Welcome to our first Newsletter for the year 2017. We are greatly delighted and pleased to share with you our first annual Newsletter, ‘Riflesso’! an Italian word which means reflection/effect/influence. Riflesso is the reflection of the news, views and voice of the department of Economics and Political Science. The asset of the department is 184 vibrant students in graduation level and 3 dedicated teachers. The department is now crossing a milestone by releasing an annual newsletter. It aims to bring out the major achievements of the students, various programmes and activities of the Economics Association, Planning Forum and Human Rights Forum held during the academic year 2016-2017.

The activities of the Economics Association and Planning Forum for the 2016-2017 were inaugurated by Dr. Sunikumar S. Menon, Head of the Department, Research Centre and Post Graduate Department of Economics, Maharajas College (Autonomous) Ernakulam on 23rd August 2016. Dr. Sunil Kumar S. Menon delivered a talk on ‘Career Choices for Economics Students’. The handwritten Manuscript ‘Beacon’ was released by the Principal, Rev. Sr. Rethamma on the occasion. Meritorious students of the department who secured highest marks in B.A Economics examination from the department honoured by Dr. Raji Joseph, Associate Professor Department of Commerce, St. Xavier’s College For Women and Prof. Rani K. A., Associate Professor, Department of Commerce, St. Xavier’s College For Women, Aluva felicitated the occasion. Prizes for various competitions conducted by the department were distributed.

The department of Political Science offered scholarship to students who secured highest marks in complimentary course in the U.G Degree (CBCSS) Examination, 2016. Ms. Elsa Jose, Ms. Anu Thomas and Ms. Geethanjali secured First, Second and Third places respectively from the Department of English and Ms. Jisha Sara Jose, Ms. Anna Silpa Ansel and Ms. Anciya from the department of Economics.

Organized: One International Workshop, one International Faculty Development Programme and one National seminar in association with Kerala Economic Association, Department of Commerce (Self Financing) and Department of Political Science respectively.

International Workshop
The Department of Economics in collaboration with Kerala Economic Association organised an International Workshop on “Academic Writings in the Digital Environment: A New Perspective” on 1st August 2016 in Dr. APJ Seminar Hall. The Workshop was inaugurated by Dr. E.M. Thomas, General Secretary Kerala Economic Association. The Resource person of the workshop was Dr. Justin Paul, Full Professor, University of Puerto Rico Graduate school of Business, San Juan, PR, USA & Former Faculty member, University of Washington & Former Dept Chairperson, Indian Institute of Management.

International Faculty Development Programme
The department in association with department of Commerce (Self Financing) organized One Day International Faculty Development Programme on “Contemporary Issues in Commerce and Economics” on 6th January 2017. Prof. Vijay Saini, Sr. Lecturer in Accountancy and Finance, Faculty of Business & Information Technology, Manukau Institute of Technology, New Zealand was the Guest of honour. The Resource person of the FDP was Dr. Justin Paul, Full Professor, University of Puerto Rico Graduate school of Business, San Juan, PR, USA & Former Faculty member, University of Washington & Former Dept Chairperson, Indian Institute of Management.

National Seminar
The Department of Economics in association with Department of Political Science organized Two Day ICSSR-SRC sponsored National Seminar on “Dimensions of Discrimination and Exclusion: The Experience of Minorities and Indigenous People in India” on 9th & 10th January 2017. The seminar was inaugurated by Hon’ble Justice J.B Koshy, Patna Highcourt, Bihar and Former chairman of Human Rights Commission, Kerala. Dr. Rajan Varughese, Former Pro-Vice Chancellor of M.G University, Kottayam delivered keynote address, Prof. Justin George, Head of Department of Economics, St. Paul’s College, Kalamassery felicitated the occasion.
The Planning forum of the Department of Economics in collaboration with Forest Industries (Travancore) Ltd., Government of Kerala organized an All Kerala Inter Collegiate Educational Fest, Eco Aware-2016 in fond memory and honour of Rev. Mother Isabel, the founder Manager of the college and Prof.Rebecca Mathen, Former Head of the Department of Economics. Mother Isabell Memorial All Kerala Inter Collegiate Paper Presentation on GST Bill in India, Prof. Rebecca Mathen Memorial Debate on Uniform Civil Code: A Boon or a Bane? and the Mega Mind, a Quiz on Current affairs were the competitions conducted on 20th September 2016. Inter collegiate fest was inaugurated by Smt. N. Nirmaladevi, Senior Branch Manager, LIC, Aluva, Keynote address delivered by Sri.Josemon M.D, Managing Director, FIT, Govt.of Kerala and Prof. Nithin Thomas, Assistant Professor, BMC, Thirikkakara felicitated the occasion.

