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From the Editor's Desk

Welcome friends to the e-newsletter, issue 6 volume 4!

With the first semester on in full swing, the staff and students at WCAS look forward to an exciting and activity-laden span, what with having just concluded the Annual Election of WCAS student's council in October' 14.

A free and fair election only leads to the positive outcome of picking the best from the rest, as able representative to carry out the responsibilities on their young shoulders. It was indeed a much-awaited event and has been conducted in the right team spirit of healthy competition.

WCAS was honored with the visit of the Ambassadors of the Netherlands to the Sultanate of Oman, Her Excellency Barbara Joziassse in October 2014, and she enlightened us with her talk on "Higher Education prospects in the Netherland." The event was organized under the auspices of College-International Interactions Initiative. In addition to this, WCAS played proud host to seven member delegation of experts headed by H.E. Lena Bobinska, Minister of Science and Higher Education of Poland, in September 2014. The representative from Ministry of Higher Education of Oman accompanied them and we hope that discussions held will lead to collaboration initiatives in near future.

It is often said "There is more joy in giving than in receiving." During the Holy month of Ramadan the staff and faculty members at WCAS contributed in cash as well as in kind, as a gesture of sharing and caring. The true essence of spirituality was reflected in the process and service to the community was manifested. "Service to humanity is service to God", so goes this act. The donating of blood which saves human life is the highest form of service. A Blood Donation Drive was organized by a team from the Central Blood Bank, at WCAS in October 2014.

Staff and faculty members at WCAS surged ahead in their endeavors in sporting activities too, the Table Tennis Tournament was held in May 2014 in the college premises.

WCAS bid adieu to faculty members from Departments of English, Computer Science and Management, with a heavy heart and misty eyes. Farewell functions were held to wish them all the very best in their future endeavors.

"Truly successful people never seek to be like others. Rather, they seek to be superior to their former selves. Don't race against others. Race against yourselves. Just resolve to be better than who you were yesterday and extraordinary things will unfold for you."-Robin Sharma.

In conclusion, may I have the privilege of profusely thanking all those who contributed in making this issue worthy of being read and appreciated.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Research publication and conferences attended:



Mr. Jyoti Kumar

Mr. Jyoti Kumar Chandel, Asst. Professor of Management Dept., WCAS has published a research paper in international journal indexed in Scopus with the following details:

Sharma, S.K., Chandel, J. K., Govindaluri, S. K. (2014). Students' acceptance and satisfaction of learning through course websites. Education. Business & Society, 7(2), 152-166.

Dr. Arvind Hans, Asst. Professor of Management Dept., WCAS has published a paper in International Journal with the following details:

Hans, A., Mubeen, S.A., Al Ghabshi, A.S. (2014). A Study on Locus of Control and Job Satisfaction in Private International Schools in Sultanate of Oman. International Journal of Application or Innovation in Engineering & Management, 3(1), 91-98.



Dr. Arvind Hans



Mr. David

David Mandepudi, Asst. Professor in the Dept. of Biotechnology, WCAS has published a paper in an International Journal with the following details:

Bhavani, M., Mandepudi, D., & Chowdary, G. V. (2014). Mutative Strain Improvement of Bacterial Soil Isolates for enhanced lipase activity. Current Trends in Biotechnology and Pharmacy, 8(3), 294-302.

Said AL-Amri, staff in IT Support Dept., WCAS has published a paper in an international journal with the following details:

Christina, B., Aslam, N., Al-Amri, S. (2014). Challenges and barriers encountered by the SMIS owners in Muscat. International Journal of Small Business and Entrepreneurship Research, 2(3), 1-13.



Mr. Said



Mr. Sounak Paul

Sounak Paul, Asst. Professor of Dept. of Computer Science and Engineering, WCAS has presented a paper in an International Conference with the following details:

Sounak Paul, Bimal Kumar Mishra, "Cyber Threats: Recent Trends" (2014, April). Paper presented at the 2nd International Conference on Applied Information and Communications Technology (ICAICT), Rusayl, Oman.

Workshop attended

Ms. P. Vijaya, Mr. Arbind Choudhry, Mr. Sanjay Kumar and Mr. Satish Chander from the Department of Computer Science & Engineering attended a one day workshop on "Microsoft Education Day" organized by Microsoft on 30th September 2014 at Crown Plaza, Muscat.



