The last delivery

There was a rich couple who was planning to throw a big New Year party at their house. They went shopping at the super market where everything was of high cost and fixed price. Since they wanted to maintain their level of standard they didn’t mind paying for it. After purchasing all they needed, they called a porter to carry everything and drop it at their home. The porter who came was of an old age, not very healthy looking, his clothes were torn, looked as if he wasn’t even able to meet his daily needs.

They asked the porter about the charges for delivering their goods at their home. The old porter quoted just a Rs.100, well below the market rate for delivering goods at the couple’s home in his cart. Yet, the couple argued and bargained with the porter and finally settled for Rs.75. The porter was struggling to make even one time’s meal, so he needed anything he can earn.

The couple was very happy thinking how well they bargained with the poor porter and paid him Rs.25 in advance and left after giving the porter their address for delivery. They reached home and an hour passed, two hours passed, but the porter didn’t still deliver their stuff.

The wife started to get angry at her husband, “I always tell you not to trust such persons, and still you never listen to me. Such person who is not even able to earn to feed himself for one time in a day, you handed him everything we purchased for our big party. I am sure instead of delivering at our home, he must have disappeared with everything. We must immediately go back to the market to inquire and then to the police station to file the complaint against him.”

They both left towards the market. On their way near the market, they saw another porter. They stopped him to inquire about the old porter and noticed that he was carrying their stuff in his cart! The angry wife asked him, “Where is that old thief? This is our stuff and he was supposed to deliver it. It seems you poor thieves are stealing our stuff and going to sell it!”

The porter replied, “Madam, Please calm down. That poor old man was sick since last month. He wasn’t able to earn enough to even have a single meal of the day. He was on the way to deliver your stuff, but who he was hungry, sick, couldn’t gather the strength to go any further in this heat of the noon.” He fell down and while handing me Rs.25, his last words were, “I had taken an advance for this delivery, you take this and please deliver to this address.

“Madam, He was hungry, he was poor, but he was an honest man. I was just on the way to complete old man’s last delivery at your home,” the porter said. Upon hearing this, the husband had tears in his eyes, but the wife felt so ashamed, she had no courage to see up in her husband’s eyes.

Honesty has no class. Respecting someone regardless of their financial and social status indicates the quality of your personality. It is always good to give the one who deserves.

Dr. G.P.C. Nayar

National Technical Day

A full day seminar on Technology Startups for a New World was organised by SCMS Institute for Bioscience and Biotech Research and Development in association with Kerala State Council for Science Technology and Environment on May 15 to celebrate the National Technical Day. The seminar was inaugurated by Dr. H.V. Easwer, Professor, Department of Neurosurgery, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram. The faculty and students of BSc Botany & Biotechnology and MSc Molecular Biology & Genetic Engineering were the participants.

A full day seminar on Technology Startups for a New World was

Inaugural address by Dr. H.V. Easwer, Professor, Department of Neurosurgery, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology. Sitting beside L-R: Dr. C. Sethulekshmi Nair, Dy. Director, SIBB-R&D, Dr. Sashi Kumar G., Principal, SSTM, Dr. Radha P. Thevannoor, Registrar and Group Director, Dr. C. Mohankumar, Director, SIBB-R&D and Dr. K. Manzoor, Sr. Scientist, Molecular Medicines, Amrita Institute of Medical Science.
“In my profession I use technology for the benefit of the mankind,” said Dr.H.V.Easwer. Development of technology began millions of years ago when man used to live in caves. Homo sapiens were better than all other species of man and all other animal species. It was possible for the homo sapiens to dominate over other species because of one reason, the brain. Referring to the book Sapiens, A Brief History of Humankind, authored by the Jewish historian Yuval Noah Harari, he said that human beings were able to work together, develop new things and develop science and technology which made us the masters of the herd. The first development of technology happened when man somehow discovered fire. The human intelligence did not stop at that. They learned to recreate the genesis of fire by using two stones – the first scientific technology they invented. Use of technology for the benefit of mankind started with the evolution of man. Then, one of the greatest scientific developments happened - the invention of the wheel. It made it possible for us to travel from one place to another. Today it is not only the man who travels with the help of the wheel, but a couple of years ago it was a heart that was transported to Kochi for transplantation. The recipient was in Kochi and the donor was in Thiruvananthapuram. Evolution of the wheel made it possible.

