



Loyola
Institute of
Business
Administration
(LIBA)
A Jesuit Business School

LiBiTES

(Monthly e-newsletter of LIBA Alumni)

January 2021

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CARE FOR THE EARTH

IN THIS ISSUE

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In Your LIBA

LIBA during January 2021

Call for Articles on LiBiTES



Contact Us:

LOYOLA INSTITUTE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (LIBA)

Loyola College Campus, Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600 034, TN, India

Phone : +91 44 28177100 / 28177237 / 28177183

Mobile: +91 9444678382 | Email: alumni@liba.edu | Website: www.liba.edu

LiBiTES

Call for Articles

LiBiTES is a monthly e-newsletter of LIBA Alumni Association. We are happy to announce that this e-newsletter will reach your desktop on the 10th of every month.

LiBiTES was formulated to connect you with your Almamater and tell her how future ready you are, what you have achieved and your business insights. You are the powerful ambassador of LIBA in the social and business community. We are proud that you are shining in your respective fields. We love to know what and how you run your business and your career.

The newsletter is a platform to share such feelings with the alumni community. The letter will have the following heads:

- **SHINE:** Your professional achievements / success stories
- **RADIANCE:** Placement info (any placement offers your company announces or you wish to partner with LIBA)
- **ILLUMINATE:** your thoughts to the readers about your career, life vision, profession, values, feelings and experiences and about the theme of the month

Every month the letter will be based on a theme. The theme for the February issue is ***In Pursuit of Happiness***.

Please contribute your thoughts and insights by 10th March 2021 to alumni.newsletter@liba.edu. When you send your articles, experiences, job vacancy information, do not forget to mention your name, contact details, the batch of LIBA / the year of graduation, current designation and company.

Your suggestion/ideas/partnerships apart from the articles to the newsletter may be sent to alumni@liba.edu

Feel free to update your contact/job details on the Alumni portal below:

<https://alumni.liba.edu/>

Upcoming Events

The following are the forthcoming Annual Chapter Events:

S.No.	Forthcoming Annual Chapter Meet	Date (tentative)
1.	Kerala	14th March 2021, Sunday

- Start-up Mela - 6th March 2021
- Chrysalis - 13th & 14th March 2021

Director's Message



Do you really care? Will you carry me?

Concern and care for the Earth must become the engine that drives business enterprises. If profit is the major motive it will serve the business and the society. What companies do as corporate responsibility in many ways seem to remain as a lip service. Even the world leaders in recent times are not able to sign a treaty to save the Earth. It is pleasing that Mr Joe Biden, President of USA will re-enter the U.S. into the Paris Climate Agreement, the global pact forged five years ago among nearly 200 nations to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. we have never had so many environmental goals and objectives but ecosystem decline is increasing, climate change is speeding, soil and ocean degradation continues, air and water pollution is growing, rubbish and waste is growing, and we are still getting sustainable development disastrously wrong.

There are many agreements ranging from eliminating substances in the air to protect the ozone layer, to removing lead in petrol, sharing genetic resources, protecting the Antarctic ice, reducing over-fishing, and curbing water. The question is whether these agreements are no more than vain promises by governments that focus on vote banks.

There is hardly a little realisation that the earth is a cardinal source of life. The resources she provides to sustenance and protection of our wellbeing are crucial to what we are and what we could do to improving our lives. all human beings share responsibility for care of creation, considered by many peoples "mother earth".

We need to have an alternative models of life that is sensitive to natural resources. We have to collaborate with others in the construction of alternative models of life that are based on respect for creation and on a sustainable development capable of producing goods that, when justly distributed, ensure a decent life for all human beings on our planet. The preservation over time of the conditions of life on our planet is a human responsibility of immense ethical importance.

It is necessary, therefore, to step out of oneself and lovingly care for everything that is good for others. A model of human life reconciled with creation by breaking out of individualism and profit motive. Rejection of every form of self-centeredness and self-absorption, are essential if we truly wish not only to care for the natural environment but also conduct sustainable businesses. This attunes us to the moral imperative of assessing the impact of our action on the world around us. For that, we need an interior modification, what we call conversion. Conversion begins by changing the habits of life that overuse natural resources and our attitude of insensitivity to the environment.

With good wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. C. Joe Arun, SJ". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "A".

Dr. C. Joe Arun, SJ
Director - LIBA

Chairperson Speaks



Dear Alumni/ ae,

I am glad to release the first issue for the new year 2021.

This issue covers the theme Care for the earth, which is the most needed thought for action in the current situation.

My sincere thanks and appreciation to all the faculty and alumni, who have contributed to this issue.

We are witnessing the changing climatic condition, decreasing rainfall, depleting ground water, increasing water scarcity, increasing salination, land degradation, soil erosion, soil infertility, extinction of species, melting glaciers because of the pollutants and all this causing a huge decline in the ecosystem. As the whole world is trying to wriggle out from the clutches of the virus, it is high time we all come together to make a difference in protecting our one home, our earth and hand it over to the next generation safely for them to live happily.

I am happy to read a range of your thoughts, conceptions, and ideas. I am sure all our readers will also really enjoy your creative works.

Keep writing to us, share your achievements, talk about your initiatives, share your organisational experiences, new ventures, we will take it to a wider platform for you.

Coming up next is the newsletter on the theme - In pursuit of happiness. Eagerly waiting to hear from you, alumni.newsletter@liba.edu.

I am pleased to inform you that Mumbai chapter meet was held on January 23rd, 2021 in the virtual mode. We had full strength participation from the Mumbai chapter. My special thanks to the chapter president and the participants for their efforts to make it happen.

Lined up next is the Kerala chapter meet on 14th March. 2021. The invite will be shared with you. Please do join the meet in the virtual mode to relive your life at LIBA with your fellow batch mates and professors.

Let's stay connected through LiBiTES!

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aiswarya'.

Dr. B. Aiswarya
Chair - Alumni Relations

**Ajay S**

F 17

Senior Business Analyst at Cognizant

Illuminator

How many of us remember how during our childhood our Mother would try to feed us our favorite meal on our balcony and try to distract us when we wouldn't eat by showing us those beautiful birds? How many of you got excited when we saw those tiny little sparrows that would visit us chirping all the way? Have you ever wondered why we don't see them on our balconies anymore? Living in a metro, it is even harder for us to spot one. Research says that the house Sparrows (*State Bird of Delhi, 2012*) are being threatened with extinction due to massive urbanization and modern lifestyle changes. When we modernized ourselves, we failed to realize the consequences and the impact it would have on our environment.

