Welcome to the fourth edition of WCAS e-newsletter! As the new season comes by, it brings different hues and shades in the beautiful horizon, similarly every new edition brings forth different dimensions and perspectives from the students and faculty members. As new varieties of flowers bring sweet fragrance and beauty in the milieu, new write ups have instilled new ideas and brought a consummate unique experience to this edition. As a reader when you go through this edition, you may experience a complete novel array of outlook, events and achievements.

This season’s first colourful bouquet was our Open Day Celebration. Students’ council members and various students’ body organized this festivity on 8th and 9th of May this year. His Excellency Dr. Amer Bin Awadh Al-Rawas, CEO, Omantel, inaugurated the event in the graceful presence of dignitaries, faculty members and students. Students showcased Omani village, African village and Asian village with their traditional attires and handicrafts with elegance and exuberance. Artistic talents were also displayed in the forms of paintings, collage and bright sketches. Various reputed restaurant chains like Mughlai Zaika and Spicy Village were the main attractions to spice up the taste buds of thousands of students and staff.

Various musical competitions were also organized to recognize the vocal talents among students and staffs members. In continuation of the Open Day Celebration Badminton and Football competition were also held to inculcate healthy competitive mindset among students.

An Academic institution without social commitment is like a body without conscience. Corporate Social Responsibility through Career Counselling was one of our unique academic endeavours in this year. WCAS Impress team visited Indian School, Mullada in the month of May to sensitise students about various academic curricula offered by the college. This endeavour was to forge a unique bilateral academic understanding. Industrial visits are a vital part of engineering curriculum. Final year and third year engineering students visited various Omani establishments to observe and understand the actual production processes in the month of April and May, respectively.

World Environment day was also commemorated by planting saplings in the vicinity of college on 5th of June and, the same day cleanup campaign was organized to reinforce commitment towards green and clean environment.

Finally, a token of appreciation to all our esteemed contributors, for without their dedication this issue could not have been completed. So, dear readers! Go ahead and surf through all the events and achievements in detail. Thank you!
NEW FACULTY - 2011

The Waljat Fraternity welcomes the following faculty and staff members.

Mr. Sultan Khan joined as a Lecturer in the Department of Management. He holds MBA Degree in the specialized area of Marketing and HRM from BIT Mesra. He worked in BIT Jaipur as a Lecturer for one and half years subsequently he worked in BIT, Bahrain for five years. During his tenure he headed Training and Placement Cell in BIT, Jaipur.

Ms. P.K. Jayalakshmi joined as a Lecturer in the department of Mathematics. She holds M.Sc, M. Phil in Mathematics. She did Diploma in Computer Applications and cleared SLET (State Level Educational Testing). She has a total teaching experience of around 9 years in India and Middle East, including Oman.

Mr. Roby Varghese joined as a Lecturer in the Department of English. He holds M.A. in English Language and Literature. He has also done B.Ed and CELTA. After four years of teaching in India, he moved to the Sultanate of Oman and worked as EFL teacher with the Ministry of Education (M.o.E) for eleven years.

New Staff ' - 2011

Mr. Ahmed bin Said bin Abdullah Al-Julandani joined as External Cooperation Officer in WCAS. He worked in Royal Air Force (MOD) in various capacities since 1996. He is also pursuing BMBA from the college.

Ms. Samia Salim Nasser Al Essai joined as Human Resource Assistant. She is alumni of the College. She has done computer training from Chamber of Oman and Ministry of Transport. She has earlier worked as a magazine layout designer and computer teacher in a private school.

Mr. Aiman Said Ali Al Battashi joined as a Trainee IT Support Technician. He is a pass out student from this college. Before joining Waljat College, he was working with Omantel.

Mr. Khalifa Nasser Khamis Al Amri joined WCAS as a Security Guard.

Ms. Halima Pir Baksh Juma Al Zadjali joined the College as a Security Guard.
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Ph.D Awarded

Mrs. Seema Varshney has been awarded Ph.D in Management on her thesis entitled “User Perception of Service Quality in Tourism Industry in Bangalore” under the guidance of Dr. H.Nagaraj, HOD Management & Commerce Department, St. Josephs Business College, Bangalore, in May 2011.

