Success depends on individual initiative

Once, two brothers started to work at a poultry farm under their father’s guidance. After a few years of working with their father, the older son noticed that the father used to give more responsibility and reward to his younger brother.

The elder son felt it unfair as both worked equally and being older he should be the one who should be given more responsibility and reward. He went to his father and said, “I’m older, yet you give more responsibility to my younger brother. Why is it so?”

Father replied, “I will tell you why, but first go to Porinchu’s farm and inquire if they have any turkey for sale, we need to add to our stock.”

He went and soon returned with the answer, “Yes father, they have turkey, they can sell to us.”

Father said, “Ok. Then please go and ask them the price.”

He again went and returned. He said to his father, “They said we can buy turkey at Rs.500 each.”

Father said, “Good. Now go and find if they can deliver them by tomorrow.”

Elder son went and duly returned with answer, “Yes... they can.”

After all this, father asked his elder son to wait and listen. He called his younger son and said, “Go to Lonappan’s farm and see if they have any turkey for sale, we need to add to our stock.”

Younger son went and returned with answer, “Yes father... they have turkey for sale.
They can supply five turkey for Rs.400 each or ten turkey at the rate of Rs.350 each. They can deliver them tomorrow.
I asked them to deliver five unless they heard otherwise from us in the next hour.

And I got them agreed that if we want extra five turkey we could buy them at Rs.300 each.”

After this, father turned toward his elder son, who now realised why his younger brother was given more responsibility. He appreciated his younger brother and looked forward to learn more.

Excellence is not about working extra hard to do what you are told. It is about taking the initiative to do work you decide is worth doing.

Dr. G.P.C. Nayar
The activities of YES Club for the academic year 2019-20 were inaugurated by Dr. V. S. Vijayan, former Chairman, Kerala State Biodiversity Board, on September 5. YES (Young Environmentalists at SCMS) Club is a student-driven green initiative club. The club aims to kindle environmental consciousness amongst the student community.

Dr. Vijayan spoke on our environment, activities in the name of development, and disasters arising out of it. To bring about the essence of ecological balance in nature, he narrated a story of the farmers in China. In 1991, thousands of small sparrows used to land in their paddy fields. The farmers thought that since the sparrows feed on the grains it would be a huge loss to their crop. So they took a decision to exterminate all the sparrows by shooting. The next year, many of the paddy seedlings died out even before they reached the flowering stage because of attack of caterpillars. Thereby they learned that the birds were actually controlling the caterpillars. Dr. Vijayan pointed out that 99 percent of birds feed on caterpillars. When the birds were there the farmers used to collect around 75 percent of the yield. But in the absence of birds the yield came down to 25-30 percent.

To bring home the value of trees he said that on an average a tree produces 1,00,375 litres of oxygen in a year. Calculating the value of this oxygen at Delhi market rate will come to Rs. 23,72,50,000. A human being consumes about 550 litres of pure oxygen per day which costs around Rs. 30 lakhs.

Speaking on soil erosion he said that in India approximately 5,334 million tonnes of soil get eroded annually. The only agencies in nature that control soil erosion are the forest and wetlands. According to Dr. Vijayan, there are about 28 crores of people who are dependent on water from Western Ghats. In his opinion, the economy of Kerala is decided by the economy of Western Ghats. All our developmental activities require resources and most of the resources are from Western Ghats.

PGDM curriculum workshop
PGDM curriculum workshop had a resource person from the industry to provide useful inputs to strengthen the course content. It was Mr. Thomas K. C., presently Head of Placement & Counseling, Hedge Equities. He is a certified personal finance specialist of the American Academy of Financial Management with an LLB, MBA, LLM, and M Phil. With 39 years of experience with Reserve Bank of India, he is an academician too. His inputs were well received at the workshop.

Mr. Thomas K. C., Head of Placement & Counseling, Hedge Equities speaking at the curriculum workshop.

YES Club activities inaugurated
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Dr. Vijayan spoke on our environment, activities in the name of development, and disasters arising out of it. He began with briefly talking on the purpose of conserving the environment. To bring about the essence of ecological balance in nature he narrated a story of the farmers in China. In 1991, thousands of small sparrows used to land in their paddy fields. The farmers thought that since the sparrows feed on the grains it would be a huge loss to their crop. So they took a decision to exterminate all the sparrows by shooting. The next year, many of the paddy seedlings died out even before they reached the flowering stage because of attack of caterpillars. Thereby they learned that the birds were actually controlling the caterpillars. Dr. Vijayan pointed out that 99 percent of birds feed on caterpillars. When the birds were there the farmers used to collect around 75 percent of the yield. But in the absence of birds the yield came down to 25-30 percent.

