

# XIME News

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## CONFERENCE ON GLOBAL MELTDOWN



Mr. Ravi Uppal addressing the Inaugural Session

Xavier Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship organized a seminar on "Global Financial Meltdown and its Impact on India" on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2008 at Jyoti Nivas College, Bangalore. The panel of speakers comprised of Prof. J. Philip, President, XIME; Dr. M. Rammohan Rao, Dean, Indian School of Business, Hyderabad; Mr. Ravi Uppal, Chairman, ABB India; Ms. Meena Ganesh, CEO, Edurite Technologies; Mr. Pranav Dasgupta, Director, Bangalore International Centre and Mr.G.Ramanand,

President, Bangalore Management Association.

The seminar on the 'Global Meltdown' began on a sombre tone as Professor J. Philip, President, XIME struck a cautious note in the wake of the terrorist attack in Mumbai on November 26, 2008. In his opening remarks Prof. Philip cited a series of examples from leading financial newspapers across the globe to highlight the present financial crisis and its devastating impact on economies across geographical boundaries.

## OUR PROFESSIONAL STANDING

- For third year in a row, XIME maintains its 'A++' rating in the Business India study of the Best B-Schools (Issue of October 19,2008).

CSR-GHRDC B-School Survey (in Competition Success Review, Nov.2008 rates XIME as:

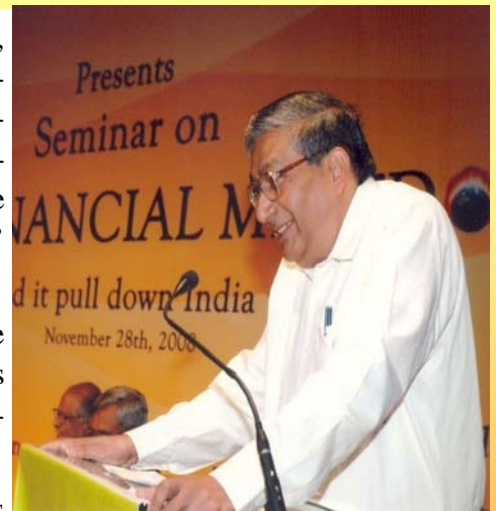
- The Best B-school in Karnataka (outside the IIM)
- The Best Private B- School in South India.
- 24<sup>th</sup> in Overall National Ranking

The Chairman of the Inaugural Session, **Dr. M. Rammohan Rao**, Dean, ISB, Hyderabad was of the view that the current global economic crisis reflected the dark side of globalization. Mr. Ravi Upal, Chairman, ABB India, pointed out that though the financial turmoil is leading to greater unemployment in India, the layoffs are not a solution to the current crisis. He advocated 'out of the box' thinking and appealed to the Corporates to avert layoffs.

**Ms. Meena Ganesh**, CEO, Edurite Technologies elucidated the impact of the economic crisis on India and what the businesses should do to deal with the turmoil.



**Mr. Pranav Dasgupta** in his address reflected on the global crisis from a layman's point of view. He stressed the fact that the global financial system is in the throes of a turmoil that has gripped the world economy and that the crisis has left the common man panicky and bewildered. Mr. G Ramanand, President, Bangalore Management Association, in his address threw light on the consequences of the global tsunami on the small and medium enterprises and gave an overview of the possible solutions. The inaugural session came to a close with the vote of thanks proposed by Prof R. Venkatraman, Director, XIME.

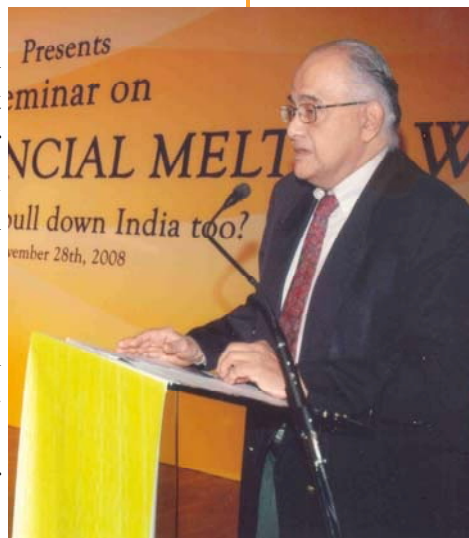


After the Inaugural Session, business sessions followed. The first business session made an attempt to answer the question: "Would Global Meltdown pull down India too?"

