

ConXerv
Presents
PARITRAN



ConXerv is the functional committee of Xavier School of Sustainability. The committee was formed by the first batch of XSoS with the idea of strengthening student driven initiatives revolving around sustainability. Since its inception, the committee has grown its presence in Xavier University, Bhubaneswar.

With an aim to empower the student community in XUB and help them to stay updated about the latest developments in the field of sustainability, we present to you the February edition of our newsletter, 'Paritran'.

With this edition, we bring to you glimpses of the Homecoming event which gave the students of the school an opportunity to interact with their alumni and gain insights from them about their experience of being part of the XSoS family. Along with that we also bring to you the glimpses of Xubfare- the annual farewell event organised by the Alumni Committee of the school. In the 'Faculty Speaks' section we present to you the views of our faculty Prof. Arup Roy. In the 'ConXerv Connect' section, we have Mr. Mayuresh Joshi sharing his views on sustainability and spirituality with us.

HIGHLIGHTS:

*Latest News on
Climate
Change,
Sustainability
and Human
Development
from around
the globe*

*ConXerv
Connect:
Mayuresh Joshi
From Batch of
2017-19*

*Faculty Speaks:
Professor Arup
Roy*

*Major XSoS
events*

Global forum on cities highlights need for sustainable development (12 Feb, 2019)

The tenth World Urban Forum (WUF)—the foremost international gathering on sustainable urbanization established by the United Nations—focused on the intersection of culture and innovation to address emerging urban challenges. Read more at:

<https://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/story/global-forum-cities-highlights-need-sustainable-development>

Budget 2020 | India is counting on achieving UN SDGs 1, 2 and 5 to meet its 2030 agenda (16 Feb, 2019)

Legislative action, combined with the alignment of major schemes of the Union Budget with the goals 1, 2 and 5, is indicative of the intentionality and responsiveness of India's policy towards Sustainable Development Goals. Read more at:

<https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/budget-2020-india-is-counting-on-achieving-un-sdgs-1-2-and-5-to-meet-its-2030-agenda-4949441.html>

ConXerv Connect

Mr. Mayuresh Joshi from the batch of 2017-19 shared his beautiful views on sustainability and spirituality with us.

Sustainability and Spirituality

The MDGs did not prove to live up to the dreams of humanity to make this world a better place. SDGs also have been facing similar problems and this produces a fear of failure to bring about the dream of a sustainable world into reality. All of the conferences, summits, agreements, penalties etc. put by the world are seemingly becoming ineffective to solve the problem of pushing the planet into yet another period of mass extinction. We have tried and tested envisioning sustainability on aspects of economical, technological and environmental, which are very important and have proved to be effective but only till a certain point. It's time we look back, thousands of years ago and learn from our ancestors what they did to keep the world as it is, and what we did wrong to make it run on the highway to destruction.

Read the whole article at:

<https://conxervxsos.blogspot.com/2020/03/sustainability-and-spirituality.html>

Consumers can push organisations to become sustainable: Wipro chairman (8 Feb, 2020)

Wipro chairman Rishad Premji said the IT services major's clients were putting pressure on it to become more sustainable and consumers across sectors have the power to change organisations. Read more at:

https://www.google.com/amp/s/m.economictimes.com/tech/ites/consumers-can-push-organisations-to-become-sustainable-wipro-chairman/amp_articleshow/74028612.cms

Airbnb Launches New Sustainability Program to Reduce Its Carbon Footprint (19 Feb, 2020)

Though Airbnb already serves over 150 million users around the world, the company isn't finished growing its influence. Now, Airbnb wants to take its carbon footprint into its own hands — starting at the grassroots level. It wants to keep traveling fun and affordable, but not at the cost of environmental sustainability. Read more at:

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/therising.co/2020/02/02/airbnb-sustainability-program-reduce-carbon-footprint/amp/>

India ranks 77th on sustainability, 131st in child flourishing index rankings: UN report (21 Feb, 2020)

India ranked 77th on a sustainability index that takes into account per capita carbon emissions and ability of children in a nation to live healthy lives and was placed 131st on a ranking that measures the best chance at survival and well-being for children, according to a UN-backed report. Read more at:

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.indiatoday.in/amp/india/story/india-ranks-sustainability-child-flourishing-index-rankings-un-report-1648572-2020-02-21>

Delhi's IGI Airport becomes first single-use plastic-free airport of India (17 Feb, 2020)

GMR-led Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL) said that Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport has become free of single-use plastic usage. Read more at:

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.livemint.com/news/india/delhi-s-igi-airport-becomes-first-single-use-plastic-free-airport-of-india/amp-11581953333776.html>

Walmart Challenges Amazon on Sustainable Packaging (17 Feb, 2020)

John Furner, President and CEO of Walmart US, stated during NRF, "The role of corporations has changed, and it's not about simply creating shareholder value anymore, but creating great employment opportunities, making a difference in the environment, and adding value to the customer." Read more at:

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.forbes.com/sites/gregpetro/2020/02/17/walmart-challenges-amazon-on-sustainability/amp/>

UK to lead global fight against illegal logging and deforestation (13 Feb, 2020)

The UK is to spearhead a major global crackdown on illegal timber and deforestation, with plans to form a coalition of developing countries against the trade as part of its hosting of crunch UN climate talks this year. Read more at:

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/amp.theguardian.com/environment/2020/feb/13/uk-lead-global-fight-illegal-logging-deforestation-cop-26>

Jeff Bezos commits \$10 billion to fight climate change (18 Feb, 2020)

Jeff Bezos is throwing his weight and wealth behind the fight against climate change months after Amazon employees publicly pressured him and the company to do more to address the issue. Read more at:

<https://amp.cnn.com/cnn/2020/02/17/tech/bezos-earth-fund-climate-change/index.html>

Faculty Speaks



Professor Arup Roy

Q. According to you, in what ways can CAS, Alumni Committee and ConXerv Committee collaborate to increase the brand value of our school?