Mr. Santosh Kumar Ray has qualified for the award of the Ph.D. degree in Engineering on his thesis entitled “Ontology Based Advanced Question Answering System-An Application of Rough Set theory” under the guidance of Professor B.P. Joshi, former Director, BIT, Noida and Dr. Shailendra Singh, CTE, Samsung India Software, in June 2011.

Our heartiest Congratulations to both of them.

Conference papers published

WCAS faculty members have published research papers and attended international Conferences. Following are the details of research papers published and conferences:

Industrial Visits in Spring 2011 session

As a part of Industry – Institute Interaction program, the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering organizes industrial visits every year to various industries in and around Muscat. This activity started on the 24th April 2005 with a visit to the studios of Oman Television, Oman Radio and the telephone exchange of Omantel. The final year students of BE (Electronics and Communication Engineering) visited these places.

This year the 8th semester BE (Electronics and Communication Engineering) and 6th and 8th semester BE (Biotechnology) students visited the sewage treatment plant of Oman Waste Water Services Company SAOC at Ghala on 4th May 2011. They learnt the working principle of the distributed control system and the sewage treatment process. On another visit, the students of the 6th semester BE (Electronics and Communication Engineering) visited the Oman Cement Company SAOG, in two phases, on the 17th and 21st May, 2011. They visited the central control room, laboratory facilities, crusher, silos and furnace, and also observed the packaging process inside the plant. The factory officials explained to them the cement manufacturing process. They also saw the application of robots and X-ray analyzers in maintaining the quality control.

Seminar in Management Department

A Seminar was conducted on “Marketing Trends in Oman” on the 29th May 2011 for MBA Students, by the Department of Management. The resource person for the seminar was Mr. Baby Sam Samuel, Managing Director of Kay’s Internationals and visiting lecturer of the IGNO University Branch of Oman. The students found the seminar very informative, especially the topic ‘Branding and its purpose, scope and building strong brands’. ‘Related trends in marketing’ reflected the present situations of marketing and their effects on various industries; it also highlighted the present market, their products and strategies to target the customers. The topics under discussion were elaborated & explained with suitable examples. Mr. Samuel also discussed the process of starting new business and enlightened the audience on IT solutions for Managers.

Intra-College Football Tournament

To promote the students’ activities in the college, an intra -college football tournament was organized by students’ council under the supervision of Dr Ismail Baqi, Mr Rajeev Ranjan and Mr Mohammad Mohatram at Barka from 5th June to 16th June, 2011. A total 4 teams took part in the event. The tournament was witnessed by an enthusiastic audience.
Antakshari and Singing Competition

The Cultural Club organised an “Antakshari” Competition for students as well as faculty members as part of Waljat’s Annual Open Day Celebrations “Oasis 2011”. The students were instrumental in organising the event with some challenging audio and visual rounds. Six teams comprising students and two teams comprising faculty members participated in the event with equal enthusiasm. The event was won by one of the Student teams (Zoya Shaikh, Nilofer Tanna and Ajab Munir) and one of the Faculty teams (Ms. Srilekha, Ms. Sarika & Ms. Nupur) was runners-up.

On the same day, the Music Club organised a Singing Competition for students. Only solo singers showcased their talent during the Competition. The Contest was adjudged by a jury comprising of Dr. Nutan Lata Nath, Mrs. Smita Prasad & Ms. Srilekha. Criteria for judging the contest were vocal quality, vocal range, rhythm and overall performance. The Contest was won by Ms. Dalita Raj (BCA) and Ms. Ruchika Varma (BE) was runners-up.

We thank our Dean and Asst. Dean for having graced the occasion. We also thank other members of the faculty and students for their encouragement by attending the events. Our special thanks also go out to the judges for their whole-hearted effort.