**Mr. S.L. Rao**, the Chairman of the first session, stressed the fact that mismanagement on our part has resulted in the non-regulated movement of money and the lack of proper understanding of the financial products. He further emphasized the importance of building volatile reserves.

**Prof. Ashok Thampy** from IIM, Bangalore emphasized the significance of the role of foreign institutional investors for the Indian markets.

**Mr. S. Viswanathan**, Chairman, CII Karnataka and Managing Director, John Fowler India addressing the session defined the macro situation in the country and elaborated on the various steps taken by the government to counter the current crisis.



The business session II that followed was centred on the implications of the global crisis for IT /ITES. Mr. Partha D. Sarkar, CEO, Hinduja TMT Ltd., felt that the bench strength of the IT/ITES industries had to be rationalized.

Thereafter, **Mr. Allen Mathew**, HR Director, Oracle, addressed the gathering. He focused on the impact of the global crisis on the IT Industry and showed muted optimism about IT/ITES. He was of the view that the economic crisis is nothing but a lifestyle disease of the economy. He pointed out that though the economy is facing a global meltdown, Mergers and Acquisitions represented the silver lining.

**Mr. Anand Pillai**, Global Head, HR, HCL, pointed out that both the IT recession and the US sub-prime crisis have been and will always be a cycle. The boom in the IT sector has eventually resulted in a slump and it will slowly recover to reach the boom phase.



## President's Visit to Moscow



Prof. J. Philip, President, XIME, along with Prof. C. P. Ravindranathan, Member, Board of Directors, arrived in Moscow for the 13<sup>th</sup> International Study and Practical Conference on 'Competitiveness in Information Society: BRICS Countries' Experience', conducted at the State University of Management, Moscow, from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2008.

At the Conference special attention was paid to the experience of the emerging economies of the world, collectively called the BRIC countries – Brazil, Russia, India and China. Delegates from Russia, Brazil, China, USA, Finland, Germany and Austria attended

the Conference, enriching it with their valuable inputs. Prof. J. Philip presented a paper in the Conference on "MANAGEMENT EDUCATION IN INDIA". In the paper, he traced the growth of management education in India, starting from the first full-time MBA which began in 1957 and the founding of the IIMs in Calcutta and Ahmedabad in 1961 and 1962 respectively. He also threw light on the founding of AIMS (Association of Indian Management Schools), where he was the Founder President. Prof. J. Philip and Prof. C. P. Ravindranathan, also presented a joint paper on "Globalization and Competitiveness – The Indian Experience". A Memorandum Of Understanding between XIME and one university each from Russia and China was signed on the occasion. As a follow up on this, an international conference is now to be hosted by XIME on January 30 and 31, 2009.

## Maria Philip Memorial Inter B-school Debate Competition

Every year XIME organizes the Maria Philip Memorial Inter B-school Debate Competition, in memory of Miss Maria Philip, daughter of Prof. J. Philip, who herself was an excellent debater.

On 18<sup>th</sup> October 2008, six teams participated in this competition – IIM-B, TAPMI, IMERS Belgaum, SDM-IMD Mysore, IBS Bangalore and Justice K.S. Hegde Institute of Management. The topic of the debate was "Will the US \$700 billion bailout package save or destroy the competitive global financial markets?" All the teams had impressive arguments that kept the judges and the audience captivated.

XIME, being the host, participated in the event but did not compete.

Mr. S. Swaminathan, VP (Marketing), Tata Tea graced the occasion by being the Chief Guest. The panel of judges was headed by Mr. Ravi C. Dasgupta, Head, Group HR, Biocon Ltd. Also on the panel were Ms. Maria Pinto, former GM (HR), SM India; Ms. Sujitha Karnad, VP, Health Care Group, Siemens; Ms. Samiya Ahmad, VP (Special projects), HSBC and Ms. Divya Jha, Senior Manager (HR), GE Health Services .

The debate saw fierce competition among the six teams. Eventually, Poonam Verma and Gautam Joshi, representing the team from IBS (ICFAI) won the first prize. The team from IIM-B, represented by Indrani Guha and Reema Mahajan, finished runners-up. The winners were awarded a trophy and cash prize.



## Faculty Development Workshop at Cochin

XIME organized a 'Faculty Development Workshop' at Renewal Centre, Kaloor, Cochin from 20<sup>th</sup> to 22nd November, 2008. Prof. J. Philip, President of XIME, was the Faculty Leader. The other faculty members were from business schools as well as industries. There were 23 participants from 13 different business schools across Tamil Nadu and Kerala.



