

# Communiqué

## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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## Adieu at IMS Unison University

The Farewell Party- Adieu 2024 for the postgraduate students at IMS Unison University was a grand affair held at Vedanta Hall, DIT on May 8-9, 2024. Adorned in elegant designer sarees and stylishly tailored suits, the final-year students turned out in droves to revel in the festivity and grandeur organized by their affectionate juniors. The ceremonious occasion commenced with the lighting of the lamp by esteemed dignitaries including Dean of Student Welfare Dr. Vinay Rana, along with the Deans representing various schools, alongside the students of the organizing committee.

The cultural extravaganza unfolded with mesmerizing dance and musical performances by the talented students, captivating the audience with their flair and finesse. Anchors Rohit (SoM), Amrita (SoLA), Mahima Gupta (SoMC), and Sameexha (SoMC) regaled the audience with their charm and wit, keeping the crowd entertained.

Taking to the podium, Vice Chancellor Dr. Anil SubbaRao Paila extended his warm felicitations to the outgoing students. Encouraging the seniors to persevere to the best of their abilities, Dr. Paila emphasized the importance of striving for excellence in their future endeavors and wished them good luck, while mentioning that their alma mater will always welcome them with open arms.

The crowning of Mr. & Ms. Farewell and other coveted titles such as Mr. Spark & Ms. Spark, Mr. Talented & Ms. Talented, ensued after delightful rounds of ramp walks, with the winners gracing the stage to be honoured with sashes and gifts. The joyous celebrations concluded with a sumptuous lunch served to students and faculty alike, followed by a lively dance party at the central plaza where everyone revelled in the pulsating beats spun by the DJ, marking a fitting end to a memorable day of celebration and camaraderie.

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## ‘Vocal for Local’: Empowering Indian Summer Drinks at SOHM Workshop



SOHM hosted a session on April 2, 2024 focusing on Indian summer drinks that need to be featured on bar menus to support the "Vocal for Local" initiative. During the workshop, students were educated on creating a bar list that highlights Indian beverages and their role in promoting social responsibility for indigenous products. The session also emphasized the health benefits associated with these traditional drinks.

## Guiding Futures: Career Counselling Session at SOLA



A career counselling session was conducted at the School of Liberal Arts to support students in making well-informed career choices that align with their academic interests and goals. The session aimed to explore diverse career paths for liberal arts graduates, address student concerns, and offer guidance on career planning and development.

### Key Discussion Points:

- 1. Assessing Academic Interests and Strengths:** The session began with an examination of each student's academic background, interests, and strengths. This helped in identifying career paths that match their passions within the liberal arts field.
- 2. Exploring Career Opportunities:** Various career options for liberal arts graduates were discussed, highlighting the broad applicability of skills gained from a liberal arts education. Potential careers covered included roles in communications, public relations, marketing, journalism, education, non-profit sectors, and government positions.
- 3. Evaluating Skills and Development:** A skills assessment was carried out to identify each student's core competencies and areas for growth. Strategies for skill enhancement were, such as pursuing internships, attending workshops, and enrolling in additional coursework.

4. **Networking and Professional Growth:** The importance of building a strong online presence on platforms like LinkedIn was emphasized as a crucial part of professional development and networking.

5. **Addressing Concerns and Queries:** The session addressed student worries about entering competitive job markets and the value of a liberal arts degree. The counsellor provided reassurance by sharing success stories of liberal arts graduates and emphasizing the critical thinking and adaptability fostered by liberal arts education.

In summary, the career counselling session at the School of Liberal Arts aimed to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to navigate their career paths effectively. By providing personalized advice and creating a supportive environment, the session was designed to help students make informed career decisions and achieve their professional ambitions.

## ‘Taste of Uttarakhand’ Enlivens SOHM

On April 10, 2024, the School of Hospitality Management (SOHM) embraced the tranquil spirit of Uttarakhand through a vibrant theme lunch, "Taste of Uttarakhand." This event aimed to immerse students in the rich heritage and culinary traditions of the Garhwal region.



