

RUSSELLAUREATTE

From the Principal's Desk

Greetings from RSIC!

We, at RSIC, are delighted to introduce Russellaureate, the college magazine in a new avatar i.e. e-magazine. In an era of digitization and e-learning, it is apt to go digital for expressing our views on different socio-economic, political or cultural issues.

Russellaureatte attempts to bring out the essence of creative writing in students, staff, teaching faculty and also well-wishers. It offers opportunity to express our minds to address the issues of the age. This is an urgent need of the day.

Sharing ideas and point of view is very noble human act, which needs to be encouraged at all levels as it serves a social cause of reaching where knowledge or information is needed and thereby bridging gap between the those who are gifted with the knowledge and those who are deprived of it for whatever reasons. By sharing information we serve our society without being aware of the same.

Another important aspect of sharing knowledge is its unique feature of personality grooming for the younger generation. A small piece of literature by a student boosts personality as he/she gets recognition, which is an example of early success which leads to many more in future. And hence students must express, share and interact through writing, be it an article on subjects of their choice, poetic composition or travelogue. Explore your latent potential and skills and keep excelling in life.

With good wishes to one and all...

Dr Kshitij Prabha
Principal

Events of the Year



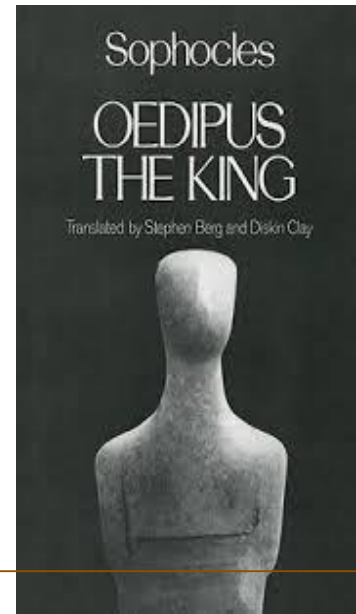
OEDIPUS THE KING BY SOPHOCLES

BY: KEVAL DELWADIA

Reading this book was a result of me searching for something unusual. The play Oedipus the King by Sophocles has proved pivotal in enhancing my understanding of the Greek mythology and the ways in which people connected to it. Ancient concepts of Greek plays and topics such as fate, truth and incest are the major highlights of book. Greek theatres were considered to be captivating places that instigated curiosity and challenged the beliefs and thought patterns of the apparent culture in the region. Theatres were recognized as a means of communication to present situations via drama. The unusual relationships the Greek populous shared with their gods were also contemplated in the book where it formed plots for the play to proceed. Reading about the background of the play and further research aided in comparing the depiction of the reality of peoples' behavior, understanding and beliefs in the play with the time in which the play had been written.

Sophocles used dramatic tools in the play such as dramatic irony,

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"Similarly, another contrast that I noted was - in the beginning of the play, Oedipus accused Creon to be a traitor. But at the end, Oedipus willingly gives Creon control over the kingdom"

Youth & You

By: Dr. Kshitij Prabha, Principal



Youth-hood is the 'prime time' of human life. This is the time when we are at the zenith of energy, boundless desires to achieve, opportunity for hard work, romance with material and spiritual experiences and amidst all these a set professional goal to aim at. And when we grow older we evaluate ourselves as life worth lived or life just lived in number of years.

We often debate and discuss formulae for a successful life especially when we are in youth-hood.

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Coffee/study table discussion on achievements of Narayan Murthy, Bill Gates, Steve Jobs, Dhirubhai Ambani, Azim Premji, Mark Zuckerberg, Baba Ramdev and many others is common amongst youth in College and University campuses. They are sources of inspirations to many to make their life meaningful and relevant. Similarly for some of us fun and pleasure is the purpose of life.

Every student has certain aims and objectives to achieve according to their own perceptions and perspectives towards life and be successful. Success could be best defined by an individual. It cannot be generalized as every individual lives different life according to his/her own socio-economic conditions. Some would tend to measure success in terms of accumulation of wealth and property, some in terms of popularity and honour, some on gaining virtue and wisdom and some for fun and entertainment. Whatever might be individual definition of success, one thing is for sure that success is subjected to efforts and commitments during 'prime time' of our life, be it GD Birla or Jamshedji Tata or any celebrity. All the achievers dedicated their youth-hood towards their goal and worked hard with commitment for their success.