Prof. J. Philip led the workshop. Some of the most interesting sessions of the workshop were handled by him, including 'A Survey of Indian B.Schools Scene', 'Teachers as Institution Builders', and 'Effective Presentations'.

Prof. R. Venkataraman, Director, XIME, chaired some important sessions. With more than two decades of industrial experience at the highest level, his inputs helped the audience gain valuable insights and knowledge.

The objectives of the workshop were:

- To facilitate the faculty to adapt application-oriented approaches in management education to cater to the changing needs of the industry
- To provide an exposure to the faculty on innovative teaching methodologies
- To develop the case-writing skills of the participants
- To enhance competencies required for preparing students for challenging careers
- To equip the faculty with skills required to take up consultancy and research projects

The three day workshop was designed to accomplish these objectives.

Sessions like 'A Curriculum Review in Groups', 'Effective Presentations' and 'A Role Play' also greatly interested the participants. These sessions facilitated the participants in interacting with the resource persons as well as among themselves.

The other resource persons were Prof. Jose Mathew, former Dean, XIME; Mr. M. S. A. Kumar, Chairman, CII Kerala and Mr. P. K. Abraham, Director, Macfast, who took the sessions, 'Teachers and Self-Development', 'Making South Indian B-Schools More Competitive' and 'An Industry Association Look at B-School Performance', respectively.

## French Business Schools Exchange Students at XIME Campus

In keeping with the various MOUs XIME has signed with several Management Institutes, XIME once again threw open its portals to welcome students from the Advancia-Negocia Business School, Paris, the Audencia Nantes School of Management, and Euromed Marseille Ecole de Management. 'The future of business is in India and XIME was a natural choice' opined Mr. Guillaume from the Advancia-Negocia Business School. He also added that the course outline the Institute followed was comprehensive and was on par with international standards.



Apart from the class room sessions, the guests had interactive sessions with the who's who of industry vis-a-vis Mr. Pierre Mammet, Director-Business Development-India-ASSYSTEM; Mr. Daniel Dubloscard and Mr. Ritendra Banerjee, Satyam Computers Ltd. The Question & Answer session that followed was testimony to the fact that the visitors were intellectually ignited. The industrial visits to Biocon, NBCLC, Fowler Westrup (India) Pvt Ltd, BOSCH and HTMT proved enjoyable and highly enriching. It was not just books and studies for the masseurs and mademoiselle. An educational tour as well to Mysore, organized by the XIME left the visitors enthralled.

It was an amazing experience for the students of XIME as well. The two month sojourn that began on 29<sup>th</sup> of September, was an amazing experience for all. It is the sentiments of XIME family that Anne-Lisa of Audencia echoes when she says: "The very thought of leaving disturbs me. XIME has become my second home."

## Our Guest Speakers

### Mr. Abhijeet Verma, Consultant, KPMG, India

On November 25, 2008, Mr. Abhijeet Verma, Consultant, KPMG, India addressed the XIME students.

An excellent speaker and an alumnus of XIME, Mr. Verma threw light on the 10 important lessons that he learnt after passing out of B-school, the first and foremost being Embracing Ambiguity. For an individual to thrive in an unstructured environment, wherein there is no role clarity, he needs to accept ambiguity and be resilient. He also focused on how important it is for an individual to manage his boss and have the right attitude as it is the attitude that defines the altitude. Mr. Verma acknowledged the role of XIME in nurturing his self-belief. He concluded the speech by quoting Subroto Bagchi from his book "GO KISS THE WORLD": "Most men take more from the world than they give back to it. And then there are a few who give more than they take from it. The world runs because of such men."

### Ms. Tina Mathew, Senior HR Manager, Corporate Training, Philips

Another prominent speaker was Mrs. Tina Mathew, Senior HR Manager, Corporate Training, Philips India. She drew the attention of the audience on how one should work towards adapting, networking and growing in an organization. She focused on the fact that it was very important for an employee to hone his interpersonal skills and behaviour to sustain in an organization. She strongly vouched for continuous development as an important ingredient for moving up the ladder.