### Event Highlights:

- **Atmosphere and Decor:** The lunch took place in a lively setting, beautifully decorated with traditional Garhwali elements, creating a culturally immersive experience. The enticing scents of Garhwali spices filled the air, captivating attendees and evoking a sense of nostalgia.
- **Gastronomic Experience:** Guests were treated to an array of Garhwali specialties, skillfully prepared by chefs and students. The menu included traditional dishes such as Phaanu (lentil curry), Kafuli (spinach dish), Aloo ke Gutke (spiced potatoes), Laal Chawal, Kumaoni Raita, Mandua/Lesua Roti, Jhangore ki Kheer (millet dessert), and Bal Mithai (fudge-like treat). Each dish provided a taste of Garhwal’s culinary heritage.
- **Cultural Enrichment:** The event was complemented by traditional Garhwali folk music performances, which enhanced the cultural immersion and added a melodic touch to the occasion.
- **Acknowledgements:** Dean Dr. (Prof.) Vinay Rana expressed gratitude to Mr. Jayant Kataria, Director of Human Resources, Ms. Rachna Pokharia, Learning & Development Manager from Hyatt Regency, Dehradun, the Honorable Vice Chancellor of IMS Unison University, the deans of all schools, and other esteemed guests for their attendance and support.



The "Taste of Uttarakhand" lunch was more than a culinary event; it was a celebration of cultural diversity and shared experiences. It fostered a deeper appreciation for the Uttarakhand culture and strengthened the sense of community within the university.

## Liberal Arts Hosts Debate on “Environmental Conservation”

The School of Liberal Arts held a debate competition on April 13, 2024. The topic was “Reducing Our Needs Can Help Conserve the Environment.” Students presented arguments both supporting and opposing the motion, leading to a lively exchange of ideas. Participants also had the chance to rebut each other's points. At the end of the event, three students were awarded top positions and prizes, while two others received consolation certificates.



## Digital Detox: Poster Making Competition Held By SoM



On April 13, 2024, the School of Management organized an Inter-School Poster Making Competition for BBA, BCom, and MBA students from the 2023 batch. The event kicked off at 10:00 a.m. with participation from two teams each from the undergraduate and postgraduate programs. Prior to the competition, students were informed about the event's rules and guidelines. The theme for the competition was "Digital Detox," and each team was allotted 75 minutes to create their posters on chart paper. The judges evaluated the entries based on neatness, theme relevance, creativity, color combination, and overall impression.

## 9<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL YOUTH PARLIAMENT Organized by SoL



The 9th National Youth Parliament Competition, organized by IMS Unison University's School of Law, commenced on April 13, 2024. The opening day featured a ceremonial lamp lighting by distinguished guests, including Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) Anil Subbarao Paila and Dean Prof. Dr. Ashish Verma, who welcomed attendees and set an inspiring tone for the event.

The inaugural ceremony included speeches from both leaders, highlighting the power of youth and the importance of law and justice. Following the ceremony, the competition began with

sessions including the National Security Council, Stakeholders Meet, and All India Press. Participants were briefed on session rules and presented their opening statements on topics like environmental issues in the Himalayas, border security concerns, and media roles in journalism.

Day 2 focused on sub-agendas such as the Uniform Civil Code and India's readiness for potential conflicts with neighboring countries. The sessions were marked by intense debates and detailed arguments, showcasing participants' enthusiasm and commitment.

The competition concluded with a vote of thanks from Faculty Convener Mr. Rajiv Kumar, who expressed gratitude to judges, participants, and the organizing team. The event ended with a prize distribution ceremony, where awards were given for various categories, and a group photograph was taken, closing the event on a patriotic note.

## Sevarth Club Leads Clean-Up Drive on World Earth Day

On April 22, 2024, to mark World Earth Day, the Sevarth Club at IMS Unison University, in collaboration with Waste Warriors Dehradun (NGO), conducted a significant clean-up drive at Tapkeshwar Mandir. This initiative was part of the club's dedication to environmental stewardship.

