

## **Report of Walk With a Scholar (WWS)**

### **Report 2016-17**

The activities of Walk with a scholar program for the academic year 2016-17 was started from June itself. 30 First year students were selected from various disciplines based on plus two marks and the number of mentees from each department were limited to six. Five mentors were selected for mentoring the students selected under the program. They are;

1. Dr. Reeja PS, Asst Professor, Dept of Sociology
2. Miss. Elizabeth Johny, Asst Professor, Dept of Commerce
3. Miss. Jaisy Joy, Asst. Professor, Dept of Chemistry
4. Miss. Emi Mathew, Asst Professor, Dept of Zoology
5. Miss. Ancy Cyriac, Asst Professor, Dept of English

The internal mentors frequently visited the mentees and discussed the matters relating to academics and others.

There was a seminar conducted for the coordinators of wws program at St. Teresas College Ernakulam. Mr. Jipin V Jimmy, Coordinator of WWS attended the program. The guidelines for the conduct of WWS Program for the academic year was explained there.

There was another workshop for the coordinators of the WWS program at Loyola Extension Centre, Trivandrum. The two days workshop was attended by Mr. Jipin V Jimmy, the coordinator of WWS.

Another workshop for the internal mentors of the WWS program was hosted by BCM College. 54 participants from 10 colleges participated in the one day cluster workshop. Dr. T P Sasikumar led the session. Dr. Rajoo Krishnan, officer on special duty, Office of the new initiatives was also present.

External Mentoring sessions were handled by eminent personalities from various fields which include

- Dr. George Kulangara - 5 Hours
- Prof. Rebecca George - 15 Hours
- Prof. Annice Mathew - 15 Hours
- Dr. Geevarghese Mathews - 20 Hours

Captain Noble perera - 15 Hours

Mock test was also conducted by Dr. Geevarghese Mathews to the final year students. He distributed the materials to students.

We also conducted a motivational visit to IIT Madras, Pondicherry University and Loyola College Chennai were 30 students and 4 teachers part

### **Report of WWS Cluster Workshop for Internal Mentors at BCM College Kottayam**

Cluster workshop for the internal mentors of Walk with a Scholar Program was held at BCM College Kottayam on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

The following colleges participated in the cluster workshop.

1. Baselius College Kottayam – 7 Participants
2. Assumption College Changanacherry – 5 Participants
3. K G College Pampady- 5 Participants
4. St. Xavior’s College Vaikom - 5 Participants
5. K E College Mannanam – 3 Participants
6. St. Stephen’s College Uzhavoor – 7 Participants
7. St. Mary’s College Manarcad – 4 Participants
8. BAM College Thuruthicad – 6 Participants
9. S D College Kanjirappally – 3 Participants
10. BCM College Kottayam – 8 Participants
11. Observer From M G University – 1 Participant

Total = 54 Participants

### **About the Program**

Registration started at 9. 30 A. M. at Sr. Savio Hall. The official Inaugural Function started at 10. 00 A. M.

The Program sheet

Prayer Song : Jeslin Elezabeth Johny

Welcome Speech : Prof. Jipin V Jimmy (Workshop Coordinator)

Presidential Address : Prof. N Susy Philip (Vice Principal)

Inauguration : Dr. T P Sasikumar

Keynote Address : Dr. Rajoo Krishnan ( Officer on special duty, Office of the New Initiatives)

Vote of Thanks : Prof. Ancy Cyriac

### **Motivational Visit**

**(Sponsored by DCE Kerala & Organized by WWS, BCM College)**

#### **Program Schedule**

20-02-2017 : 5. 30 PM – Starting From Kottayam Railway Station  
(Chennai Mail)

21-02-2017 - Madras I. I. T.

22-02-2017 - Pondicherry University

23-02-2017 - Loyola College Chennai

23-02-2017 : 7. 45 P. M. - Return Journey from Chennai Central  
(Trivandrum Express)

24-02-2017 : 8. 00 A. M. - Kottayam Railway Station

#### **Accomodation:**

Youth Hostel Chennai, 2nd Avenue, Indira Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600020,

Phone: 044 2442 0233

**Bus Arranged at Chennai :**

7 Horses Tours and Travels, Chennai

## **MOTIVATIONAL VISIT 2017**

(Date : from 20/2/2017 to 23/2/2017, places visited : Chennai IIT ,Loyola College, Pondicherry University)

As part of the Walk with a Scholar Programme this year we a group of 30 UG second year students from various departments of B.C.M College got a motivational visit to famous academic institutions of Chennai and Pondicherry. That includes Chennai IIT, Loyola College and Pondicherry University. Along with 4 teachers we departed from Kottayam in Chennai mail on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at evening 6. 00pm. It took almost ten to twelve hours to reach Chennai. Next day at morning 7. 30 we reached there.