### Mr. Sanjiv Kathuria, Country Head, Sales and Marketing, TNT Logistics

Mr. Sanjiv Kathuria, Country Head, Sales and Marketing, TNT Logistics in his address, focused on how TNT underwent a brand transition after acquiring Speed Age. He also elaborated on the issues they faced and the various measures employed to overcome the same. He also said that to communicate the brand value convincingly, all customer points need to be touched, right from the delivery boy to sending mailers. Mr. Kathuria emphasized that Speed Age acquisition had helped TNT to become more proactive in its approach.

### Ms Georgina Pinto, Senior Trainer, HR, IBM

Ms Georgina Pinto, Senior Trainer, HR, IBM was of the view that the employees of an organization are its most valuable resource. She thus laid emphasis on the importance of promoting good training and development programmes to create a better corporate image. It helped in optimizing the utilization of human resources and in better decision-making and problem-solving. She also threw light on the various programmes they cover like Stress Management, Time Management and Conflict Management.

## Teachers' Day at XIME

Teachers' Day was celebrated in the Institute on the 5th of September. It was an occasion where the students did their bit to make their Gurus feel special. A cultural show was organized which the audience enjoyed thoroughly. The President, Prof. J. Philip spoke on the occasion and complimented the faculty on their contribution to the development of the student community. The faculty was elated at the laudable sentiments expressed by the students.



## Executive PGDM - I Batch

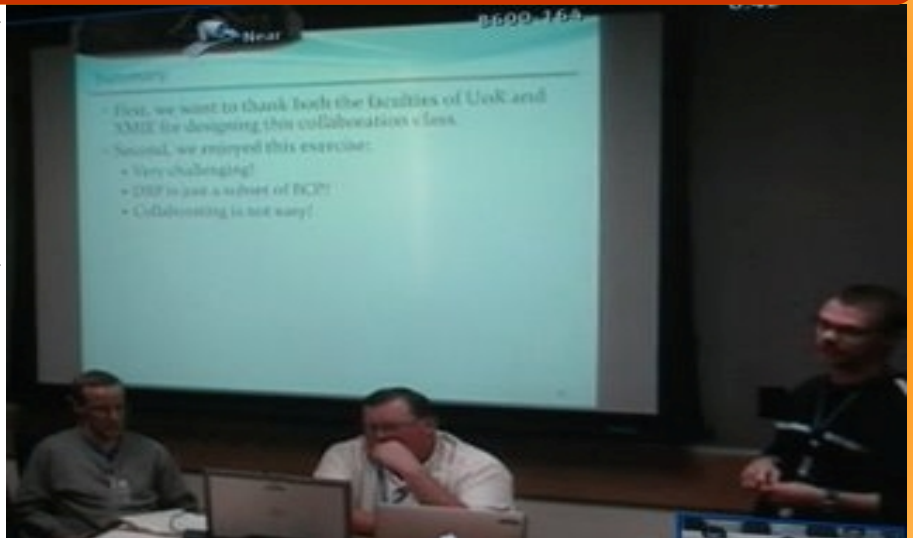
The first Batch of the 15-Month Full-Time, AICTE approved, Executive PGDM Programme (MBA Level) was inaugurated by Ms. Suchismita, VP (Systems) Seimens Healthcare. This highly-rated Programme preparing potential aspirants for Senior Corporate Positions, spans a period of four terms and incorporates an Industrial Project in the fifth term. A minimum experience of five years at the Executive Level is a necessary pre-requisite for admission. The maximum intake for this prestigious programme is only 30 candidates, admitted through a stringent selection process.

## Communication Club Inauguration

The Communication Club was inaugurated by Mr. Brent Hert, Visiting Faculty from Institute of Media and Advertising. He spoke about the advancements in communication and broadcasting technology that have revolutionized the field of journalism. Mr. Brent emphasized the importance of using good communication techniques and tools, showcasing a couple of videos that he played during the session.

## Collaborative Project with University of Redlands, USA

The second year students of XIME have recently completed a collaborative project with the students doing their Masters in Information Technology (MSIT) at the University of Redlands, California. These students of Redlands are professionals who work for the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, California. JPL is known for sending the Mars Explorer and other deep space probes.



Students of XIME were chosen for the project based on their prior experience in areas of information systems or operations. The final objective was to develop a Business Continuity Plan (BCP) for HIPCO Industries, which sells industrial piping. The project split the students into six teams as Team JPL and Team XIME. This project gave the students knowledge and background in the critical area of telecommunications and also provided them with experience as part of a global collaborative project team to work on a telecom related problem. The project emphasized the impact of teamwork in international collaboration. Students from both the institutions worked together under the guidance of Dr. George Easaw, using electronic media such

as video conferencing, Skype, discussion boards, mobile phoning, e-mail and instant messaging.