Why do we live the way we live? Most of the times the answer to that would be that we do not have an alternative. We are so used to doing the things we do every day, that we do not know if there is a better way of doing the same thing without harming the environment. Our role to bring about that change in the mindset of people to adopt sustainable ways of doing our everyday work would be the way forward. We have numerous suggestions from different environmentalists and

activists to take care of our Earth, but how many of these reach the larger crowd thereby bringing about a change in the society? Numerous International conferences, ministerial declarations, policy manifestos and green campaigns are being held year on year, but do they really serve the purpose?

Educating people on the 'Green Way' of living, by doing simple things which benefit on a larger scale could be the start of something great. COVID-19 has taught us that companies, especially the IT Industry which consist of a large workforce, can still survive without the physical presence of employees in the office buildings. From a layman's point of view, this has reduced the carbon footprint and the usage of non-renewable sources of energy.

It is important that we maintain the balance of nature and try our best to not harm the planet. Future advancements should happen without harming the planet. Conserving our reservoirs, planting more trees, maintaining a cleaner environment, generating cleaner forms of energy and other initiatives which we are aware of can make sure that our mother nature's wild heart keeps beating while we develop our way of life. A future in which nature and humans can co-exist should be the goal.

Taking care of the planet we live in by adopting a sustainable way of living would be the basic ask of every human being. You don't have to be a part of the International conferences to know what you must do to protect our planet. Look around you and see what you think might harm the Environment and try to bring about the change that we have spoken about numerous times. By being conscious of our everyday activity and being responsible of our usage of the natural resources, we could try and mitigate the damage we are causing to our environment and show that we do care for the Earth.





Ann Prince

F 17

Associate Consultant

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

- Margaret Mead

No human-made fragrance or experience can match the revitalization gained by that of a cool morning breeze, rain drops and smell of muddy earth. Nature is our inherited surrounding and we are a part of it; It is indeed the one thing that we all have in common! Life stems from it and will continue to do so.

We often imagine a future in which we can feed 10 billion people worldwide and provide cleaner, more abundant drinking water while also protecting life-giving lands, lakes and rivers; a future in which nature's wild heart still beats strong through healthy wildlife and magnificent landscapes while our cities are strengthened by harmony with nature.

But don't we also have to go beyond this imagination and put our efforts into making this vision a reality?

We as humans do understand the importance of preserving nature but in our supposedly busy lives we often forget about giving something back to the nature. Sometimes we assume somebody else will do it or wonder how a single individual's action can make a difference. Most of us often say that corporations with their CSR and government with their policies should take care of what's necessary. But we also know that it's never enough.

Climate change is a threatening cause to our existence and it stems from our footprints and our harsh actions. It is already beyond late for us to start understanding the urgency of the situation and begin acting responsibly in order to preserve and nurture our surroundings, and further helps reduce the effect of years of abuse.

Few months back, I had the opportunity to meet a couple of teenagers in my hometown, who formed a group and made it a point to plant one tree every month and they have continued to do so since three years. They once took me around the place and showed me most of the trees they've planted trees at, and I realised how a small group of people can make such a substantial impact. I wouldn't be exaggerating if I said that they truly made the town a better place to live. I joined the group and have started to contribute in every little way that I can. So imagine if we all pledged ourselves to the cause and made it a point to consistently make such efforts! It would surely result in a fruitful outcome.

We can also take various small steps at an individual level such as, to use reusable bags and containers, do sustainable shopping, conserve water and electricity, travel responsibly, reduce the use of paper, get our IT equipment recycled or decomposed, pay bills online, use rechargeable batteries, etc. We are repeatedly informed about the number of things we can do to care for the earth but it all comes down to the matter of taking action. Such trivial efforts will most definitely make a substantial impact.

Saving the planet is a huge deal and today, it has become an unavoidable necessity. Each one of us has the power to stop catastrophic climate change and preserve biodiversity on Earth, we just have to handle it with care! Let us start with ourselves today and the world will follow.



Princy Shereen D
EDHRM 2019-2020

“The earth will not continue to offer its harvest, except with faithful stewardship. We cannot say we love the land and then take steps to destroy it for use by future generations.”

- Pope John Paul II

Taking care of the Earth is important to our well-being. Organizations should build a culture of conservation for the earth. Telecommuting attracts millennial and it helps save resources and reduces travel. It is also evident during lockdown how working from home helped decrease pollution by an average of 35 per cent and nitrogen dioxide decreased by an average of 60 per cent. Also, organizations can take measures like reducing paper usage, using LED Light bulbs, planting Indoor Plants. An eco-friendly business not only protects earth but also attracts environmental-conscious employees.

Educational Institutions play an important role in caring for the earth. The thought of environment preservation should be instilled in the students and should be part of the curriculum. Forming Environmental Clubs, conducting cleanliness drives, making plastic free campus, adopting planting policies can help students to be caring towards the earth.

Moreover, individuals must have the moral responsibility to care for the earth and try to change the actions that continue to harm the planet and threaten the wellbeing of its inhabitants. Walking, cycling or using public transport whenever possible, turning off the appliances when not in use, saving water, avoiding usage of plastics, recycling wastes, planting and terrace gardening are some of the changes we can bring in our lives to become more caring towards the earth. Though we cannot reverse the effect of our actions, we can work towards restoring the damage done. We should care about the planet - not just for Earth's sake, but also for our health and livelihood and for our future generations to come.



Surya H Chandavarkar

Librarian
LIBA



Mahatma Gandhi in all his wisdom said, “You must be the change you wish to see in the world”. Applying this quote to the present-day issue of depleting and deteriorating natural resources, each one of us has a definite and defining role to play to care for our Mother Earth. Protecting the health and sustainability of our planet means safeguarding our own health and that of future generations. The human race is in an exponential phase of technological breakthroughs, which have the potential to be either destructive or constructive, according to the user. It is now up to each of us to deploy these technological advancements to make an individual’s carbon footprint the smallest. Every one of us must balance the pros and cons, taking into account the environmental impact of the modern comforts we use to facilitate our way of life. Each of us should work with the zeal of an activist, who does not need to be ‘in- your face’ but in a form more benign and private.