STUDENT'S ACHIEVEMENT

Noteworthy Achievement

WCAS student, Aswath Sridhar, lead team Fund Oman and won the Best Idea award at the recently held hackathon, SAS48, sponsored by the Information Technology Authority (ITA). The Fund Oman team consisted of Aswath Sridhar, Issam Al Ismaily, Mohammed Al Balushi and Inas Khamis Al Amri.

Aiming to nurture entrepreneurship culture among Omani youth in ICT field, the Information Technology Authority (ITA) held the first of its kind event in Oman. This was a nation-wide contest open to college students, job seekers, employees and anyone interested in web development and mobile app development areas. The competition was to consider a novel idea, pitch it for selection, find and build a team, develop the solution and make it business worthy.

In the coming months, the team hopes to tie up with local authorities in Oman's entrepreneurial sphere and officially launch the platform at a national and global scale.



Best Idea Award

Campus Placements

The most sought after campus placement for final year students was organized and coordinated by the parent University BIT, Mesra, Ranchi (India) in the month of October 2014. Many multinational firms turned up to offer jobs to the graduating students. Waljat College students also participated in this event and successfully got some of the best offers.

Following students of BITIC Muscat has been selected in Campus Placement-2014 at BIT Ranchi. Ms. Akshaya Reghunath, Mr. Koushik Upendra Kotamraju, all from the Department of Computer Science & Engineering and Mr. Karan Prashant Pandya, Mr. Kunal Prasant Pandya, Mr. Prateek Mehta, all from the Department of Electronics & Communication got final job offers from INFOSYS TECHNOLOGIES. Ms. Nitya Durbha from the Department of Computer Science & Engineering got offers from both INFOSYS TECHNOLOGIES and COGNIZANT TECHNOLOGY SOLUTION.



Akshaya Reghunath



Karan Pandya



Koushik Kotamraju



Nitya Durbha



Kunal Pandya



Prateek Mehta



DR. MOHAN VARMA

A premier HEI must commit itself to Hard work, Excellence and Innovation. Creativity - to conceptualize novel ideas, Optimization - to use available resources effectively, Lessons from past, Learning of present day needs, Environment of encouragement, Growth of potential and Empowerment through knowledge, may be the apt expansion of word COLLEGE and one must aim for them. An institution that truly wants to achieve excellence should have sound strategies to promote creativity and support innovation. These two words: creativity and innovation, are very commonly talked about in education, science & technology and business domains, however, the real task is to demonstrate seriousness of purpose by creating conducive environment and allocating resources to inject these virtues into an organizational system.

Institutional mechanisms are required to encourage creativity in teaching. The requirement varies from discipline to discipline and course to course. The first step to promote quality teaching is to select right human resource that have an inherent love towards teaching with sound subject knowledge and passion towards sharing it. Each teacher should be challenged to deliver the best and given the resources and right technology tools to achieve highest level of student satisfaction in learning process. Stereotype teachers need to be monitored and encouraged to change through Teachers' Training Programs and also to innovate to make their subject interesting and classroom teaching effective. The debate these days on pedagogy searches answers for: Is technology over used? Is chalk and talk approach the best? Can we teach swimming through a virtual lab? And so on. There cannot be a general prescription and each teacher should figure out the best for him/her to be an effective and interactive teacher. Great teachers are institution personified and are revered by their students for life time.

The students are like moldable clay in the hands of a craftsman. Like teachers, the selection of suitable students for a program or college is very important to produce the desired product. The combination is expected to be just right. The student should remember three Ds: Desire to learn, Dedication to develop and Diligence to succeed. These attributes should be duly aided and catalyzed by their teachers. Their imagination should be fuelled to be creative and innovative by building their interest in the subject and explaining the applications of theory and experiments taught to them. To see is to believe; and demonstration of their capability by making them accomplish challenging tasks under expert supervision strengthens their belief in themselves. The students should be constantly reminded of their potential, duties and responsibilities to achieve higher goals by using new ideas. The belief that they can achieve set targets is key to success.

WWW: Widen (your band of thinking), Work (intelligently and differently) and Write (your own success story). Good bye and Good luck!

"Creativity is thinking up new things.
Innovation is doing new things."

