

# SPARK



A Newsletter for Don Bosco University family, alumni and friends

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## BLESSING OF ACADEMIC BLOCK II



Blessing of Academic Block II



National Seminar cum Workshop on Mental Health and Social Work Practice



Royal Enfield Training Center at Azara Campus



International Student Volunteer Exchange Programme 2018

# Message from the Vice Chancellor

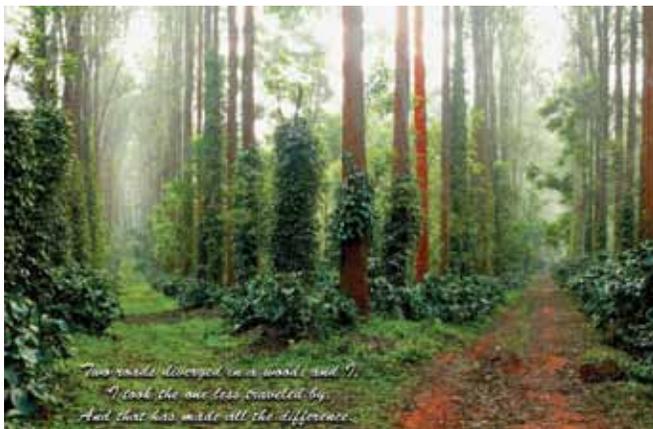


Poetry has always fascinated me, and I consider it my good fortune that I had teachers in the high school who loved poetry, enjoyed teaching it, took pleasure in making us sense the wonder of it all when they led us to discover the nuggets of wisdom hidden within some single verse tucked away in a lengthy poem. Generously they shared with us their own repertoire of poems that touched them, shaped their thinking and often moulded their own weltanschauung...

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Among the many poems that have left a lasting impact on my mind and life is one I want to touch upon in this message 'The Road not Taken by Robert Frost'.

I love the 'sigh' that comes from deep within the poet – it has never failed to move me:



*I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I-  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.*

I love the apparent simplicity in the telling of the choice he made, and the wistful longing over what could never be undone – the missed opportunity to 'test' the other path, the sense of 'regret' and 'pain' of not experiencing 'what might have been' :

*And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!*

... and two other verses leave me always pondering over the 'choices' I make. Just like Frost, they make me wistful - about opportunities that might have slipped away, about experiences that I have missed, about persons who could have come into my life, about how much in life is a 'lottery', about karma and predestination, about the providence of God, about an endless list of 'possibilities that might have been' stretching all the way down the misty alleys of the mind's eye ... The verses are:

*Yet, knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.*

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Life is all about 'choices'... They define the tenor and tone of our journey through life... We are the choices we make...

A new Academic Year is just taking off... a year brimming with possibilities of all kinds... Life offers no easy balm for 'regrets'... Choose well – We are the choices we make!

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Our faculty and staff have just undergone a workshop focused on personal and professional growth that comes by cultivating a 'growth mindset'... They will be with you all the way...

May the Good Lord's inspiration and blessings accompany us all through the New Year!

- Fr Stephen Mavelly  
Rector and Vice-Chancellor  
13 June 2018

## Staff Enrichment Programme – Autumn 2018



A two day staff development programme was held on 5-6 July at Azara Campus of the University with a theme 'Developing a Growth Mindset...for navigating Change' with Prof (Fr) George Palamattathil and Prof (Fr) Jose Parapully as the resource persons.

This topic was carefully designed and selected with keeping in mind the ever changing economic landscape which is becoming more disruptive with an accelerating change. In this scenario, Universities are not exempted. In an ever changing world, there is one constant truth; only those who adapt can survive. Agility and a willingness to innovate are therefore, not just "desirable attributes" but central to growth. Therefore, this Development Programme was an attempt at inculcating a growth mind set in the University's staff.

During these two days, the University staff was divided into two groups and attended two different sessions with different approach on the theme. Topics covered in these sessions included the importance of - team work, having the ability to think for the good of the whole but not only for self, having the courage to recognize and appreciate the strengths of others etc. The participants were also given a chance to pen down what they thought as a fixed mind set and a growth mind that the University as a whole has – which were presented in groups and deliberated upon. Overall, the programme opened up new perspectives on various important issues that can contribute for the growth of the University while exploring challenges that lie ahead.