In recent times two doctors in Canada, Frederick Banting and Charles Best, discovered insulin, a pancreatic hormone essential for metabolising carbohydrates, at University of Toronto. Further research ultimately led to isolation and commercial production of insulin and successful treatment of diabetes. Then came recombinant technology. Today millions of diabetic patients survive because insulin is available in plenty.

“In every one of you there is potential and that potential comes not from your learning in the class room or the lab but by applying that learning for human betterment. As biotechnology students you have the tool to better the life of the people. Don’t look at your job just as an occupation but as a way of living. There will be no honour, there will be no salary but you will find happiness in doing things in a different way and finding something to change the world around,” Dr.Easwer concluded.

Presiding over the function, Dr.Radha P.Thevannoor, Registrar and Group Director spoke on the need for developing a startup culture among the young scientists. Remarkable teams are the result of such a culture. There are umpteen number of problems in the society, for which we need answers. As researchers your duty is to look around and find solutions to some of those problems, she told the students.

Referring to the success of Hyderabad-based startup firm manufacturing and marketing high-tech shoes for the visually impaired, Dr. G. Sashi Kumar, Principal, SSTM said that the startup ecosystem in India has grown tremendously over the recent past and remains to be one of the most vibrant systems. He was offering felicitations.

Dr.C.Mohankumar, Director, SIBB-R&D welcomed the gathering and Dr.C.Sethulekshmi Nair, Dy. Director, SIBB-R&D proposed the vote of thanks.

In the technical session that followed, Dr.H.V.Easwer spoke on his experience in Translational Research, an experience with hydroxyapatite.

Dr.K.Manzoor, Sr.Scientist, Molecular Medicines, Amrita Institute of Medical Science spoke on Advances in Cancer Treatment – Nano medicine and immuno therapy.

In the afternoon session Dr.C.Mohankumar spoke on Processing Technology and Product Development. He presented the research data of two new research projects in SIBB-R&D lab. The first one was on the indigenous production technology of Virgin Coconut Oil (VCO) by cost-effective method standardised by SIBB-R&D. The second focus was on the product development of a topical ointment for scar-less wound closure as a herbal cosmetics.

During his talk, he pointed out the unique metabolic pathway of Lauric acid, the primary fatty acid of VCO unlike any other edible oils in human system leading to the production of Ketone bodies that can be transported easily to the blood stream and brain cells as a substitute of glucose as cell fuel for curing neuro degenerative disorders.

Regarding the herbal product, Dr. Mohankumar presented the molecular evidence of wound closure treated with HAL (a combination developed by SIBB-R&D from a natural herb Hemigraphis alternata) by showing the expression of marker genes of wound healing. The herb Hemigraphis alternata has been traditionally identified in Indian medicine to promote the healing of soft tissue wounds and minor injuries.

In the panel discussion that followed Dr.C.N.Narayana, Director, SCMS COCHIN School of Business, Dr.C.Mohankumar, Dr.K.S.Rishad, CEO, Kloros Life Sciences, Kochi, Dr.Pr.Deepu Krishnan, Chief Scientific Officer, Indriyam Biologies, Thiruvananthapuram, Dr.C.Sethulekshmi Nair, and Dr.Harish M., Scientist, SIBB-R&D participated.
Virgin coconut oil

Virgin coconut oil (VCO) is extracted naturally from fresh gratings of mature coconuts without applying heat during processing.

Virgin coconut oil is good for body health because it contains saturated fatty acid and so it can improve the body’s metabolic system. Besides, there are contents that can help to kill harmful bacteria so it makes your body immune to diseases. The lauric acid contained in the virgin coconut oil can help to take care of heart health. Lauric acid is able to help lower bad cholesterol in the body. It will turn bad cholesterol into good cholesterol.