Redlands students took the INFT 645 course in their MSIT programme. Their communication portal, Blackboard was open to XIME students and contained the INFT 645 Syllabus, Project Guidelines, and other related information. This was useful during the course of the project. The work was divided between the two colleges according to individual team needs. At the end of the project, the teams came up with a paper on BCP for HIPCO. The last two days i.e. December 10 and 11, 2008 of the project saw the six teams jointly giving a presentation on their papers to the members of the management of HIPCO.

## Laurels for XIME

### At IIT Mumbai fest - "Avenue -2008"

Three students of Batch 13 won laurels for XIME at "Avenue 08"- the business fest organized by Shailesh Jay Mehta School of Management, IIT Bombay. Prasanth Abraham, Sherry Paulson and Vimal G. represented XIME in an advertising competition '*Anatomy of Buzz*' and won the first place in the competition.



### At IIM-B fest "VISTA - 2008"

#### 'BAADSHAH' - Marketing Game

Uzma Hameed of Batch 13 bagged the first prize in a marketing and advertising event at IIMB's fest VISTA - 2008. BAADSHAH, a fast paced game consisted of four rounds, with participants being eliminated at every stage. From initial entries to 20, then down to 5, and then the last round witnessed just two final participants fighting it out on stage and XIME made the mark yet again.

BAADSHAH 2008 was vied for by over 200 management students from across the country. These students represented the finest management institutes of the country like IIM Bangalore, IIM Kolkata, IIM Kozhikode, XLRI, XIME, Great Lakes and Christ University.



#### Operational Simulation Game

Our students made us proud again in the same business fest organised by IIMB, VISTA 2008, winning the first prize in the "Operational Simulation Game" where the best of minds competed to produce and operate in a simulated environment. 54 teams participated in the event and in the battle of minds, our team consisting of Amit Ved, Mayank Paramar and Naharjun Prabu went on to become the winners in the hard fought battle.



### At Christ University- "CHRYSALIS-2008"

#### 'BLACK PEARL' - HR Game

This year 'Chrysalis 2008 -the Quest for Alchemy' was organized on 27th September by the Christ University. It

included various competitions on HR, Marketing and Finance. Pallavi Singh and Ekta Sanghvi, first year PGDM students won the first prize in the HR competition 'Black Pearl'. It consisted of four rounds and witnessed the participation of some of the best management institutes like IIM Bangalore, BIM Trichy, Christ University and Symbiosis University.



#### 'DAUNTLESS' - Finance Game

Jai Prakash and Anish Goel, first year PGDM students won the second prize in the Finance competition 'Dauntless'.

It consisted of four competitive rounds which had students from colleges like IIM Bangalore, XLRI, IIM Calcutta, and MDI Gurgaon.



## At AIMA, Coimbatore - 'CHANAKYA' - Business Game

XIME continued with the tradition of winning laurels at various competitions held in the country. In the month of September 2008, four students from Batch 13 (2007-09), Hansen Menezes, Preethi S., Hrishikesh Deshmukh and Cherish G. Edathil won the regional (southern) finals of Chanakya, a business simulation game. The competition was organized by the All India Management Association, Coimbatore.



## At IISWBM, Kolkata

### 'Erudition' - Paper Presentation Competition

XIME students made the Institute proud yet again by their scintillating performance at Indian Institute of Social Welfare and Business Management, Kolkata. Preethi S. and Suganya R. of Batch 13 clinched the first place in "Erudition", the paper presentation event that saw participation from business schools throughout the country. Preethi S. also bagged the first place in "Inarbit", the on-the-spot Slides Presentation competition held at the same fest on December 11, 2008.



## Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP)

In the true XIME tradition of nurturing and promoting entrepreneurship skills, the third Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) was organized. The six-weeks programme commenced on October 3, 2008. Some of the participants had already established firms and were looking for guidance. The EDP was supported by Hewlett Packard. Backed by XIME's ample wealth of knowledge on Entrepreneurship, the various topics covered in the programme included entrepreneurial competencies, IT tools and solutions for small businesses, business opportunity identification, development of Business Plan and mentoring.

At the end of the programme, the eight participants were given an opportunity to present their Business Plan and after evaluation of the same, certificates were awarded to them.