## MoU with Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology



The University on 22nd June 2018 signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST), Garchuk, Guwahati, Assam.

This MoU aimed at enhancing the teaching, learning and research experiences of the students and faculty of both the institutions in order to improve the quality of human resources available, especially in Assam and North East India. Also, this MoU will pave ways for joint collaborative work between students and faculty of both the institutions.

The Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology is an autonomous R&D Institute under the Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India. The Institute engages in frontier areas of research in the specific domains of Physical, Chemical, Mathematical and Biological Sciences.

The MoU was signed by Prof. Narayan C. Talukdar, Director, IASST and Fr. (Dr.) Stephen Mavelly, Vice Chancellor, Assam Don Bosco University in the presence of the Pro Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Director of Research of Assam Don Bosco University and officials of IASST.

## Blessing of the Academic Block – II

On the evening of 9th June 2018, a blessing ceremony of the newly completed Academic Block – II building was held at the Atrium in the presence of the Architect, contractors and few members of the University family who stayed back in the campus during Summer vacation. The Academic Block was officially opened by the Archbishop of Guwahati, Most. Rev. John Moolachira by cutting a ribbon.



The Academic Block II had been designed to include a number of Conference rooms, an Atrium that can accommodate 3000 people, computer labs, faculty cabins, classrooms, and prayer/meditation room.

Fr. Stephen Mavelly, the Vice Chancellor, gave a short report on the construction – the journey from the beginning to the opening night on 9th June, and felicitated the architect and contractor Mr. Prosoon Bannerji.

## National Seminar cum Workshop on Mental Health and Social Work Practice

A two-day National Seminar on Mental Health and Social Work Practice was organized by the Department of Social Work, Assam Don Bosco University in collaboration with Lokopriya Gopinath Bordoloi Regional Institute of Mental Health, Tezpur, and Gauhati Medical College and Hospital, Guwahati, on 27-28 April 2018.



“Almost all the states in our country still struggle with mental health and the stigma attached to it for centuries. Despite evolving only in the recent years, social work profession has started meaningful work in the arena,” said Shri Mukul Chandra Goswami, attending the inaugural session as the Chief Guest, who was awarded a Padmashree for his contribution in social work.

“A rich real-world experience must back the theoretical understanding if one has to be a true catalyst in the society today,” said Fr (Dr). Stephen Mavelly, Vice Chancellor, while commenting on the responsibility of the social work professionals and trainers in fusing the essence of academics with actual field experiences.

Prof. Kalpana Sarathy, Deputy Director, TISS Guwahati, stressed on the need for the integration of mental health and social work while delivering the keynote address of the seminar. On the other hand, Dr. Riju Sharma, Director, School of Humanities and Social Sciences emphasised on the need of citizen-centric and enabling social niches that could be generated through meaningful participation and partnership between institutions/agencies and communities.

The two-day national seminar hosted a symposium, paper presentations, and workshops facilitated by renowned experts from across the country. Dr Rajaram Subian, International Psychosocial Consultant & Trainer, Executive Director – Basic Needs India; Dr. Sonia P Deuri, Professor, LGBRIMH, Tezpur; Dr Kavita V Jangam, Asst. Professor, NIMHANS, Bengaluru; Dr Anjana

Goswami, Founder, Ashadeep, Guwahati, to name a few, presented papers and facilitated workshops.

In the concluding session held at the Crystal Hall, Dr. Biju Michael, Registrar, ADBU, said, “Resilience is all about how we go through challenges. Troubles that we go through create changes we do not choose but healing is all about changes we choose. Two days spent on how to initiate healing among those who go through trouble have been very meaningful.” Dr. Michael appreciated the presence of the rich pool of the resource persons and participants from across India and expressed his gratitude and appreciation to all the collaborators.

“Such a seminar could be organized at least every two years; there is a need to prepare a document on the role and responsibility of social workers in the field of psychiatry and mental health; and it is the need of the hour to form a forum/association of social workers to collectively address the issues emerging in the field of mental health,” summed up Dr. Sonia Pereira Deuri, Head, Department of Psychiatric Social Work, LGBRIMH, Tezpur, in her concluding remarks.

