

DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR A.Y. 2017-18

CONVOCATION ADDRESS – 1st December 2018

**PGDM/ PGDM – IB / PGDM – RM / PGDM – RS / PGDM - COMM Batch 2016-18 and
PGDM – Exec Batch 2016-17**

**24th Batch of PGDM
10th Batch of PGDM (IB)
10th Batch of PGDM (RM)
6th Batch of PGDM (FS)
5th PGDM (COMM)
6th Batch of PGDM (Exec)**

A very good evening to all of you.

On behalf of Shri Samir Somaiya, President Somaiya Vidyavihar, the trustees of the Somaiya Vidyavihar, Faculty, Staff & Students of the K J Somaiya Institute of Management Studies & Research, it is my very proud privilege and honor to welcome all the graduating students and their family & friends to the Convocation Ceremony of the PGDM Batch 2016-18 and PGDM – Exec Batch 2016-17. The graduating batches are 24th Batch of PGDM , 10th Batch of PGDM (IB), 10th Batch of PGDM (RM), 6th Batch of PGDM (FS), 5th PGDM (COMM) Batch and 6th Batch of PGDM (Exec).

I welcome our Chief Guest Ms. R. M. Vishakha, MD & CEO, IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company Limited.

On behalf of Secretary of Somaiya Vidyavihar Lt. Gen. Jagbir Singh, program coordinators Prof. Pankaj Trivedi, Prof. Isaac Jacob, Prof. Vandana Khanna, Prof. Kalpakam – as also the co-coordinators for these programmes, I thank each one of you for joining us today.

Management education as we know it is undergoing a paradigm shift with respect to its objectives and the purpose it serves.

Management education should become a platform where students who aspire to join the professional workplace must experience personal and professional transformation along with ample opportunities to take part in the digital and social transformations that are sweeping India and the world.

K J Somaiya Institute of Management Studies & Research (SIMSR), which started in the year 1981 in the heart of Mumbai has the vision, “Our dream is to build a world class research and teaching institution that is global in the reach of its ideas and universal in its service”. SIMSR is committed to achieve exemplary standards in management education that will not only achieve its vision but also attain the redefined parameters of management education.

SIMSR continues relentlessly to raise the bar and set new benchmarks for the course curricula across all its PGDM Programmes that go beyond the classroom to include learning through case studies, experiential learning opportunities, developing entrepreneurial spirit and making students to be part of socially relevant projects. In addition, industry interface in the form of guest lectures from industry experts, student clubs and committees, holistic self-management classes, sports facilities adds to the pedagogy. SIMSR thrives in nurturing the intellectual, emotional, spiritual, social and physical persona of the students to evolve as well-rounded human beings.

The entire governance process at SIMSR is well structured, transparent and involves all stakeholders especially the alumni and current students through their student council and various clubs and committees. A well-structured Academic Calendar ensures empowerment and engagement of each and every faculty and student in their areas of specializations.

Our hard and focused work shows results in the form of our rankings. Some of the institute rankings that we have received so far for 2018 are as follows:

Competition Success Review Nov 2018 issue:

- Rank 1 – Top Leading B School of Super Excellence
- No.1 Private B School of Maharashtra State

Business Today over all – Rank 26 and 12th Best Private Business School in India

Our placement record for A.Y. 2017-18 for PGDM is excellent.

Final placements (A.Y. 2017-18):

- Total Batch Size : 480
- 469 students got placed (11 students opted out). 100% Students seeking opportunities, got placed
- A total of 182 companies visited SIMSR for final placements
- 55 organizations participated for the first time.
- Highest Package: Rs. 30,00,000 p.a
- Average Package: Rs. 9,87,000 p.a.

Summer Placements 2017-2018

- 480 students got summer internships.
- 100% Students Placed
- Highest Stipend: Rs. 1,54,000/- p.m..
- Average Stipend: Rs. 17,500/- p.m
- About 155 companies visited our campus for recruitment of summer placement interns. We added 60 new companies to the list of summer internship recruiters.