Today, a click on Google would throw up innumerable suggestions, on the conservation of natural resources, but it is less of the ‘knowing’ and more of the ‘doing’ which is of consequence to keep our earth well- cared for and giving.

A simple change in attitude could result in a more judicious use of natural resources. I am alluding to our propensity to use wood material in our home décor, when we can easily shift to opting for composites, nuwood, metal, bio-degradable plastic, or the more natural and sustainable rattan-cane to furnish our home. Similarly, we can move back to using cloth handkerchiefs and give

up using tissue paper and facial-wipes. These actions on our part would have added many trees to the forest cover in a minuscule but significant measure.

Reduced use of energy by minimizing the use of electricity in our homes is possible by replacing our existing incandescent and CFL fixtures with more energy-efficient LEDs. The government promoted BEE energy standard can be used to compare and guide our buying decisions when purchasing heavy-duty appliances such as washing machines, refrigerators, and air conditioners. Our consumption of fossil fuels (Petrol and Diesel) can be curtailed by making our daily commute to work a combination circuit of utilizing public transport, private vehicle, and a good brisk walk.

We, being social animals also need to commit to the greater good, by sacrificing our holidays for voluntary conservation work, maybe, in activities like collecting turtle eggs from beaches and participating in mass tree plantation campaigns.

Caring for the earth is all about nurturing, conserving, and preserving what our planet has bestowed upon us and not squander its wealth by our reckless actions.

If we ignore the current COVID-19 crisis and do not take it as a wake-up call of broken earth, we are doomed as we have no plan or planet ‘B’ to escape to. To quote the Mahatma, “In a gentle way, YOU can shake the world.”



Colleen Martins

F 17

Management Associate

If there is one thing that we humans have in common, it is our planet - Earth. Till date, whatever we humans have needed to survive and thrive has been provided by the natural world around us - food, water, shelter, clothing, medicines etc. Hence, there can be no denying that our mother Earth has been an extremely giving planet.

However, in today's situation where industrial growth has become more of a necessity for economic growth, we can't afford to forget about our planet Earth. The rapid pace of industrialization has resulted in polluted seas, choking exhaust fumes in cities, infertile land, climate change causing devastating storms, global warming and now millions infected and dying around the world due to the latest global pandemic - COVID 19.

This pandemic illustrates frighteningly just what an inter-connected world we live in, where a single incident in a small local market in one town has a worldwide impact affecting all countries of the world, causing enormous global health and economic problems, infecting millions and killing tens of thousands across the world - even in the far distant richest countries with the very best resources and medical facilities.

If we continue living in the similar fashion that we are, it would be like walking blindfolded towards the approaching abyss. Hence, there is an urgent need for us - mankind to realise the impacts of our habits on our planet Earth.

This necessary transformation will definitely not be easy nor will it be without cost. Fortunately, nations and organisations all around the world do realise the importance and the urgency of dealing with the damage being caused to our home planet before it becomes irreparable and are slowly working towards transforming it into a cleaner planet by taking steps like moving towards a green economy. In the recent past, many notable steps have been taken keeping in mind 'Care for Earth' initiatives. For example, in 2015, The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were agreed upon by the UN member countries to ensure a better and sustainable future for mankind and our planet and thereby included goals such as Responsible Consumption and Production, Climate Action, Affordable and Clean Energy and many more of the like. On Earth day in 2016 the countries of the world

agreed on the Paris Climate Accord to try to prevent global warming and its related effects.

Furthermore, various policy changes across industries are being implemented towards the same goal. For example, in India with the implementation of the BS-VI Norms and the UK announcing their decision to stop selling all new diesel and gasoline cars and vans from 2030, organisations all over the world must adapt in order to survive in this VUCA world. Such policy changes are proving to be healthy for our environment as it is resulting in a shift in demand towards electric vehicles.

Thus, would like to end on the note that in order for mankind to survive on this planet, we need to understand the importance of sustainability being the future and 'Care for Earth' is the best way forward to achieve it.



Faculty Speaks



Dr. Madhuri Malhotra

Assistant Professor, Ethics & Finance - LIBA

Consciousness is the state of being aware of and responsive to one's surroundings. It makes us aware of what is right and what is wrong by making us realize what is important at the very present moment.

The quality or state of being aware of an external object or something within oneself. It has been defined as: subjective awareness, the ability to experience or to feel, wakefulness, having a sense of selfhood, and the executive control system of the mind. Despite the difficulty in definition, many philosophers believe that there is a broadly shared underlying intuition about what consciousness is. As Max Velman and Susan Schneider wrote in *The Blackwell Companion to Consciousness*: "Anything that we are aware of at a given moment forms part of our consciousness, making conscious experience at once the most familiar and most mysterious aspect of our lives.

Consciousness is a fruit of evolution and is our most prized possession. It sets us apart from the opulent variety of earth-life and puts upon us an onus of responsibility. It takes us on an incredible journey and gives us the gift of insight and transcendence. The same kind of process that gives the earth abundant life, allows us to have a sense of self, to contemplate the world, to forecast the future and make ethical choices. Each of us has under our control a miniature world, continuously evolving, making constructs unique to our own minds. In the same way that life itself unfolded, our mental life is progressively enriched, enabling each of us to create our own world. As given in literature, there are three states of consciousness (i) The subconscious, (ii) The conscious (iii) Superconscious.

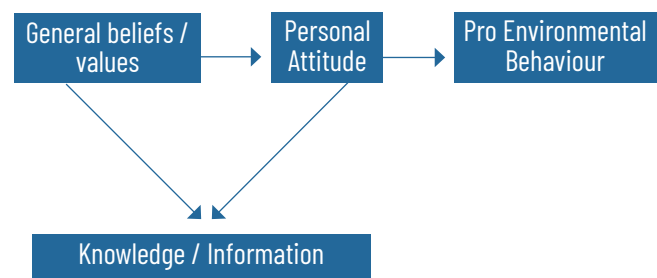
Consciousness: in the case of environment

In ancient India, not only the common people but also kings used to follow ethical guidelines to protect the environment. They believed that God being the creator of the universe, everything that existed in it was HIS Creation. Hence it was the obligation and duty of Human Beings - the most intelligent species, to safeguard the natural environment.

