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Principal's Message



A very warm greetings to all. With immense joy I would love to pen this message in this special issue of MACFAST Newsletter, 'INFOVIBES'

First of all, I must congratulate the Editor and the entire team members for taking over and wonderfully completing a job in which all of them are novice. The past year, 2020 has impacted the social, cultural, financial and religious life of all of us quite deeply that even the very existence in 2021 is a great grace of God. Still with a will to move ahead, we, MACFASTians, completed almost all our academic work without compromising the motto of MACFAST- quality, value and ethics. A Big salute for all. Let me conclude my words by quoting a statement from Dalai Lama," The very purpose of our life is happiness, which is sustained by hope. We have no guarantee about the future, but we exist in the hope of something better. Hope means keep going, thinking, 'I can do this'. It brings inner strength, self-confidence, the ability to do what you do honestly, truthfully and transparently". This Newsletter, I hope, will give all of us. an opportunity to see the good reflections of our growth. By the Grace of God and for the Grace of God I am praying that 'INFOVIBES' will be loved and accepted by all.



Online Governing Board Meeting held on 30th November 2020, presided by the Chairman Rev. Dr. S. Ignacimuthu S. J., Former Vice-Chancellor, University of Madras, Former Vice-Chancellor, Bharathiar University, Director, Entomology Research Institute, Loyola College, Chennai.

State-of-The-Art Computer Lab and SKY blessed and inaugurated by His. Grace Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Mar Koorilos, Metropolitan Arch Bishop of Tiruvalla, Arch Diocese of Tiruvalla in the presence of Very Rev. Cherian Thazhamon, Fr. Dr. Thomaskutty Pathinettil, Dr. Jacob Punnooss IPS and Fr. Dr. Cherian J Kottavil



Editorial Corner



Twenty years back, when the Y2K year was born, the world was at the thresh--old of radical changes in the field of computer science. The Malankara Catholic Church - visionaries planned a social service institute in Central Travancore, the educational hub of Kerala. Rev. Dr. Abraham Mulamoottil thus started MACFAST, Mar Athanasios College For Advanced Studies Thiruvalla. The First programme introduced was MCA - Master of Computer Applications in 2001. Soon it became a multidisciplinary hub of PostGraduate Programmes-MBA and M.Sc.Biosciences.

With State-of-The-Art Infrastructure, unknown to Kerala still then, it become a "Trendsetter in Education". MACFAST provided quality education which was assessed and accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade in its first cycle itself. Over the last twenty years, MACFAST was grown bigger and beautiful, rededicating itself "Igniting Wisdom" creating value and quality driven young professionals. I am proudly saluting all those good and dedicated people who toiled for the success and completion of the vision of MACFAST. In the year 2021, we would like to chronicle the activities of the previous nine months in MACFAST in the form of a Newsletter known as 'INFOVIBES' which we promise to continue, if God willing, as an e-edition in every three months interval. I am happy to place on record the beautiful work of Ms. Preetha.G. Panicker, Assistant Professor, Department of Management Studies and her team of dedicated young minds. It is up to you to judge, criticize or enjoy this small but maiden attempt of young talents of MACFAST. Hope, the providence of God, which always protected this institution will enable us to continue the path of progress, bravely with steady steps." Igniting Wisdom since 2001".

Prof. Varghese Abraham **Chief Editor**



Inauguration of MCA 20th Batch held on 2nd December 2020 by Fr. Dr. Cherian J. Kottayil, Principal, MACFAST.