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Dr. G. Sashi Kumar, Principal-SSTM presided. Dr. B. Mohan, Associate Professor welcomed the gathering and Mr. K. V. Pradeep, Assistant Professor proposed the vote of thanks.

Earlier, Mr. Sanal Potty, PR Manager was on the stage with a soulful rendering of the poem ‘Oru pattu pinneyum’ by renowned poet and environmentalist Ms. Sugathakumari. The poem depicted the soul touching story of a lone bird with broken wings singing softly. Mr. Potty’s melodious rendering showed how poetic rhythm could reset the harmony of our body and soul.

Mr. Sanal Potty

Alumni corner Alumni homecoming
Mr. Ajay Krishnan, AVP- Learning & Development, HDFC Bank, Bengaluru and Mr. Kiran Kumar, Director-Marketing, Le Meriden, Dubai, both belonging to PGDM batch 7, (passed out in 2000) visited SCMS Campus and interacted with the students of PGDM batch 29 on August 28.

Mr. Ajay Krishnan spoke on his campus life experiences in SCMS and the huge responsibility on the part of the students to learn and make use of the facilities offered at the campus. It is quite natural that we fail to truly understand the value of the opportunities at the campus while we are at the campus. Only when we leave the
Onam festival is not just a festival to cherish, but a moment to reincarnate a past of prosperity and goodness. It is also a time to show off our vast cultural heritage and rich variety with much vigour than any other festival.

This year Onam was celebrated at Prathap Nagar campus with much fanfare on September 6. The celebrations started with setting up an attractive floral decoration (pookkalam) at the foyer. This was followed by the arrival of Maveli amidst great cheer and the cultural extravaganza witnessed a mass participation as never before. All the students joined the procession, as it rocked the floors of SCMS. Cultural programmes like onappattu, vanchippattu, ottamthullal and thiruvathirakali were staged in the pandhal followed by the feast and games like uriyadi and vadamvali.
Mr. Ajay Krishnan shared some of his experiences in the hospitality industry. All sorts of people from all parts of the world with diverse moods and expectations visit them daily as their customers and it is very important to make each and every one feel satisfied and happy. Proper communication plays a significant role in building the right kind of relationships with such customers, he said. The industry used to conduct several training programmes with good quality stuff to provide very practical and situation-oriented training for the staff. According to him the most important character that a student develops from this campus is self-confidence which helps him a lot in dealing with international clients. For anyone to succeed in life building confidence is essential, he commented.

Mr. Kiran Kumar shared some of his experiences in the hospitality industry. All sorts of people from all parts of the world with diverse moods and expectations visit them daily as their customers and it is very important to make each and every one feel satisfied and happy. Proper communication plays a significant role in building the right kind of relationships with such customers, he said. The industry used to conduct several training programmes with good quality stuff to provide very practical and situation-oriented training for the staff. According to him the most important character that a student develops from this campus is self-confidence which helps him a lot in dealing with international clients. For anyone to succeed in life building confidence is essential, he commented.

Mr. Joseph Chaly, senior management consultant and former President & Executive Director of ReGen Powertech Pvt. Ltd., a leading player in the field of wind energy in India, was the chief guest at the industry interaction programme on August 26. He spoke on the ‘Impact of convergence of technology.’ MBA batch 16 and 17 students participated.

Technological convergence is a tendency for technologies that were originally quite unrelated to become more closely integrated and even united as they develop and advance. Some cardinal examples are a smart phone or a smart television or a computer. They began as separate and mostly unrelated technologies but have converged in many ways into interrelated parts of telecommunication and media industry underpinned by common elements of digital electronics and software. The combination of services over the same platform is challenging common perceptions. Such a convergence has raised a number of challenges of adjustment to the new environments by operators, service providers, policy makers, regulators, and users. Technological convergence also offers massive opportunities for the development of new value-added services, conveniences, efficiency, consumer choice and expansion of markets.
Participants of the workshop on ‘Software engineering using agile method’ are seen with Dr. Vinod P., Professor and HoD-CSE and Dean-Research and Publications, Dr. Manoj Kumar B., Nodal Officer, SSET-IEDC and HoD-AU, Dr. Praveensal C. J., Principal-SSET, Ms. Nitha Anilkumar, ICT Academy and Ms. Jency Rena, Asst. Professor-CSE

Kerala Blockchain Academy Innovation Club (KBAIC) in association with IEDC at SSET conducted a two-hour workshop on ‘Blockchain – Enabling Revolution’ for 50 students on August 27. Mr. Parthiban Selvaraj and Ms. Shilpa Jalaja, Blockchain Services, Tata Consultancy Services Limited were the resource persons for the workshop.