The accommodation was already arranged in Chennai Youth hostel, Adayar. We also had a tourist bus there for our convenience.

### **FIRST DAY (21/2/17)**

Our destination was Chennai IIT. The whole day was allotted for IIT. Because the campus itself spreads about 600acres with various departments, each of which have separate buildings and blocks. Hostel facilities, cottages,canteens,libraries etc. Students as well as teachers are residing within the campus. One special and exciting thing is that there is also a Kendriya Vidyalaya functioning within the campus for the children of teachers and staff. Besides these there is a student activity centre, swimming pool, a black buck habitat, huge shadow trees, deers, monkeys etc. present within the campus.

We reached IIT at about 9. 30 am. First we visited the Mathematics department. There we got a nice welcome and a good informative class from Thamban sir, HOD Mathematics department and two of his colleagues. From them we got ideas about online courses like NPTEL and about the JAM exam too. Teachers in IIT besides teaching there, some of them go for classes outside the state, some others write books, and few of them give online tutorials. Both the teachers and students of IIT follow a busy schedule. HOD Thamban sir was a nice person and he himself joined us and showed us the classrooms,

department library, seminar hall and even his own office room. Within this time BSc Physics students among us got the opportunity to interact with the students there and to spend some time in the laboratory of the department. As literature students we got the opportunity to interact with some of the faculty members of the Humanities department. They behaved so friendly and gave us time to clear our doubts. The faculty included teachers from subjects like Literature, History, Philosophy and Sociology. They gave us information about doing PG and PhD in IIT also they suggested that we do PG in any central universities. After the interaction we went for a walk around the campus. During that walk we saw the student activity center, swimming pool, black buck habitat, hostels and especially a lot of cycles which were used by the students to travel within the campus etc. The green atmosphere of the IIT campus was really beautiful.

After lunch at the canteen we went to the Department of Management Studies(DoMS). There we met MBA students and research scholars instead of any faculty. Four MBA students gave us a detailed powerpoint presentation about their course admissions, placements, job opportunities etc. and the research scholars also shared their experiences and about their research areas. Interesting thing was that three of them were from Kerala. From there we learned that the course also welcomes other stream students with great expectations of their contributions. The interaction with them was really helpful to all of us. Other than academic details they also shared the stories of IIT. They said that 'IIT never sleeps' which means the campus is active 24hours.

### SECOND DAY(22/2/17)

We got up early in the morning and got ready before 7. 00 'o'clock. Because we had to travel about two hours to reach Pondicherry from Chennai. On the way we stopped at Mahabalipuram, a town in Kancheepuram district Tamil Nadu, around 60km south of the city of Chennai. The speciality of Mahabalipuram is of course everyone can point out the rock cut caves, temples made from single rock, open mandapams with works on their walls and pillars etc. We spent some time there and also had our breakfast there. Then continued our journey to Pondicherry University. It was through the ECR(East Coast Road)which connects Tamil Nadu's capital city Chennai with Cuddalore via Pondicherry. We traveled in

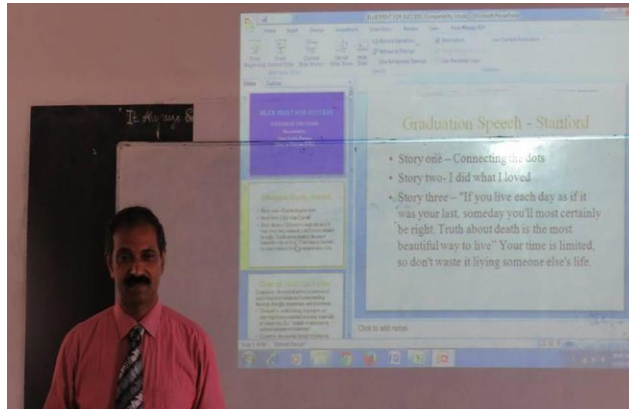
our bus. We reached Pondicherry university and to our astonishment it was also spreads in many acres. It is ranked as one of the top ten universities in India. There we had three students from our college who are now doing their PG. They guided us there. Within Pondicherry University we have free buses for transportation. As well as the IIT campus there also we saw many hostels, canteens, libraries within the campus. The Library Annex which opened recently interested us. It was a separate reading room. According to our subjects we visited various departments and had a good interaction with teachers and students. Among them the most interesting interaction was with the students of the department of Media and Mass Communication. We entered their class room and had a free talk with the students. Students shared about themselves to us. They included Malayalees and students from other states. Our guiding students told us that almost 60% of students there are from Kerala. And the opinion about Kerala students for the teachers is very good. Entrance exams are also easy and the hostel facility is free for girls. Moreover a calm and peaceful atmosphere for studying. That's what we felt about Pondicherry University. At last we went to see the Rock beach along with our guide students. They were so friendly to us. We also saw the Chief Secretariat of Pondicherry near the Rock beach.