19th batch of M.Sc. Biosciences (2020-22) and M.Sc. Bionanotechnology programme, inaugurated by Dr. Sabu Thomas, Vice-Chancellor, M. G. University which was presided by H. G. Dr. Thomas Mar Koorilos, Metropolitan Archbishop, Archdiocese of Tiruvalla.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS







- -Five students from M. Sc. Food Technology & Quality Assurance bagged ranks in the National level comp--etitive examination conducted by ICAR AICE-JRF/SRF (Ph.D.) - 2020.
- -36 Students from MBA 2019-21 batch and 21 Students from MBA 2020 22 batch presented their research papers on the National Conference on Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan on 25th November 2020.
- -Project/schemes/initiatives against spread and for the prevention of disease COVID 19: Alappuzha Disaster Management (ADM), CMS ALAPPUZHA 1.0 (COVID 19 Monitoring System Alappuzha), COM BAT, Software Developer Mr. Jaimon James, MCA 2018-20 batch.
- -Five students from MCA 2018 21 Regular and MCA 2019 2021 Lateral Batch completed 14 days virtual internship on "Robotic Process Automation" organized by ICT Academy of Kerala.

SKY (START UP KENDRA FOR YOU) - MACFAST Technological and Business Incubator - SKY aims to inculcate a culture of innovation driven entrepreneurship among the students and to promote new technology/knowledge/innovation based startups.







SKY Incubates two budding entrepreneurs Mr. Jaimon James, CEO, 'VIBES' (MCA 2018-2020 Direct batch) & Mr. Achu S Raj, CEO, 'GRAPHICSTICK' (MCA 2019-2021 Lateral Batch).

PLACEMENT HIGHLIGHTS





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'Shubharamb' - Commencement of MBA 2020-22 batch with Virtual Town Hall by Ms. Sareena Rahim, Assistant Manager, South Indian Bank (MBA 2014 - 16 Batch) on 24th August 2020.

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS BY FACULTY

International Journals - 7
National Journals - 18
Scopus/ Web of Science/Springer - 6
Books/Edited Chapters - 7
JSTM - 6

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS BY STUDENTS IN SCOPUS INDEXED JOURNALS

Ms. Kamalapriya M, (M.Sc. Plant Biotechnology(2017-19 batch)) has published her article titled 'Improved Protocol for micropropopagation of genetically uniform plants of commercially important cardamom (Elettaria cardamomum Maton)' in Vitro Cellular & developmental Biology - Plant (scopus).

Mr. G. Ratheesh, (M.Sc. FTQA (2017-19 batch)) has published his research work titled 'Optimizing air-frying process conditions for the development of healthy fish snack using response surface methodology under correlated observations' in Journal of Food Science and Technology (scopus).

Ms. Aleena T Mathew (M.Sc. FTQA (2016-18 batch)) has published her research work titled 'Modelling the kinetics of mass transfer and change in colour during deep fat frying of green peas (*Pisum sativum* L.) at different frying temperatures' in Heat and Mass Transfer (scopus).

OUTREACH PROGRAMME



Mr.Tiji Thomas, HoD, Department of Computer Applications, handled online sessions for UIT, Adoor, IHRD Karthikapally & SNDP Yogam Arts and Science College, Wayanad.



Dr. Terry Jacob Mathew, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Applications delivered a session on Data Analytics and Machine Learning -Phase 1 and Phase 2, AICTE Sponsored STTP by Amaljyoti College of Engineering.



Dr. Terry Jacob Mathew, Associate Professor, Dept. of Computer Applications MACFAST delivered an invited lecture on 'Introduction to Python for Data Science' in AICTE Sponsored Six Days Short Term Training Programme on Data Analytics and Machine Learning.



Prof. Beena Cherian Dean, School of Biosciences

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Awarded II prize for the paper titled 'Morphologicaland chemical constituents of *Pleurotus* species cultivated on different substrates' in the National Seminar on 'Enriching Research Horizons' conducted by the department of Home Science, St. Teresa's college, Ernakulam.



Ms. Sreechithra T. V. Assistant Professor School of Biosciences

Qualified UGC NET-JRF in Home Science.

Asst Prof. Arun Prem, Department of

Analytics' at AJK College of Arts and

Science, Coimbatore.

Management Studies delivered lecture in the National Webinar on 'Business



Dr. Sudeep B. Chandramana, HoD & Associate Professor, Department of Management Studies conducted Virtual Yoga Training at St. Teresa's College (Autonomous), Ernakulam.