And hence a human life could be defined as successful or otherwise depending on how much efforts we put in to achieve what we intend to achieve when we are between the age group of 18 to 30. This is the time when our energy is at peak and dreams fly high; but do we put in efforts in ratio and proportion to our dreams and is our commitment strong enough to achieve our aspirations? If we are sincere to these two important questions, I quote Swami Vivekanand who said once for the youth of India that "no power in this world can withhold from any one anything he/she rightly deserves."

Dear students you are the present and future of the dynamic world. Opportunities are in galore, energy is abundance, it is the time for you to strive with dedication and commitment to fulfill your dreams and 'stop not till the desired goal is achieved'.

Oedipus continued...

hubris, anagnorisis, catharsis, etc. to enhance the effect of the play. Reading Aristotle's "The Poetics" was significant to understand of the text, dramatic elements and Greek culture. The idea of an inevitable fate in Greek tragedies was evident in context with Oedipus Rex, who was brought down by his hubris.

An explicit contrast between the prologue and epilogue was evident, which developed in layers as the play progressed. I found hubris to be the determining factor in the fall of Oedipus, coupled with other dramatic tools such as anagnorisis and dramatic irony.

Similarly, another contrast that I noted was - in the beginning of the play, Oedipus accused Creon to be a traitor. But at the end, Oedipus willingly gives Creon control over the kingdom. In the end, a recap of the whole play is delivered by the chorus via a song. The true character of the protagonist was revealed as the play progressed. He was depicted as a noble king but later turned into an arrogant person with overbearing pride due to which he failed in his mission to be the greatest. Mention of light and darkness referred to spiritual and physical visibility and blindness and sight were flawlessly glorified by the use of related 'Imagery' to predict the future and fulfilled the prophecy. The insight of the book that showed how the acts of a Oedipus turns the stones in his life, though unknowingly makes it one of the best plays written by Sophocles.

Russell Square International College

Encounters with Children

By: Ishaa Jogani (LSE)



As I walked in the classroom filled with noise, I knew what I was getting myself into—a lot of shouting. But there was a different feeling amidst the classroom racket and rumpus. It was not the ‘up in arms’, angry, tense noise, but it was one filled with excitement, eagerness and anticipation. They were a group of 25-30 children from the Akanksha Foundation, sitting, chattering, and laughing together. I walked past the first group of girls and they just looked me up and down wondering, who this fancy, all dressed up girl was. At that moment, I got the feeling that getting along with these students would take a lot of effort. I ignored the long gazes and walked towards the front of the classroom to greet the teacher. She was very excited to see me as if I came down as some gladiator who saved her from a lion’s den. Okay, she may not have been that excited, but she was really happy to have me there. We got talking about who I was and how long I was going to be there to help her out. Then suddenly, I lost track of what she was saying. I don’t know if it was the noise of the children or

just that boy standing by the door all wet in his clothes. She saw my attention go to him and excused herself from our conversation and walked towards the boy. I heard her say something like “Go in the bathroom and dry yourself, otherwise you’ll fall sick.” At that moment, I realized that to get along with this class, I’ll need to be patient and tolerant. Being tolerant isn’t so hard to do, but patience for me, is a big task. The teacher came back to me and gave me some papers and explained the agenda for the day. I took those papers and went on the side and sat until she tried to calm the class down. She started off with giving them a ‘5-min check” and got them working. Suddenly, I felt a poke on my hand. I turned to see this small girl standing with her book. She looked at me and said “Didi, will you please help me with this problem?” To my surprise, she and I got along very well. She listened carefully to what I was saying and how I was explaining the problem to her. It took a lot of time before she really

understood what I was saying, but in the end, she grasped on to what I was telling her. She told me thank you and went and sat by her friends again. I observed as the teacher made sure she called upon all the children at least once to answer her questions. She was teaching the students about nouns and verbs. For a minute, I went blank. It wasn't because I didn't remember what nouns and verbs were; it was that I knew the complex usage of nouns and verbs, and to go back and teach the simple way was going to be a little difficult. The teacher broke us into groups, where each volunteer had two to three children to handle and focus on. I got the same girl who I helped earlier, along with her two friends. The rest of the day went by like someone pressed the fast-forward button on a remote. The time between getting to know the girls to teaching them flew by like a bird flying right by you, and you only got to see it for a second. Before I knew it, the class was over for the day and it was time for us to leave. As I was walking out the door the children shouted and waved me good-bye rather excitedly and enthusiastically.

Although I didn't do too much of shouting and screaming with the kids, I came home exhausted and tired. I knew however, as I got along with the kids and became more comfortable with them, they would slack-off a little and just not pay as much as attention and PERHAPS, just perhaps, I'd have to use my voice a little more than I did today.

