

# NIIT UNIVERSITY

August 2017



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## **From the Editor's Desk**

**Dear Readers,**

Welcome to another edition of NU Newsletter. The new comers have adapted themselves to the new environment are now carrying out their daily tasks. The place is lively again with chatter and cheer of the students.

Though we had much activity happening in the university, we could only bring a part of it to you all. This edition compiles the talks held under the TALF umbrella. The new comers as they came, were exposed to some of the best speakers and they had a profound experience. The expressions section is missing this time. However, the other regular sections are all there.

Hope you all will enjoy reading this.

On behalf of the team Newsletter, I wish you all, Happy Reading!

**Warm regards,**

**Anshima P Srivastav**  
**Editor In-Charge,**  
**NU Newsletter**  
**[Anshima.Srivastava@niituniversity.in](mailto:Anshima.Srivastava@niituniversity.in)**





## CAMPUS NEWS



### **“Who are we?” by Mr. R S Pawar on 15th July 2017**

Mr. Pawar discussed the evolving notion of Indian identity across the world. The importance of identity was discussed. The fundamental elements of discovering identity was unfolded by Mr. Pawar. The talk also dealt with the mental state of Indians in the aftermath of colonialism.

### **“Curious Minds Questions!” by Sudhir Kaicker 19th July ‘17**

Prof. Kaicker engaged students in a discussion where Mathematics became the core. He developed a platform for students to explore several mathematical problems and theory. The aim of the lecture was evoking and it engaged students in the process of questioning and how questions are formed.

### **“Listening” by Air Cmde Kamal Singh, 25th July, 2017**

Air Cmde Kamal Singh engaged with the students by showing a TED talk where an expert had shared his views on the importance of listening. The session focused on understanding why is listening an essential factor.

### **NIIT University Features in Careers360 Magazine**

**Careers360 magazine**, a higher education & career counselling magazine, has featured NIIT University, in the 100<sup>th</sup> special issue of the magazine.

The story talks about the Industry linked courses at NU, along with the Academic Structure and Programmes. It mentions, *“The University offers Industry-linked courses like MBA Program in Business Analytics in collaboration with WNS, MTech (GIS) in collaboration with esri Inc, California, PGDBA in collaboration with United Bank of India and Bank of Maharashtra, and MTech (Educational Technology)*

*in collaboration with leading companies and schools in the country. The University is also building research capabilities in areas such as Biotechnology, Mobile Healthcare, Cognitive Radio, Technology-driven pedagogies, and Next-generation Networks”.*



## **TALF**

### **“Different Perspectives” by Mr. Harpal Singh, 29th July, 2017**

The session began with discussions on a few of the existing social norms. The basic attempt was to make everyone realize that they have a perspective and their perspective is coming from the various stories and opinions shared to them. The notion of having a single perception was challenged. He also stressed on essentiality of different perspectives as they will lead one to create complete understanding of a topic. At the end, he gave a powerful statement “It is important to respect difference rather than tolerate”.

### **“Tell Me Your Story” by Ms. Syeda Imam, 1st August 2017**

Ms. Imam began the talk by telling her childhood story and asked students to share a story from their past that left a deep impact on their minds which has contributed towards shaping their personality. Several students shared their emotional stories. Ms. Imam showed several videos around various perspectives and stereotypes that one carries with them. She discussed as to how these stereotypes makes our perspective narrow and restrict us from understanding different perspectives around us. Towards the end of her talk she played the popular song “We are the world”.

### **Best TALF Cluster Competition, 4th August 2017**

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### **“India in Asia” by Ms. Pallavi Aiyer, 11th August 2017**

Ms. Aiyer discussed the perception of India in Asian countries and vice-versa. Ms. Aiyer discussed the differences and similarities in culture, traditions, and customs of the countries. She also spoke about the cultural relevance of India participating in the mainstream culture of Asian country.

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# NATURE TALK



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## PANGOLIN or SCALY ANTEATER



A pangolin (also referred to as a scaly anteater or trenggiling) is a mammal of the order Pholidota. The one extant family, Manidae, has one genus, Manis, which comprises eight species. A number of extinct species are also known. A pangolin has large keratin scales covering its skin, and is the only known mammal with this adaptation. It is found naturally in tropical regions throughout Africa and Asia. The name pangolin comes from the Malay word penggulung, meaning "something that rolls up".

The physical appearance of a pangolin is marked by large, hardened, overlapping plate-like scales. The scales, which are soft on newborn pangolin's but harden as the animal matures, are made of keratin, the same material of which human fingernails and tetrapod claws are made. The pangolin's scaled body is comparable to a pine cone or globe artichoke.

It can curl up into a ball when threatened, with its overlapping scales acting as armour and its face tucked under its tail. The scales are sharp, providing extra defense. The front claws are so long they are unsuited for walking, so the animal walks with its fore paws curled over to protect them. Pangolins can also emit a noxious-smelling acid from glands near the anus, similar to the spray of a skunk. Pangolins are hunted and eaten in many parts of Africa and are one of the more popular types of bush meat. They are also in great demand in China and Vietnam because their meat is considered a delicacy and some believe pangolin scales have medicinal qualities. This, coupled with deforestation, has led to a large decrease in the numbers of giant pangolins. In November 2010, pangolins were added to the Zoological Society of London's list of genetically distinct and endangered mammals.

All eight species of pangolin are classified by the IUCN as threatened to extinction, while two are classified as critically endangered. Though pangolin are protected by an international ban on their trade, populations have suffered from illegal trafficking due to unfounded beliefs in Asia that their ground-up scales can stimulate lactation or cure cancer or asthma.

**Status in the Wild:** Near Threatened

**Sources:** wikipedia.org; teachindiaproject.org

**Divya Sara Kurian**

**B. Tech (2013-2017)**

## **FACULTY NEWS**

Dr. Anshima P. Srivastava attended a 5 days long Quality Improvement Programme at IIT Roorkee. The workshop was based on, "*Significance of Literary Theories in Humanities and Social Sciences*" from 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at IIT Roorkee.

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