

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2013-14

PROF MUKUL P. GUPTA

MDI is proud to be the most globalised b-school in India. We now have substantive collaborations with 57 institutions across the world. MDI hosted 44 students from our partner schools who came and spent 3 months or more studying alongside the Indian students in different programs. Of these, 3 came for longer duration and are getting an MDI degree today. 65 students from MDI went overseas to complete a part of their studies at one of the collaborating institutions while 50 students went overseas for a double degree. This translates into a very simple number that 1 out of every 5 graduating students today has an international exposure and is ready for a global challenge.

Leveraging its international partnership, MDI has now added 7 Indian universities and institutions in a network of learning called the International Summer University (ISU). The first edition of this Summer University was held last summer that brought 40 top ranking students from Indian institutions spanning from Kottayam to Kashmir and many international students, for a joint learning for 7 weeks from the 7 best international professors teaching courses of global relevance on our Campus. The next edition of International Summer University begins in 5 weeks from now.

MDI is an educational institute and its success should be measured in terms of its ability to impart high quality education and produce responsible citizens. Placements are a limited reflection of this success. Of the 332 post-graduate students, 321 have already signed up for their jobs against 325 job offers that were received. 11 students have chosen alternative career routes. Some more offers are still trickling in as of date. I wish to thank all the 156 companies that visited our Campus to recruit our graduates. Of these, 59 companies were new recruiters. My special thanks to the 97 companies that reposed repeated confidence in our graduates, and came to recruit from MDI.

The social and community life on MDI Campus is primarily driven by some 800 residents that include about 700 young students. To supplement the educational activities and to make learning more enriching and enjoyable, our students organize various events that keep the Campus buzzing all through the year and also bring their Counter parts from other b-schools to the campus.

While our students strive for academic excellence, they also find time to do things that touch people and communities around us through Samaritans – the social initiative club.

I have so far tried to provide you some snapshots of the year that was at MDI. Let me take a moment and look at the future. In defining our future direction, we are attempting to define an Indian identity and model of business management education

that is being shaped by a range of environmental characteristics that clearly differentiate the Indian scene as compared to the American or western scene.

As a result of these contextual and cultural differences between India and the western world, the following themes and differentiating factors need to shape the Indian business management education:

- Belief in socially responsible management education
- Close linkages between business schools and corporate organisations
- Balance between rigour and relevance of academic activities
- Internationalisation and Globalisation

Let me therefore set the aspirations for the next one year. We would strive towards:-

1. Increasing international engagement and involvement
2. Supporting and disseminating research that matters
3. Receiving more recognition and International Accreditations
4. Fostering Social Innovations.
5. Becoming an institution of national pride

These dreams and aspirations will put pressures on our resources and demand more from all of us, but history shows that we are at our best when we have challenges.

During the last year, I wished my students well on different occasions, but I cannot give up the opportunity of wishing them well one more time.

My graduating students, to you, I would like to say – the world is going through a crisis and organisations may have to gear themselves up to meet the challenges. However, we are confident that our endeavour to equip you with the necessary skills and abilities will help your organisations come out of the crisis successfully. We have tried to develop in you the right attitude to make a positive difference not only in your organisation but the community as well. You should be proud of your accomplishments, tolerant to your failures and forward looking in all your actions. I wish you well, I wish you God Speed, I wish you great honours and I wish you good luck.

Let me end by thanking our Chief Guest, our Chairman, Members on our Board of Governors, my Faculty colleagues, my Staff, my honoured guests and the distinguished members from the media and everybody who is here to be part of our celebrations and success.

Thank you all very much.



Honourable Smt. Alka Sirohi, IAS (Retd.), Member, Union Public Service Commission, Shri Malay Mukherjee, Chairman of the Board of Governors of MDI, Members of the Board of Governors of MDI, Prof. Ashok Panjwani, Dean Graduate Programmes, Prof. D.P. Goyal, Dean Executive Graduate Programmes, Prof. S. Chatterjee, Dean, Faculty and Special Initiatives, Prof. N.P.Singh, Dean, Research & Accreditation, Prof. V.K. Gupta, Dean, Continuing Education, Prof. Atmanand, Dean, Consulting and Advancement, honourable members of the foreign diplomatic missions in India, honoured guests, parents and members of the families of our students, my colleagues on the faculty, members of staff, eminent members from the Media, distinguished audience, and my dear students!

It is an honour for MDI and a privilege for all of us to have Smt. Alka Sirohi to grace this Convocation which is an annual milestone in the academic life of MDI. I am thankful to you, Madam, for finding time for MDI, to be here to grace the occasion, and to deliver the convocation address.