The session held on August 2 was handled by Mr. Praveen Kamath, Assistant Professor and Systems Administrator. Communication Skill was the topic for discussion. He told the students that openness is the key to successful communication. He also pointed out that communication is the backbone of any relationship and it is possible to create healthy relationship through good communication. He winded up the session with a note that communication should be free from interruption to serve its intended purpose. A total of 27 students participated in the discussion.

In view of the two-week Swatchatha Pakhwada Program, the NSS volunteers of SSTM took an oath on August 1 to maintain cleanliness in the campus. A seminar on Waste Management and Green Protocol was conducted on August 7 by Mr. Zacaria Joy, an environment consultant working under the Suchitwa Mission, District Centre. Around 100 NSS volunteers participated in the event and an awareness regarding solid waste disposal and green protocol was created.

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The Automobile Engineering Students Association, ‘Torque’, in association with SAE India Collegiate Club of SCMS, and SSET IEDC conducted an Industry – Institute interaction on September 3. The session was conducted by Mr. Dhanesh B. Krishna, Platform Manager - Starter Motors, SEG Automotive, Germany Stuttgart (formerly Bosch Group) with over 18 years of experience in the automotive industry including companies like Arvin Meritor, Mercedes Benz and Bosch.

To promote innovation and creativity among first year B Tech students of SSET, IEDC conducted an Idea Pitching Competition for first year students on August 30. From a total of 23 entries, 14 ideas were shortlisted and presented in front of the judges.

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MBA Batch 16 students participated in the business quiz competition conducted by Business Line (on August 23 at Rajagiri College Kochi) and NIPM (August 21 at SCMS Campus, Muttom).

MBA Batch 16 (HR specialisation) had a full day session on Competency Mapping on August 24. The session was handled by Mr. Praveen Kamath Kumbala, General Manager & HR Head – Global Delivery & Enablement at Wipro Limited.

Batch 16 MBA students (Shabbier, Anjali B., Amal Thomas, Abhirami and Alfiya) won second prize in Janpada - The Marketing Game at ‘Case De Gestao 2019’ - a National Level Management Fest conducted by Bhavan’s Royal Institute of Management on September 3.
Curtain Raiser - German Academic Exchange Programme Alumni Workshop

German Academic Exchange Programme (DAAD) has selected SCMS Water Institute as Indian partner for the purpose of conducting a six-day long workshop on ‘Efficient Water Use – Waste and Waste Water Management’ from October 9 to 15 at Kochi on behalf of its alumni programme. The workshop is fully funded by the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. It will take place at the SCMS COCHIN School of Business Campus. It is for the first time that this expert seminar is being conducted in India, outside IIT Bombay.

Twenty selected alumni from various countries in Asia who availed German Academic Exchange Fellowship to do research in Germany along with six renowned senior professors from various German universities will be the participants of the workshop. Selected leading Indian experts in the water sector are also invited to make presentations about the state of the art developments of this field in India. SCMS Water Institute is selected as Indian partner in view of its excellent contributions in this sector. Although it is a programme for alumni, German Academic Exchange Programme has given special permission for the M Tech Environmental Engineering students of SSET to participate in this expert seminar. It will be a great opportunity for these students to understand the current developments of this field as well as to familiarise the work of various Asian experts who did research in Germany in water related aspects. Each of the participants will make detailed presentations of their studies done in Germany as part of German Academic Exchange Programme. There will be a special presentation about the contributions of SCMS Water Institute in this sector.

On October 9, Mr. Karl Philipp Ehlerding, Honorable Deputy Consulate General of the German Consulate at Bengaluru will inaugurate the programme. Prof. Pramod P. Thevannoor, Vice Chairman, SCMS Group will welcome the participants and Prof. Ruger Winnegge of University of Siegen who is also Coordinator for German Academic Exchange Programme will explain about the Alumni Workshop. Prof. Johannes Fritsch, University of Applied Sciences Ravensberg - Weingarten will deliver the vote of thanks. The workshop will be held at the Seminar Hall of SCMS Prathap Nagar campus.

NSS activities

Twelve NSS volunteers and a student of SSET gathered at Anugraha Sadan, Koodapuzha, Chalakkudy on September 9 to visit the children staying there and to share happiness on the festive occasion of Onam. They spent time with the children and nuns who managed the establishment and shared a traditional ‘onasadya’ with them.

