

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 aspiration to create an enriching environment that fosters sustainable learning and holistic development with the goal of helping the student community reach their highest potential and be the torchbearers of change for a sustainability driven future.

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 August edition of our newsletter, 'Paritran'.

With this edition, we bring to you a special segment comprising of student internship experiences of MBA-SM (2019-21) students and how these internships have contributed to their understanding of working as sustainability professionals. We also have the Dean, XSoS and CAS faculty coordinator share their valuable insights about how education has been affected during the unprecedented times of COVID-19 pandemic.

HIGHLIGHTS:

*Message from
the Dean*

*Message from
the Faculty
Coordinator of
CAS*

*Summer
Internship
experiences
from the
Students of
MBA SM batch
of 2019-21*

Dean's Message



Prof. Sutapa Pati

Martin Luther King Jr., once said "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in the moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge...". The Coronavirus pandemic issue has brought the reality of a VUCA world in our face. Yet, it also allowed us to prove our resilience internally and to the external world. For the ongoing MBA SM batch, this scenario played out as a time of immense learning. The institution and the school has been one of the first to adapt to the online learning environment, such that we finished our classes, yearend examinations and grading processes swiftly on schedule. The school had a hundred percent SIP placements and I am happy to share that all our students successfully completed their summer internship process with highly positive feedback all around from leading organisations.

A significant number extended their work with host companies, while others took up live projects that enabled them to truly contribute even in the midst of the pandemic. The incoming batch too has faced the challenges head – on, and we hope that in the coming weeks, they will be settling into their teaching-learning rhythms with full gusto. It will be our pleasure to see them emulating the same fighting spirit, energy and groundedness that has exemplified their seniors till now.

It is said that change is the only constant in life, and now, before us, the very pattern and structure of our lives continue to change. The next few months will define how effectively we change, and how well we are able to align in a positive manner with the extenuating circumstances around us! To our students, I say, lead on!!!

CAS Faculty Coordinator's Message



Prof. Vikrant Vijay Patil

Summer Internship Programme (SIP) is an essential component of MBA Sustainability Management. The two months of SIP is the time where our students get an opportunity to prove themselves to the market and leave a strong positive impact about their talents and knowledge in the industry. Even though COVID-19 pandemic was trying its best to keep our students away from all the right things mentioned above however our students did not give up.

I must really thank the Career advisory services team, my faculty colleagues, and, most importantly, our industrial partners who stood positive and demonstrated strong support for our students. This gave our students opportunities to complete their SIP with excellent learning outcomes. I am happy to share that all the internships were paid. The sectors in which our students did the internships ranged from consultancy, supply chain management, corporate sustainability, community development, etc.

I have the next take away from this experience:

1. Never say die attitude of our students.
2. Constant guidance in the right direction from our Dean Prof Sutapa Pati.
3. Excellent performance by our students, which is reflected in their SIP feedback.

During these challenging times of the COVID pandemic, most of the sectors were hit very badly, but the sustainability sector is still active and flourishing. I look at this pandemic as a wakeup call for the whole world to accept and imbibe sustainability into their businesses. It is time for our students to sharpen their claws and be ready for the upcoming challenges.

Student's Experiences

Swarananda Mohapatra

Organisation- Govardhan Ecovillage

Area of Work- Sustainability Advocacy

Working as a Sustainability Advisory and Communications intern at GEV has given me excellent exposure to the sustainability aspects of society. I not just worked for their sustainability initiatives like green buildings, integrated waste management technologies, organic farming, etc, but also did a research study on the impact of spirituality on sustainability.

Palash Yadav

Organisation- Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Ltd.

Area of Work- Risk Assessment & Sustainability Benchmarking

SIP works as your self-assessment tool before actually opening your innings in the corporate world. It's crucial in all senses including Industry Exposure and Personality Development. Hard times are always there but at the end of the day, you miss it.

Abhiseka Mohanty

Organisation- Desert Resource Centre

Area of Work- GIS & CSR

DRC gave me an opportunity to work in the community projects which gave me knowledge about approaching the community during the project initiation and exiting at the correct time with a strategy to make the outcome of the project sustainable. One of the projects dealt with the mapping of vegetation which gave me an opportunity to put my GIS knowledge and skills to practice.

