet 2017

The Alumni Meet was held on 25<sup>th</sup> March , 2017 was attended by around 25 alumnus of ASE . It began with tea and snacks followed by the director of ASE , Dr. Shalini Singh Sharma talking to the students about the developments in ASE . Further , some alumnus shared their experience of being in ASE and how it helps them through their lives . One of the alumni, who was a part of the first batch of ASE also mentioned that when they started , it was just a batch of 19 . Later on , Mr.Piyush Beriwal and Mr. Varun Kapoor were awarded for excellence in their respective fields . The meet concluded with dinner .