Electrification work and circuit checking of flood affected houses were carried out in Velankanni colony, North Kuthiathode on August 17. The activities were led by Volunteer secretary Athulya along with fifth semester and third semester students.

International recognition for Anish B. Soman

Anish B. Soman, S7 Mechanical Engineering student has been selected to serve as the ASME Student Regional Chair for the Southeast Asia region. The selection was based on the application forwards by him that included a video presentation of his contributions to ASME Student Chapter of SSET and his vision to expand ASME activities across the Southeast Asia region.

Anish will serve as a student representative for this region in the continual improvement of the ASME student member experience. He will have to collaborate with an international team of students and Student Regional Advisors dedicated to this purpose of developing and sharing best practices while cultivating his own leadership skills.

Anish B. Soman has been invited to attend ASME Student Section Enterprise Committee meeting on November 9 at Salt Lake City, USA.

A leadership development class was conducted on August 4 for 40 students of the fifth semester by Mr. Sujay K., Asst. Professor, Department of Automobile Engineering and Programme Coordinator of NSS at SSET. He was assisted by Mr. Hari Prasad, NSS ex-volunteer of SCMS and Abhimanyu, active volunteer of Adi Shankara Institute of Engineering and Technology. The sessions aimed to improve leadership qualities like time management, communication skills, problem solving skills, decision making and the like.

Anish B. Soman (right) is seen with Mr. Noel Joseph Gomez, Assistant Professor-Mechanical and ASME Student Chapter Faculty Advisor.
Ar. Ajay Abey & Ar. Tara Pandala felicitated at iGen Design Forum

Ar. Ajay Abey, Associate Professor and Ar. Tara Pandala, Assistant Professor were felicitated at the iGen Design Forum, an annual initiative by ITP Publishing (Architect and Interiors India Magazine) to recognise top 50 of India’s next generation architects and interior designers, below 40, who are doing exemplary work and raising the bar for the next generation architects and designers. The felicitation ceremony was held at Shangri-La Hotel Bengaluru on June 21.

Onam celebrations

Onam was celebrated in the true spirit of the festival by students, staff and faculty on September 6.

Placement news

The pre placement tests of IBS and Quest Global were conducted for 2020 batch B Tech students during September 17 and 19.

Sixth, Seventh and Eighth day of Aptitude training by Konfidence were conducted for final year B Tech and M Tech students on September 2, 25 and 30 and mock interview sessions were conducted during September 3, 4, 5.

A talk on ‘Higher Studies Opportunities Abroad’ by Mr. Arun Sen N., Lead Engineer, Honest Co. Ltd, Japan (Alumnus, B Tech 2014-2018 CSE), was held on September 4 for our 2016-2020 and 2017-2021 batch B Tech CS students.

‘Career Guidance Talk’ for 2017-2021 batch B Tech Computer Science and Mechanical students, by Mr. Christy Fernandez, IAS was held on September 3.

Prof. Kerstin Frick presented a paper in Indonesia

Prof. Kerstin Frick, Principal participated in the International Seminar ‘Conscious City – Sustainable and Equitable City – Making’ held at Surabaya, Indonesia from September 3 to 8 and presented a paper on ‘Challenges for Sustainable Urban Development in Kochi, Kerala, India’. The seminar was conducted by Technische Universitat Berlin and Institute Teknologi Sepupuh Nopember (ITS), Surabaya and sponsored by German Academy Exchange Service (DAAD).

National Sports Day celebrated

To commemorate the birth anniversary of the hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand, National Sports Day is being celebrated across the country on 29 August. This auspicious day was celebrated at SCMS College of Polytechnics to spread awareness on the importance of sports and physical activities in every individual’s life.

The event started with shot put competition. Around 20 students participated and the following students won prizes.

Boys: Austin Dominic S3 ME – First, Eldho K. Paul S3 ME – Second and Jithin T. S. S3 AE – Third.

Girls: Albi Maria Joy S1 CT and Asha Mathews S3 CE – First, and Anu Baby S1 CT – Second.
Onam celebrated

Onam was celebrated at SCMS College of Polytechnics with competitions like Pookkalam, Uriyadi, Appam Kadi, Thiruvathira, Spoon race and the like.

NSS Golden Jubilee

Golden jubilee celebration of National Service Scheme was celebrated on September 24. The programme was inaugurated by Prof. Baby P.P., Principal by hoisting the NSS flag. NSS certificates were distributed to the volunteers who participated in various activities conducted by the district administration, such as green protocol at Thiruvairanikkulam festival, work at flood-affected area and the like. An orientation class was conducted for first year students followed by an interaction with the senior volunteers.