## Knowledge Management Workshop at XIME

XIME organized a two-day workshop on Knowledge Management on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2008 at its campus. The participants seventeen in number, consisted of academics, senior IT professionals, knowledge workers, and managers. The key resource persons of the workshop were Prof J. Philip, President, XIME; Mr. J.K. Suresh, Head, Knowledge Management, Infosys; Mr. Rithendra Banerjee, Head of Consulting Practice, Satyam Computer Services; Mr. Kottai A., Head, KM Services, Technology Excellence Group, TCS; Ms. C.S. Shoba, Senior Manager, Perot Systems; Ms. Maria Christina, Honeywell Technologies and Mr. Tharunkumar, Firstsource.

The workshop was aimed at investigating and critiquing the existing theoretical framework for Knowledge Management, understanding how it supports business objectives in organizations, highlighting how it can be used to drive innovation in organizations, identifying implementation areas and using Knowledge Management to harness a company's most important resource namely its people. It was a wholesome experience for the participants, who felt that they could contribute to the economic and social gain of the country by applying these concepts in various industries like the IT, Management and Information Science.



## Industry B-Schools Interaction Conference, Cochin

Xavier Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship, Bangalore in collaboration with Kerala Management Association (KMA) and The Indus Entrepreneurship (TiE) organized an Industry



B-School Interaction Conference on 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2008 at Hotel Renaissance, Cochin. The conference was held with a view to discuss, debate and recommend ways to bring about increased Industry B-School interface. The inaugural session was attended by several distinguished guests including Dr. K.K Jayan, President KMA, Cochin; Mr. P.C Cyriac, IAS (Retd.) former Addl. Chief Secretary, TamilNadu; Mr. C.J Mathew, IRS, Development Commissioner, CSEZ, Cochin; Mr. Shivadas Menon, President, TiE, Cochin;

Prof. J. Phillip, President, XIME and Dr. Francis Cherunilam, Director, Albertian Institute of Management, Cochin.

The speakers unanimously agreed that it was essential that the industry

should involve itself in the development of Management Institutes and hone the student skills to perfection. The primary objective of an industry-institute partnership would be to ensure that in a country like India, with around 1750 B-Schools, the quality of students is not compromised.

The four sessions that followed had respected and well-known individuals from the industry and several B-Schools. They strongly recommended various ways to bring about increased Industry B-School interface.

## Entrepreneurship Summit, Bangkok

Hewlett Packard organized an Entrepreneurship Meeting at Bangkok on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2008. The two day Summit saw participation from the 2007 and 2008 grantees of HP. XIME had received a grant from HP in 2007 for its Entrepreneurship Development Programme to be offered to graduates who are keen to start small business ventures, but are unable to do so due to lack of skill, knowledge or guidance. Prof. Suresh Chandra represented XIME at the Summit that was organized to review the effectiveness of STSB (Smart Training for Smart Business) programme designed by HP. Effective evaluation of feedback from trainees and improvement needs were discussed during the course of the summit.



## Communication Workshop at Assumption College, Kerala

In line with the continuous emphasis that XIME lays on developing communication skills, it organized a Public Speaking Programme for the students of Assumption College, Changanassery, Kerala on September 16, 2008. This was part of the Maria Philip Oratory Club started at Assumption College to hone the soft skills of budding graduates. Two PGDM students of Batch 13, Sue Anne Mathew and Shilpa Nair, conducted a workshop on "Effective Public Speaking and Cracking Group Discussions" for select graduate students of Assumption College. The latter half of the workshop also included team building exercises and a brief on the different competitive examinations to pursue an MBA. The workshop was greeted with fervor and appreciated by the students who found it highly informative and useful.

## Finance Workshop at Accenture, Bangalore

The Finance Faculty of XIME was invited for a two day Organization Based Programme (OBP) at Accenture, Bangalore. The programme was for the non- finance executives of the Company. Prof. S Aramvalarthan (Dean XIME), Prof. Samuel Thomas and Prof. S P Srinivasan introduced the employees at Accenture to the various facets of finance such as investment decisions, costing principles, budgeting and financial statements . The workshop was conducted on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of December, 2008 .

## ST. Xavier's Day

St. Xavier's day was celebrated in the Institute on 3<sup>rd</sup> December. The Holy Mass was celebrated in the Institute auditorium by Rev. Fr. Lawrence D'Souza, Director, St. John's Medical College, Bangalore. The community breakfast that followed saw members of the XIME board, the faculty and the student community engage in cordial interactions.