The day closed over me, and I woke up with a ray of sunshine creeping into my room along with the pitter patter of raindrops I could hear outside my window. I went about my day like how I would normally do—breakfast, television, and just here and there. After lunch, I left my house and reached class earlier than I was supposed to. As I waited for the students to arrive, the teacher briefed me about the agenda; however, there was a slight change— instead of teaching the class as yesterday, I had to help another teacher and a different teacher. As I entered this class, I could see a big difference from yesterday's batch. This batch was a lot louder, a lot older, and a lot more mischievous. Today, I had the feeling I was going to be getting angry. Not surprised, exactly that happened. The subject was "math" for the day, and teaching these kids was close to impossible. Each child wanted to hurry through the lesson and didn't want to wait for their friends who were struggling. They would use foul language when their fellow classmate was too slow. I, shocked at what I heard, became angry. I told them not to use such words to anybody and they just rolled their eyes. I kept on with my lesson hoping to keep the kids grasped at what they were learning. Just then, it was time for a break. I was so relieved and stepped to the side to take a break from the class. I took out my phone to see if I had any messages or calls. Just then, a group of children came to me and with their strong Indian accent said,

"That is a blackberry right?" I replied with a little shock in my voice, "Yes." They grew more interested in what I was doing and one of the boys went on to say, "When I grow up, I own 20 phones and 5 I-pods." I ignored the wrong grammar and went on to ask what he would do with so many phones and I-pods. He replied with such pride, "If one got spoilt I'll use the next one. If I got bored of first I-pod I'll use second. As simple as that." I laughed at his thought and he smirked back at me. He suddenly changed the conversation from phones to boyfriends. "You're so young, how come you are asking me of this?" I asked. He laughed loudly, as if I said the funniest joke in the world. He replied in a "matter-of-fact statement" saying, "It's okay, you're pretty and beautiful you'll find many guys. Just like you, when I grow old I will have long line of girls for me." I took the compliment and added onto his thought saying, "Of course, and you'll probably roam around with three or four girls at the same time right?" He laughed and nodded with pride. I thought that once the break was over we would have to get back to work, but all the volunteers were so exhausted at trying to make the students learn we all just gave up and just got into a normal conversation with the kids. I left early saying bye to the rowdy but rather witty bunch, and they all said bye and ran towards the bus to take them home.

These encounters happened every day. Something new or interesting would always turn up with these kids. I remember, vaguely, that once these children had to make sentences with the words 'bribe' and 'corruption'. The children excitedly raised their hands and said sentences like "The government is corrupt." "I bribed my teacher." "The prime minister is corrupt." I laughed and the teacher joined in the laughter as the students started stating unfortunate true facts. I would always come home with a new story to tell my friends and family. It would be a new story about the children, or just about how patient I started becoming with everything. The days the teacher wouldn't come I would have to be prepared to 'bribe' the children with some candy or chocolate. We would show the chocolates before class and tell them if they payed attention they would receive some of the yummy sweets. Deep inside I knew it was a bad thing to do, but when you don't have enough experience and when your voice is nearly gone, you have to think of some solution. This whole teaching experience was an amazing experience and if I had the chance, I would go back to this same group of kids to see their progress. I learnt that teaching kids who don't have the best education and don't come from the best of environments is tough. It requires immense patience and a lot of cooperation. All in all, I had an amazing time with these children and I not only taught them values of life, but also learned a lot of them myself.

(Continued)

and coming. Changing linguistic ability and development has altered the course of English. It is of no doubt, that in the 21st century English has taken a rather drastic change to familiarize itself with the youth, but I wonder, at what cost?

This brings me to the abbreviations and truncations that we use. We want everything fast. For us, it's easier to say 'ttyl' instead of 'talk to you later'. I mean Hemingway and Wordsworth probably roll in their graves every time someone says 'lmfao'. It is one thing to save our precious time spent typing by using these acronyms, but including them in our normal lives is just 'lol'. I have probably lost some of my dignity by making that cheeky statement, but it just helps make my point clearer.

People from all over the world might read this blog. I am not some distinguished personality. I am an average college student from New Delhi, India. India is a ethnic country, rich in culture and traditions. In order to rid ourselves of the poverty we face and become a developed country, English is being taught in mostly all of our schools. Bob Harvey's 'Is it dead yet' asks "What have we done? At what point did we allow the purity of our native tongue to be reduced to the lowest common denominator? When did that become acceptable? "

Coming to the end of this rant, you would probably have expected me to devise some out the box solution. I regret to inform you that I have none. I can only suggest the clichéd resolutions to you. We

Top Unfathomed Tourist Places in North India

By:Vinita Mathur, Faculty

Hailing from North India and fond of travelling & Holidaying to virgin places, I have been visiting several beautiful unexplored places in North India. The unexploited beauty of these places left me awestruck. I would like to share some of these places with you.