Theodore Levitt



FACULTY GET-TOGETHER

Faculty and Staff of Waljat College Celebrated Eid Al Fitr with a Gala dinner organized on 19th September, 2014 at Moti Mahal.



Celebrations Bring Joy



Celebrations Bring Our Families Together

STAFF FAREWELL PARTY

1) Dr. Soofi Asra Mubeen

WCAS gathered to bid farewell to Dr. Soofi Asra Mubeen, Assistant Professor, Department of Management, on Thursday, 4th September, 2014 who started her journey as a Lecturer in WCAS in 2008, faculty members appreciated the modesty in her approach and sincerity in executing the work assigned and wished her success in the future endeavors.



A Great Efforts Well Appreciated!



Remarkable Service

2) Ms. Salwa Abdullah Ali Al-Busaidi

Having served the College for about 7 years, a farewell was organized by Department of Computer Science and Engineering for Ms. Salwa Abdullah Ali Al-Busaidi on Thursday, 31st July 2014 at WCAS. Faculty members of Computer Science and Engineering thanked Ms. Salwa for her contribution to the College during her 7 years stay and wished her success in her future endeavors.

3) Salim Al Gufaily- English Language Teacher, Department of English

Mr. Salim Al Gufaily joined Waljat College of Applied Sciences, as English Language Lecturer on 8th September, 2013. During his tenure as a Teacher in the Foundation Program, he discharged his assigned responsibilities with great competence. He has been an extremely hard working, highly competent and motivated language teacher and an asset to the Department. He had a dynamic approach to teaching, enjoyed challenging young minds and established a good rapport with his students and colleagues. He resigned on 31st May 2014 to take up an assignment in the Royal Air Force of Oman. The Department of English organized a Farewell to him on 15th May, 2014.



A Competent Teacher; Farewell

Visit of Dr. Lena Kolarska Bobinska, Minister of Science and Higher Education of POLAND to Waljat College

A seven member delegation of experts headed by Dr. Lena Kolarska Bobinska, Minister of Science and Higher Education of POLAND visited Waljat College of Applied Sciences, on 10th September 2014 along with the representative of Ministry of Higher Education, Oman. Dr. Mohan Varma, Dean, WCAS briefed the guest about the various programs, experimental labs, students' achievements and core research teams involved in the college. He welcomed the initiative taken by both the governments for joint research projects, exchange visits by faculty, researchers and students between institutions.



Great Possibilities Discussed At The Polish Ministerial Visit

Ambassador of Netherlands visits Waljat College

Her Excellency Barbara Joziase, the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Sultanate of Oman visited Waljat College of Applied Sciences on 21st October and delivered a lecture on the topic "Higher Education Prospects in The Netherlands". She was accompanied by Ms. Louma Al Atassi, General Affairs Officer, and Ms. Marieke van Oversteeg, from the Embassy. The event was organized under the auspices of College-International Interactions Initiative. The Ambassador was briefed about the activities of WCAS after her reception at the College by the Dean, Dr. Mohan Varma and the topics of mutual interest were discussed. She informed about her country's collaborations and joint ventures in the Sultanate of Oman. The session came to a close after the question and answer session and vote of thanks by Dr. G.P. Mishra, Associate Professor, Department of Management.



The Ambassador discussing academic opportunities

ENGLISH CLUB

The English Club of Waljat College of Applied Sciences had organized a Prize Distribution on 13th November, 2014 in Room No. 115-116 (Smart Classroom). The Dean, Dr. Mohan Varma, graced the occasion with his presence and felicitated the students with Prizes and Trophies for Short Story writing competition, Poetry recitation competition, Poetry writing competition, Quiz and Debate. He also handed out Certificate of Participation to all those who had participated in the English Day event.



The Day Dawns for the Artists!



College Offering Great Scope For Creativity

Summing up the English Day activities Dr. Mohan Varma opined that more students across the College should be encouraged and motivated to participate in these competitions. He also said that Ms. Tina Rajan (Former Student Secretary of English Club) has set a high standard for all the activities, which sets a precedent for the present Secretary of the Club, Prameet Biswas. He was advised to raise it to a higher level.