Environment is something which you are familiar with in your surroundings. Environment can be classified into two categories - Internal environment and External environment. In a study conducted by Hampel and Holdsworth (1996), it is reported that students expressed willingness to adopt measures towards environmental

consciousness like energy saving, and allocate resources for conservation. They expressed willingness to forego consumption and accept government regulation for environmental preservation. They had shown concern for all life and not simply that of humans, which includes the desire to protect flora and fauna, a willingness to scrutinize the consequences of economic activity and a willingness to combine long-term with short-term planning. Hines et.al (1987) concluded that psycho-social variables generally have stronger associations with responsible behaviour than do demographic variables. Situational factors such as economic circumstances (relevant to both family income of rural and urban residents alike) may either reinforce or weaken the effects of psycho-social variables.

Dimensions of environmental consciousness



There exists empirical evidence of existence of different types of pro-environmental behaviours which are influenced by different combinations of explanatory factors. Stern (2000) describes various types of behaviours with respect to environment namely a) low-cost behaviours (such as recycling) and b) high-cost behaviours (such as "green" consumerism, reducing car use, etc.) environmental consciousness is characterized by the extent to which a person engages in pro-environmental behaviours of diverse kinds, particularly those which are more costly. Environmental consciousness combines the pro-environmental values one possesses and the perception about environmental conditions (affective dimension) with level of information (cognitive dimension), attitudes towards action (dispositional dimension) and engagement in pro-environmental behaviours (active dimension). Involvement in specific environmental activity is reinforced by attitudes such as sense of responsibility. Sense of responsibility can encourage or discourage the pro-environmental involvement of a person. Information and level of knowledge depends on a person's attitude and belief about how the world operates because certain values or attitudes can make one more receptive to environmental information. New information or knowledge can modify a person's belief and attitude.



Dr. M. Ramasubramaniam

Associate Professor, Operations & Analytics - LIBA

We are living in a defining moment of history. Climate change is for real and should be taken seriously.

As a responsible citizen, we need to take some serious steps towards reducing our impact on the mother earth.

In achieving this objective, we can take some day to day changes in our lifestyle. We all know that using four wheelers and two wheelers increase the carbon footprint. What we don't know is not using the car for about two days in a week reduces the carbon footprint by atleast half-a-ton every year. Therefore, as a responsible citizen one can look for alternative modes of transport.

Switching to an electric vehicle can also reduce the carbon footprint over the vehicle's lifetime. But, we must remember that using electric vehicle alone cannot reduce the impact of the footprint because the source of electricity itself is a fossil fuel!.

In order to address this issue one can install a solar-based electrical system. A typical 5KW solar installation for a four-member family can help in charging an electric car for a whole week and still provide enough energy for a whole house!.

Second thing that we can do is to consciously conserve water usage. Our daily use of water is around 100 gallons of water.

It's our responsibility to ensure water is conserved for future generations. Right from morning brushing to retiring to bed, small changes in our habits can go a long way. Closing the tap while brushing, ensuring no taps leak in house when going out and also reducing amount of water consumed for bathing can reduce the impact of footprint.

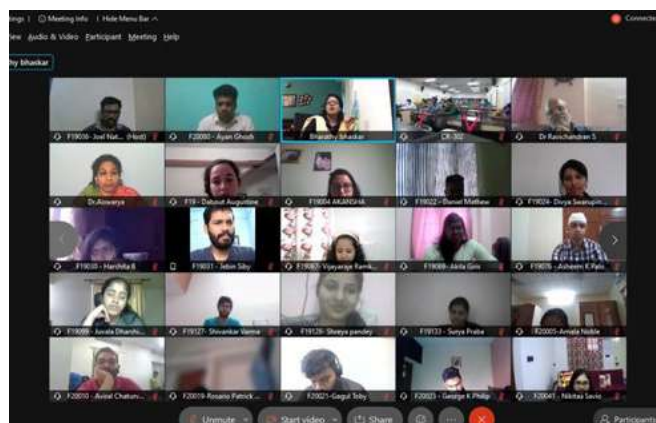
The interest in caring for earth should come from within and one way of caring for mother earth is through initiatives like these.

Let's take a vow to protect our mother earth and take pro-active measures in implementing them.



BMI VIRTUAL TALK 1

Quiver Full of Arrows, by Mrs. Bharathy Bhaskar



The BMI session conducted on 6th of January'21 was graced by Mrs. Bharathy Bhaskar, Of "Solomon Pappaiah Pattimandram" fame, B. Tech in Chemical Engineering, MBA at Anna University and Director at a leading Multi-National Bank. The session addressed the topic 'Quiver Full of Arrows'.

Mrs. Bharathy Bhaskar, a very experienced and an eminent person, began the first half of the session emphasizing on how each and every decision impact one's life and career. Moving on, she discussed on how students take decisions when it comes to education as well as career path. The journey in the long path of one's career should be like an archer, overcoming all the pressure and downgrades happening in the world. Considering one's career path, he or she should understand to fix the target to short or long term. It is important to set aspirations and always raise hands. If not, nothing is going to come one's way. Also, it is ok to be wherever one decides to if he or she is happy.

Mrs. Bharathy then spoke about how one should handle a situation when something goes wrong. She also explained the similar situation with respective to corporate perspective taking TCS as the example. So,

in TCS, usually employees working with data wouldn't be allowed to use mobile phones and their desktops wouldn't be connected to any wi-fi or printer. TCS has always followed a great information security protocol. Now, since the COVID has happened, which was not at all expected, employees were pushed to a situation to work from home. Now, the security has become a big question mark. TCS has handled the situation really well. The company shifted from Permitted based analysis to Transaction based analysis. Therefore, if any employee tries to breach the security, he or she will be caught. Likewise, students not only have to handle the life decision but also handle unexpected situations. Each and every student at this age has to examine what he or she really wants to do, what really interests them, and what really fascinates them. Once done, decide and fix the target.