Students of BCM College who participated in the 3 days Motivational visit



WWS students attending the class at Department of Mathematics, IIT Madras



Motivational talk at Bishop Chulaparambil Memorial College by Capt. Noble Perera



WWS Mentees as part of Motivational visit at Pondicherry Central university



Participants of cluster workshop for internal mentors of WWS Programme along with Dr. Rajoo Krishnan, Officer on Special Duty, New Initiatives, Principal Prof. Sheela Cherian K. and others



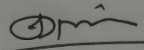


### THIRD DAY(23/2/17)

Third day of our trip was enriched by the motivational experiences we had at Loyola College Chennai. We felt great respect for the college authority for giving priority to the poor Tamil youths rather than outside students in admission. Being a famous college Loyola College of course had a place and picture in our minds. We usually have a thought about Loyola that it is something which we can't reach or affordable. But that was a wrong concept. We felt a good atmosphere also.

Loyola has 93acre campus and offers UG programmes for only male students but PG for both male and female. There also we met Malayali students. Tutors in the college to whom we interacted were friendly as teachers of last two institutions. Loyola has two shifts a day. Morning shift for government aided courses and afternoon for self-financing students. The morning shift starts from 8. 30 am. So that those students are free afternoon. Loyola gave us a wonderful experience and some among us are seriously thinking about their higher studies at Loyola. Chennai IIT, Loyola and Pondicherry University by visiting these institutions we got more inspiration and energy. The trip was really a golden opportunity to each of us.

We saw more...heard more..... and we learn more.....



Jipin V. Jimmy

WWS Co-ordinator



## **WALK WITH A SCHOLAR PROGRAM**

Walk With a Scholar program started in the year 2014-15 is moved to second year from this academic year. Five internal mentors and thirty mentees continued the program from June onwards. Thirty mentees and five internal mentors were newly selected for this academic year. The internal mentors include

### **2014-17 Batch**

1. Dr. Annu Thomas – Chemistry
2. Prof. Liju Alex - Mathematics
3. Dr. Elizabeth Basil – Zoology
4. CA Reshma Rachel Kuruvilla – Commerce
5. Prof. Salini Thomas – Economics

### **2015-18 Batch**

1. Prof. Josephina Simon – Commerce
2. Prof. Phiona Elizabeth Joshy – English
3. Prof. Anu Varghese – Mathematics
4. Dr. Elizabeth V. John – Physics
5. Prof. Alphonsa Kurian – Sociology

Thirty mentees include mentees from the department of Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, English, Commerce, History, Economics and Sociology.

## **External Mentoring**

External mentoring session of this year was handled by Prof. Geevarghese, Prof. Rebecca George and Prof. Omana Jacob. , on 26.01.2016, 30.01.2016 and 06.02.2016.

## **Topics Handled**

Intensive hands-on training sessions designed to enhance teamwork and GD skills of candidates getting ready to face the real world. Teamwork sessions have various themes such as management games, planning modules etc. The GD topics vary from case studies to general topics to current affairs. Presentation and Public Speaking skill development sessions are designed to enhance the confidence of participants step by step. Training begins with an individual presentation in front of micro groups and gradually the size of the group gets bigger along with the confidence level of the candidate. Interview training sessions are based on basics of personal interview, personality enhancement tips and practice (mock) interviews. Candidates have the opportunity to observe many mock interviews, evaluate the peer performance and compare that with their own performance. Moreover, selected candidates experience the 'hot seat' and receive multi-dimensional feedback from peers as well as trainers.

## **Coordinators**

A meeting of second year mentees was conducted in the college visitors room. For the smooth conduct of the program, Ms. Nandini Ramesh, II DC Zoology was selected as the coordinator of the program.

Among the first year internal mentees, Ms. Amala Laurence, I DC Commerce was selected as the batch coordinator.