Dev Prayag -

I set out for a religious and fun trip with my family to haridwar. We took a dip to wash away all our sins in the famous "Har Ki Pauri" and visited the scenic 'mansa Devi temple'. After completing



all other places like Laxman Jhoola, Swarag ashram ,we decided to go up a lil more and spend the night at As we were the adventurous kinds we decided to go beyond rishikesh for night stay.It was already 5pm and we thought we would go a few kilometers further and stay at more scenic and quieter place

that the bustling city of Rishikesh.

To our dismay, as we moved up in our TATA SUMO, all the hotels and lodges were full and we had no place to stay. We were a group of 10 friends with two kids. Sun had already set and the terrain uphill was very bad, there was no proper road and at many places the makeshift bridges were closed leading us to lose our way. There were no signboards or indications..

However in this ordeal, we finally came to a small UP Tourism hotel at Devprayag, and decided to stay there for the night. The accommodation was very basic but we had no choice. The caretaker was very kind enough to serve us hot dinner and then we slept cursing our decision to leave a comfortable hotel at Rishikesh and come up to this one.

However, when we woke up in the morning and came out of our rooms, we could not believe our eyes. We were surrounded by snow clad mountains on top of a valley and could see the beautiful confluence of two rivers Bhagirathi and Alaknanda, which then takes the name "Ganga". It was an amazing sight which we could have never explored had we not lost our way.

At the confluence, water was ice cold as the place is very close to its originating glaciers. The platform at the confluence allows the tourists to take a dip in the water and experience its purity. Expert swimmers can enjoy swimming, however the water has a great speed at this point.

Devprayag is 70 km from Rishikesh. Devprayag has an average elevation of 830 metres (2,723 feet).



Dhanaulti-

This picturesque hill station is located about 24 km from Mussorie, It is situated at an altitude of 2286m, and is known for its quiet environs amidst the alpine forests of Deodar, Rhododendron and Oak. Till some years' back the place did not have enough electricity and hence by night,

one had to be indoors.

You can get fresh & pure mineral water coming from natural springs that surround the area. The town is famous for its potato farms, one can take a horse ride to the farms and make the experience worth remembering.

If you enjoy being in the lap of mother nature, leaving behind your gadgets like mobile phone, laptops and ipads, you will find this place as most promising. You can also enjoy hot tea and boiled eggs while taking a walk on a cold evening around the place.

Patnitop – Patnitop or Patni Top

is a hilltop tourist location in Udhampur district in Jammu and Kashmir state of India on National Highway. Situated on a plateau in the Shiwalik belt of the Himalayas, Patnitop sits at an



altitude of 2,024 m (6,640 ft). The river Chenab flows in close proximity to this location. Enveloped by thickly wooded Cedar/Deodar forests, Patnitop offers amazing scenic beauty, peaceful walks and breathtaking views of the mountainscape of the Chenab basin. In winter, the resort is generally covered with a thick mantle of snow thus providing opportunities for various snow games including skiing. It is the closest winter resort to Jammu and to Udhampur and is second to none in its natural charm, climate, pine forests and lush green cover. It is near the famous shrine of Vaishnodevi. Hence one can combine this holiday with the religious trip to Vaishnodevi temple.

Naddi

This beautiful hill station is located near Dharamshala, In Himachal Pradesh. It is about 240 km from Chandigarh and can be reached by road, A high point beyond the Dal Lake, Naddi village affords a magnificent view of Dhauladhar mountain range to the north and the vast expanse of lush Kangra valley to the south. Naddi is situated far away from the hustle and bustle of the Macleodganj and provides complete peace of mind. It is surely the best place to spend some quality time amidst the heart of Dhauladhar mountains. At 2,000 meters above the sea level and about two kilometers from Mcleod Ganj, a modern picnic spot is developing fast at Naddi. It is connected with a metalled motor able road. It is the only place in Dharamshala from where an open view of mountains and wide valleys on Dhauladhars southern side can be seen. Tourist can enjoy relaxed vacations in the lap of natural beauty.

Mc leodganj, Dharamshala are the nearby places. The food lovers can explore the Tibet food market which tasty momos, Tingmo, Bakleb (Tibetan style *samosas*) and Thukpas (a meal of soup and noodles).