Mrs. Bharathy ended the session with a note 'Diversity is the game changer'. Conceptually, diversity brings re-thinking. Diversity is mandatorily required in a team. Also, an archer's success rate is around 75 percent. Likewise, one cannot expect success every single day. It is important to handle the unexpected occurrences and get over those, in order to succeed in life.

- Varshini S

BMI VIRTUAL TALK 2

E – Governance in India – its Initiatives and cases, implementations Etc in the IT sector, by Mr. Rengarajan Sridharan and Mr. Siddharth Samal

The BMI session of 13th January 2021 was presented by eminent professionals Mr. Rengarajan Sridharan, SAP Practice leader – Global delivery, Gemini Consulting and Services, USA, and Mr. Siddharth Samal, Head sales and Centre head (Odisha), Gemini

Consulting and Services, who spoke about their expertise on E-Governance and its implementation in India and USA. The session began with a brief overview by Mr. Rengarajan about Gemini Consulting and Services, and their major focus areas,. The company is taking big

bets on Intelligent ERP, Artificial Intelligence and Products & Innovation, of which ERP is a colossal area of investment. The extensive calibre of the firm has attracted clients from various sectors, ranging from banking to healthcare systems. Mr. Renga Rajan went on to explain about the Public Sector Units and how E-Governance works in the United States, which is quite distinguished from the system in India. The major public sectors in USA are Defence and Security; Federal and States; Healthcare and Higher Education and Research, with the focus areas of Budget and Planning, Funds and Grants, and Logistics and Supply Chain model. A case study on the Weill Cornell Medicine was discussed, followed by a statistical comparison on investment percentage in India and USA for different sectors.

The next half of the session was handled by Mr. Siddharth, who elaborated on E-Governance in India, its initiatives, cases, and implementation in IT sector. The SMARRT Governance involves Simplicity, Morality, Accountability, Responsiveness, Responsibility and Transparency in the functioning of the Government. He further explained the scope of E-Governance in public sector services. The different E-Governance initiatives in India, both at national and state level, such as Digital India, myGOV, eAtithi, Aadhaar etc. have been quite successful in the country. The session was concluded by throwing light on the different possibilities of E-Governance post the COVID scenario and with a brief Q&A session.

- Rony Shiela S



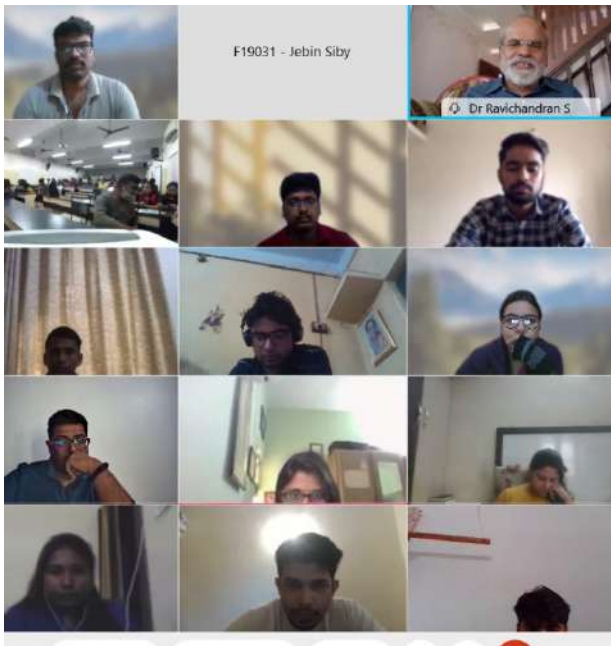
BMI VIRTUAL TALK 3

Finance Transformation – Realigning any finance function’s Strategy, Structure and Design, by Mr. Nikhil Jindal

He started the session by briefing on what is finance transformation and what it is to make finance more digital and touchless. The agenda of his presentation started with finance function, the need for finance transformation, transformation objectives, agile methodology and transformational impact.

The speaker gave inputs on the key activities of finance functions- accounting, analysis, planning, decision making and control, with accounting being the primary finance function. This was followed by types of finance functions which includes, product control, review and reporting the trading





incomes, policy, treasury, finance control, CFO business partnering, internal reporting, tax, impairment, cost and stress testing and planning. The speaker focused on the finance transformation initiatives that were taken in his organisation. The major change being replacement of multiple ledgers with single ledger that saved a lot of time and work involved in accounting and reporting.

The briefing of Agile methodology was done using a case study, by which the speaker highlighted the importance and difference between traditional approach and agile methodology. He highlighted the finance transformation impact in his organisation. He said that they have witnessed the number of ERP instances in use reduced from almost 500 to 37, close cycle times have been reduced by 25%, 67% of finance activities performed in shared service locations, the finance transformations have led to more than \$1.5 billion in annual savings in fiscal year 2019.

- Angeline Poorani Therese. B

BMI VIRTUAL TALK 4

Stay Foolish, Stay Hungry, by Mr. Sreesha Sounderam



The BMI session of 27th January 2021 was lit up by a very enthusiastic finance professional Mr. Sreesha Sounderam, Manager, Risk Management and Controls, Westpac Bank, Sydney, Australia.

The session began with a brief introduction about himself and his source of motivation, which is the very theme of this BMI Session, “Stay Hungry, Stay Foolish.”

These were the words of the visionary Steve Jobs. This BMI Session was a very realistic and engaging one, where Mr. Sreesha, through his real-life experiences could easily connect with us. He emphasised on three important points throughout his talk – “Don’t Doubt Yourself”, “Do what you love. Don’t settle. Keep looking” and “Do not let others define who you are”.

His life experiences, such as his first interview, first day at university and his first day at job, as a retail store assistant were quite insightful and motivating. He then went on to elaborate on how failures had helped shape his career as a successful banker, by stressing on a key fact that ‘failure is the stepping stone to success.’ Occasionally, one may taste the bitterness of failure or the sweetness of success. But whatever be the situation, we must constantly keep working hard and march towards their life goals. Another important piece of tip given by him was that a career decision based solely on money and not on the passion for work or a desire to make a difference is a recipe for despair.

The session ended on an inspiring note where he said that the future is in our hands.