Xavier School of Sustainability (XSOS) has been working as a value creation entity in the field of Sustainable Development from its inception since 2015. Committees such as Career Advisory Services (CAS), Alumni, and ConXerv play a crucial role in creating the brand value of XSOS. In the case of XSOS CAS, committee members are relentlessly working to organize leadership talks by eminent sustainable corporate leaders, facilitating the SIP process and final placement process for the graduating students. XSOS CAS committee bridges the gap between industry and academics and helps in creating an impressive vibe about school in today's business community. The XSOS Alumni committee endeavors to develop networks among alumni, current students, faculty, and the university management, arranging a platform for all stakeholders to share knowledge. This committee also facilitates continuous interaction of Alumni with existing students to develop competency and maintain excellence in the field of Sustainable Development. The XSOS ConXerv committee acts as a means to build student's expertise by conducting various activities. This committee also helps in mainstreaming sustainability among school and college students by conducting different activities related to sustainable development e.g., No vehicle day, No Plastics day, Sustainability Quiz, etc., which makes our school in the limelight. All these committees, in a real sense are creating a new brand as Xavier School of Sustainability in the field of Sustainable Development and Management.

Q2. According to you, what vision should students of Xavier School of Sustainability have in order to contribute towards Sustainable Development?

Human behavior is hurting the environment. Thus, behavioral changes play a crucial role in ensuring an environmentally sustainable future. An educational institute plays a critical role in developing and shaping students' personalities and behavior. Students often feel overwhelmed by sustainability concepts, but they should reach their conclusions based on values-driven crucial reflection of the available opinions and scientific evidence. Students should become critical and responsible members of the society in alignment with the objectives of SDG and act as change agents. Students should inculcate purposes of sustainable development in their daily lives and reflected by their behavior and conduct. Students should actively participate in a paradigm mindset shift, which is a transition from a 'business as usual' mindset to a 'sustainable mindset.'

India's forest cover increasing but lower than forest policy target of 33 percent: MoEFCC (21 Feb , 2020)

Talking to PTI on the sidelines of a regional training programme for institutionalising capacities on climate change, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) Additional Secretary Ravi S Prasad said as per the India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2019, the total forest and tree cover in the country is 8,07,276 square kilometres, which is 24.56 percent of the total geographical area. Read more at:

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.firspost.com/tech/science/indias-forest-cover-increasing-but-lower-than-forest-policy-target-of-33-percent-moefcc-8069541.html/amp>

10 more Indian wetlands identified as crucial to global biodiversity (2 Feb, 2020)

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) announced earlier this week that 10 more wetlands from India have been added to the Ramsar list. Read more at:

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/theprint.in/environment/10-more-indian-wetlands-identified-as-crucial-to-global-biodiversity-heres-why-it->

Great Indian Bustard, Asian Elephant, Bengal Florican classified as 'endangered migratory species', will get global protection (20 Feb ,2020)

Great Indian Bustard, Asian Elephant and Bengal Florican have been classified as "endangered migratory species" by a UN body, paving the way for trans-boundary conservation efforts. Read more at:

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.dccanherald.com/amp/science-and-environment/great-indian-bustard-asian-elephant-bengal-florican-classified-as-endangered-migratory-species-will-get-global-protection-806600.html>

XUBFARE



Xubfare was organised on the 18th of February, 2020. It was a good time of togetherness.

This last year has been a great year, spending time and learning from our seniors the way of life in XUB. Our seniors have been a guiding force to us and have helped us survive this one year. With heavy hearts, we would surely miss them but we know that they would always be with us just a call away. Maybe this is what being a part of the XSoS family is.

HOMECOMING



It is said that, "The success of any institution is fathomed by the success of its Alumni." We are because you enable and facilitate us to be.

The Alumni Committee had organised the Annual Homecoming on the 15th of February, 2020. We were proud to have alumni from the three graduated batches namely: Mr. Biswabhusan Samantray (Batch of 2015-17), Ms. Greeshma Biswal (Batch of 2016-18), Mr. Diganta Chaudhary (Batch of 2016-18) joined us through skype to share his experience. Mr. Kaustav Sanyal, Ms. Sanjana Roy and Mr. Mayuresh Shekhar Joshi (Batch of 2017-19) who shared their journey about being students of this school and their journey afterwards. We also had our Alumni from B.Sc. Sustainable Development, Ms. Aeindri Sen (Batch of 2016-19) join us from Australia through skype.

XSoS is very proud to have a loving family of students and graduated students who have always lend their hand to help out their school. This event was a special one because all of us felt a sense of belonging to the school.