Benefits of virgin coconut oil

- It has anti-viral, anti-fungal and antibacterial properties.
- It increases metabolic rate.
- It is healthy for your skin, hair and nails.
- It gives you instant energy.
- It has good immune system support.
- It supports healthy thyroid function.
- It improves digestion.
- It helps to burn more fat and facilitates muscle development.

Virgin coconut oil is rapidly gaining popularity throughout the world.

Skype Session

Finance Department of SCMS COCHIN School of Business organised a Skype Session on Working Capital Management on May 17. Mr. Amitabha Mukhopadhyay, Group CFO & Executive Council Member of Thermax Global, Pune addressed the PGDM Batch 27 students, from his Pune Office.

Mr. Amitabha Mukhopadhyay is a chartered accountant and has over 25 years of professional experience with leading organisations in the manufacturing and engineering industries.

The Skype Session offered the students an opportunity to familiarise with the practical details and applications of working capital management concept. The initial talk by Mr. Amitabha was related to practice of working capital management in Thermax, a Rs. 4602 crores company and which has got to its credit a flawless working capital management system in vogue for long. The students also got the opportunity to clarify their queries related to the topic during the question answer session.

The one hour session started with the welcome address by Dr. C.N. Narayana, Director- SCMS COCHIN School of Business and was concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Prof. Cherian Varghese, HoD-Finance.
Dr. Radha Thevannoor and Dr. Susan Abraham have co-authored a book titled 'HR LEXICON: A Practitioner's Handbook,' published by Educreation Publishers. This book contains 1008 HR terms and serves as a ready reckoner for HR professionals and students.

**Faculty achievement**

Dr. Binud K. Nambiar, Associate Professor, successfully completed the Executive Certificate Programme in Marketing Analytics held in September 2018 – February 2019 through VIIL platform.

**Face every challenge with the right attitude**

(Annej A., the Best Outgoing Student in PGDM Batch 26, shares his experience with us – Editor)

The specialty of the best outgoing student award is its confidentiality. Naturally, the only feeling that conquered me when my name was called for this award was excitement. I felt like I was awarded for my performance for the past two years in SCMS. I could see the sense of pride and happiness in the eyes of my parents and teachers. Soon the feeling of excitement gave way to gratitude. It was with the efforts and blessings of my parents and teachers only I was there on the dais to receive such an award.

The most important thing I studied in SCMS was ‘attitude determines altitude.’ The right kind of attitude shown towards all the works assigned in college decides your success. Whether it is academic assignments or co-curricular activities, the rule remains the same. SCMS is a place where you get a number of opportunities to polish yourself to become a lustrous piece of metal. Whether it is IMLP sessions, PDP sessions, social outreach programmes or so on, the exposure that you gain is very much useful. A touch of it would be understood during the internship period.

So my advice to the juniors is that accept every challenge that comes to you with the right attitude. It would not only help you during the studies but also equip you to make all your endeavours in the corporate world a success.

**Soft skills training conducted**

Mr. Sudheer Suchakaran, Associate Professor, conducted a soft skills training programme for two batches of employees of ESI Hospital at Udyogamandal on May 16 and 17. The participants were the nurses and other paramedical staff.

**New book published**

Dr. Radha Thevannoor and Dr. Susan Abraham, HoD-MBA, have co-authored a book titled 'HR LEXICON: A Practitioner’s Handbook.' This book is available with Amazon and Flipkart.

**Faculty achievements**

Dr. Susan Abraham, HoD-MBA, has passed the NPTEL Course on Emotional Intelligence (Elite Certificate).

Six students of batch 16 were selected for the six-day live project, ‘Promotions and Merchandising in Modern Trade’ initiated by Colgate Palmolive Ltd. The students, Shabeer, Abhiram, Vishnu, Sulfikar, Gopika, Yadunath, Mariam and Rijo, were assigned to various stores in Kerala. It was a great learning experience for the students as they learnt to handle customers and were also able to sell products for the company.