It was on 22nd March last Year that I presented to you the Director's report for the year 2012-13. Much has happened over the last one year and it is with a reasonable amount of pride and satisfaction that I stand before you once again sharing with you the progress during the year gone by.

Last year, we had promised to deliver signal achievements in five areas and I am presenting before you the accomplishments around those chosen goals.

Increasing International Engagement and MDI Footprint Globally

During the year we entered into seven new partnership agreements with institutions abroad.

- University of Maribor, Slovenia
- Nepal Administrative Staff College, Nepal
- Kathmandu University School of Management, Nepal
- Royal Institute of Management, Bhutan
- Groupe ISCAE, Morocco
- Cyprus International Institute of Management, Greece
- Universidade Catolica Portuguesa, Portugal

It may be emphasised that we did put a special emphasis on connecting with the neighbouring countries while we expanded our international network from 50 institutions to 57 institutions.

Global Integration through Diversity in Programmes

We launched a series of Global Conferences to be held in different continents of the world. The curtain raiser event was held last week at MDI that attracted participation from 8 countries represented by 151 delegates affiliated to 91 institutions. More than 50 percent papers were from women delegates. The next two conferences are being held in South Asia and Australia over the next 8 months.

The theme of the Conference series is “Managing in Recovering Markets” something that we believe is of relevance to everyone in the world today.

Connecting with the Indian B- School Community

We extended the scope of our collaboration with the b-schools of Indian Universities by entering into more partnerships this year. There were 6 Indian b-schools who benefited from the MDI International Summer University 2013. The 2014 edition is likely to benefit 7 schools.

Becoming Preferred Destination

MDI has become the preferred b-school in India for the foreign academics with seven of them choosing to accept Adjunct Faculty positions at MDI during the last one year. Adjunct Faculty members came and spent time with us and delivered courses or participated in other academic pursuits. We may be able to add some more overseas faculty to our resources this year.

Becoming the most Imitated B-School

We are flattered when we are emulated. We also believe that we must be doing the right things when others follow us. We saw the top schools in India imitating our executive education programmes, twining graduate programmes and our initiatives on International Summer University.

This year we are awarding 554 diplomas. We are thus contributing a total of 554 trained managerial personnel for the growth and development of the society today. These include 3 Diplomas to the students from our Partner School EDHEC in France through a double-degree arrangement. My congratulations to these 3 international students for having chosen MDI for their education. As many graduates as we are sending out today, we are in the process of admitting an equivalent number of students to our various programs this year. Some of my colleagues are at this very moment conducting the selection process at some outstation locations and are therefore unable to join the convocation.

There is one doctoral degree that we are awarding this year and we hope that the recipient would influence quite a few young minds over the years through his teaching and research. We have a total of 96 Doctoral students on our rolls at the moment - 40 full time and 56 part-time. The doctoral program at MDI is an investment in the future of this country because doctoral program produces future teachers who in turn would produce future managers. This program is entirely funded by our own resources and we see it as our small contribution to the society.

Shortage of faculty is now a global challenge, but I am happy to report that MDI is lucky in this regard. Thanks to our nurturing environment and competitive spirit, good faculty is always aspiring to work at MDI. We have amongst us 80 faculty members that collectively reflect over 2000 years of human wisdom. We benefit from seven International academics and 3 senior Indian academics as adjunct professors. They are a combination of domain and gender diversity bound together by their commitment and international repute. This group of existing faculty during the year contributed 33 publications in International and National Journals. They produced 05 books, wrote 06 Chapters in other books and contributed 13 Cases to International Case Clearing Houses. They shared their research at 48 International Conferences and 06 National Conferences during the last year. Also, in addition, there are 12 articles published in different Newspapers and Magazines and 10 book reviews and faculty members attended 35 national and international workshops/seminars/roundtables. In terms of Advisory activities, our faculty completed 17 Consultancy assignments and are carrying forward 12 more which are at different stages of completion. I have no hesitation in saying that I am proud of my faculty and so is MDI. More than 150 academics and managers from other organisations supplement and complement our teaching effort as visiting and guest faculty.

For over 120 days during the last year, at least one international academic was our guest living on our Campus, thus every third day we had an overseas guest. Half of our faculty travelled overseas during the year leading various executive groups or participating in various international conferences and deliberations acquiring a richer and broader global perspective. More are expected to travel this year and leave indelible footprints behind.

MDI has always been contributing to the economy by training business managers who are at different stages of their career trajectories. We conducted 136 training programs benefiting 3051 managers and civil servants of Indian nationality and 250 managers of foreign nationalities. Of these, 176 participants were trained abroad in Europe and the U.S. We are proud of our contribution towards the rehabilitation and re-settlement of the senior officers of the Indian Armed Forces for whom we have a customized 6-month program to enable them to start their second career in civilian life.