Badminton Tournament

The Student Council of Waljat College of Applied Sciences organized the Annual Badminton Tournament from 30th April to 2nd May 2011 at Royal Hospital Club under the supervision of Mr. Rajeev Ranjan and Mr. Mohammad Mohatram (Prof. in charge, Sports and Prof. in charge, Students’ Activities respectively). Around 40 teams in the mixed doubles category and 24 teams in the Men’s doubles category participated in the tournament.

The mixed double’s matches were conducted on a knockout basis and men’s doubles were organised on the basis of group matches, with 8 groups, each consisting of 3 teams.

After a tough fight given by each team, the final results of the tournament are as follows:

1. Akash Agrawal – Nitin Venkata Cherukapalli - Winners Men’s Doubles
   Anurag Premkumar – Joe Sebastian – Runner’s Up
2. Nazrudin Mohamed – Swapna – Winners Mixed Doubles
   Akash Agrawal – Nilofer Tanna – Runner’s Up

The tournament was witnessed by a large number of enthusiastic spectators.

Akash Agrawal (President-Student Council) and members of student Council with the help of several volunteers made sure that the tournament was played according to rules and regulations and conducted smoothly.

Refreshments for the participants were provided. Faculty members also encouraged the participants by their presence.
Career Counseling at Indian School Mullada

Wajat impress team visited Indian School Mullada on 25th of May, 2011 to sensitize students about the various curricula in UG and PG courses offered at WCAS. It is located on Muscat-Sohar road about 120 Km from Muscat. Team members were received with dignified candor by the Principal, Mr. S.I. Shareef, their well trained staff and students. Their hospitality was heartwarming.

After a warm welcome and refreshment, counseling session was organized in the school auditorium with full vigor and enthusiasm.

Mr Vikas Sharma initiated the discussion with his presentation and informative speech, about the College curricula, services and benefits offered to educate students at WCAS. Students were extremely excited to hear about the College curricula and the facilities provided within an affordable budget as compared to other Colleges. They heard patiently and subsequently enquired about their doubts related to BBA, BCA and MBA courses.

Most of their queries were dealt with professional and personal touch. They were really happy to know some interesting facts about the college facilities, academic support and services. It was overwhelming to see their inquisitive yet satisfied faces.

They were also counseled by Mr. Arvind Hans and Dr. Rajeev about their short term and long term career planning and development. College brochures and forms were distributed among the students for their clarity and future consultation.

The visit to their wonderful campus was one of our successful attempts to connect with the students and staff at academic and personal level. Finally, it was mutually agreed by both the institutions to initiate and forge a unique academic tie up in the long run.

It was a successful milestone in social responsibility to educate students about their career. In this endeavor 21 more institutions were visited in various capacities. The responses were promising and heartfelt. We hope that career counseling endeavor becomes successful in coming years.
Waljat College of Applied Sciences celebrated its Annual Open Day (OASIS ’11) on the 5th and 9th May, 2011 at its college premises in KOM, Rusayl. H.E. Dr. Amer bin Awadh Al-Rawas inaugurated the event before he visited the various stalls accompanied by the Dean, Dr. Mohan Varma, various dignitaries, faculty members and members of the students council. The event showcasing Omani village, Asian village, and African village exhibited a variety of traditional handicrafts, cultural costumes along with accessories, heavy jewellery and native sweets. Students were dressed up in their respective cultural outfits at various stalls. ‘Rangoli’-design made by various colors during festivals such as Holi was also showcased at the Indian village. H.E. was briefed on various religious festivals, stories behind the historical monuments, important personalities of various countries apart from being asked to taste some of the culinary cuisines. Artistic talents were displayed in the form of colorful paintings, awakening posters and bright sketches at the Art Gallery. Students also decorated hands with ‘henna’ as the art of applying their traditional was exhibited at the Asian village. The Omani village was designed as a majlis (classical Arab seating arrangement with cushions and carpets) and guests were treated with kahwa (Omani Coffee) and dates after being warmed by the fragrance of ‘bukhur’ (frankincense).

Mughlai Zaika, Spicy Village, Chowpatty and Pizza Inn had put up stalls at the food court. Students were also seen stirring milkshakes and faloodas and scooping ice-cream on brownies at the students’ stall.