# **Report of Cluster Workshop for internal mentors and coordinators of WWS Program**

Department of collegiate education vide its email dated 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015, invited proposal for conducting cluster workshops for first year internal mentors and coordinators of Walk with a scholar program . The college council of BCM College discussed the topic and appointed Mr. Jipin V Jimmy, coordinator of WWS program to submit the proposal for the same.

Further to the email dated 19<sup>th</sup> January 2016, it was informed that DCE has given sanction to conduct 33 cluster workshops all over the state including one at BCM College Kottayam.

The cluster colleges were

1. Baseliious College Kottayam
2. S D College Kanjirappally
3. St. Mary's College Manarcad
4. SVR NSS College Vazhoor
5. K E College Mannanam
6. BCM College Kottayam.

As per the recommendation of the college council, we decided to conduct the workshop on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at Sr. Savio Hall, from 9.30 AM to 4.30 PM.

All the Coordinators of the cluster colleges were informed about the program before 21<sup>st</sup> january

On 22<sup>nd</sup> January, it was informed from DCE that SVR NSS College is participating in the cluster workshop at CMS College Kottayam and we were asked to remove their names from the cluster list.

The detailed program sheet was sent to the colleges on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

The principal of BCM College reminded the principals of all the cluster colleges via telephone on 25<sup>th</sup> January

### **26<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

The registration of internal mentors and coordinators started at 9.30 A.M.

The number of participants from the colleges were as follows:

1. Baseliious College Kottayam : 6
2. S D College Kanjirappally : 6
3. St. Mary's College Manarcad : 1
4. K E College Mannanam : 3
5. BCM College Kottayam. : 6

Total 22 participants registered for the program.

The official inaugural ceremony started with a prayer song at 10 A.M. Dr. Elizabeth V John, internal mentor of the WWS program, introduced the program to the gathering. Mr. Jipin V Jimmy, workshop coordinator made the welcome speech. Prof. Sheela Cherian K, Principal BCM College, presided over the function. The program was inaugurated by Dr. Kurias Kumbalakuzhi ( Former professor, School of letters, MG University & Former state information commissioner).

The first technical session on the topic "Teacher – The real mentor" was led by Dr. Kurias Kumbalakuzhi. The session came to end by 1.30 PM

The second technical session – Mentoring – An Evaluation -- was taken by Dr. Jose Antony, Head of the Department of Social Work, Sanskrit University Kalady.

The valedictory function started at 4.00 P.M. Dr. Elizabeth V John welcomed the gathering and Mr. Jipin V Jimmy presided over the function. The valedictory function was inaugurated and certificates were distributed to the participants by Dr. Jose Antony. The official function came to an end by 4.30 PM.

## **REPORT ON MOTIVATIONAL VISIT**

### **Exploring the New Horizon**

Under the novel and flagship initiative, Walk With a Scholar (WWS) programme, a motivational visit was organized on 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> February 2016 by BCM College, Kottayam. A team comprising the coordinator of the programme, Prof. Jipin V. Jimmy and other four faculties of the college Prof. Priya Thomas, Prof. Liju Alex, C.A. Reshma Rachel Kuruvilla and Prof. Gopeekrishnan C R and twenty eight students had been included in the trip. The team departed from the college by 7.30am of 18<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016, Thursday.

### **College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy, Thrissur**

We reached the College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy, Thrissur by 11.15 A.M. The college is a consistent of Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University and it spans over 195 hectares which includes, the administrative and academic wing, Animal Science block, Institutional farms, new clinical complex, Veterinary hospital, Meat Technology unit, Dairy plant, various project offices, Remount and Veterinary corps (NCC equestrian center), staff clubs, hostels, staff quarters, playgrounds and sports pavilion. It acts as a source of high quality germ-plasm and animal products to the farmers and general

public respectively. We visited the dissection and anatomy lab where the preserved specimens of animals and their various stages of development, their internal organs and skeletal structures were displayed. In the Dairy plant, Prof. Anitha introduced and described the various machines and their functioning and the various products. We were given a chance to taste two of their products. The visit to the Veterinary and Animal Sciences College was really informative. After that we had meals and started our journey to Bangalore. Movies, songs and lights made our journey more delightful. At 8.00 PM, we had our supper in Kongu Hotel. We reached Bangalore by evening and resided in Upasana, a religious organization located at Balaji Nagar.