Avani Jha

Organisation- STENUM Asia

Area of Work- Consulting & Reporting

The SIP during this pandemic time was the biggest blessing. My project area of Sustainability in Strategy was a very insightful topic to work on and I am taking back a lot of learnings and skills from it. My subject knowledge is much more enhanced now and so are my business communication, listening and comprehension skills. The mentors at STENUM made sure I go back with a much-evolved world view and refined thought process. Overall, it has been amazing.

Anchal Singh

Organisation- Sustainometric

Area of Work- ESG

My experience with Sustainometric was one of a kind, where I got the opportunity to learn about ESG and understand the various nuances of sustainable investment. The project I was involved in provided me great exposure and has enhanced my skill. It was indeed a privilege to work with a great team they not only mentored me on the project but also helped me personally whenever I needed.

Sidhant Sarangi

Organisation- PUMA Group

Area of Work- Supply Chain & GHG Accounting

It was an incredible experience working and learning with PUMA Group. I had a great learning experience in the field of sustainability management and sustainability operations incorporated by PUMA Group and worked closely with PUMA's suppliers in SE Asia, Pakistan and Bangladesh. Understanding the diversified take on sustainability by different suppliers across different countries definitely has given me a holistic learning experience which will surely help me in my career ahead. I am also very grateful to PUMA Group for giving me the opportunity to publish a paper on the "Higg Index Tracking Tool" which I developed during my SIP for internal circulation at PUMA Group globally.

Abinash Pradhan

Organisation- KPMG

Area of Work- Consulting & Sustainability Reporting

As a Sustainability Student, I was privileged enough to get a chance for my summer internship with KPMG. Being a fresher, I never had exposure to the corporate world, but during my internship tenure, I learned a lot about Corporate Sustainability. Even in Pandemic Situation, my mentors and colleagues made sure that my learning was not limited. My area of work was in Sustainability Reporting and Consulting.

Aditya Dora

Organisation- CHINAR (Central Himalayan Institute for Nature and Applied Research)

Area of Work- Designing & Reporting

With the changing climate and the rising average surface temperature of the earth is clear that Sustainability today is not just an obligation but a basic necessity for starting a venture. However, Rome was not built in a day, similarly for a paradigm shift to occur many small initiatives have to be taken all around the world.

Agranee Gulati

Organisation- Grasim Industries

Area of Work- Research and Analysis

My internship at Grasim industries gave me an opportunity to know about how sustainability is incorporated in the textile industry. It gave me exposure to the operations part of the industry and made me more curious to know more about sustainability.

Soumya Ranjan Dalai

Organisation- Vedanta Limited

Area of Work- Sustainability Reporting & Analysis

As a fresher, it was my first ever exposure to the corporate world. I worked as a Corporate HSE & Sustainability Intern on Climate Change Actions which is one of my areas of interest. I was looking over the climate change actions taken in all the Business Units of Vedanta. Everyone in my Corporate HSE group was very cooperative. Especially my mentor was always there to guide me. He allowed me to attend a number of top-level business meetings to get the idea about how they operate & make decisions in terms of Sustainability. My work involved a number of crucial decision makings which helped me in increasing my managerial skills. My work was confidential in, but it gave me a lot of insights into the Sustainability & Climate change actions of Metal & Mining companies.

Dibyajit Dash

Organisation- Trendz Influenza

Area of Work- Content writing & Research Analysis

My internship was at Trendz Influenza as a part of their market research team. During my internship, I understood the intricacies of Visual Marketing and Social Media Marketing. As an intern, the experience at Trendz Influenza gave me an all-round feel of how an agri-based business run. The most important aspect in an industry like Agriculture is that it is directly in touch with consumers hence the best place for a sustainability student to work.

Marushka Bosco D' Souza

Organisation- KPMG

Area of Work- Sustainability reporting & ESG

It was a privilege to get a chance to work at KPMG as my summer internship program. My mentor and team were very supportive and helped me to make the most of my internship by giving me the needed exposure even during this unprecedented time where I was working from home. I mainly worked in the area of Sustainability Reporting and researched on ESG.