Various games including Counter strike, Minute to win it, Waljat amazing race, Aantakshri and singing competition were also held. Students experienced the art of merchandising as they sold scarves, suits, shawls, accessories, perfumes and jewelleries at the stalls allocated at Market Place. Friendi, Micromax, Areej and Candy Hearts were also present.

The two day event ended with a car show and a thrilling free style and band performances in the evening.
Achievement motivates to set higher goals, encourages and inspires to write new success stories. The achievers in particular field are the persons, institutions, establishments and entities who attain higher levels of performance in comparison to their competitors and peer group, following the set rules. It is the judgment of the evaluators, mentors or superiors which acknowledges some one as an achiever. A topper in a class, a Fortune 500 company, a Head of a State, an Olympic gold medalist, a national hero in any field, or a person whose attainments are worth emulating for others, may all be called achievers in their own right.

It is really difficult to quantify achievement, a boy born in a nondescript village with limited resources managing good education and becoming a successful entrepreneur is surely an achiever for the rest of the village folk, and on the other hand a son of a reputed industrialist doing a similar feat will be looked as a commoner by others. We may broadly conclude that achievements may be gauged depending on the circumstances, resources, the task accomplished and status a priori. We do observe that people responsible for new development in novel areas are readily credited for their achievements. The achievements of the likes of Graham Bell, Wright Brothers, Einstein and more recently Martin Cooper (mobile phone) and Ray Tomlinson (email) and Paul Baran (Internet) will be remembered for a long time as they changed the way we now live and think.

As such, we need to appreciate early in our life that small advancements at every stage is a stepping stone and if we keep doing things better than others around us, it would invariably lead to achievement of some sort. To maintain the lead, we have got to work harder, think out of the box and carry out the task with utmost sincerity and involvement. At times, man becomes his own anti-thesis and falls into the trap of forwarding excuses for failures which could have been easily avoided by focusing on the mission with single mindedness of purpose. ‘Knock, knock, and the door will open’, is a good old saying. The dictum is relevant as an opportunity is necessary for registering achievement. The achievers are seen to seize the chance given to them where as others fritter it away. The youth today need to identify opportunities and make best use of them. Moreover, mentors and advisors should also guide and help them in achieving their goal.

At times over-cautious or careless approach leads to dismal performance. There is a short story about a farmer. His friend asked whether he had planted wheat this season. Farmer replied, ‘No, I was afraid it wouldn’t rain’. The man again asked if he has planted corn. Farmer said, ‘No, I was afraid that insects would eat the corn’. The friend then asked, ‘What did you plant then?’ Farmer said, ‘Nothing, I played it safe’. We find many people around us who do not achieve anything in life for lack of initiative, playing it too safe or simply being indecisive. Charles Schultz once said, ‘Life is a ten-speed bicycle’. Most of us have gears we never use. All that is required to achieve your goals in life is to make the best of your abilities and have the will and determination to accept challenges.

Winners compare their achievements with their goals, while losers compare their achievements with those of other people”
- Nido Qubein
IMPORTANCE OF ENGLISH SPEAKING AND LANGUAGE SKILLS

The four skills of the English Language are globally considered as strong pillars of language learning, which include skills according to their logical function (listening, speaking, reading and writing), however, every skill has its own importance and vital role in the educational process. But for direct communication with people, speaking gains the leading role, because it figures out the historical norm of the human evolution, when the ancient man 5000 years ago created special signs or what is widely known as body language to be the first means of communication, before even uttering a single word or even starting verbal communication.

Thus, speaking is evaluated as the main part of the language utilization. Accordingly, for offering an adequate English language learning, the foundation teacher ought to select, and he does select the most stimulating topics within a valid learning approach and gets the students talk on them, as the more they speak, the better will they be at expressing themselves.

However, the teacher must choose the most attractive and thrilling issues that relate to the students’ general interests and personal concern; topics driven out for their future intentions, aspirations and general ambitions.