EVENT RAMADAN CONTRIBUTION



Sharing And Helping Fills Us With Delight

During the holy month of Ramdan, the Staff and Faculty Members contributed Food Items/ Clothes/ Books & Toys as a gesture of sharing and caring. Dean Prof Mohan Varma sent the contribution collected to Faraïq Al-Rahma, Al-Khoud, a charity organization that has around 1200 volunteers to distribute the collections amongst the needy people on 23 July 2014.

Community Service Committee at WCAS sincerely thanked all those who had contributed and looks forward to getting a continuous support for such contributions for social well-being in the future also.

THE GIFT OF BLOOD IS THE GIFT OF LIFE

The finest gesture one can make is to save life by donating Blood. Community Service committee encouraged students and staff to participate in the Blood Donation Drive organized by a team from the Central Blood Bank, at Blood Services Department of the General Directorate of Health Affairs. The team collected blood units from the staff and students on Tuesday 14 October 2014.



What A Way To Save Life!

WCAS STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN MUSABAKA - 2014

In order to encourage students to design and build embedded systems for mobile, networked or standalone applications performing various intelligent functionalities using LabVIEW as the graphical programming platform, National Instruments organised NI Graphical System Design Musabaka 2014. This year, the main objective of the autonomous embedded systems design contest was to encourage engineering students to build a complete working system within the project period with the topic available to them in their curriculum. The competing teams had to design and build systems for mobile, networked or stand-alone applications performing various intelligent tasks using LabVIEW graphical programming software. Students from a Registered Educational Institute in one of the following countries: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Cyprus, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine Territory, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates or Yemen were eligible to participate in this event. For the first time, a team from the Sultanate of Oman, from the final year BE (Electronics & Communication Engineering) of WCAS with members Ms. Gilda D'costa, Ms. Reshma Krishnan, Ms. Jisha S Najeem, Ms. Varsha Pammi, Ms. Zaida Shahdad Al Balushi submitted their project on Intelligent Vehicle Speed Control Using Embedded RFID Traffic Signs With NI-Cdaq-9174 and LabVIEW 2012sp1. A total of 41 universities and colleges participated in this event and the team from WCAS ranked 9th position in terms of the score they earned.

STAFF TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT

The 2014 Table tennis among the staff members was organised from 6th May 2014 to 8th May 2014 at the recreation center in the college campus.

The matches were organised under four categories: men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles and mixed doubles.

A total of twelve participants for men's singles were divided into three groups, for men's doubles there were three teams, for women's singles the total number of participants were four and for mixed doubles only two teams opted.



We Show Our Talents



We Refresh Our Minds

The winners and runner ups in each category are:

Men's singles : **Winner** - Mr. Roby Varghese, **Runner - up** - Mr. Satish Chander

Women's singles - **Winner**- Dr. Srilekha Goveas, **Runner - up** - Ms. Seema Arora

Men's doubles - **Winner** - Mr. Roby Varghese and Mr. Satish Chander

Runner up - Dr. Mohammed Mohatram and Mr. Shyam Sunder Purohit.

Mixed Doubles - **Winner** - Dr. Arvind Hans and Dr. Srilekha Goveas.

Runner up - Dr. Mohammed Mohatram and Ms. Seema Arora

It's not whether you get knocked down; it's whether you get up.

Vince Lombardi



Getting A Taste Of Election And Public Service

The annual election of WCAS students' council was held on Wednesday, 16th October 2014. Student Affairs Manager in coordination with the Professor-In-Charge of student Activities took the responsibility of preparing, organizing and facilitating the voting process. Students from all the disciplines took part in the elections. As closing time for the election was extended to the afternoon hours, a number of part-time students also took part in the voting. The following students were duly elected for the post mentioned against each:

Leaders In The Making



N. Paul Sujeeet
President - Student Council



Prameet Biswas
Secretary-English Club



Eram Kasmani
Secretary-Environment Club



Shilpa Benny
Secretary-Fine Arts &
Activity Club

Derive The Skills Of Leadership



Athulya Binu
Secretary Health &
Safety Club



Jeesmon Johnson
Secretary-Media &
Publication Club



Mohammed Azhar
Secretary-Music Club



Adarsh Anand
Secretary-Photography
Club

We Commit Our Minds



Aaron Ribeiro
Secretary-Social Club



Kunal Pandya
Secretary-Sports Club



Christos M. Vaidyan
Secretary-Tech Club



Warren Fernandes
Secretary-Adventure Club

We Commit Our Time



Karan Pandya
Secretary-Cultural Club



Vaishali
Secretary-Entrepreneurship
Club



Apurva Desai
MBA Representative



Nisha Vahora
BBA Representative

To Be Organized And To Lead!