Dr. Bornali Das, Assistant Professor, GMCH, Ms. Shanthalembi Lisham, Assistant Professor, ADBU, and Ms. Ainamlin Dkhar, Assistant Professor, ADBU were the Convenors of the seminar.



## Royal Enfield Training Center at Azara Campus

Having a sound knowledge and practical skills is the key to success for a graduate in Engineering, in securing an employment as industries are on the lookout for graduates who possess strong skills, not only in theory but in practical.



Keeping this in mind, the University has been focusing its teaching-learning process on imparting practical skills to the students, thus, acting as a bridge between the industry and academia.

Accordingly, the Mechanical Engineering Department has tied up with Royal Enfield to start a training center at Azara campus. The inauguration of this training center was held on 11th May 2018, where Prof. Manoranjan Kalita, the Director of the School of Technology, welcomed the dignitaries from Royal Enfield and the University.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Anand J Jopesh, Group Manager, HR, Royal Enfield thanked the University for such a partnership which he hopes will usher in a new way of a learning experience for the students of Mechanical Engineering. In this short inaugural programme, Mr. Kaushik Batu, Regional Service Manager of Royal Enfield, North East, also gave reports on the initiatives being undertaken by the Company in the North East region, upcoming training programmes and Centers.

The Programme was attended by the dignitaries of the University, HoDs of various departments, along with students and faculty of the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

## Capacity Building Programme

A 15 day Capacity Building Programme for faculty members of Social Sciences, sponsored by ICSSR, New Delhi was organized at the University's Tapesia Campus from 1-15 July 2018.



Addressing the participants at the inaugural session, Dr. Joshua Thomas, Deputy Director, ICSSR, North East Regional Center said, "A rich diversity, culture, and being located at international boundaries at three fronts make North East India a perfect place for social science research. Our identity and ethnicity which is the backbone of NE can be a useful tool for developing a system thinking, both as an insider and an outsider. Try to develop a habit of reading your area, be a compulsive reader and in turn become a compulsive writer and thinker....Look for new avenues of research, give a lot of importance to academic writing to maintain a high standard and vigour in research. We have to work hard because as a saying goes 'If you want to shine, you have to burn'."

The entire capacity building programme comprised of 45 sessions excluding the Inaugural and Valedictory sessions stretching over 62 hrs and 58 minutes. These sessions were guided by 10 experts and people of eminence in their own field:

Sl No	Names	Topics
1	Prof. Dhruv Raina <i>JNU, New Delhi</i>	Development of Inter-disciplinary Research and Inter-disciplinary Approaches in Social Science Research.
2	Prof. Rohit Dwivedi <i>IIM, Shillong</i>	Module on Narrative Analysis
3	Prof. Walter Fernandes <i>NESRC, Guwahati</i>	Formulation of research problem in qualitative research and Qualitative study research designs and methods
4	Prof. Vinayak Srivastava <i>An.S.I.</i>	Models and theories and Analysis of Qualitative Research
5	Prof. A.K. Thakur <i>NEHU, Shillong</i>	Methods of data collection and Sample selection
6	Prof. Francis Fernandez <i>ADBU, Guwahati</i>	Fundamentals and essential of research and research Ethics
7	Prof. Biju Michael <i>ADBU, Guwahati</i>	Philosophical dimensions of Research and Review of literature,
8	Prof. JN. Vishwakarma <i>ADBU, Guwahati</i>	Importance of research and challenges therein & Research Proposal Writing
9	Dr. Rashmita Baruah <i>ADBU, Guwahati</i>	Statistical Techniques and tools (PSPP & Excel)
10	Prof. K.C. Kapoor <i>ADBU, Guwahati</i>	Hypotheses and Quantitative research designs

The Resource persons were selected on their command over the subject but most importantly on their availability and willingness to spend at least 3 to 4 sessions with the participants for serious deliberations and academic engagements. Right at the start of the first session, the participants were administered the pre-test and towards the end of the session a post-test to assess the level of learning and the outcome of the 2 weeks programme.