Moreover, the teacher encourages and motivates his students to be more assertive and frank so that they can talk in public or in large groups later. The teacher gets students learn how to put forward their own ideas or points of views clearly, and get them involved in class debates and discussions as well as practicing other kinds of presentation skills either orally or through usage of the audiovisual aids or other means of modern technology e.g.; radios, video tapes, overhead projectors etc. In fact, a student standing proudly or bravely in front of classmates and expressing a point of view or even raising up an argument will boost the skill. So the teacher can inject the instincts of comprehension, relaxation and confidence to the students to express their ideas freely. This kind of mission, would give the teacher immense pleasure and satisfaction, when the students are able to learn how to put out the words and speak without any lapses or hesitation especially at public gatherings. The teacher should focus on students’ listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, which shall give them constructive evaluation, confidence and fluency. According to language experts, listening comes before speaking as the baby listens to his mother first and then learns how to speak. Actually, speaking can be achieved through daily practice and direct communication. Thus, for students’ class activities, debates, and presentations are the vital means of training to acquire this important skill.

However, intensive reading is regarded as an essential tool for boosting up students levels on both speaking and writing, because through intensive reading they can gain large vocabulary that can be available for use. Moreover, reading skills provides the students with different types of sentences and expressions that they need for writing. Thus, the vigilant teacher would give much care to ‘Reading’ as a ‘master key’ that leads to efficient writing. Finally, writing considered by educators as the most difficult skill can be achieved and secured through much intensive practice. Accordingly, any language has to appreciate the four language skill roles as listening, speaking, reading and writing and utilize them effectively in order to offer the students a strong foundation that leads to a bright future.
WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

Global warming...... melting glaciers ....... deforestation...... all leading to ecological imbalance!
The buzz word in these times is Environment and its Priceless preservation!
The Environment Club of WCAS is not far behind in its awareness and activities toward this noble end!. The World Environment day was celebrated on 5th of June 2011 with a Sapling plantation programme. Dr. Mohan Varma , Dean , WCAS , along with other faculty members and students planted saplings in the college campus for a greener environ.

Not to be left behind, on the same day the Adventure Club of WCAS had organized a “Clean up of Trekking Path – C38” in Muscat area, in their humble endeavor to contribute toward a better and cleaner habitat.
The faculty members include Prof. in charge, Students’ activities- Mr. Mohammed Mohatram , Prof.in-charge , Environment Club – Dr. Sadaf Zehra , Prof . in-charge , Adventure Club – Mr. Jyoti Chandel and Prof . in-charge , Photography Club – Dr. Seema Varshney organized the events successfully. Members of the Adventure and Photography Club also participated enthusiastically in the events.
Student’s View

I have always been interested in computing and wanted to learn more, and so with a commerce background, BCA programme seemed to be a good way to combine knowledge with gaining an employable skill. I also liked the programme because there is a good coverage of all the basics as well as the opportunity to specialize in BCA Honors.

One of the most important things I gained from the degree programme was the ability to learn fast and to pick up new skills. Also if the basic understanding of computers that I gained shall stay, means that whether or not the current language programming changes, I can still keep up.

Most of the people I’ve met here are super friendly, nice, and genuinely kind. Everyone has their own groups, their own thing going on.

There’s no gossip, people don’t know anything about you unless you make yourself known, which in my opinion, is an amazing and rare thing to find in an undergraduate experience. All people aren’t warm and fuzzy but they’re not mean or petty, you just have to make more effort to get to know them.

Courses and coursework are difficult, but they make you think and evaluate different perspectives. They really challenge you! I did my honors project with the guidance of teachers and used my experience and knowledge to finish it with satisfaction.

I’ve had access to excellent Teachers. They always make time for you even if you cannot go on office hours and are always accessible if you need them for extra help. Yes, coursework is difficult but the professors take care about how you are doing in the class, and ensure that you are assimilating the material. I’ve loved my teachers and the classes I’ve taken here.