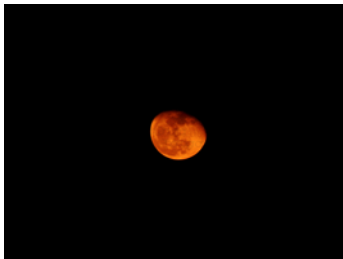
For dessert, there is the delicious Lemon Cheese cake.



Creative Comp

The Cradle of Our Civilization

By: Omkar Bhatkar, Faculty



Photographs By: Yash Buthra

What can be the cradle of our civilization?
It could only be the decomposed bodies lying on
top of each other, the hollow skull and bones
thick and thin.

What can be the cradle of our civilization?
The bleeding ground, the breast of Mother Earth.

The earth knows you belong to her,
And you would find yourself inside her.
What can be the cradle of our civilization?
It is where we close our eyes and sleep for
eternity.

Sleep into the womb of mother earth.
With Centipedes and Ants crawling over our
body,
Where the creatures of earth enter our blood
stream.

when we are sleeping peacefully for eternity.
Such is the cradle of our civilization.
The Grieving 'Grave' looked after by the Mighty
Mother Earth



Goan Art and Culture

By: Laveena Vaz

Goa, a former Portuguese territory, for more than 450 years is often described as 'The Rome of the East'. It has over the past decades, become the dream holiday destination, for many a foreign tourist.

Goa's rich cultural heritage comprises of dances, folk songs, visual arts, music and folk tales rich in content and variety. Goans are born music lovers; most Goans can pluck at a guitar or pick out a tune on the piano.

Music is in the blood of Goans since time immemorial; in almost every family you would find a pianist or a guitarist. Being a part of the culture, music of Goa is a blend of east and west. While the rural areas still stick to the traditional forms of music, the urban areas have shifted to a more modern version. You would get every music from Portuguese to Techno and rave, but what has caught Goa these days is the *Goa Trance*. Goa Trance is a vibrant and psychedelic dance music that is best enjoyed on the dance drug LSD and is a powerful and kaleidoscopic tapestry of sound. Of late Goa Trance has also made an impact in the international music circles. The music is so much in demand in parties that they are now called the trance parties.

The almost forgotten folk dances Dhalo, Fugdi, Corridinho, Mando and performing folk arts (like Khell-Tiatro), Jagar-perani and many others have come out into their own. Indeed the folk music and folk dances have crossed the borders of the state and become popular in the rest of the country during the past 25 years.

Goan Food too forms an important part of the culture of Goa. Goa boasts of many different cuisines - the Konkani, the Portuguese and the Bahamani Nawabi traditions. The most preferred and liked drink of the Goans is known as Feni, which is made mainly from coconut water.

Some of the popular sports that are played in Goa include bull fighting as well as football. Moreover, wonderful fairs and festivals such as Seista, a popular Hindu festival, are also celebrated in Goa with much enthusiasm. When you travel to Goa, you will find that Goa is famous for its Indo-Latin festivals especially the famous carnivals. These are the occasions when a Goan peasant manifests joy and happiness.

Cultural heritage of Goa consists of numerous Goa churches, temples and mosques. Moreover, Goa's exotic beaches that sprawl over wide and soft sands as well as the sea food of Goa are much admired and liked by people visiting Goa from different places. Goa's cultural richness and vividness is well reflected through Goan folk dances, Goan folk culture and Goan song.

It's been 40 years since the Portuguese left Goa and since then Goa has turned itself to being one of the most westernized and dashing places in India, which is much frequented and loved by tourists from across the world.

GOAN ART



Happenings of The Year

Fresher's party:

A day which every new student in a college awaits, is the "Fresher's Party" and obviously the hopes are always high to have the best time in an informal meeting with the teachers and seniors. RSIC had a fantastic fresher's party with a 2016 with "Hawaii", as the theme. Fun, games and activities wherein fresher's interacted with their seniors for maybe the first time, made the fresher's party real fun. We had different kind of food stalls as well, like chat counter, coconut water, gola and much more. Along with 1 games and activities we had a small 'roast' which made the party really funny and enjoyable. We will cherish the memories of the day for many years' to come



Utkarsh Jhawar (BBA , First Year)

Internship Experience at Karvy Pvt Wealth

My internship period at Karvy would most definitely be the one, I would cherish for a long time. The experience was not only professionally enriching, but also a self-improving one. I was asked to report to Mr. S. D. Devaiah, Head HRD & International Products, who supervised me throughout my internship period. I was assigned to analyze different investment options offered by Karvy to their NRI clientele. I had to then compare it to the similar options offered by the Dubai based financial corporations since the company is expanding its base in Dubai. While working on this project, I interacted with managers of different banks. The project was specifically enriching for me as it helped me expand my knowledge about the field of finance. My second project focused more on Dubai's Real Estate Market. I presented my analysis to the company's CEO Mr. Sunil Misra, and Mr. Devaiah.