The event featured a plastic awareness campaign aimed at promoting eco-friendly practices. Participants distributed paper bags and educated local shopkeepers and residents on reducing plastic waste and upholding cleanliness in their community. Through these efforts, the Sevarth Club continued its commitment to fostering a cleaner and greener environment.



## "SOLA Seminar: Water Use Efficiency in Odisha"



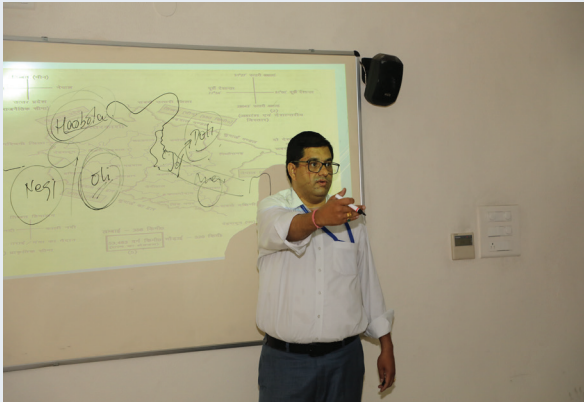
A faculty Internal Presentation Seminar was held on Saturday, 27.04.2024 for the Faculty of the School of Liberal Arts in Room No 505, Block V. Dr. Tapasi Mohanty, faculty SOLA presented a PowerPoint on her findings regarding Water Use Efficiency in the Districts of Odisha. Dr. Mohanty has been gathering data on the consumption, wastage and use patterns of water in Odisha for some time now, and she presented her findings in the form of meticulously collected data through graphs, pie charts and theoretical conceptions. The presentation was followed by a discussion among Faculty members regarding the need to have more studies on water use, since conservation has become a key talking point during the present era. SOLA would continue to have more seminars on relevant issues of research by respective faculties to promote research and collaboration.

## Faculty Research Seminar at School of Law



In the series of Internal Faculty Seminars, on 27th April 2024 (Saturday), a seminar was organized by the School of Law on the topic "Climate Justice: Balancing Environmental Rights and Social Equity - A Recap". The topic was presented by Mr. Anurag Sharma, Assistant Professor, School of Law. This seminar enabled the faculties to understand the critical concept of climate justice. It's a framework for addressing climate change that emphasizes fairness and equity, recognizing the unequal burdens this crisis places on different communities. In this seminar, Mr. Anurag started the discussion with how climate change threatens our fundamental right to a clean and healthy environment. Rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and disruptions to ecosystems pose a significant threat to all. However, the impacts are not evenly distributed. Marginalized communities, including low-income populations, people of color, and indigenous groups, often withstand the most of climate change despite contributing the least to greenhouse gas emissions. This highlights the need for social equity in climate solutions. Finally, he concluded with the recent judgement of the Supreme Court on 21st March 2024 i.e., M.K.Ranjitsinh & Ors V. Union of India where the court formulated new constitutional right to be free from the adverse effects of climate change by drawing upon Article 21 & Article 14 of the constitution. The Seminar ended with a question-answer session.

## Faculty Research Seminar by SoL



On 24th May 2024, a faculty seminar was organized under the aegis of the School of Law on the topic “History of Land Revenue Administration in Kumaon”. The event was a continuation of the Internal Faculty Seminars organized by the School of Law. The presentation in this regard was made by Mr. Anupam Upreti, Assistant Professor, School of Law.

The presentation incorporated a discussion on the system of land revenue administration under the rule of the Chand Dynasty. Apart from this the discussion also was focused on the administrative setup of the Kumaon area, when it came under the control of the British in the year 1815 AD. The learned faculty members were made aware of the special

situations and circumstances that had a bearing on the development of the structure related to revenue administration. Land tenures like ‘Thaath’, ‘Sadabrat’, ‘Goonth’, ‘Raut’, and ‘Vishnupreet’ were discussed.

