



# IIM T *Pulse* V1.2



An Alumni Canvas



Alumni Committee

Indian Institute of Management Tiruchirappalli



# Professors *Speak*

**Prof V Gopal**



I had always believed that alumni are the primary stakeholders of any institution. More successful, the alumni becomes, more brand value the institute gains and vice versa. Of late, every institute is learning this and older ones are learning this the hard way.

IIM Tiruchirappalli is leveraging the advantage of its young age. More connected you are to us, more opportunities for us to grow together. We plan to have a lot of events through the course of the year, to engage with you, physically and digitally. Share your ideas, share your experiences, share your joys and sorrows with us; faculty, staff, current students and other alumni. Our students are eager to reach out to you. Connect with the interns in your organisations. Let us march together towards progress.

With best wishes,

V. Gopal

## IIMT *Soars*

### Strategic Management Forum 2018

IIM Trichy hosted the 20th Annual Convention of Strategic Management Forum from 25-27th December, 2018. The annual convention was inaugurated by Dr. Gerard George, Dean, Lee Kong Chian School of Business and Lee Kong Chian Chair Professor of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Singapore Management University. Mr. Rajnish Mehta (Executive Director - Corporate Strategy & Planning at Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited), served as the Guest of Honour.

The convention aimed to provide an opportunity for professors of Strategy, Innovation and Entrepreneurship to share their research on efforts to improve student's learning experience through the convention podium. It also sought to provide an opportunity to receive inputs on curriculum design through lectures and panel discussions from peers of eminence representing global institutions. The convention was an effort to foster an ecosystem for exchanging and sharing expertise on all aspects of curriculum centred on disruption impacting Strategy, Innovation and Entrepreneurship by assembling leading academicians, thinkers, researchers and policy makers.



## Foundation Day

IIM Tiruchirappalli (IIMT) celebrated its 8th Foundation Day on the 4th of January, 2019 to mark the inception of IIM Trichy as the 11th Indian Institute of Management. The event was inaugurated with the lighting of the lamp by Shri T. T. Srinivasaraghavan, Managing Director of Sundaram Finance Group and Shri P. Raveendran (IRTS), Chairman of Chennai Port Trust. Shri T. T. Srinivasaraghavan, in his keynote address talked about the qualities of a good leader and broke-down LEADERSHIP as an acronym with attributes such as Listening and Learning, Empathy, Articulation, Decisiveness, Empowerment, Role model, Strength, Humility and integrity, Inspirational and People's person. Shri P. Raveendran highlighted the importance of facts than opinions for taking decisions. He urged the students to contribute towards the success of the country.



The award for the best MAD project was awarded to Nandhini N, Pawan Reddy, Aditya Karvasara, Sreekar Raj, Nagesh Kopparthi and Himanshu Ratnam of PGP 17-19 Batch. The students collaborated with Holy Cross Service Society for the project "Design and implementation of the framework for early identification of disability among children" under the guidance of Prof. Hari Sreekumar.

## iWeek

IIM Trichy conducted International Week from 17th December 2018 to 23rd December 2018. Popularly known as the I-Week, the initiative was started in IIM Trichy in which noted faculties from various B-Schools across the globe gather to impart their knowledge about different management arenas through various credit courses. This year, 11 faculties from countries including Australia, New Zealand, USA, Fiji/Malaysia, UK and China took part in the I-Week, and each faculty covered a distinct business administration course designed specifically to impart the nuances of both theory and application across the span of 7 days. The faculties hailed from Australian Institute of Business, Western Michigan University, University of Louisville, Victoria Business School among others. These courses provided the students with a much-needed exposure to various global business perspectives and how to amalgamate the domestic knowledge to the business decisions. In this second iteration of I-Week, 120+ students had enrolled, comprising of both PGP and PGDM students from several institutes.