Shruti Mathur

Organisation- Shraci Ecopal

Area of Work- WASH & Digital Marketing

My internship with Shraci made me learn a lot about the alternative ways of WASH methods as well as how much sanitation plays an important role in today's times.

Swetangsu Suvankar

Organisation- Grasim Industries

Area of Work- Risk & Safety Management Initiatives

My internship with Grasim helped me in getting a handful of experience into different aspects of sustainability, one of which was "Safety Management for Sustainability of Manufacturing Sector", which gave a brief idea and a practical knowledge of how we can have a way better occupational safety and health in the manufacturing sector. I was indeed a great learning experience under the supervision of different on-field experts, who not only gave me a virtual opportunity for the learning of OHS but also helped me in attaining how to manage and take safety precautions in a more sustainable way, in any of the organizational sectors. My experience at Grasim as an intern is one of the best corporate experience I have ever had, for which I am thankful to my mentor and everyone out there who gave this wonderful opportunity.

Bandana Agrawal

Organisation- RTI International

Area of Work- Renewable Energy & CSR

Working with RTI International India in the field of Energy during my summer internship project, it was my very first experience in the corporate world that gave me a learning exposure to real work. I worked on a project along with the team members. It was about the research on the power distribution sector and to make a strategic plan for the implementation of the project. It got me a great understanding of the core value of sustainability that it's not a part of the business; sustainability is itself embedded in the business values. It was really a great opportunity to work with RTI that boosted my learning.

Prarthana Chand

Organisation- SustainPlus

Area of Work- Sustainability Assessment & Supply chain

I worked for SustainPlus during my summer internship. At SustainPlus I had the opportunity to work on Supplier Sustainability Assessment and developed a Multi Capital Balance Scorecard for a major company in the Home Appliance Sector. Throughout the Internship, I have developed skills that had made me technically stronger and fundamentally more confident. I also looked at Supplier Sustainability through the lens of the on-going pandemic. My overall experience has been great and I would be happy to work with SustainPlus in the near future.

Samiah Lodi

Organisation- Vedanta Limited

Area of Work- Sustainability Reporting & Materiality Benchmarking

Since day one, I was excited to work on my summer internship project with the HSE department. I am happy to share that the interest level remained the same until the completion of my internship. Along with the technicalities of the project, Vedanta taught me the importance of teamwork and business culture. The constant guidance and support even during the pandemic time were commendable. I am grateful to be a part of the Vedanta family.

Arushee Ghai

Organisation- Paryavaran Mitra

Area of Work- SDG & CSR

Working with Paryavaran Mitra, a non-profit organisation gave me an opportunity to deepen my theoretical knowledge of development issues and gain a new sense of professionalism.

Raj Acharya

Organisation- RTI International

Area of Work- Social Impact Assessment

My internship with RTI International India was my first ever exposure to the corporate world and I had a great learning experience working in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH) portfolio, working along with enthusiastic and passionate people helped me get a clear insight into the WaSH portfolio across the globe. My task involved supporting high level business development tasks such as client engagement, identifying potential opportunities for collaboration under the WaSH portfolio, Authoring and publishing of technical articles, papers and report on key International development topics and also performed research work on Hand Hygiene condition in India. This exposure has definitely enhanced my skills and made me more confident and was a great overall experience amidst this harsh pandemic situation.

Ankita Rout

Organisation- KPMG

Area of Work- Waste Management & Circularity

Sustainability has always been a passion that has driven me and my views. Being able to intern at KPMG that embeds sustainability in its core values, I have had the opportunity to learn, gather and explore. My stint at KPMG was my first ever exposure to the corporate world. My learning in terms of work comprised of Circular Business model integration for Aluminium scrap in India and mapping the waste generation with projections for steady raw material supply. My takeaways at the personal front include learning to manage stress, ensuring qualitative delivery within a limited time frame, translating instructions received in virtual mode into productive action both in letter and spirit, professionalism and refinement through perseverance. My hands-on experience at KPMG has definitely been an add on to my attitude and aptitude towards work and life per se.