Ms. Archana Prakash of Alphonsa College, Pala and Ms. Meera Unnikrishnan of St. Teresa’s College Ernakulam won the prizes for Paper Presentation Competition. Joseph E George & Abi George of UC college, Aluva secured the first prize and Ms. Rohini Menon & Devika Krishnan of St. Joseph College, Iringalakuda secured the second prize for Debate Competition. Regarding the Quiz competition, Ms. Malavika & Aiswarya Lalu of our college won the first prize and Abi George & Rajesh P.R won second prize. The prizes were distributed by Sr.Dr. Shalini and Prof. Nithin Thomas.

The fourth Mother Mary Magdeline Memorial Lecture instituted in fond memory and honour of college foundress Mother Mary Magdeline was organized on 8th February 2017. Dr. Shyjan Davis, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Dr. John Mathai Centre, University of Calicut delivered the lecture on the topic 'Political Economy of Demonetisation in India.'

As part of the Population day observance, Planning Forum of the Department of Economics conducted an Inter Departmental Quiz Competition on 'Demography or Population of India' and Essay Competition on the topic 'Population growth: an Asset or Liability' on 11th July 2016 at 1 p.m in Economics seminar hall. Meenakshi Kumar & Alan Minnu Xavier of II B.com, Fasna T.A & Sonia Joseph of III DC Chemistry and Ashly Paul & Nandana, B of II DC English Literature won First, Second and Third Prizes respectively for Quiz competition. For Essay competition, Ms. Sweety Joseph of III DC Commerce, Ms. Premeeja Ann Eliza of II DC English and Swathy G Prabhu of II DC Commerce Self Financing won First, Second, and Third Prizes respectively.

As part of the direction of OSAX the department of Economics organised Two Special Session on "Role of Mental Health in Personality Development and "Why Economics Matter" by the two eminent Alumni of the department (Sr. Vimal Grace, Principal, Karuna Special School, Vypin and Ms. Elina James, Research Analyst Health Systems Research India Initiative, Trivandrum) on 14th November 2016.

As per the new policy decision of the Government of India, Students of the department gave an awareness campaign on ‘Cashless Economy’ to the general public. They were taught to download the apps, newly introduced by Government of India and SBI such as BHIM, UPI, Mobile wallet etc.,

The Department conducted an awareness campaign on “Plastic Free Campus Mission” on 25th January 2017 by introducing and giving 'Paper pen' to Principal, teachers and students.

The Planning Forum of the department organised a practical session on ‘Banking’ by eminent scholars Sri. K. Muraleedharan, General Manager, and Sri. Santhosh Ommen.
Commitment and responsibility of students towards the empowerment and decentralization thereby to build up the social service to the poor and the marginalized through social mobilization, and sustain the socio-economic and developmental initiatives of Service Society (ESSS) which is committed to promote, support the community development activities of the Ernakulam Social Service Society (ESSS) on 1st December 2016.

The Planning Forum of the department organized an orientation session on “How to prepare for Indian Economic Service” by Dr. Lekshmi Devi, student of Kerala Civil Service Academy on 25th August 2016.

The Planning Forum of the department organized a Career orientation session for III DC Students by Ms. Niija and other teachers from Vidhyabharathi group of institutions on 2nd February 2017.

As part of the MoU with Finmark trainers, the department in collaboration with Department of Commerce (Regular and Self financing) organized a Mentoring session for all the students of the department in class wise on ‘Fundamentals of Capital Market’ on 13th February 2017 followed by a Training session for the students who wish to attended the session from 16th to 17th February 2017 by Finmark trainers, the well known trainers in India. There were 53 students participated in this Certificate course of training sessions which led by Sri. Pradeep Chandrashekharan Nair.