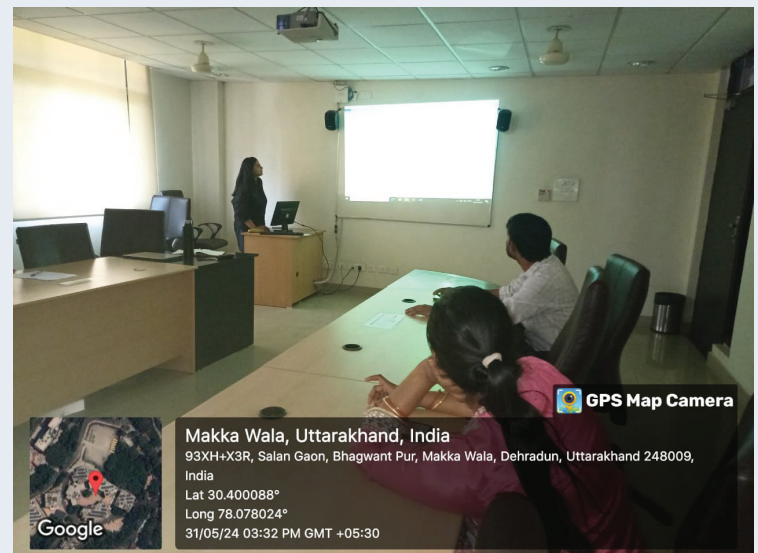
Apart from this, the contributions of Kumaon Commissioners George William Traill, John Hallot Batton, and Henry Ramsay were also part and parcel of the discussion. The Revenue Police System of Uttarakhand was also discussed. Lastly, the current situation in land revenue administration was discussed, this session ended with a high note of question answer round.

## Faculty Internal Presentation Seminar by SOLA

A Faculty Internal Presentation Seminar was organized by the School of Liberal Arts for the month of May on Friday 31st May 2024.

The presentation was done by Dr. Rai Ganguly, Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Arts. Dr. Rai recounted the process of multiple stages of writing and incorporating additions in a research paper. She cited the example of her own paper as a case of study, where she was working on access to immovable property, i.e., land for widows as a legal entity. The paper underwent multiple rounds of review by an exhaustive process through a writing workshop and is on the verge of being accepted as a book chapter.

The seminar was helpful in terms of learning about the step-by-step process of writing a paper.



## World Environment Day by Sevarth Club



World Environment Day on June 5 is the United Nations Day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action to protect our environment. This year's focus is on land restoration, halting desertification, and building drought resilience under the slogan “Our land. Our future. In tune with the World Environment Day theme, under the office of Dean Student Affairs, Sevarth Club of the university, a tree plantation was held in the presence of all faculty and staff members of the university at Boys Hostel, to sensitize and spread awareness on theme, among the attendees.

## Faculty Development Program (FDP) on ‘Academic Writing and MOOCs’ by SoM



Day 1 (June 3rd): The FDP began with a symbolic tree plantation drive, representing the commitment to growth and sustainability. The inaugural session was graced with solemnity, featuring a Saraswati Vandana and lamp lighting, setting a spiritual tone for the proceedings. Prof. M. R. Rao, Former Dean & Professor Emeritus of ISB Hyderabad, delivered a stirring address, emphasizing the pivotal role of research in academia. The esteemed Vice Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) Anil SubbaRao Paila, and Dean of the School of Management Prof. (Dr.) Rajeev Srivastava

extended a warm welcome to the distinguished resource persons. Dr. Sneha Badola, the FDP Convener, provided an insightful overview of the program. Chief Guest Prof. M. R. Rao delivered a profound address, emphasizing the critical role of research in academic and professional growth. He inspired the audience with his vision of how rigorous research can drive innovation and societal advancement.