In the annual day function of Thanal Palliative and Paraplegic Care Society in Choornikkara Panchyat on April 27, a Students’ Care Scheme was launched by Mr. Anwar Sadath MLA. The objective of the scheme was to involve the students of SSTM in rendering service to the inmates of the paraplegic centre. The involvement of the students will be in the form of providing training to the inmates in computer, application of various apps with the help of mobile phones, and soft skills for children who are differently disabled. Students of SSTM, the Principal and the NSS Coordinator received the certificate admitting SSTM in the scheme.

SSET students’ project gets direct entry to the grand finale

Waste management, especially food waste management, is one of the biggest problems mankind faces. A team of eighth semester mechanical engineering students – Lijomon George, K. S. Adithyan and Srinath S. Kamath— from SSET has found a solution to this problem by integrating technology with agriculture. They have developed a system that uses pure biological methods to manage waste and grow vegetables organically.

The system developed under the guidance of Mr. Sajith E., Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering Department has been placed second amongst top 30 teams in the Kerala Startup Mission’s Idea Fest co-sponsored by Calicut University on April 27 at the Department of Commerce and Management, Calicut University campus for designing innovative agriculture and waste management system. The team also received a direct entry to the grand finale of the fest scheduled towards the end of May.

The system called Automated System for Fertigation using Canteen Waste makes use of the food waste from the college canteen to produce organic fertiliser to grow fresh organic vegetables on the campus. The automated system uses an Intelligent Plant Monitoring System to nurture vegetables. A mobile application stores the plant database that is connected to the Intelligent Plant Monitoring System. This versatile system doesn’t require human intervention besides in the stages of dumping waste, sowing seeds and harvesting the vegetables. The system also makes use of soil substitute to nurture any plant other than tubers thereby eliminating soil-borne diseases. The system ensures zero investment agriculture with high returns.

The idea was inspired from the amount of food waste that was left to rot in the landfills causing health hazards. As of now, the team has developed an indoor model to process 50 litres of waste and grow at least 50-100 plants whereas the larger 300 litre model can help grow 150-300 plants. The system allows food crops as well as horticulture crops to grow in this manner.
Department activities

‘Do a Volte-Face’ is an annual in-house competition conducted by the Prakrithi Eco Club of Department of Civil Engineering, SSET to enhance the creative and artistic skills of civil engineering students. As a part of it, a competition was conducted on March 28 in which students were to create models made strictly out of waste materials that could be anything ranging from bottles, newspapers, jute fibers, waste cloth materials or any second hand item, which would otherwise be thrown away. The first prize was bagged by Rintu Kurian, Sreedevi, Athira and Gincy, semester 2 students of M.Tech Environmental Engineering and second prize was bagged by semester 8 students Krishnapriya K. B., Ashitha T., Dahlia Theresa N. J. and Aysha V. A.

As part of H2O’s commitment to the society, students and staff of SSET joined hands to rebuild the roof of a house close to SSET campus on May 12. The roof of the house was falling apart which posed a risk to its residents. The initiative ‘Sparsham 2019’ was successfully completed by all the volunteers bringing cheer all around.

NSS activities

A blood donation camp was organised by NSS at SSET campus on April 12 in association with General Hospital Ernakulam. Eighth semester students and faculty members participated in donating their blood. Nearly 52 units of blood could be collected in the camp.

H2O activities

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Publication


Paper presented

Ms. Sindhya K. Nambiar and Ms. Soniya Jose, Assistant Professors, Dept. of CSE, presented a paper titled ‘POS Tagging for Malayalam Using Hidden Markov Model’ at the 3rd International Conference on Trends in Electronics and Informatics organised by SCAD College of Engineering and Technology during April 23-25, at Cheranmahadevi, Tirunelveli.

Workshop on 2D and 3D design software

A two-day workshop on 2D and 3D design software was conducted for 11 faculty members of Global Public School, Thiruvaniyoor at the Centre for Robotics on May 15 and 16. The working of laser cutting machine and 3D printer was also demonstrated to the participants.