Roshni Sardana (LSE, Further Units)

National trip to RAJASTHAN:

My old school never had any national trip and hence I was really excited for the national trip. RSIC organized a trip to Jodhpur and Jaisalmer this year . We were 32 students and it was a 7 days 6 nights trip which will be the most memorable week of my entire life. The location, hotels, places to visit and all the things we did there was extraordinary. We stayed in a fort converted into a hotel which was a great experience and the desert night in Jaisalmer provided the icing on the cake. All the arrangements were done perfectly. We had two staff members along with us who took great care of the students and made sure the entire trip was comfortable for us. Every student in RSIC waits for the national trip as students from all classes meet and bond and make friends for life!

Utkarsh Jhawar (BBA , First Year)

Teacher's day

A remarkable function was held on teacher's day in the multipurpose room on 5th September 2015 in Russell Square International College. The show comperer Simran, a BBA student stated the significance of the function was to show respect to our teachers or Gurus who dispel darkness and ignorance in and around us. There was a wonderful dance performance as well. Teachers enjoyed the fun games organized by the students. The highlight of the day was the cake cutting ceremony conducted in honor of the teachers, which was cut by all the teachers followed by a delicious buffet lunch organized by the students. Simran Bardai (BBA, Foundation Unit)



Farewell Party (Batch of 2016)

“The toughest part of loving someone is saying goodbye.”

On the evening of April 10th, 2016, the students, faculty and staff of RSIC got together to say “Adieu” to its final year students amidst a glittering ceremony. The programme started with a guidance note on forthcoming examinations and lessons to remember in life from our Principal Dr kshitij Prabha . It was followed by giving mementos to the outgoing batch.

The Foundation and second year batch had put together beautiful memories of their seniors in a PowerPoint presentation which was applauded by all. Nikita , our BBA student took the programme further by disclosing the interesting titles that she and her batch mates had given to their final year friends.

The evening was made interesting by several games organized for the students, followed by a scrumptious food at A La Mode, our Premier In-house Banquet .

The programme could not have been complete without a musical extravaganza by Sagar & Yash Saraf singing popular bollywood melodies. Our faculty Laveena & Palak also joined the “Jugalbandi”.



The beautiful & emotional evening came to an end with the filling of “Slam Books “ by teachers and students, clicking photographs and the graduating students left with a promise to be in touch.



The students of Russell Square International College took this initiative to host RSIC MUN(Model United Nation) for the first time. It was held on 18th and 19th December, 2015

The preparation of MUN started in September 2015. Nupur, Nikita, Rishab & the student team started planning & marketing the RSIC MUN , reaching out to students in Pune & Mumbai.

Different schools & colleges like R.N. Podar, Singapore International, Utpal Sangvi, NMIMS, Thakur International and several others participated in the event.

The lighting of the lamp & a welcome address by the RSIC principal marked the beginning of the programme. This was followed by debates & discussions in different mock council's of UNs like Disarmament and International Security Council (DISEC) , Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), Security Council etc .

The programme also had fun moments like the music session & delegate dance party which added a silver lining to the whole event. The two day long programme concluded with giving the certificates & trophies to the best delegates & chairs.It was an intellectually enriching experience for all.

Graduation Ceremony

Russell Square International College (RSIC) celebrated the Graduation Day of the batch of 2014-15, the 8th batch to graduate since the inception of the college in 2004. The Chief Guest for the Ceremony was Ms. Lynn Roberts, Head of Learning and Teaching University of London -International Programs at LSE. Family and friends witnessed this proud moment along with the management, Dr. P Sarda, Mr. Rajeev Goenka & Principal of RSIC Dr. Gayatri Sinkar, Faculty & Staff.



The ceremony started with lighting of the lamp, Ms. Priya Kenkare was the compere for the event. Welcome speech was given by the Principal, followed by a Report reading note by Ms. Bharati Bacha, our chief coordinator.

Speaking on this momentous occasion, Dr. Gayatri Sinkar expressed her feelings saying, “Graduation is a life-changing phase for the students as they proceed to the corporate arena to face real world challenges or go off for higher education. It is also a memorable moment for all those who come out to celebrate with the graduates”.

Following the principal’s speech was an address by Ms. Lynn Roberts who encouraged them for their future endeavors and congratulated the students on their graduation.