On the completion of a week, the participants were taken for a field trip to Kalashatra – a cultural museum for inter-cultural learning. The participants also presented research proposals with two panel of experts who assisted, directed and guided the presenters.

On the whole, the two week programme saw active academic rigour and engagements which gave insights into the new avenues of research in social sciences and encouraged the participants to build new theoretical constructs that can inform further research.

## Pan-Asia Data Journalism Boot Camp



The Data Boot Camp Northeast which is a part of Pan-Asia data boot camp initiative was held at the Department of Mass Communication, Assam Don Bosco University on July 14-15, 2018. It is the first of its kind of the data boot camp in the Northeast region aimed to promote data-driven research and journalism by bringing together journalists and experts from other fields: data organisations, IT, businesses, and government agencies.

The two-day event was geared towards open data, fact-checking, writing and watchdog reporting and featured discussions on a wide range of topics including data journalism, fake news, tools for online verification, future of open data in Northeast, data in healthcare, political economy of disinformation and citizenship data.

“The main idea behind the boot camps was to build conversation, engagement and collaboration in the Northeast region about open data,” said Syed Nazakat, founder and Editor-In-Chief of DataLEADS. “The boot camp initiative is recognised as a pioneering collaborative initiative in Asia and we are sure this one in Assam will open new windows of collaboration for journalists and other professionals in the region,” added Mr Syed.

The distinguished speakers at the boot camp included co-Founder of Bohniman System, Abhijit Bhuyan, Director General Assam Police, Kuladhar Saikia, Editor of North East Live, Wasbir Hussain and senior journalist and author Paranjay Guha Thakurta. Google News Lab Lead (APAC), Irene Jay Liu, Professor at Columbia Journalism School, Raju Narisetti, Director of Global Investigative Journalism Network (USA) David Kaplan and CEO of Global Editors Network (France) Bertrand Pecquerie joined via video link.

The boot camp was an initiative by DataLEADS, an Indian digital media organisation that runs a series of data journalism initiatives across Asia. The boot camp was supported by Google News Initiative, Global Investigative Journalism Network, Oxfam India, the Apollo Hospital, MediaNama (Delhi), Journalists’ Forum Assam and Assam Don Bosco University, Guwahati.

## Two Week Summer Training cum FDP on Embedded Systems

The Department of Electronics and Communications organized a ‘Two Week Summer Training cum Faculty Development Programme on Embedded Systems’ from 4-16 June 2018, at the School of Technology, Azara campus, in collaboration with Innovation Systems Plus, Bangalore.

This program mainly focussed on the basics of Embedded Systems and it offered a unique opportunity to the participants to master the embedded systems design skills through a series of tested learning solutions which included intensive hands-on labs on the latest Texas Instruments Platforms, case studies, and project design etc.

During this programme, participants also learned about Architecture of advanced Texas Instruments Microcontrollers, Design goals and selecting a specific MCU, Integration of Software Design Tools and Hardware Communication Protocols, Analog and Digital Interfaces Displays, Debugging Applications, and IoT Integration.



23 participants from different engineering disciplines of the School of Technology attended this programme coordinated by Dr. Jhimly K Das and Ms. Hemashree Bordoloi.

Innovation System Plus is a core Embedded Electronics Company and one of India's premier Electronics Assessment and Training Company offering the learning environment for the Engineers and Research Scholar. Innovation Systems Plus is a pioneer company for setting up Labs, Training Programs, Online Courses, and Internship etc.

### International Student Volunteer Exchange 2018

The International Student Volunteer Exchange Programme 2018, which began on 9th June concluded today, 7th July 2018. 15 volunteers from the Department of Social Work of Don Bosco University and 16 volunteers from University College Dublin Volunteers Overseas had been working in 5 villages - Sagoligaon, Hathimurah, Medhikuchi, Morangabari and Jugdhol in the panchayats of Kamarkuchi and Digaru, Assam, India.