## Distinguished Service Award



Dr. Bhimaraya Metri, Director IIM Tiruchirappalli was honoured with the 'Distinguished Service Award' by Asia Pacific Decision Sciences Institute (APDSI) during the 12th ISDSI Annual Conference held at Mumbai on 28th December 2018. This award is a recognition of his contribution and exceptional services towards growth of Indian Subcontinent Decision Sciences Institute (ISDSI) as its President; Asia Pacific Decision Sciences Institute (APDSI) as its Vice President and contribution and services to Decision Sciences Institute (DSI) USA as its Board Member. This was conferred upon him during 12th ISDSI Annual Conference held at SP Jain Institute of Management and Research (SPJIMR) Mumbai on December 28, 2018.

## Sangram 2018



The sports event has been a roller coaster ride with twists and turns all the way. It was an exciting weekend for all the contingents.

However, it was a special one for IIM Trichy which bagged 2 Gold medals in Men's Basketball and Women's Throwball with their exemplary performances and 4 Silver medals in Basketball (Women), Pool (Women), Chess (Women & Men), emerging as one of the strongest contingents. IIM Trichy has made a historic mark with significant contribution from women's sports like never before and is determined to keep the legacy going.

IIM Trichy stood third in the final medal tally with 2 Gold, 4 Silver and 15 Bronze medals. IIM Trichy contingent heartfully congratulates IIMB for winning the tournament and thanks to Sports Committee, IIM Bangalore for being a wonderful host.

## Faculty-Student Cricket match.

IIM Trichy Sports Committee continues the legacy of organizing the Faculty-Student Cricket match on 7th Jan. Both the teams agile and enthralled were motivated to win against each other. An exuberant audience was cheering the professors while they were placing their shots and gaining runs. Students team won by 36 runs. Indeed it had been a memorable interaction for both students and faculty outside the classroom.



## ITCL 2.0



ITCL 2.0 was inaugurated by Dr. Bhimaraya Metri, Director IIM Trichy, in presence of the Student Activities Chairperson, other faculty members and students. It was a 10 day long cricket extravaganza.

The grand finale of ITCL 2.0 began with the Mavericks and the Old School Outlaws gearing up to be the champions. The Old School Outlaws won against the Mavericks by 6 wickets to bag the prestigious champions trophy of ITCL 2.0.

## Khelotsav'19

Close to 100 participants.. 7 sports.. 4 teams.. 3 days and 1 championship trophy!!

IIM Trichy emerged as Champions of the inaugural edition of this exciting tournament between the top management institutes of Trichy. It went down the wire to the football final where IIMT won the match and eventually the championship!!





## Sanskriti



Sanskriti, the war of sections, took place on 10th of October. It was a real fiesta to the IIMTians, who on other days struggle with Porter and Miller.

There were an array of events, entailing off-stage and on-stage events. The battle of sections started with release of their section videos, which were open war calls. Funny memes and punches added fuel to the fire, the love for their sections. The off stage events consisted of plagiarism, dubbing, photography and on-stage events entailed war of bands, group choreo, solo dance, mad ads, fashion show. At the end, the Agents of Chaos, section C emerged as the champions of Sanskriti.

## Dhruva 3.0

Dhruva 3.0, The management and Cultural fest of IIM Trichy were held from 25 th Jan to 27 th Jan 2019. The event was inaugurated with the lighting of the lamp by Chief Guests Dr. K. Krishnakumar and Mrs. Binni Krishnakumar, acclaimed Carnatic musicians; Guests of Honour, Commander Anup Thomas, Chief Inspector of Naval Armament (Trichy); Dr. D. Prasanna Balaji, Head and Director Research Department of Physical Education, National College; Dr. Bhimaraya Metri, Director, IIM Trichy; Prof. Upam Pushpak Makhecha, Chairperson – Student Affairs, IIM Trichy.

The 3-day festival saw participation of 7500 participants from 212 institutes across the country in 11 management competitions and 5 cultural events. Flagships events were conducted by various clubs in various domains like HR, Operations, Marketing, Finance, Consulting Etc. Dhruva also featured stand-up comedy by famous comedian Rahul Subramanian and EDM night by renowned DJs Greff and Shiva Manvi hosted by Sunburn.