Day 2 (June 4th): Following Prof. M. R. Rao's inspiring address, Dr. Amiya Kumar Mohapatra, Dean – Research and Area Chair – FPM, Jaipuria Indore, delved into the ethical dimensions of research, emphasizing integrity and transparency. Dr. Mohapatra mapped out the roadmap to a successful research journey, highlighting the importance of ethical conduct as a moral imperative. Building upon this, Dr. Shubham Singhania, Assistant Professor at Jaipuria Jaipur, illuminated the path of systematic literature review, empowering participants with methodologies for effective synthesis of knowledge. As the day progressed into the afternoon session, faculty members engaged in collaborative discussions aimed at drafting SLR-based research papers, underlining a shift towards tangible outcomes guided by the insights of the distinguished speakers.





Day 3 (5th June): In honour of World Environment Day, the FDP embraced sustainability with a tree plantation drive organized by the Sevarth Club. Participants came together to plant seeds of change, symbolizing our collective commitment to nurturing and preserving our planet for future generations. The sessions continued this theme of environmental consciousness as Dr. Shubham Singhania took center stage. With expertise and enthusiasm, he introduced participants to the world of bibliometric analysis and VOS-Viewer software. Through detailed instruction, attendees gained valuable insights into the fundamentals of bibliometrics, empowering them to explore and analyze academic literature with precision and depth.

Day 4 (6th June): Dr. Amiya Kumar Mohapatra led a session on qualitative research, focusing on critical discourse analysis and media discourse analysis. The afternoon session was outcome-oriented, featuring discussions on drafting policy and research papers, followed by one-on-one mentoring sessions for developing research papers.

Day 5 (7th June): The fifth day of the FDP commenced with a dynamic online session led by Prof. (Dr.) Upinder Dhar, Vice Chancellor of Shri Vaishnav Vidyapeeth Vishwavidyalaya, Indore. Renowned for expertise in case writing, Prof. Dhar unveiled the 4D Model—Data and Information, Draft, Discussion, and Documentation. With clarity and depth, each stage of the model was elucidated, guiding participants through the intricate process of crafting compelling case studies. Following this enlightening session, Dr. Anil SubbaRao Paila, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, delivered an enriching discourse on the transformative power of networking. With warmth and wisdom, the personal journey of Dr. Paila illustrated how cultivating meaningful connections had been instrumental in professional success. Underlining the adage "Your network is your net worth," emphasis was placed on value creation in building a robust network. In the later part of the day, Dr. Subrangshu Sekhar Sarkar, Professor in the Department of Business Administration and Director of the Teaching Learning Centre at Tezpur University, delved into an insightful discussion on the diverse landscape of MOOCs platforms and their significance for students, faculty, and institutional growth.



Day 6 (8th June): The final day of the FDP started with a symbolic tree planting Drive, as a commitment to sustainability. Dr. Subrangshu Sekhar Sarkar led a discussion on SWAYAM course design, introducing practical tools like Socrates and Mentimeter. Faculty presented videos on personal branding, fostering collaboration and skill-sharing among participants. During the valedictory session, Dr. Subrangshu Sekhar Sarkar, the chief guest, delivered insightful remarks, emphasizing the value of continuous learning and growth. Prof. (Dr.) Anil SubbaRao Paila, the Vice Chancellor, commended the efforts of Prof. (Dr.)

Rajeev Srivastava, FDP Chair along with Dr. Sneha Badola and Dr. Garima, FDP Conveners, and organizing team member Mr. Vishok Singh for their impeccable coordination and execution, ensuring a transformative journey for all. FDP Convener Dr Garima presented a comprehensive review of the entire FDP through an FDP summary, encapsulating the key learnings and experiences. Certificates were then distributed to participants, acknowledging their dedication and achievements. The session concluded with a vote of thanks from the Dean of the School of Management, followed by all attendees rising in homage to the National Anthem, and culminating in a refined high tea gathering.

## Faculty Research Seminar on ‘Resistance of Indian Soldiery in the British Indian Army’ by SoL



The Faculty Research Seminar was organized in the School of Law on 14.6.2024 Recounting the Bengal Native Infantry (1757-1856 CE).