Final Placements for PGDM – Exec Batch (2016-17):

- Highest Package: Rs. 14,95,000/- p.a
- Average Package: Rs. 9,40,000/- p.a

The faculty achievements are no less impressive during A.Y 2017-18

We have the best in class faculty who have got won accolades and got opportunities for international teaching assignments in universities in Germany, Nepal and Russia, to conduct international training programmes in Vietnam, published and presented research papers in India and abroad and got citations for them, conducted training programmes for leading companies in India and got two patents in their name.

The institute also invited professors from Germany and USA for teaching assignments in SIMSR.

Some of the achievements are as follows:

The institute produced 4 Ph.D. Scholars

4 Books were published

Total Publications: 72 out of which 5 were in 'B' category journals and 22 were in 'C' category journals as per the ABDC journal listings

Papers Presented At National Conferences: 4

Papers Presented At International Conferences: 60

Corporate Executive Training Programmes Conducted: 32

Faculty Attending Training Programmes at Higher Institutes of Learning in India and Abroad: 28

Consultancy Assignments: 4

Cases Written: 4

Awards Won: 2

Centres of Excellence have been created for conducting research activities are as follows:

- Centre for Diversity and Inclusion
- Centre for Consumer and Market Studies in Emerging Economies
- Centre for Economic Policy and Research
- Centre for Sustainability Management
- Centre for Capital Markets Research

The institute focuses relentlessly on faculty training to ensure knowledge upgradation and building a research culture in the institute.

Student Achievements:

For A.Y. 2017-18, students participated in various events having different types of competition.

Some of the places where they won awards were NITIE- Mumbai, JBIMS- Mumbai, YES BANK, IIM Nagpur, MDI Gurgaon, Delhi School of Economics, Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management, IIT Bombay, Adi Finshiksha Education Pvt Ltd, IIM Kozhikode, Economic Times & Aditya Birla Group, Toastmasters International District District 98, Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Indore - Mumbai Campus, IIM Indore, Pepsico, GreatLakes – Gurgaon, Hero Motocorp, IIM Raipur, IIM Shillong etc – these were Case Study competitions and other Management events.

The institute has also started its programme of building strategic alliances with institutions abroad – we have recently signed MOU's with Aston University – UK, The University of Edinburgh – UK, The University of Akron – USA, Yunnan University – China, University of San Diego – USA, Wintec - New Zealand, University of Indonesia – Indonesia, University of Salvador – Argentina, Sany Polytechnic Engineering College – China, Beijing International Studies University – China, Eotvos Lornard University – Hungary, University of Brescia – Italy, Communication University of China – China, Beijing Foreign Studies University - China.

A total of 31 Universities visited SIMSR in year 2017-18. In November month itself, 4 Universities visited SIMSR (Aston University, University of Bradford, University of Bristol (UK), and Newcastle University, Australia). We are focusing relentlessly on our internationalization programme and hope to achieve a lot on this front.

A group of 28 students accompanied by our Senior Professor & Staff in June 2018 visited DHBW, Stuttgart, Germany and Paris on a 9 days European immersion tour. They visited companies like Karcher, a Euro 2.8 Billion company, an industry pioneer in the field of end to end cleaning solutions, Mercedes Benz, Porsche, DHL and attended lectures on German and European cultures and were felicitated by the City Council of Stuttgart in Germany.

One student went as an exchange student to DHBW Stuttgart in February 2018 and now 4 students are going to DHBW Stuttgart and 2 students to Saint Martin University in USA.