The volunteers engaged in various activities including community mobilization, awareness campaigns, the performance of street plays and flash mobs, Anganwadi renovation, games and sports for children, youth and women to name a few. The objectives of the programme were:

1. To channel the skills, energy, and enthusiasm of university students into projects which enhance the development of marginalised and underprivileged communities.
2. To create space and opportunity for university students from ADBU, India and University College Dublin (UCD) Ireland to share learning and experience in the areas of participatory community development and social outreach.
3. To enhance intercultural awareness between students and communities for the purpose of increasing global solidarity and interconnectedness.
4. To promote an attitude of appreciation for other cultures, practices, and traditions.

## NSIIAAD 2018

The Department of CSE & IT organized a two week National Level Workshop cum Summer Internship on IoT and Android Applications Development (NSIIAAD'18) from 4th June to 15th June 2018 in collaboration with Digitalant.in, Guwahati and Usense Innovative Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Guwahati, with a primary objective to expose and acquaint the participants with state-of-the-art tools and technologies in MEAN Stack, Internet of Things (IoT) and Android Applications Development.

The workshop was conducted in a full-time mode, involving lectures, practical sessions, demos and hands-on practices that ran over twelve days and consisted of forty-three technical sessions including group project development competition.

The workshop was coordinated by Ms. Usha Mary Sharma, Asst. Professor, Ms. Smriti Priya Medhi, Asst. Professor and Mr. Alexy Bhowmick, Asst. Professor. Dept. of CSE and IT.



## Puppet Show and Street Play

The B.A 2nd semester Mass Communication students of Assam Don Bosco University staged two traditional media performances in Sonapur area on 12th and 16th May 2018. On the 12th of May, issues of 'child education' and 'alcoholism' were addressed in street plays at Sonapur market. These two topics were chosen after a thorough research on social issues being faced by the locals in the area.



The plays attracted more than a hundred people from different walks of life. A Class VII student after watching the performance innocently said, "Alcoholism is a problem in our area, and we need to do something about it." Another onlooker said, "It is a good initiative by the students of Assam Don Bosco University to create an awareness of such issues."

On the 16th of May, the students also staged Based on observations in nearby schools of Kamarkuchi village, the mass communication students staged two puppet shows on the themes 'health and hygiene' and 'water scarcity' in Kamarkuchi High School and Arun Sankar Bahadur Balika Vidyalaya. The puppet shows were staged for students of Class VI to Class IX along with staff and teachers of the respective schools. A request was made by a few teachers to train their students in the art of puppetry. It was expressed by the teachers of the schools that the 'medium is a powerful and an interesting way to grasp the attention of the students especially of younger age.'

## Invited talk on Future Enterprise Solutions in Communication Technology

The Department of Electronics and Communication Engineer organized an invited talk on 23rd March 2018 on a topic 'Future Enterprise Solutions in Communication Technology'.

The talk, delivered by Mr. Navajyoti Paul from Vodafone, Guwahati, covered topics on the basics of mobile communication and current technologies related to mobile communication.

He also spoke about the future enterprises of communication-based companies, with a special focus on Vodafone and showed videos related to the current and future products of the Vodafone company.

## International Yoga Day 2018

The University observed the International Yoga Day by organizing various Programmes at its campuses on 21 June 2018.

As the International Yoga Day falls during Summer Vacation, there were only administrative staffs, some research scholars, and faculty members who stay at the University's main campus at Tapesia. However, given the importance of this day, all those who were in the campus got together for a session of yoga at the University's Atrium and performed various Yoga postures under the guidance of Ms. Shathalembi Lisham, an Asst. Professor in the Department of Social Work and a regular yoga practitioner.



At Kharguli Campus of the University, the Director of the School of Management, Fr. P.D. John spoke on the importance and health benefits of Yoga and the rising popularity of the same throughout the world to the students of vocational training programmes. Ms. Pinky Sarkar then animated the programme and students performed yoga with a lot of enthusiasm and zeal.

## Inter College Electrical Quiz Competition

The second edition of Inter College Electrical Quiz Competition (ICEQC-2018) was organized by the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE) on 24th April, 2018.

The main objective of the event was to popularize Electrical and Electronics Engineering amongst the students and to motivate them to take up this domain of engineering as their specialization. Mr. Jesif Ahmed, Sr. Assistant Professor of the Department was the quizmaster.