## Trek to Bheemeshwari



Bheemeswari , about 100kms from Bangalore city was this year's destination for the annual Institute excursion. Known for its scenic beauty and picturesque locales, Bheemeswari left the staff and students of XIME mesmerised. The trek was both rejuvenating and revitalizing and was a welcome break for all.

## XEST- Business Club of Executive PGDM

In order to ace up the learning out side the class room and to align it with the functional competence of the members, XEST- the integrated business club for the first batch of the Executive PGDM students was inaugurated on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2008 . This club joins the array of other functional clubs already in operation and run by the two year PGDM students. The highlight of the inaugural function was a thought-provoking guest lecture on "Leadership" by **Mrs. Sujitha Karnal, VP, Health care, Siemens Information Systems Ltd.** She presided over the function and shared her experiences in leadership development through some of the best ideas that struck her in her prime. XEST which is going to operate every Friday will be focusing on building analytical, conceptual and informational excellence through various activities like, The Biz-Maze, The Edge, and Sharpen the Saw. It will also be focusing on bringing virtuoso from the industry in various streams for guest lectures and work shops.





## SPARSH'08 - XIME's unique initiative towards Social Responsibility

Industries in Electronic City witnessed a unique and special effort towards social responsiveness on Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> December, as Xavier Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship (XIME) provided a forum, SPARSH-2008 to integrate NGOs and corporate personalities on the same platform.

The Chief Guest for the inaugural ceremony, Mr. Anjan Ghosh, Sr. General Manager, Sales and Marketing, Tata BP Solar, expressed grave concern over the continuously degrading environment. He appealed to the young, budding managers to take it as a responsibility on them to work for environmental conservation.

Guest of Honour for the ceremony, Mr. Raj Narayan, MD, Radel Electronics and Vice President ELCIA (Electronic City Industries Association), shared his views on Social Responsibility and the initiatives taken by ELCIA. He emphasized the importance of empowering the children of India with higher education and appealed to the gathering to contribute towards making a difference in the lives of the underprivileged children.



## Workshop on Education for All- Nurturing Tender Minds



A workshop dedicated to the theme of providing *Education for All* was organized. It was chaired by **Ms. Rohini Nilekani**, Chairperson, Akshara Foundation. Panelists for the session were Rev. Fr. George Mathew, Director, BREADS (Bangalore Rural Education And Development Society) and Ms. Shivla Saxena, City Coordinator, Life Trust.

The tone for the session was set in motion through a skit by the students of XIME depicting the role that NGOs and corpo-

porate houses play in promoting education.

Ms. Rohini Nilekani said in her keynote address that we should take the responsibility to empower every child by providing them with *Quality Education* and that everyone has a role to play. She also put forth her views on how the responsibility can be shared both by private and public sectors, while NGOs deliver their part.

Rev. Fr. George Mathew dwelt on the various activities carried out by BREADS. Later in his talk, he presented an interesting analysis saying that enrolment in education is done quickly and is maintained, but the question remains about the *sustainability* of quality education.

Ms. Shivla Saxena highlighted the mission of Life Trust in *Ensuring Quality Education* for all. She opined that monotonous mode of studies was one of the reasons for students dropping out early from schools. She suggested that education should be made accessible and interesting. This would ensure overall development of young minds. She appealed to the audience to join hands and play a role in nurturing the tender minds.

Inspiring presentations by the panelists and Chairperson led to a long interactive session, where the audience, mostly students, asked many questions. The session ended on a high note with a pledge signed by the panelists and student representatives, taking an oath to contribute their part in providing education to all.



## Christmas Celebrations



The blessed season of Christmas is at hand. Christmas was celebrated by the students, staff and faculty with fervour and enthusiasm on December 19, 2008.

The Institute quadrangle reverberated with heartwarming carols. Santa Claus set the campus ablaze with the spirit of universal love and brotherhood characteristic of the season of joy and hope.

As is customary, the President delivered the Christmas message. He expressed satisfaction at the year gone by and hoped that the Christmas season and the New Year would bring cheer and happiness to all. The President and Mrs. L. Philip cut the Christmas cake. All joined in a fraternal fellowship that followed and exchanged greetings.

*-The President and XIME community wish each and everyone, the Season's Greetings and a Promising 2009.*

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