Juhaina Javed
BE Representative



Marwa Al-Jabri
BCA Representative

FATIMA ZIKRA BE (BIOTECHNOLOGY)

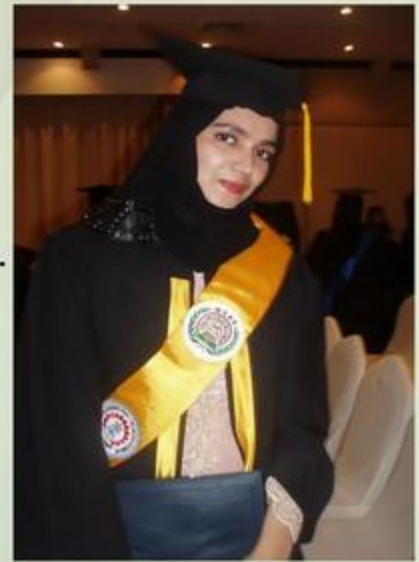
I am Fatima Zikra. I graduated from Waljat College of Applied Sciences in BE(Biotechnology) in 2012. I am currently working as a Project Coordinator in an environment company.

The four years that I spent in Waljat were some of the best years of my life. I still remember the first day of my college; we were sitting on stairs and wondering how the four years were going to go by. And the time just flew with fun, joy, and of course studies. In Waljat we meet people from various other backgrounds which gives us an exposure to the multi-ethnic environment. Along with academics, college lays emphasis on extra curricular activities. Being elected in the student council for two years gave me a lot of experience to organize cultural events, debates, fashion shows, various competitions, host conferences which not only made our days memorable and lively, but also improved our leadership skills and team workmanship. It gave us a platform to showcase our talents and to stand tall wherever we may go.

Teachers were more like friends and counsellors and we would not shy away from them even if we had issues regarding academics. They encouraged us at every step we took and even today we still seek their advice should need arise. We had the most memorable farewell from our department that I will never forget.

There is no place like college, no friends like college friends. All those days, running for class in case we were late, studying till last minute for exams, preparing for presentations, staying for days in lab to complete the project on time are all so memorable. I think the Alumni is a superb idea by the management to keep us updated about our college. Finally, I would like to conclude through a message to my juniors: Enjoy your stay in college. But also enjoy keeping in mind you stick to your principles and do not forget the true purpose of why you are here, so that you don't do something that you will regret later on in life.

As the saying goes: "One day your life will flash before your eyes. Make sure it is worth watching!"



CHANDAN PARIMAL MAHAJANI (BBA AND MBA)

"I have completed 5 years in WCAS (BBA & MBA). It has been a long journey which flows really fast. During the course, we felt when we shall have a long break, and now when the course is completed, all we have is sitting at home and recalling college days and missing them. Organizing events made me learn a lot of things. Thanks to all faculty members for guiding us and for their support. Last but not the least, MBA batch 2011- 2013 Rocks!!!"



SYED BILAL HAIDER BE (EC)

I would like to describe my four years in our college as 'The 4 milestones'. On my journey, I experienced and learnt so many aspects of life and of course, gained knowledge, which I will always remember and cherish all my life.



AAFREEN JAMALUDDIN HASIB (BBA AND MBA)

My college experience in WCAS was wonderful. My first day of college was very exciting and I was nervous at the same time. I was excited to meet new people and anxious to adjust myself with the new environment. WCAS environment was good and I met wonderful friends who are still a part of my life.

The guidance and knowledge provided by my teachers have helped me to shape my skills and abilities. After spending 5 memorable years in WCAS, I really miss my college. College life is different from school life, and I enjoyed each and every moment. All those memories will remain in my heart forever.

Waljat College has helped me to be a good and successful person in life. The love and affection which I got from my teachers is unforgettable which made my college experience awesome and beautiful. Enjoy your college life as much as possible because it comes once in lifetime.

"Live the life, live the dream, no fear" -Quoted by Nathan Scott, One Tree Hill Episode: "Even Fairy Tale Characters Would Be Jealous"





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