Apart from this, some of the new initiatives at the institute have been as follows:

1. Installed Bloomberg Lab with 9 terminals
2. Launch of Mandarin as an elective language and 41 students are studying Mandarin. 4 students have also got summer assignment with ICBC Bank – among the largest bank of China.
3. Inauguration of new ladies hostel, “Maitreyi” at the hands of Hon. Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri. Devendra Fadnavis on 29th November 2017.
4. Software development for examinations.
5. Launch of 2 year full time PGDM Healthcare from A.Y. 2018-19 in academic collaboration with K J Somaiya Hospital & Research Centre and Imperial College Health Partners.

Alumni Report for A.Y 2017-18

With an alumni base of over 10000 alumni spread across the globe, it is our constant endeavor to connect & collaborate with our alumni. With many of SIMSR alumni becoming industry leaders, the institute takes pride in them and celebrates their successes.

The Alumni Relations team engages alumni for various institute activities right from admission process, guest lectures to share their knowledge & experience, as jury members for various events & competitions, as Chief Guest & Keynote speakers for Conferences, to mentor students, etc. They also focus on alumni to alumni connect which helps alumni professionally.

Some of the initiatives for alumni are SIMSR Jobs where almost 200 lateral job opportunities are shared every year, SIMSR Superstars – The Alumni Awards, SIMSR Alumni Network for Entrepreneurs, Imprints – Monthly Newsletter, 14 Domestic & 6 International SIMSR Alumni virtual groups, etc. The team also organizes events such as Nostalgia, Milaap, 14 City Meets across India and International Meets in countries like Dubai, USA, Singapore, UK, etc.

Other Activities at SIMSR

We have launched a formal programme called as HOLSEM – holistic self-management that will help students understand themselves better through yoga, meditation, sleep and food habit regulation.

The diverse spectrum of events that are organised successfully are events like Melange & Nostalgia, which strengthens our stakeholder connect and on the other hand, the faculty led conferences like the Global Marketing Conference, Finance Conference, HR Conference, Conf in Operations Mgmt, IT, and in Economics. These conferences offer a platform for global academic practitioners, industry experts and researchers to analyse and share their knowledge and experience of new age innovations in their chosen field of expertise.

Some of the key highlights of these conferences are events like National Retail Summit , MarCquest, Interface, SIMSR - Fcb Ulka Comstrat, Global Supply Chain Management Conference, IBS @ SIMSR, Chakravyuh, Consultancy Week, STRATINNOVA, RESOLUTION, KURUKSHETRA, HR Conference, Human Equations and Round Table Conferences on Diversity & Inclusion among many other events.

1ST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EMERGING ECONOMIES

The General Management area conducted their **1st International conference on emerging economies** on the 23rd & 24th of November 2018. The pre-conference workshop on qualitative research was conducted and the keynote speaker was Ms. Sakina Pittalwala Executive Director at IPSOS, a global market research and consulting firm.

5th Global Supply Chain Management Conference

SIMSR hosted the **5th Global Supply Chain Management Conference** at its campus on Saturday 16th Dec 2017. The theme of the conference was "Managing the Supply Chain Driving into the future".

The dignitaries released the conference proceedings book, Book on logistic comparison between India and Germany, authored by Dr. J S Lamba and Dr. Dirk Hartel and December Momentum: An Editorial Magazine.

The keynote speaker was Prof. Dr. KATJA KUHN, Dean of the faculty of Engineering DHBW Stuttgart and Dr. Dirk Hartel with 16 DHBW students attended the conference.

13th Global Marketing Conference

SIMSR conducted 13th Global Marketing Conference on 15th and 16th February 2018 in collaboration with College of Business and Public administration, California State University, San Bernardino, USA and supported by AMDISA. The theme for the conference was: Marketing to the Global Consumer. Prof. Udo Wagner, is Professor of Management at the University of Vienna. He is Dean of EMAC (European Marketing Academy) and visiting Professor at various international universities was the Guest of Honour and Mr. Sanjiv Sarin, MD and CEO at Tata Coffee Ltd. gave the keynote address.

MarCquest 2018

The flagship event of PGDM-Communications program conducted a unique open air live case-study competition on Harley Davidson brand which was judged by the Indian Harley owners group (in full Harley gear) on 2nd and 3rd February 2018 in the Tagore Amphitheatre.