A total of thirteen teams from different engineering colleges and universities participated in the competition, out of which six teams were selected for the final round. The final round teams were named after pioneers of electrical engineering, viz., Kirchoff, Tesla, Faraday, Maxwell, Henry, and Edison.

The team of Kangkan Bhuyan and Gaurav Deb of Girijananda Institute of Management and Technology, Guwahati won the first prize, while the team of Sagar Tiwari and Parmanand Pathak from Regional Institute of Science and Technology and the team of Chinmoy Haloi and Deepjyoti Deka from Girijananda Institute of Management and Technology, Guwahati bagged the second and third prize respectively. The event was co-sponsored by Aashaa Bora Foundation, Khanapara with Red Bull as a refreshment partner. The prize money was generously co-sponsored by Prof. Shakuntala Laskar, HoD of EEE Department.



## Community Outreach Programme

The Department of Social Work in collaboration with the Department of Psychology organized a community outreach programme as a follow up to the theme of International Women Day 2018 on 16th, 17th and 23rd March 2018 in the villages of Jugdol, Upper Tapesia, and Jargaon respectively.

The programme aimed at creating an awareness of the important and crucial contributions of women in the family and society as a wife, mother, leader, and a teacher of children. The participants were mostly village women, adolescent girls, and school children.

The three sessions held at various villages were an attempt to encourage women to realize their rights under the constitution of India, and how powerful and important they really are in a society, given their contribution in every walk of life. In this programme, various forms of women abuse prevalent in Indian society and available courses of action when such things happen to women were also discussed.

Suggestions were also made that they should make use of available opportunities created by the University in educating themselves in basic computer literacy, how to surf the internet, basic Spoken English, and adult literacy programmes, which are free of cost.



### DRDO Robotics & Unmanned Systems Exposition (DRUSE) Competition

Three teams mentored by Asst. Professors – Ms. Bobby Sharma, Mr. Rupesh Mandal and Ms. Nupur Choudhury made it to the Zonal Round in a national competition organized by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) titled “DRDO Robotics; Unmanned Systems Exposition (DRUSE)” held at IIT Gauhati on 6th April 2018, and were awarded Rs. 10,000 each.

More than 1500 teams across the country participated in this event. Each team was supposed to submit a proposal in an on-line portal. The exposition was to be theme-based, however, the themes were not meant to restrict other ideas of relevance to potential defense applications. Participants showcased their problem-solving capabilities considering utilization to defense applications.

The aim of the participants was to convince the screening committee on two primary fronts – (a) of the utility of the idea and, (b) the capability to convert that idea into a reality.

### Research Pulse

This period witnessed a variety of research related activities which are briefly described hereunder. Soon, with the beginning of the new session we are planning to speed up our research activities that will lead to creation of substantial material to report in this section of Pulse

#### PhD Course Work 2018

The students admitted this year to the PhD programme of Assam Don Bosco University were 32 in number in various Departments and they all joined the mandatory PhD Course Work of six months’ duration on 5th April 2018. The course work started with a brief inaugural function involving invocation God’s blessings, words of wisdom by the Vice Chancellor, oath taking by the Registrar and national anthem at the end. The course work is scheduled to conclude by October 2018.



The number of Research Scholars admitted in various subjects is shown within brackets as follows – Chemistry (1), Civil Engineering (2), Commerce (2), Comparative Religion (1), Computer Science Engineering (3), Economics (1), Education (2), Electrical and Electronics Engineering (3), Language Studies (3), Life Science (3), Management (3), Mathematics (2), Philosophy (2), Physics (2), Psychology and Counselling (4), Social Work (2), Zoology (1)

#### **Research Proposal Presentation/Registration**

During this trimester (April – June, 2018) following ten research scholars presented their research proposals. The proposals were approved with minor/major modifications for further action and registration

Samrat Bhoumick (Biochemistry), Agnes Humtsoe (Education), Henry Zote (Education), Johnson KP (Social Work), Jonas Kerketta (Mass Communications), Tirthraj Sabkota (Computer Science Engineering), Lima Hazarika (Biotechnology), Chamim Sultana Ahmed (Microbiology), Sankar Jyoti Nath (Management), Hrishichand Phookan (Management).