- Rony Shiela S



The inauguration of first batch of PGP In Logistics

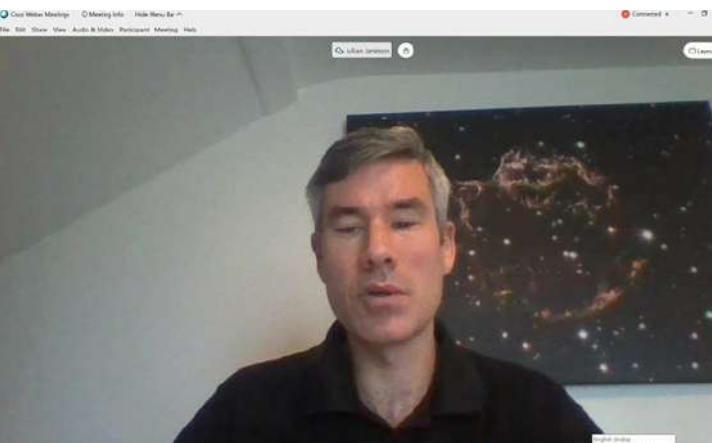
The inauguration of first batch of PGP In Logistics was held on 8th January 2021 in LIBA. The program started with a prayer song by LIBA choir (F20 Batch).

Fr. Director welcomed the officials from Kerry Indev Logistics Pvt Ltd and the address the gathering. Dean Academics, Officials and Area chairs were also present in the inauguration. Mr. T. C. Girivasan, Kerry Indev Logistics Pvt Ltd gave a brief introduction about the subject and course. Prof. P. Chandiran, Associate dean Part time and Chairperson, Center for Logistics and Supply Chain Management concluded the program by giving instructions to students.

The class started by 5.15pm after a photo session with Fr. Director.

This PGP in Logistics is offered by LIBA in collaboration with Kerry Indev Logistics Pvt. Ltd., Chennai. Through this collaboration, LIBA can offer many academic programs in Logistics vertical ranging from short term certificate courses to two-year full-time MBA programs in Logistics and Supply Chain Management. Kerry Indev offer to provide internships and final placement in different field of Logistics like Port, Customs Handling, Freight forwarding, Transportation, CFS, and Warehousing. Kerry Indev also offer support in industry inputs in academic programs through curriculum development, industrial visits, and guest lectures.





Inauguration of first batch of Executive Diploma in Healthcare Management

The online Inauguration of the first batch of Executive Diploma in Health Care Management (EDHCM) was held on 8th January, 2021 at 2.00 pm with more than 200 attendees. In the inaugural address, Fr. Director Joe Arun SJ said “This day is an important day in the history of LIBA, simply because we are shifting ourselves to an industry that has been long forgotten although it was very essential- Healthcare”. He congratulated and thanked Dr. M.J. Xavier and Dr. Rajalakshmi, Coordinator, Healthcare Vertical who are spearheading the Healthcare vertical and said the one-year course will gradually grow on to become fulltime PGDM in healthcare management. There was a brief Introduction of the LIBA officials, faculty of EDHCM- Dr. ISF Irudayaraj, Mr. Anantapadmanabhan, Mr.Sriram and first batch EDHCM students.

Dr. Rajalakshmi, set the context for the topic of discussion- “COVID19: The Real and the Unreal”- by highlighting the length, stringency and size of the Indian lockdown due to the pandemic. She introduced Prof. Julian Jamison of University of Exeter Business School, UK who has taught in most of the Ivy league institutions. Dr. Jamison’s presentation provided evidence to the real impact of the lockdown on economy, mental health and the need for self-imposed regulation of behaviour. Questions by the raised from LIBA faculty and students on the impact on jobs and status of vaccines, Mr. Joshua Mathew, first year PGDM student gave the vote of thanks.

The Executive Diploma in Healthcare Management offered by LIBA, is based on the two-year PGDM curriculum in Healthcare Management. The highlight in this particular program is the capstone project that will run throughout the year and clearly linked to placement opportunities in corporate hospitals.

Faculty Seminar Series - Session 9

Ms Ardly Reena shared her thoughts on the topic “Technology Acceptance on Chatbots”. She took the participants through the evolution of Chatbots and the literature review process through the drawing up of a framework which looks at the various factors affecting Chatbot adaption by consumers. Prof. M.J. Xavier, Chair, Centre for Technology and Innovation, moderated the session. The seminar came to end with vote of thanks by Prof. Chandiran, Associate Dean, Part-Time and Diploma Programmes.



New Year Prayer Service - 2021

Faculty, RAs & TAs and Staff

LIBA organised a short Prayer service for the faculty, research associates, teaching assistants and staff in the auditorium on 4th January 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

The program commenced with a thanksgiving prayer song, followed by the directors' address.

Fr. Director stressed upon three important factors – collaborative teaching, single ownership, and performance for which all of us should strive for reaching our goals. He also briefed upon the activities, events, and targets to be achieved in both academic and co academic portfolios. The faculty and the staff were appreciated for their commitment towards the institution and wished success in all their endeavours.

The event closed with a silent prayer followed by the blessings from father director which includes a surprise gift with a note of thanks to all the faculty, research associates, and teaching assistants.



Faculty Seminar Series - Session 10

Dr. A. Irudaya Veni Mary shared her thoughts on the topic "Journey of Self-Employed Refugee Women In The Path Of Stress During Covid-19". She took the participants through the plight of refugees, the literature review process and the various theories in stress management towards which the research will be contributing. Dr. A. Siluvairaja, Chair – Admissions & Chair – C. K. Prahalad Centre For Emerging India, moderated the session. The seminar came to end with vote of thanks by Prof. Chandiran, Associate Dean, Part-Time and Diploma Programmes.





New Year Prayer Service - 2021

F 19 & F 20

The New Year prayer service was held on January 6th in the LIBA open Auditorium. The service began with a soulful prayer song sung by students of LIBA choir from the F20 batch. It was followed by watering of plants by Fr. Director and officials.

Later, thanks giving speeches were delivered by key officials Dr.Lakshmi Narayanan, Dr. Shanthi Venkatesh, Dr.Chandiran, Dr.Aiswarya and Dr. Deepa Ittimani. It was followed by our Fr. Director's speech, where father spoke about how the year 2020 has been a blessing in disguise.