Seminar attended

Ms. Gayathry S. Warrier, Assistant Professor, Dept. of CSE, attended a one day seminar on ‘Science Education in a Digital Era’ on May 17, at Mascot Hotel, Thrissur.
In an interaction with faculty of SSET, TELK (Transformers and Electrics Kerala Limited) had proposed an automation system for the placement of transformer core sheet. Subsequently, fourth semester students of Department of Computer Science and Engineering – Ashby Babu, Jyothish A., and Ashik Mathew — demonstrated the prototype successfully in front of the TELK committee on May 8. The presentation was attended by the Chairman, MD and the R & D staff of TELK. In a couple of months, TELK will be adopting the same for their automation.

News about fatalities caused by vehicles that accidentally get drowned is not new for those living in Kerala. Blessed with abundant sources of water bodies, the place has always been hazardous with such accidents. Vehicle getting submerged is one type of accident with the highest fatality rate in the world. Even though the frequency of such accidents is quite low, most of the cases end up fatal. Although safety on the road is a top priority concern while manufacturing a car, not much attention is being devoted to ensure safety of the people in drowning vehicles.

Dr. Varun G. Menon, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering presented an invited keynote talk on ‘Hijacked Journals’ at the International Multi-conference on Engineering and Science on May 6 at Holiday Inn, Mauritius. The conference was organised by University of Hawaii, USA and Gyancity Research Lab, Italy.

Mr. N. C. Mohanan, Chairman, TELK and Mr. Prasad B., Managing Director, TELK posing along with Prof. Krishnakumar T, Visiting Faculty-IIT Palakkad, Dr. Sunil Jacob, Director, Centre for Robotics, R&D staff of TELK and S4 CSE students of SSET at the presentation.

Ambady Anil, Yadu V.D. and Godfrindual J. posing along with their guide Mr. Aravind P.V., Assistant Professor and the device they developed

This fact led our final year automobile engineering students to research and innovate a ‘Drowning Vehicle Escape System’ which can save passengers while vehicles get drowned

The device is an electronic module developed by a team consisting Ambady Anil, Yadu V.D. and Godfrindual J. of final year automobile engineering under guidance from Mr. Aravind P.V., Assistant Professor and Er. Antu Dominic.

The module detects the rise in level of water using a water sensor. When the rise in water level reaches alarming height the microprocessor activates the automatic window opening system which opens the window, activates the voice command module which commands the escape protocol to be followed by the passengers to escape. Then an air bellow is inflated which can help the passengers to float in the water body ensuring safety.

A siren is also actuated which alerts the locals and a GSM module is used to alert emergency services. All these activities are controlled by a microprocessor.

The team is now researching on possibilities of patenting the idea which is unique and explores a new area in the world of vehicle safety. The project was shortlisted to the second round of Smart India Hackathon — India’s biggest innovation and product development competition by AICTE.
The photography club members (S1, S4 and S6) accompanied by faculty in-charge Ar.Varsha Vivek and Ar.Vipin Wilson had the privilege to visit the studio of the accomplished commercial photographer Mr. Anil Kumar who has proven his proficiency in all facets of photography such as Architecture, Fashion, Industrial and Table-tops. The students had a very informative interactive session where they were introduced to the overall structure of a camera. Mr.Anil Kumar enlightened the students with tips to architectural photography where he explained the importance of subject frame and photo frame to be parallel. He also shared his memorable experiences like shooting for various advertisements, fashion photography and his struggles in becoming established. Being an avid nature photographer, he also briefed on how to develop an eye for capturing the scenic landscapes. The students were given suggestion on types of cameras to be used, the types of lenses and so on.

Seminar on HVAC and automation in buildings

Daikin Industries, Ltd., a Japanese multinational air conditioner manufacturing company headquartered in Osaka, conducted a seminar on March 7 on the important aspects of Heating, Ventilation and Air-conditioning (HVAC) in relation with building automation as a part of the technical talk organised for Elective 2—Building Automation and Security Systems/ Intelligent Building Systems. The presentation was on various types of air conditioning systems available in market and the need to integrate the system with building management. The company is named for the first and most advanced VRV(Variable Refrigerant Volume) system. They made a detailed presentation on integrating the HVAC system with building management to reduce the cost and energy utilisation in the building. Mr. Premjith, Public Relations Officer—Sales and Mr. Mobin, Executive Engineer were the resource persons.

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