## Republic day celebrations



IIM Trichy celebrated India's 70th Republic Day with flag hoisting by Dr. Bhimaraya Metri, Director, IIM Trichy. The Director, in his address to the students, acknowledged that India has achieved a lot in the past 70 years and has grown at a global level in multiple avenues. He emphasized that to take India growth further we have to focus on reducing the digital divide between rural and urban India, address farmers' issues and literacy challenges. He further said that IIM Trichy, as part of the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan initiative, would be working with a few Gram Panchayats to help build smart villages like smart cities. He urged students to contribute to building a sustainable mother planet.

**Karthika Sozharajan**

Doctoral Candidate at IIM Bangalore



**How has your journey through MBA to working in the corporate to doing doctoral been till now?**

It has been an enjoyable journey, although it does seem a bit haphazard. As a student of the first batch at IIM T, we did a lot of experimenting with the coursework. We were also given a lot of say in finetuning the background processes of the institute. You can also thank us for a lot of the rules which you guys have to follow 😊. The same sense of experimenting took me to Mumbai for my first job. I had never really been out of my home state Tamilnadu and knew about five words of Hindi. I learnt a lot there in a very short period of time. The doctoral course has been back-to-campus experience with less of the fun and more of the work. It has been rewarding in its own ways.

**How has your experience been in Tata Power and Amrutanjan Health Care Ltd.?**

My choice of both the companies was influenced by the job profiles that they offered. Tata Power offered the profile of Management Trainee which involved working with different departments for short stints. This was aimed at giving us a hands-on training which would help us become better managers in the future. Due to personal reasons I had to shift to Chennai after one year. Amrutanjan offered me a generic job profile positioned directly under the CFO. I jumped at this offer and it paid off well. The CFO put me in charge of setting up and fine-tuning their MIS and costing systems. It was a learning experience that I probably would not have gotten anywhere else.

**Being from the first batch of IIMT did you feel any difference between you and other people from established institutes?**

Honestly, there are differences in treatment. Students from established institutes are 'innocent until proven guilty'. We, on the other hand, have to prove that we are competent before we are given some of the better projects.

**How do people perceive IIM T then and now in the industry?**

IIM T is still the same in some ways. For instance, we will always be a 'new' IIM without the legacy of the older IIMs. But in other ways we have come a long distance. The placement records over the past years has provided affirmation to external and internal audiences that IIM T provides quality education. The relatively early establishment of the permanent campus and Chennai campus is also a further badge of accomplishment.

**What made you move to the academia again to pursue doctoral course?**

Academia was always my dream job. It is just that I got lost in between pursuing an engineering career. During my MBA my strategy teacher, Prof. Apalak Khatua, pointed out that I had an aptitude for research and encouraged me to look into doctoral courses. Since it also coincided with my vision, I was all game for it.

**How did two years in IIM T shape your career? How did you manage the hectic schedule?**

My two years at IIM-T was transformational. I went in with little idea of what an MBA could actually do for my career. The people there provided me with a vibrant and welcoming environment. I am proud of our institute for the congenial atmosphere that it attempts to foster. This was key in juggling all the coursework and extracurriculars. Dividing up the work makes the work easier and helps you go the extra mile. If there is one thing, I took away from my two years at IIM T, it is that friends will make your life a lot easier and more fun as well.

**Your most memorable experience from classroom or campus life.**

One instance which stands out in my memory is the completion of the summer placements. It was an uncertain job placement environment that we were facing. We did not have tried and tested procedures in place. The prospective companies were unsure of us, and we were unsure of them. There were no senior batches to guide either the placecomm or us. Amidst all this uncertainty, the entire batch was successfully placed. That night, Prof. Godwin, who was heading the placecomm at that time, called the entire batch to a meeting. It was an exhilarating and emotional moment for all of us as it was both our first visible success to the outside world and our first personal validation that we had made the right choice by choosing IIM-T.

**What is your opinion on clubs and committees and how do they add value to an MBA student?**

Clubs and committees add value in several ways. They teach us time management, financial management, and networking on a small scale. Each batch also gets to put its own stamp on the events. Also, they provide some much-needed fun.

**A word to the juniors.**

Use your two years in campus without too much focus on your placements. Take subjects which are not necessarily related to your area of interest. It broadens up your view and makes for a more wholesome profile. More importantly, try not to take yourself too seriously. No matter how good an educational background you have, there will always be more knowledgeable people out there. Some humility goes a long way with them.