All the students, faculties and staff participated in meditation conducted by Fr Director, reflecting of their experiences from the past year.

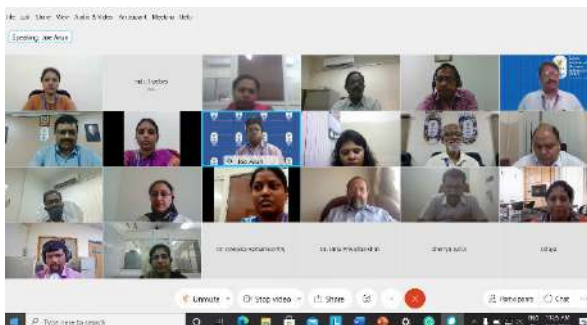
The meditation was followed by a spiritual recitation of prayer, after which Dr. Pandikumar, Mr. Janardhan, Percy of F19 and Sathish Pranav of F20 shared their experiences from the past year. It was followed by a variety of cultural events which included a musical performance by the band, a group song and two individual dance performances. The prayer service finally concluded with the National Anthem.



Online MOU Signing Ceremony between LIBA & Nitta Gelatin India Limited (NGIL)

On 15th January 2021 LIBA Chennai inked an MoU with Nitta Gelatin India Limited, Cochin, Virtually to commence an “Employee Development Programme “(EDP) in General Management.

On behalf of LIBA, Fr Joe Arun SJ, Director LIBA and for NGIL Mr Benny Pothen, General Manager HR, signed the agreement to roll out the Employee Development Programme.



The programme aims at upskilling and reskilling their Managers and Engineers in Managerial and Leadership skills. This programme would spread across a year. Mr. Sajiv K Menon, Managing Director, NGIL, Dr Sunil Vakayil, Chair - MDC, Mr Janardhanan Menon, Administrator & Coordinator, MDC, Mr. Xavier M.A., Chief Operating Officer, NGIL, Mr Sreejith Chengazassery, HR Manager, NGIL , Prof. Lakshmi Narayanan, Dean-Academics, and officials from LIBA were present during the event.

LIBA New Building in progress

Rev. Fr. Joe Arun, SJ, Director - LIBA, was reviewing the progress of the state of the art new building that is nearing completion on 8th January 2021.



Innovators of Education

Rev. Fr. Joe Arun, SJ, Director - LIBA, was identified as one of the “Innovators of Education” by India Today Group.



Pongal celebrations 2021

LIBA put its right foot forward into 2021 by celebrating Pongal, marking the significance of celebration of the harvest season in Tamil Nadu in India. The auspicious day began with a refreshing performance by the folk troupe Loyola Kalai Ilakkiya Mandram, which led to the energetic entry by Rev. Fr. Director Joe Arun S. J along with the entourage. After the performance, Fr. Director addressed the students and the faculty members with an inspiring message regarding the plight and toil of farmers, the farmers agitation happening now and prayed for their wellbeing.

He also lit the stoves of the four teams – Mayilakaalai, Machakaalai, Morattukaalai and Sevelakaalai to kick start the much-awaited Pongal cooking competition. The team Mayilakaalai were announced as winners of the cooking competition by the judges Prof. Lakshminarayanan and Prof. M.J. Xavier. As the cooking competition was going on the folk troupe gave an eclectic performance.

The boyband set the tone for the day with their celebratory singing performance, followed by a moving

speech given by Susintra Sundarsan and Manju Priya which touched upon the plight of our farmers.

Next came an exceptional dance performance by students which stirred up the crowd, followed by a sugarcane breaking competition and “Uriyadi” getting everyone in their competitive spirits. In the sugarcane breaking competition, the Machakaalai team won the prize. While the stage was set for the Uriyadi competition, the folk troupe again enthralled the crowd with their performance and all the students along with Father Director joined them in dance. Team Sevalakaalai won the Uriyadi competition.

The event was made even more colourful and enjoyable with active participation by the faculty members in all the competitions. After announcing the winners of the competitions and distributing prizes, Associate Dean student Relations Dr. Aiswarya B delivered the concluding remarks. Everyone was served a delectable lunch. Team SAC, the Pongal committee, faculty and the entire students of LIBA made this event a grand success.



Republic Day 2021

The 72nd Republic Day celebrations was conducted in the campus with zest and patriotism.

The events officially commenced at 7 am with the hoisting of National Flag by Mr. Jesuraj, the senior-most Non-Teaching staff in the campus, followed by paying patronage to the nation through the rendition of National Anthem. Prof. P.C. Lakshmi Narayanan, Dean-Academics welcomed the gathering thereafter with a heartfelt message on Republic Day. Prof. S. Sri Krishnan, Professor, Business Analytics, delivered the Republic Day address enriching the patriotic emotions to the audience. Jhanker Mishra of F19 and Aiswarya Jose of F20 spoke enthusiastically, proclaiming their spirit of patriotism for the nation.

A fun filled, wholesome, and nationalistic array of singing and dance performances followed, leaving the audience with wonderful experience. As the MC of the event, Bhavya Nukala hosted the program by sharing facts about Republic Day. The program concluded with the rendition of Vande Mataram, the national song. Breakfast was served to all faculty and students after the Republic Day celebrations.



Alumni Meet - Mumbai Chapter



The Alumni Relations, Loyola Institute of Business Administration organized the Annual Alumni Chapter meet for the Mumbai Chapter on Saturday, 23rd January 2021.

The event was presided over by Fr. Dr. C. Joe Arun, SJ - Director LIBA, and coordinated by Dr. Aiswarya, Chair, Alumni Relations. The faculty, research associates, teaching assistants, student alumni committee and our beloved alumni attended the meet. The event started off with an interesting introductory video showing places in Chennai and Mumbai in all its glory to bond the alumni with its Alma Mater nostalgically. The event commenced with the watering of a plant, digitally though, and the prayer song by the LIBA Choir, as is the tradition in LIBA.

Dr. B. Aiswarya welcomed the participants and highlighted the activities and functions of the alumni relations. She also appreciated and thanked the Mumbai chapter organisers for their lively participation in the meet.