To develop latent entrepreneurship skill of the Students, the Planning Forum of the Department of Economics in association with Kudumbashree Mission Units, Aluva organized an ‘Entrepreneurship Exhibition Cum Sale’ titled as Eco Mega Mela-2016 on 18th August 2016 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Xavarian Campus.

The department designed an MOU with Department of Economics, St. Paul’s College situated at Kalamassery on 10th June 2016 to enhance the academic and non academic quality of students and to increase their potentialities and skills by the mutual cooperation of the faculties of both departments of the colleges.

The department has signed an MOU with Ernakulam Social Service Society on 1st December 2016. The objective of MOU is to promote the participation of Faculty and Students in the community development activities of the Ernakulam Social Service Society (ESSS) which is committed to promote, support and sustain the socio-economic and developmental initiatives of the poor and the marginalized through social mobilization, empowerment and decentralization thereby to build up the social commitment and responsibility of students towards the marginalized section of society.

The Department has given consultancy service to a project undertaken by Health Department of Aluva Municipality as a part of Swatch Bharat Mission. The Department offered “Consultancy services of population projection up to 2031” and prepared a report based on the analysis of data. It is done as a service and hence no income is generated.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS


ACHIEVEMENTS OF STUDENTS

Anjana Vinoj I B.A Economics secured 2nd prize in the Elocution competition in district and Taluk level organized by co-operative society in the year 2016-2017

Arya R. Warrier III B.A. Economics secured A Grade in Classical Music in the MG University Youth Festival 2017.

Malavika R II B.A Economics secured 1st prize in the Intercollegiate Quiz Competition organized by Quiz club, held at Cochin college, Kochi 2017.

The Students of the department bagged First Prize for Group Song in connection with the Onam Celebration of the college.

The students of the department actively participated in various competitions in connection with College Youth Festival-Prathibh and won many prizes. It was held from 19th December to 21st December 2016.

- First prize for Eastern group song
- Ms. Malavika R of II DC Economics won I prize for Quiz competition.
- Ms. Asseba Kathun of I DC Economics won II prize for Poem writing in Hindi.
Ms. Anjana Vinoj won II prize for Monoact, III Prize for Eloquence in Malayalam and III prize for Kathaprasangam.


- The students of department won Third prize for the Holy Family presentation in connection with Christmas Celebrations.

- Five students of the department participated in the Two day National seminar conducted by Department of Economics, Maharaja’s College, Ernakulum from 5th December to 6th December 2016.

- Five students of department participated in the UGC Sponsored National Seminar on Entrepreneurship Development: Opportunities and Challenges organised by Department of Economics, Bharata Mata College, Thrikkakara from 5th to 6th September 2017.

MENTORING SESSION WITH PARENTS

The department organized a Mentoring session with Parents of the students of the department which is one of best practice of the department on 31st October 2016 at economic seminar hall. The practice was initiated to ensure better involvement of parents in the academic and personal formation of the students and to provide the parents a platform to closely involved in the academic and campus life of the students to track their performances/deviations.

ALUMNAE MEETING

The Meeting of the Alumni of the department of Economics was organized on 26th November, 2016. The former faculty members of the department Prof. Thankam K.B, Prof. Indu Panikkar, all the Student and Staff together inaugurated the gathering by lighting the lamp. Kumari Anila V.P selected as Queen of the (Economics) day. Quiz and Brain storming sessions were also conducted.

Based on the agenda, the following activities were done:

- The Executive members were entrusted to come for the meet with NACC peer team when they come for the visit.
- Instituted Students Welfare Fund for the needy students in the name of OSTAXED (Old Students and Teachers Association of Xavieran Economics Department) Students Welfare Fund.
- On behalf of OSTAXED, Prof. Indu Panikkar planted sapling of a Mango tree on the ground of the college.

STUDY TOUR

The department organized a tour package to Mysore and Coorg for Final Year Degree Students from 11th January to 14th January 2017.

FAREWELL

The department gave a heartiest sent off to the Final year outgoing students on 7th March 2017. The junior students organized the farewell ceremony which was an unforgettable event in the mind of III B.A students.

MERITORIOUS STUDENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT

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