Prof. Stephen James and Dr. Blessan Santhosh George, provided online hands on training on 'Primer designing and recombinant vector construction'. The School of Biosciences in association with Kerala higher education council, and IQAC organized faculty development programme on 'Creating and Managing Online Classes'. Dr Jenny Jacob was the programme coordinator.



ONGOING GOVERNMENT FUNDED PROGRAM



Cyber Law And Security Awareness (CLASA) is supported and sponsored by KSCSTE. CLASA jointly organized by MACFAST, Kerala Police and Radio MACFAST 90.4 aim to address the gaps with respect to cyber security awareness all over Kerala and **forty-three** sessions were organized as a part of it.

Department of Management Studies, MACFAST and IQAC jointly organized the National Conference on 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan' on 25th November 2020, inaugurated by Mr. Sijo Kuruvilla George, CEO, Startup Village.



LIBRARY - Knowledge Centre Spotlights



Dr. Surendran Cherukodan, (Asst. Librarian, School of Engineering, Cochin University of Science and Technology) delivered an effective webinar on Google Scholar and Google Books.

Mr. Nandalal T.S (experienced EBSCO Trainer) introduced databases from EBSCO through a webinar on 17th June 2020 which gave insights on effective ways to access and utilize EBSCO database including basic and advanced search strategies, procedure to navigate through search result, print, e-mail, save, share and export articles, up-to-date use of EBSCO's 'alert' option, along with how to conduct online quiz using Kahoot app.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

Department of Communication (DoC), MACFAST is conducting various programmes such as Zero semester presentation, Business Intelligence Symposium, Business Aptitude Game and Business update sessions to improve the confidence level and communication skills of the students.



RESEARCH FORUM

Research Forum aims to cultivate research culture in MACFAST and offers a platform for faculty members to present their articles, published works, Doctoral Thesis, Projects and any other works.



WEBINARS

In order to continue the knowledge sharing process, MACFAST has organized various Webinars since March 2020.



WEBINAR DETAILS

MBA

Student vebinars -12

'#Home Coming' - Alumni - 9 webinar series

MCA

'Techies' Corner' -Student initiated webinar under the banner of 'Steve Jobs' Club - 8

Alumni webinar series - 8

National and International webinars - 2

'Hear From the Leader'-Technical webinar -1

School of Biosciences

G. N. Ramachandran Science Club' – National and International webinar series – 67

IQAC

National Webinars - 5

Corporate Relations

Industry Interaction - 16



'Niswartha Award' instituted by Radio MACFAST 90.4 in memory of its former Station Director V. George. Mathew was presented to the academic-turned social worker Dr M.S. Sunil.

18 new programmes were introduced on November 1, Kerala Formation Day , giving a facelift to Kerala's maiden campus-based community radio, Radio MACFAST 90.4.

So far, 13 kids who have taken part in the Sunday special programme for children, 'Kilukkampetty' were adjudged as Best Performers.

An online Christmas carol contest christened 'Songs of the Angels' was aired on the Christmas Day on 25 December.

As many as 16 active listeners of various signature programmes of the radio were presented with 'Caller of the Week' title and three others with 'Star of the Month' title.

MACFAST SOCIAL INITIATIVES

EDUCATIONAL AID & DIGITAL INDIA CAMPAIGN

- >Provided internet connection to 100 economically backward school students.
- >Distributed 5 TVs for physically challenged students.
- Developed 6 mobile applications for Kerala Police, Health Department and Disaster management center of the State government, mainly for Pathanamthitta, Alappuzha, and Kottayam districts.
- 1. COM-BAT: COVID-19 Outbreak Management Bringing Action Together
- 2. THIRIKE: Home coming
- 3. CMS: COVID 19 Management System
- 4. MLRC: Migrant Labor Registration COVID 19
- 5. CLUE: COVID 19 Live Updates for Everyone
- 6. COVID GeoTag: COVID 19 Geo-Fencing Alert System



MACFAST Team along with Sri. P.B. Nooh, District Collector, Pathanamthitta.