I have many friends who are a part of my wonderful stay on campus. The student body is incredibly diverse: party animals, gamers. As you look around, you’re almost guaranteed to fit in somewhere. There are a lot of fun options with a number of clubs like the social, adventure, music club, sports club etc. And you can fit in somewhere! However, it is your choice; if you want to sit and relax and do nothing, no one will stop you.

While the place has its ups and downs, I have met great people and learned a lot. But in the end, A UNIVERSITY IS ONLY AS GOOD AS YOU MAKE IT. The opportunities are easy to find here, but they will not come to find you. It pays off when you try and meet new people. You’ll get an amazing education at one of the leading universities in the country, where closely knit student bodies and professors are working round the clock to shape up the careers of thousands.

Opportunity knocks at your door
Opportunity may be a road full of rocks
Life is a journey filled with hard knocks
One road may be right, the other be wrong
One road may be short, the other be long.

The world is a diverse place of cold reality and warm romance,
Where the merciful Lord often offers more than one chance.
The wise will learn from the hard knocks to avoid the dangerous rocks,
Time will tell who fell and got back up when opportunity knocks.

Opportunities often knock at our door
Those we have to choose to accept or ignore
It is sometimes a shame we don’t unlock
The door even when we hear the knock.

Many times we wish we could turn back the clock
To a time that we heard a good opportunity knock
It has been said time and tide wait for no man
For goodness sake we must come up with a plan.
PARABLE OF THE PENCIL

The Pencil Maker took the pencil aside, just before putting it into the box. "There are 5 things you need to know," he told the pencil, "before I send you out into the world. Always remember them and never forget, and you will become the best pencil you can be."

"One: You will be able to do many great things, but only if you allow yourself to be held in someone’s hand."

"Two: You will experience a painful sharpening from time to time, but you’ll need it to become a better pencil."

"Three: You will be able to correct any mistakes you might make."

"Four: The most important part of you will always be what’s inside."

"And Five: On every surface you are used on, you must leave your mark. No matter what the condition, you must continue to write."

The pencil understood and promised to remember, and went into the box with purpose in its heart. Now replacing the place of the pencil with you. Always remember them and never forget, and you will become the best person you can be.

One: You will be able to do many great things, but only if you allow yourself to be held in God’s hand. And allow other human beings to access you for the many gifts you possess.

Two: You will experience a painful sharpening from time to time, by going through various problems in life, but you’ll need it to become a stronger person.

Three: You will be able to correct any mistakes you might make.

Four: The most important part of you will always be what’s on the inside.

And Five: On every surface you walk through, you must leave your mark. No matter what the situation, you must continue to do your duties.

Allow this parable on the pencil to encourage you to know that you are a special person and only you can fulfill the purpose to which you were born to accomplish.

Never allow yourself to get discouraged and think that your life is insignificant and cannot make a change.

RADIANCE OF SUCCESS

* Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies.
* Success isn’t permanent and failure isn’t fatal.
* One who gains strength by overcoming obstacles possesses the only strength, which can overcome adversity.
* Be a good listener, opportunity sometimes knocks very softly.
* A true handicap is what we don’t do with what we have, not what we can’t do with what we don’t have.
* Success is not measured by what one brings, but rather by what one leaves.
* The road to success is always under construction and full of detours; enjoy the ride.

The website for parable of pencil - www.creativeyouthideas.com
Success Quotes - www.successism.com

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Together we can

WCAS has just turned 10!
Let’s use expertise and the knowledge we have gained in the last 10 years to make WCAS as the best Institution of higher learning

Send in your suggestions to quality@waljat.net
Program Offered

Foundation

Diploma Program 2 years
- Computer Science Engineering
- Electronics & Communication Engineering
- Business Administration
- Computer Application

Advanced Diploma Program 3 years
- Computer Science Engineering
- Electronics & Communication Engineering
- Business Administration
- Computer Application

Degree Program 3 years (Fast track)
- Business Administration
- Computer Application

Degree Program 4 years
- Business Administration
- Computer Science
- Electronics & Communication Engineering
- Biotechnology
- Computer Application

Master Degree 2 years
- Master in Business Administration
- Executive Master in Business Administration