The history of the Indian independence movement from 1757 to 1947 is marked by persistent resistance against British colonial rule. This resistance evolved over time and was significantly influenced by Indian soldiers in the Bengal Native Infantry (BNI). Initially crucial to establishing British control, these soldiers later became key figures in opposing it. Early resistance, driven by grievances such as administrative malpractice, cultural insensitivity, and hierarchical

erosion, manifested in mutinies and rebellions, culminating in the Indian Rebellion of 1857. This rebellion, a pivotal event in India's struggle for independence, united various groups against British dominance. The research paper is structured into four sections: the first examines the significance of the 1857 Rebellion, the second explores the East India Company's recruitment practices, the third details specific instances of armed resistance, and the fourth analyses the economic, social, and cultural causes of these rebellions. By studying these aspects, the paper aims to highlight the role of Indian soldiers in the anti-colonial struggle and enhance understanding of India's fight for freedom. The session ended on a high note with a question-answer session. The activities included multi-dimensional methods of understanding any problem, categorically distributed across six groups comprised of faculty members, Deans and the honourable VC himself.

## Faculty Development Program (FDP) on “Creative Pedagogy: Education Next”



In congruence with the workshop that commenced on Day 1 & Day 2 was also full of activities deliberated by the faculty with the esteemed leadership of the honourable guest Dr. Pavan Soni. Along with the creative exercises like mind mapping, adapting with the blue ocean strategy of problem solving, the session was carried forward with the valuable lecture on SPRC technique, Lateral thinking, and so on. The session was wrapped with oaths taken by all the participant faculty members to start and stop something untarnished in their daily routines. This session on Design Thinking was winded up by felicitating the key speaker Dr. Pavan Soni by the honourable Vice Chancellor Dr. Anil Paila and the respected Deans of the three host schools.

Day 3 focused on Mindfulness and Mental Health. Mr. Rohit Dhammy led the morning with activities aimed at improving work-life balance and stress management, introducing the Bare Attention technique for handling interruptions and his Bull’s Eye method for clarity and decision-making. In the afternoon, Dr. Ankita Priya-darshini discussed increasing mental health awareness among adolescents, emphasizing anxiety disorders. Her lecture on Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) covered the ALGEE Technique, CSS Action Plan, and L3 Formula, equipping faculty to better support GenZ facing mental health challenges.

On Day 4, the morning session built on Mr. Rohit Dhammy's previous teachings, focusing on the Body Scan meditation method. This practice helped faculty address pain, manage overwhelming thoughts, and cope with mental and physical challenges. Mr. Dhammy's concluding lecture highlighted the importance of recognizing depression, anxiety, and distress to maintain productivity. The VC and Deans honored Mr. Dhammy for his contributions. In the afternoon, Dr. Jitendra Mishra from Jain University led a virtual session on Outcome-Based Education (OBE). He explored its integration with existing programs and emphasized aligning Program Educational Objectives (PEOs) and Program Outcomes (POs) with NEP 2020. Dr. Mishra provided hands-on training in CO/PO mapping, enhancing faculty understanding of OBE principles.

On Day 5, the faculty development program focused on Generative Artificial Intelligence, led by Bangalore-based Business Consultant Mr. Lokesh Venkataswamy. The day began with a stimulating warm-up exercise to enhance creativity. Mr. Venkataswamy's lecture explored how innovative thinking led to successful business ventures even during global recessions, emphasizing strategic innovation and transforming customer experiences. The afternoon was dedicated to hands-on sessions in the computer lab, where participants worked with ChatGPT and other Generative AI tools.

On the sixth day of the FDP, Mr. Lokesh Venkataswamy inaugurated an IPR cell and introduced the "Invert Tool" to foster innovation. Faculty-led teams presented Napkin Pitches aimed at improving the student experience. Dr. Abhishek Juneja summarized the event's key achievements and insights. The Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Anil Subbarao Paila, and the Deans honored the guest and underscored the event's importance. Dr. Vinay Rana and Dr. Madhu Prabakaran offered thanks to all participants and supporters. The event established a framework for intellectual property rights and promoted collaborative efforts in educational innovation and student engagement.