- 'Arivum Adhijeevanavum' (Knowledge and Survival): MACFAST has been actively involved in COVID 19 'Break the chain' campaigns.
- A drinking water and hand sanitizer kiosk opened by MACFAST in Thiruvalla town was another major community service initiated during the lockdown period.
- Distributed masks and sanitizers in and around Thiruvalla town.



COVID – 19 awareness session provided to MACFAST staff members on 25 June 2020.



An innovative life skill program conducted by The Art of Living from 29 June 2020-30 June 2020.

NSS (National Service Scheme)

NSS MACFAST volunteers distributed 51 noon meals to Government taluk hospital, Thiruvalla for the poor patients and their bystanders.

MACFAST Knowledge Scheme (MAKS)



MAR ATHANASIOS COLLEGE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES TIRUVALLA Accredited by NAAC with 'A' grade and Recognized by DSIR. Govt. of India Listed in the National Institutional Ranking Framework(NIRF)2020 Rank Band: 151-200 An ISO 9001:2015 Certified Institution

MACFAST KNOWLEDGE SCHEME (MAKS)

Organizes Career Guidance and Life Skill Training Webinar KNOW KNOW THYSEL

Date : 28th, 29th August 2020 Time : 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Ms.Rini Eliza Anien

Life Skill Trainer and Master Trainer Skill Development Executive dditional Skill Acquisition Programme(ASAP) Government of Kerala

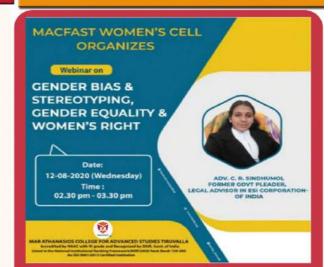


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MACFAST Knowledge Scheme organized career guidance and life skill training webinar on 28th and 29th August 2020 through the zoom platform. 57 school students from 5th, 6th and 7th standards participated in this webinar. Ms. Rini Eliza Anien (Life Skill Trainer and Master Trainer Skill Development Executive, ASAP, Govt. of Kerala) was the invited speaker of the programme.

WOMEN CELL



Adv. C. R. Sindhumol, one of the leading advocates in Kottayam, shared valuable insights on 'Gender Bias & Stereotyping, Gender Equality & Women Rights' and explained about the persistent gender discrimination, a women is experiencing in her home, workplace and in the society.

NEW APPOINTMENTS



Prof. Kaviyoor Sivaprasad Director, Department of **MediaStudies**

(Joined on November 16th 2020)



Mr. Radhakrishnan Nair K Station Director Radio MACFAST 90.4

(Joined on August 3rd 2020)



Mr. Rejimon Jacob Office Superintendent

(Joined on March 2nd 2020)



Fr. Chacko Meledath Director Radio MACFAST 90.4 Warden, St. Thomas Men's hostel

(Joined on August 4th 2020)



Dr. Soumya Madhavan, Ph.D (Microbiology & Molecular Biology), M.Sc. Biotechnology,

(Joined as Assistant profes--sor, School of Biosciences on 6th July 2020)



Ms. Anjaly P Thomas M.Sc. (Nutrition)

School of Biosciences on 6th July 2020)



Dr. Smitha Vijayan M.Sc, Ph.D (Microbiology)

(Joined as Assistant professor, (Joined as Associate professor, School of Biosciences on 14th, December, 2020)

MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Department of Management Studies & IQAC conducted a Management Development Program (MDP) on NBA Accreditation process -Phase 1 and Phase 2 respectively on 24th September and 17th October 2020. The resource person for the MDP was Prof. Vishwanath Rao, Vice Principal and Dean, Mar Baselious College of Engineering & Technology Trivandrum. This program covered the significance of outcome based education and quality improvement in post-graduation courses.



MASTER TALKS

MASTER TALKS, a lockdown initiative by Bright and Nikila, MBA students of MACFAST, was an online interview session with teachers of MACFAST, Thiruvalla. The interviews with them were a mix of their personal and professional talk, also riddled with fungames.







INFOVIBES TEAM

