Preshita Pandey

Organisation- Ultratech Ltd.

Area of Work- Sustainable operations, DJSI, Risk Assessment

I completed my Internship with Ultratech Ltd in the month of June 2020. It was like a dream come true. Coming into a virtual internship in the middle of a pandemic, I wasn't sure what to expect, but I couldn't be happier with the outcome of the experience. In eight weeks, I connected with a dozen executive leaders who offered advice, answered questions, and told their stories. I gained a deeper understanding of the various cross functional partners that are essential in taking a product from a concept to the sustainable manufacturing. I was also lucky to be surrounded by a group of fellow interns from renowned colleges who have a passion for sustainability and growing their careers in this industry. Working at Ultratech Ltd has really humbled and inspired me to continue growing as a research and a sustainability enthusiast. I can't wait to see what impact the cement sector makes next!

Saurav Suman Rath

Organisation- CBM India

Area of Work- Sustainability Reporting & Materiality Assessment

Doing a Summer internship amidst this Pandemic has taught me & nurtured me to understand how the work environment is dynamically changing and organizations are learning and re-thinking ways to operate in the Covid'19 times. My work in SIP was to design the organization Sustainability Report 2020.

Shweta Deshpande

Organisation- Core CarbonX Solutions Pvt Ltd

Area of Work- Circular Economy

Life is all about gaining experiences. I was a fresher and it was my first corporate engagement. SIP taught me a lot of things starting from Team Work to Time Management. Core CarbonX Solutions gave me ample opportunity to interact with people in the Plastic Industry from reporter to the CEO of some companies. Not only did it teach me the value of hierarchy but also the importance of every stakeholder. This was an opportunity wherein I could translate classroom learning into practical learning and also observe closely all the theories and concepts learnt in class.

Surya Narayan Kar

Organisation- CDP India

Area of Work- Science Based Targets, Renewable Energy

For every sustainability enthusiast, CDP is the best organization to work with. Working with a well-educated and environmentally passionate people gave me a clear vision of what they are doing to make a difference to the world. I worked in the project of Renewable Energy-100 (RE-100) and Science Based Target Initiative (SBTi). My SIP experience will be my lifetime memory.

Dhruv Sahgal

Organisation- Vedanta Limited

Area of Work- Sustainability Reporting

It was a great learning experience working at Vedanta Ltd. Being a fresher, this was my first exposure to the corporate world. There was a high level of professionalism maintained throughout my SIP, though, we were working during this tough time of the pandemic. Getting to work on such a good project with deadlines and high expectations made sure that I could contribute to the best of my ability. I got a deeper understanding of what all work needs to be done in the HSE department, which helped me in building a strong foundation by applying my learnings beyond the classroom.

OUR CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS SDG's



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, were adopted to take action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030. A unique thing about them is that these 17 SDGs are integrated—that is, they recognize that action in one area will affect outcomes in others and that development must balance social, economic and environmental sustainability.

Contributing to different SDG's through work is imperative that every sustainability manager should learn. Our students connected with different organisations in different industries during their SIP's and have received the exposure of what working in the corporate world feels like. The most important thing that they have done they have contributed towards different SDG's through their work.

Our students have worked on creating business models revolving around renewable energy thereby contributing to SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy).

Projects revolving around GHG accounting and Sustainability reporting done by our students during their SIPs has helped them gain a nuanced understanding of SGD 13 (climate change)

Further, a number of our students also worked on CSR initiatives and projects in different parts of the country. CSR is a rapidly evolving field through which our students got an opportunity to make active and meaningful contributions to SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well Being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities).

Along with that, students undertook projects related to the circular economy and sustainable consulting through which they have contributed to SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure).

Students also gained important insights about SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 14 (Life Below Water) and SDG 15 (Life on Land) through working on projects revolving around Waste Management and Social Impact Assessment which have become an integral part for organisations to carry out their operations in a sustainable manner.

Lastly, we endeavor to carry the baton of SDG 17 of creating meaningful partnerships that leads to the holistic development of society. Through their work, students were successful in creating such partnerships with their respective organisations and all the stakeholders connected to them leading to mutual benefit for all of them.