BigWigs Speak Activities

The Bigwigs Speak is a series of guest lectures organized by the students of PGDM Communications at SIMSR. Mr. Anil K. Nair- our alumni (CEO- L&K Saatchi India) was invited. The launch of Dr. M.G. Parameswaran's book titled: 'Sponge' was also launched at this forum on 1st September 2018.

NATIONAL RETAIL SUMMIT (NRS)-2018

The NRS, an annual two-day event, held on 24th – 25th October 2018, was organized by the students of PGDM Retail Management (Batch 2018-20). The two guest speakers namely: Mr. Gaurav Suri, Senior Executive Vice President, Head – Marketing, UTI Asset Management Company Limited and Dr. Gibson Vedamani, Founder & Partner, Retail Solutions and Learning Technologies LLP; Former Founding CEO, Retailers Association of India; honored the key note speaker's session.

5th HR CONFERENCE

The 5th HR Conference (2nd and 3rd February 2018) had the theme "Rewiring HRM in Globalized Workplace: Challenges of Diversity, Employment Relations, and Skills." The conference was organized in collaboration with California State University San Bernardino

(CSUSB) and University of Yunnan. AMDISA - Association of Management Development Institutions in South Asia was the publicity partner and BPCL was the sponsorship partner. The keynote speaker was Mr. Kevin Balm (Director of Participative Technologies in Melbourne and Thailand, a facilitation consultancy firm specializing in participative learning, planning, and decision-making processes) highlighted the relevance of aligning the workplace discourse (communication) in a smart tech-driven, multi-generation and connected world. The second keynote address was delivered by Mr. Vivek Paranjpe. He is a Strategic HR Advisor at Reliance Industries Limited. He focused on employer-employee contract and how to deal with challenges of imbibing company culture in an organization. The workshop was followed by paper presentations by academicians.

4TH SOMAIYA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (SICTIM)

Area of Information Technology (IT) of KJSIMSR has organized the **4th Somaiya International Conference on Technology and Information Management (SICTIM)** on 12th Jan 2018 in technical association with Qlik and with academic partner Yunan University, China.

The theme for the SICTIM was " Datafication: Extract. Transform. Derive. New Business Value".

Dr. Ravi Krovi (Dean, College of Business Administration, University of Akron, Ohio, USA) inaugurated the Conference and delivered the keynote address. The chief guest for inauguration function was Mr. Jaydeep Deshpande (Regional Marketing Manager, Qlik).

The International Organization of Scientific Research Journal of Computer Engineering (IOSR-JCE) has printed an Issue (e-ISSN: 2278-0661, p-ISSN – 2278-8727, Impact factor = 3.712) of the Conference.

CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC POLICY ANALYSIS & RESEARCH (CEPAR)

Centre for Economic Policy Analysis & Research (CEPAR) under Economics Area of SIMSR jointly conducted with SEBI's NISM the 3rd Annual Conference on 'Importance of Economic Research in Capital Markets' during October 12-13, 2018.

The objective of this Conference was to deliberate on current state as well as opportunities and challenges of macroeconomic research related to capital markets and the paper presentations on contemporary issues related to economic and capital market.

The Keynote address was delivered by Shri. Ananta Barua, Whole-Time Member, SEBI. Other eminent external speakers included Dr. J N Misra, CEO, Indian Institute of Banking & Finance, Dr. Siddhatha Rajagopal, Executive Director, TEXPROCIL, Prof. Dr. Abhay Pethe, Distinguished Fellow, University of Mumbai, and Mr. Madan Sabnavis, Chief Economist, CARE Rating Ltd.

SIFICO 2018

SIFICO 2018, the Finance and Law department conference was held on 19 & 20 Jan. 2018.