In his Directorial message, father, updated the current progress of LIBA and its future directions. He said that the "Alumni meet is an organic connect that would help LIBA grow." He also mentioned that Corona is not a crisis, but an opportunity. He further highlighted his vision of making

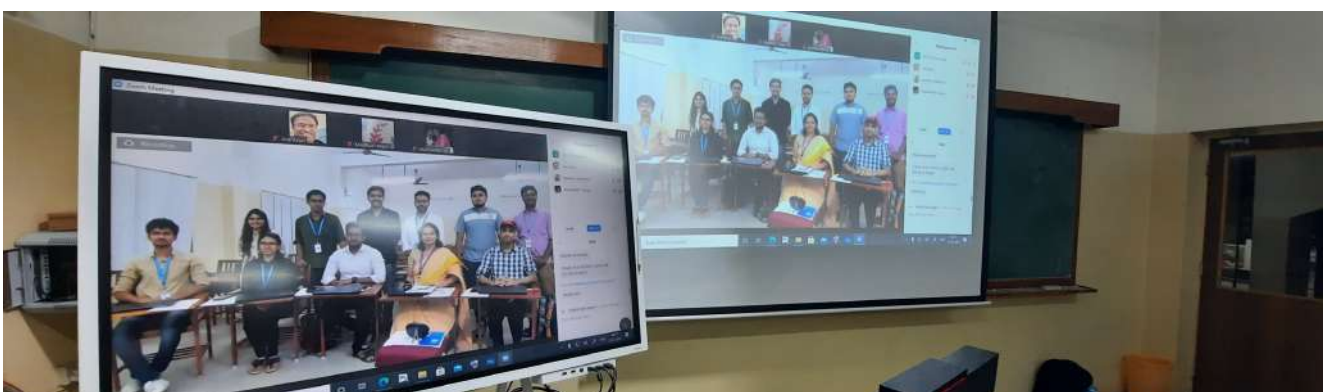
LIBA one of the top 5 best business schools in the country. Father shared his dream for LIBA that it should eventually become a business school where all the faculty are alumni of LIBA.

Dr. Lakshmi Narayanan, Dean - Academics, spoke on the importance of conducting alumni meets as they provide an opportunity to get together, think and also take stock of areas for improvement. The meeting was also adorned by beautiful dance performances by present first year students.

Mr. Michael Ashof, Mumbai Chapter President spoke about the positive environment of LIBA, and shared his experiences in the institution. He also put forward a few suggestions for building a stronger connect with alumni which were appreciated by father.

A walk down through the memory lane with some beautiful and nostalgic memories of the alumni at LIBA were presented through an enchanting audio visual of old photographs. Mr Anton and Mr. Gokul shared their experiences and memories at LIBA and gave a few suggestions to improve the alumni connect. This was followed by an interaction between the alumni and students of the current batch. Dr. Kishore Kunal, faculty LIBA gave his concluding remarks on the proceedings of the event.

LIBA organizes chapter wise alumni meets at various locations like Chennai, Delhi, Bengaluru, Mumbai, Kochin, and internationally in Singapore and Dubai to maintain, build and strengthen a strong connect with the alumni, this is one of the core strengths of our LIBA. This virtual alumni meet is another such example in LIBA's glorious diary.



Insight 2020-21



The National Management Symposium, is a flagship event organized by LIBA every year, where Industry stalwarts and practitioners deliberate on contemporary issues and challenges that Businesses face during the changing times.

The theme of Insight 20-21 was, “Sailing through the Storm: Leadership During Crisis” was conducted on the 22nd January 2021 at Residency Towers, T Nagar, Chennai.



Thiru. Ma Foi K. Pandiarajan, Minister of Tamil Official Language & Tamil Culture, Government of Tamil Nadu graced the event as the Chief Guest and delivered the keynote address. Rev. Dr. Joe Arun SJ, Director of LIBA, welcomed the gathering and Rev. Dr. Francis Xavier SJ, Rector and Chairman of LIBA presided over the event. The day was divided into two panel discussions. Panel Discussion I focussed on the topic, ‘Managing People during Challenging Times’ Mr. Jayan Narayanan, Managing Partner of Toss the Coin moderated the discussion, while Mr. Arun Miranda Chairman and Managing Director of Astrotech Steel Private Limited and Mr. Swaminathan, Founder and CEO, Aspire Ventures were the distinguished panellists. The perspectives shared by the panel were oriented towards the challenges faced by organisations in managing human resources, especially during the times of crisis, like Covid 19.



Panel discussion II, which started in the afternoon explored the topic, ‘Marketing through Crisis’. The distinguished panel comprised of Mr. Steve Borgia Chairman & Managing Director of INDeco Leisure Hotels and Mr. Cornelius Bernard, Managing Director at I Bhar Technologies and Health Pastures, Chennai as panellists while Mr. Cyril Rex Fernando, Founder and Managing partner of On Point Consultancy was the Moderator. The panel discussed on the crisis that marketing departments in organisations faced during the Covid crisis.



LiBiTES Editorial Team

Dr. C. Joe Arun, SJ - Director, LIBA
Editor-in-Chief

Dr. B. Aiswarya - Chair, Alumni Relations
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About Loyola Institute of Business Administration

Loyola Institute of Business Administration (LIBA) is a premier B-school, established in 1979 within the premises of Loyola College, to form competent and committed leaders who are ethical, principle-centred and socially responsible with a global perspective and entrepreneurial spirit. LIBA is managed by Jesuits of the Loyola College Society well-known for their outstanding contribution to higher education. LIBA stands for 'Excellence with Ethics' which are the hallmarks of Jesuit business education and all its programmes and activities embody these two elements. LIBA earnestly strives to inculcate in the students the values of excellence, justice, honesty, inclusiveness and service to the society.

LIBA primarily offers a two-year Full-time PGDM course, approved by AICTE and recognized by AIU. It also offers other programmes: Part-time PGDM (AICTE approved), Ph.D. (affiliated to the University of Madras) and one-year executive diploma programmes. The Management Development Centre offers various customised programmes (short-term and long-term) with a focus on skill development. LIBA concentrates on the holistic formation of students in all aspects viz., intellectual, social, emotional and spiritual. The Institution works with an undeterred zeal to offer its students the best education, blending classroom and experiential learning.

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