Thereafter the graduation batch shared their experiences after the distribution of scrolls and certificates. It ended with the Hat throwing ceremony and vote of thanks.

The mood at the graduation ceremony was one of enthusiasm and joy. The eagerly awaited day marked the culmination of a phase of learning, fun and personal development for the Class of 2014-15. After the closing ceremony there was a High Tea at A la’ Mode

Though the event lasts only a few hours, it is always a great ceremony as it is a memory for those who attend and is treasured for years to come.

ELIXIR & RIFT

Our college festival “ELIXIR” was launched for the first time this year, it was a success as a first-time ever event where we invited other colleges to participate in various events such as Dance and music. We even hosted our on-going RIFT Tournament, which was a two-day football tournament



Some Lighter Moments

By: Deepak Ved

1. Long back, a person who sacrificed his sleep, forgot his family,
Forgot his food, forgot laughter were called "Saints"
But now they are called... "IT professionals"
 2. An interesting line written at the back of a Biker's T Shirt:
"If you are able to see this, please tell me that my girlfriend has fallen off"
 3. Most Relationships fail not because of the absence of love..
Love is always present..
It's just that, one loves too much,
And the other loves too many,
 4. Employee: Boss, now i have got married..! Please increase my salary..!
BOSS: Factory is not responsible for accidents occuring outside the company..!
 5. Philosophy of life
At the beginning of married life, every girl treats her husband as GOD;
Later on somehow the alphabets got reversed..!
 6. What is Fear?
Fear is the Deep, Wrenching feeling in your stomach when pages of your book
Still smell new and there are just few hours left for your exams..!
 7. Someone has rightly said, "A fool can ask more questions that a wise man Can answer"
No Wonder why so many of us are speechless when lecturers ask question..!
 8. Girl: Do you have Cards with sentimental Love quotes?
Shopkeeper: Oh sure! How about this card, it says "To the only boy I ever loved..!"
Girl: That's good, Give me 12 of them..!
 9. After reading the form filled by an applicant.. The employer said: " WE do have an
opening for you..!
Applicant: What is it?
Interviewer: It's called the "door..!"
 10. A Banner cum Sign Board In front of an IT company..
Drive Slowly, Dont kill our Employee..... Leave them to us
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Finance Company Questionnaire

By Mahesh Parikh

Chief Executive Officer Finance Competency Questions

1. As a CEO, what would you like your financial team to look like (organogram, team members, qualifications, competencies, reporting responsibilities, etc.)?

My Finance team would be structured as follows with adequate qualifications and experience.

2. What is your management style vis a vis the finance function? Do you consider yourself a hand-on manager working closely with the Head of Finance? Or do you prefer to let the Head of Finance drive the function?

I prefer a semi-formal style of management which gives space to smooth flow of relationship, support and information in both the directions. With respect to finance, I would prefer being a Hands-on Manager working closely with the CFO/HOF.

3. How frequently would you like to meet with your finance team to review the organization's progress, direction, etc.?

Formally, I would like to meet the finance team bi-monthly for regular reviewing and problem solving and monthly for reviewing the progress and gauging the direction in which the organization is leading. (This will be in addition to meeting with CFO, COO, CHR, C Business Development every day in morning over a cup of Tea; may be for 10-15 minutes. This gives bird's eye-view on day-to-day happenings & important events issues can be exchanged. This will also help in creating and enhancing the bonding among various heads.)

4. As a CEO, what five or six key business drivers would you like to personally and closely drive/manage/monitor?

I would like to personally drive Strategic planning and PR. Closely monitoring of Academics, HR, Finance and Parental feedbacks will be on my regular agenda.

5. How would you initiate and drive your organization's budget process?

Each school unit to be trained to make its own annual budget. This then will be vetted by the Finance team at the HO. Simultaneously, the AFO will be accountable for the HO budget. This holistically will be taken for pre-approval discussion followed by finalized drafts to be set to the board for approval.

6. If you are asked to prepare a zero-based budget, how would you go about doing it? Who would you consult?

Zero-based budget does not relate projections to past numbers. It is perception of what we envisage. CFO & COO are two main pillars in creation of zero-based budget. The actual budget can thereafter be fine-tuned to synchronies environment.

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7. How would you monitor and track the organization's performance against the approved budget?

By adopting Variance Analysis. Any negative needs to be scanned to derive whether factors responsible for negative are issue-specific, time-specific or universally applicable. The factors on identification should be addressed with a view to avoid repetition & corrective measures stimulated.