The theme of the conference was "Emerging Trends in BFSI Sector"

The conference was inaugurated by Mr. M. Narendra, the Ex MD and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank.

The guest of honor was Dr. Subrata Sarkar Professor from IGIDR, who has conducted one research workshop also.

We, as an institution, are proud of our heritage, global in the reach of our ideas and universal in our service. Our mission is ***TO FOSTER A SPIRIT OF INQUIRY, ENABLE LIVELIHOODS, ENCOURAGE INNOVATIONS AND CREATE GOOD CITIZENSHIPS.***

INDUSTRY INTERACTION

SIMSR also offers students opportunities to interact with and learn from ambassadors, corporate professionals, leading professors from abroad, spiritual gurus, and alumni who are industry leaders. Leaders of the government and business, representatives of non-government organizations, artists and intellectuals regularly visit our campus to deliver talks and presentations that provide insights to the careers and personal attributes of these role-models.

We have had the good opportunity to host on campus illustrious illuminaries like Hon. Chief Minister Shri. Devendra Fadnavis, Ambassador of Kazakhstan, Prof. Udo Wagner from University of Vienna , Mr Dawson Zhu- Representative of Chairman of the Board and Director of the Board -Sany Heavy Industries, Mr Vishal Dubey- Director Corporate and Business Development –Amazon, Mr Héctor Cueva, Consul-General and Trade Commissioner of Ecuador in Mumbai, Mr. Madan Sabnavis - Chief Economist - CARE Rating Ltd, Mr. Reuben Pandian, Chief Omni Channel Officer, Tata Cliq; Ms, Jacqueline Mundkur, Group Head – Customer Service, The Future Group, Mr. Utkarsh Somaiyaa, Head Customer Analytics – Consumer Insights, Aditya Birla Group, Mr. Garth Viegas – Director of Insights at Tata Global Beverages, Mrs Emmanuelle Timmermans - Trade Commissioner, Belgium Consulate and Mr. Damien (Edulab), Dr. Arjo Rothuis - Wageningen University and Research, Netherlands and Officials from Netherlands Consulate, Deputy Consul General Mr. Gabriel Hernan Rosa of Argentina, German Counsul General - Dr. Jürgen Morhard, Mr. Sanjay Behal, CEO - Raymond, Mr. Zheng Xiyuan - Counsul General of P. R. China and Mrs. Li Fanghui – Counsul of P.R. China in Mumbai, Ms. Stefania Costanza - Consul General of Italy, Paul Carter - Deputy Head of Mission, British Deputy, High Commission, Prof. Andrew Abbott, PhD – Director of the Academic Partnerships Office, Hull University, UK, Ms. Sasika Loer Hansen- Pro-Vice Chancellor (International), Aston University, UK, Dr. Pramod Prabhakaran- Imperial College, London, Ms. Lorna Cuckow - Head of International Partnership & Relations, University of Bristol, UK and many others in the field of HR, Economics, Operations, Finance, IT etc.

QUALITY BENCHMARKS

Institutions of higher education are made by the quality and type of students they attract, as the composition of the student body is critical to its development and success. We were recently ISO 9001:2015 certified, and have cleared the Stage – III of the prestigious AACSB American Quality certification (The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business). We have cleared the second update report of AACSB in November 2018. We expect the peer review team to visit us in 2020/2021.

CONCLUSION

The years ahead of you and us will be full of opportunities and challenges. We should have the courage of conviction for ‘self - disruption’, be resilient and nimble and be relevant to the next generation of incoming students in order to create industry ready professionals. This can be achieved only by active collaboration among all our stakeholders.

As our illustrious alumni, I invite all of you to be part of the SIMSR journey and help it to attain the great heights that it truly deserves.

I wish all of you and your families’ good luck and great health and prosperity in the years to come.

Thank you very much.

Dr Monica Khanna

Director

K J Somaiya Institute of Management Studies & Research, Mumbai

director.simsr@somaiya.edu

+91 98206 03002