### **ISRO Bangalore**

After having breakfast, we departed to ISAC by 8.30 AM and reached there at ISRO Satellite Centre by 9.45 AM. With about 2500 highly trained and skilled manpower, ISAC today is home to a host of advanced, cutting edge satellite technologies that feed into the Indian Space Programme. The center also houses ultra modern design, development, fabrication and testing facilities for satellites. On the overall visit we first went to the museum accompanied by the senior scientist Dr. Sreeram. There we saw various models of satellites like Aryabhata, Rohini, Apple, etc., rocket fuel propellant, astronomical 3D images of India and satellite communication models. Then we were shown the restricted area from the first gallery through glasses which was a laboratory where various scientists were working in special dresses on satellite launch vehicles. After that we were given a chance to watch a video of the space recovery experiment and the launching of Chandrayaan 1. Then we had an interaction with Dr. Sreeram as we asked various questions out of curiosity that made our visit a successful one. Also he mentioned about the job opportunities available in ISAC.

Every student was highly fascinated and deeply intrigued by looking at those engineered marvels. After lunch, we returned from ISAC and got divided into two groups, Science and Arts teams. The Science team headed to IISc, Bangalore and the Arts team towards IIM Bangalore.

### **Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore.**

The Arts team of seven students led by two faculties got into IIMB for a motivational visit. Seeing the entrance of IIMB with its name engraved in big golden letters was overwhelming. One of the security officers became our guide for the visit, after checking our identity. The campus was beautiful, eco friendly, serene and calm. We were guided to the Management Development Center, Director's bungalow and an IPS officer's bungalow who is in charge of the whole institution. Moving on we saw hostels, playgrounds, Executive block, classroom block etc. The scene was picturesque. Then we were led to the library where there was a huge collection of books with latest publications, auditorium, classrooms with facilities for powerpoint presentations and at last NSR-GIV center where placements were held. IIMB builds leaders through holistic, transformative and innovative education programmes and specialized courses in areas such as entrepreneurship and public policy.

### **IISc Bangalore**

The Science team comprising 23 students and 3 faculties reached IISc, the College of Indian Institute of Science, the brainchild of well-known industrialist Jemsetji Tata, by 2.15 PM. It has a sprawling campus. It extends to over 400 acres and is an oasis of green. The campus is located about 4 kms away from the railway station in North Bangalore and is extremely self-sufficient. There are shopping centres, restaurants, playgrounds, beauty salons, hostels, six canteens and a gym. The institute has 6 divisions and over 40 departments. The team headed to the Physics department at first. Various advanced labs



and equipment had been displayed. The scientist accompanied the team to different labs and explained about Raman spectroscopy and molecular structure. In the next lab, the instruments used to find the resistivity at low temperature were shown. He explained about nanotechnology, crystal formation, x-ray diffraction method and sputtering and the related instruments. Then the team headed towards the Mathematics department. The scientists were excited to meet the inquisitive students, answer the questions and to talk about new horizons. The scientist kicked off the evening with a moving speech, which encouraged the students to take every opportunity possible to learn more.

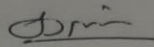
### **Kerala Agricultural University**

After having dinner from Bangalore city, we started our journey back to Kerala. We reached Veterinary college hostel, Thrissur and after having breakfast from there, we headed towards Kerala Agricultural University, Vellanikkara, Thrissur. It's the primary and the principal instrumentality of Kerala state in providing human resources and skills and technology, required for the sustainable activities based on water and land, including crop production and forestry through conducting, interfering and integrating education, research and extension in these spheres of economic endeavor. Prof. Mercykutty gave us a brief description of the college and the various courses and their achievements. Then we visited the College of Horticulture, a constituent college of Kerala Agricultural University. The department of Olericulture is one of the active departments and is nationally recognized as a major center for higher education and research in vegetable science. The department has so far developed and released 35 improved varieties of different vegetable crops at state level, out of which 6 at national level also. The bacterial wilt resistant varieties, Surya, Swetha, Haritha, Neelima, Ujwala, Anugraha, Sakthi, Mukthi and Anagha are well accepted nationally. Large scale production of breeder, foundation and truthfully labeled seeds of different vegetable varieties and their distribution is another important activity of the department. The students made a visit to their crop fields also. They practice the cultivation of disease resistant crop varieties including seedless cucumber, tomato, watermelon etc. Some of the students bought seeds from their outlet. Then we had our lunch at 1pm from a hotel near the Olericulture department, which uses organic vegetables

from the field. We returned from KAU by 2.30pm and reached BCM College, Kottayam by 5.30pm.

The episodic memories created in our minds by the motivational visit organized as part of WWS programme would help us to retain information for longer periods. The informative educational trip helped us to know about new educational environments, exotic wildlife, rare plants and presented new experiences.

The activities for the academic year officially came to end by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.



Jipin V. Jimmy  
WWS Co-ordinator