#### **Pre-Submission Seminar/PhD Thesis Submission**

Research Scholars, Ouseph Varghese (Social Work), Ganapati Das (Computer Science Engineering), Yoya Vashi (Biotechnology) and Deba Kumar Mahanta (Electrical and Electronics Engineering) have successfully completed their Pre-Submission Seminar and all except Ganapati Das have submitted their theses for examination and further action by the Controller of Examinations

#### **Viva Voce Examination**

This trimester witnessed Viva Voce examinations of MV Johnson (Department of Comparative Religion) and Jhimli Kumari Das (Electronics and Communication Engineering) who worked on, “A study on the impact of globalization on the life and mission of the Franciscan Friars of South Asia, Australia and Oceania conference” and “Studies on the development of an optical sensor for measuring the nutritional content of castor leaves to improve production in Eri industry”.

#### **PhD Degree Awarded**

During this period of three months two of our research scholars, namely, MV Johnson (Department of Comparative Religion) and Jhimli Kumari Das (Electronics and Communication Engineering) were awarded the PhD degree of Assam Don Bosco University for their novel contributions.

#### **Reports from the Department of Physics**

The department had one publication co-authored by Dr. M. Aomoa titled “size controlled synthesis of super paramagnetic iron-oxide/iron/carbon nanotube nanocomposites by supersonic plasma technique.” Apart from this, significant work is being carried out in the two projects (Investigators – Dr. Monmayuri Baruah and Dr. Samrat Dey) of the Department of Physics.

#### **Biotechnology Ignition Grant (BIG) Project Implementation**

Dr. Supriyo Sen and his co-workers started the project in March 2017 at Guwahati Biotech Park, IIT-G Campus as the first BIG incubatee. They have completed 3 out of 4 milestones successfully and are currently implementing the final milestone. The project is aimed at developing a technology for fragrant agarwood oil production by a biotechnology intervention.

#### **Participation in Advantage Assam Summit 2018**

Dr. Supriyo Sen and his co-workers were invited to exhibit our technology on fragrant agarwood oil production at the Advantage Assam Business Summit held in Guwahati during 3-4 February 2018. The event was inaugurated by the Hon’ble Prime Ministers of India and Bhutan and attended by leading industrialists like Mr. Mukesh Ambani (Reliance), Acharya Balkrishna (Patanjali), Mr. Dilip Sanghvi (Sun Pharma), and many more.

#### **Paper accepted for Bioflavour 2018 (Frankfurt, Germany)**

Two papers from the research group of Dr. Supriyo Sen have been accepted for poster presentation at the prestigious Bioflavour 2018 conference to be held at Frankfurt, Germany during 18-21 September. Two of his research scholars, Ms. Pearlina Shabna Nazim and Ms. Runima Das of ADBU, and he himself will present the papers.

#### **Publications**

- Swapnali Hazarika, Smriti Dey “Optimal operation of Distributed Network embedded to wind – Battery storage system for revenue enhancement “ Volume 7, Issue 1, June, 2018 ADBU Journal of Engineering Technology(AJET)
- Pushpanjalee Konwar, Jesif Ahmed, Biswajit Sengupta, Mriganka Gogoi “A Review on Distribution Network Reconfiguration” Volume 7, Issue 1, June, 2018 ADBU Journal of Engineering Technology(AJET)
- Lari Kupar Lyngdoh, Jesif Ahmed, “Study of Power Flow Control Using FACTS Devices” Volume 7, Issue 1, June, 2018 ADBU Journal of Engineering Technology(AJET)
- Durlav Hazarika, Smriti Dey, “Investigating the Use of UPFC Device for Reduction of SPA in a Power System” Journal of The Institution of Engineers (India): Series B, pp 1–13
- Arcadius Puwein, Shiny C. Thomas (2018) An Overview of Paris polyphylla, a Highly Vulnerable Medicinal Herb of Eastern Himalayan Region for Sustainable Exploitation, The Natural Products Journal, DOI: 10.2174/2210315508666180518081208