8. If you are asked to "cut" your budget by 25%, how would you go about doing that?

I would initiate cost cutting exercise commencing with PR and BD expenses. This will be followed by cutting of operating expenses in a sequence of least to utmost priority and the last would be through cutting on increment on salaries in case of worst scenario. On the other hand, efforts will be put to generate novel sources of revenue to minimize unwanted cuts in essential expenses.

9. Do the numbers/figures excite you or scare you?

Numbers and figures have always exited me....both at micro level of a single institution and also at the macro level of the mother organization.

- 10.If you are asked to review the company's financial strength and are provided with three documents: (1) income statement, (2) balance sheet, and (3) sources/uses of funds statement, what would you start with? Why?

I would elaborately go through each of these financial statements and go for an inter-statement ratio analysis. Taking up a single statement in priority may turn out to be giving a wrong conclusion of the entire financial picture. However, Sources and Uses of funds play a pivotal role. Income Statement is performance record. Balance-sheet is status as of time (date).

- 11.What are the key differences between an operating budget, capital budget, and long-term projections?

Operating budget will take care of year on year incomes (fees and others) and revenue expenses.

Capital budget will plan for funds requirement for capital expenses of both types immoveable and moveable assets. Immoveable assets would include land acquisitions and all incidental cost, cost of construction and all incidental cost, sports infrastructure, etc. Moveable assets would include cost of interiors, school furniture, sports equipments, computers and peripherals, library, laboratory equipments. Long term projections would cover an entire financial plan for 3 to 5 years or more for projecting income, expenses, capital expense requirements, etc.

Examples given aforesaid form an inclusive list and are not exhaustive.

12. Have you been involved with the preparations of long term forecasts? If so, what key drivers, variables, and assumptions do you start the exercise with?

Yes I have had opportunities of preparing long term forecasts. Key drivers, variables and assumptions are as under:

Management's vision and targets, availability of future funds with the organization, availability of sufficient infrastructure for admitting the projected students, market intelligence with respect to fees-affordability-competition,

13. Please describe your prior experience with internal audit and how you have used this function to enhance the effectiveness of and/or efficiencies in the operations.

Leakage of any sort, when detected, was sealed. Monitoring or control mechanism reviewed & re-invented on an ongoing basis. Internal Audit is more to help system & procedure evaluation rather than accounting entries. Accounting entries were modified or corrected if passed under wrong head.

PERSONAL BRAND

By: Sweta Menon

Brand yourself: Create your own Personal Brand

Paul Ulasien said, "No matter what you do in the rat race, success is not certain but if you do nothing, failure is." Unfortunately, in today's competitive world kids are tutored right from their childhood to become a part of this non-stop rat race. From thereon, in every walk of our life we are constantly striving to be ahead of others in marks, sports, certificates, degrees, jobs, making money and also in looks and social acceptance.

Competition may not be bad, but it has taken the fun out of living. From simple things like singing and dancing or even cooking, which one would engage in for self-satisfaction, is now being seen as a form of competition. The number of reality shows on Indian television like Nach Baliye, Indian Idol, Jhalak dikhla ja, Sa Re Ga Ma Pa, Master Chef and many more, justify this claim. The winners are elated, but what about those who came 2nd or 3rd or even the top 5. They are lost in the vast crowd of being 'Nobodies'



Anonymous people are lost in the crowd. In the fierce competition, if one wants to shine out like a diamond, one has to manage one's self image and the impression they create on others. Today, the phenomenon of branding is not limited to companies alone. All of the above reflect a simple yet relatively new concept, referred to as '**Human Brands**' or '**Personal Brands**'. This is a new trend, however its importance will increase day by day and it is here to stay.



Personal Branding would mean much more than merely marketing and promoting yourself to the world. It is a synthesis of all the expectations, images, and perceptions it creates in the minds of others, when they see or hear your name. Just like branding of products, personal branding aims at creation of a personal brand identity and association of feelings and perceptions to match that identity.

Personal branding will help to manage our perceptions among people relevant and important to us. It will help us both in our personal as well as professional growth. It helps to create expectations in minds of others as what they can expect from you. It stimulates meaningful



perceptions about the values and qualities that you stand for. It creates an identity around you which makes it easier for people to remember who you are. It tells others about who you are, what you do, what makes you different, how you create value for them, and what they can expect when they deal with you. It will get your prospects to see you as the only solution to their problem. It puts you above the competition and makes you unique and better than your competitors in the marketplace. A person's personal image will ultimately determine their personal and professional success in this overcrowded and competitive environment. An authentic personal branding will thus ultimately help you in creating a happy and successful life

*So what are you waiting for?
Go Brand yourself.....*



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