



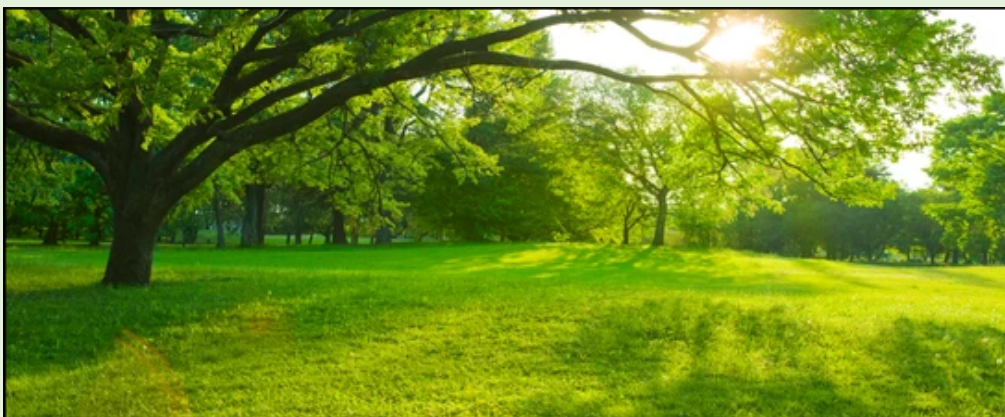
PARITRAN

FEBRUARY, 2023

INTRODUCTION

ConXerv is the functional committee of the School of Sustainability. The committee was established in the year 2015 with the goal of creating an enriched atmosphere that promotes sustainable learning and holistic development to assist the student community in reaching their full potential and serving as transformational leaders for a sustainable future.

The purpose of this newsletter is to raise environmental awareness among students at XIM University. We are pleased to provide you with the February edition of our newsletter, Paritran, to empower XIM University students and keep them up to date on the most recent achievements in the field of sustainability.



Along with the news of Sustainability World, we have included events that the School of Sustainability had this month which is- Farewell of the MBA SM Batch of 2021-23 and the SDP Experience of MBA SM Batch of 2022-24. This newsletter has a dedicated section for Postgraduate, Undergraduate, and Faculty achievements.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Latest news on:

*Climate change,
Eco system changes,
Sustainability and Human
development from around
the globe*

Events:

*Farewell of MBA SM
Batch of 2021-23
&*

*SDP Experience of MBA
SM Batch of 2022-24
&*

Achievements:

*Postgraduate Achievements
Undergraduate
Achievements
Faculty Achievements*



Farewell Party



The Alumni Committee of the School of Sustainability, XIM Bhubaneswar, conducted the farewell for the MBA Sustainability Management batch 2021-23 on 24th February 2023. Students from the senior and junior batches of MBA sustainability management were present at the occasion. Faculty coordinator of the Alumni committee, Dr. Professor Elizabeth Abba, also graced the occasion and gave a brief speech wishing the senior batch all the best for their future endeavors.

The farewell party also witnessed some fantastic performances from Rebecca Joy, Prithish Dash, and Mahaprasad Rath, followed by cake cutting and some games. The juniors thanked the senior batch for their constant support and guidance throughout the academic year.



World Wetlands Day 2023



World Wetlands Day is observed every year on February 2nd to raise awareness about the importance of wetlands and their vital role in maintaining our planet's ecological balance. This day marks the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands, also known as the Ramsar Convention, on February 2nd, 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar.

Wetlands are areas of land saturated with water, either permanently or seasonally. They include marshes, swamps, bogs, and wet meadows, among other types. Wetlands provide a wide range of ecosystem services, including water purification, flood control, carbon sequestration, and habitat for biodiversity.

The theme for World Wetlands Day 2023 is "Wetlands and Water: Wild, Wondrous and Vital." This theme aims to highlight the critical importance of wetlands as a source of fresh water and the need to protect and restore them to maintain their numerous benefits.

Celebrating World Wetlands Day helps raise awareness of the value of wetlands, promotes the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands, and encourages people to take action to protect these vital ecosystems.

RECOUNTING SDP DAYS

CSNR



As part of our SDP, we traveled to the village of Missing Guda in Koraput, Damanjodi region. There for 15 days, we learned and experienced new things every day. MGNREGA, The Food Security Act, and The Forest Rights Act were the three case studies we worked on. This project was required to evaluate and appraise the challenges of implementing MGNREGA and the SDGs in the village. The National Food Security Act and the Forest Rights Act also called for assessing the court system's accessibility in tribal areas.

We also went to some nearby villages, such as Jhimikiguda and Lungri, where we had the chance to sit down with the locals and learn about their daily activities; it was pretty enlightening. Everyone warmly welcomed us as we spent time together. Our SDP experience was terrific, and we are so grateful for this opportunity!

**- Sneha Satapathy
Srishti**

ASHA KIRAN SOCIETY

Our SDP at Asha Kiran Society gave us an insight into the lifestyle of the tribal people. The bonds we formed with the people in the community will always be treasured, and we will be grateful to them for taking us in and sharing their lives with us. We were able to learn from them and take up discussions with them about topics that were taboo to them, and this was only possible because of their enthusiasm to learn new things.

We will always be grateful to the community members who welcomed us into their homes and for our relationships with them. We are glad we got this opportunity to experience so much in this short time.

**- Prithish Dash
Mohammed Muzafar Adil
Soumya Bhusan Nanda**



New superacid converts harmful compounds into sustainable chemicals (February 27, 2023)

Researchers have succeeded in producing very special catalysts, known as 'Lewis superacids', which can be used to break strong chemical bonds and speed up reactions. The production of these substances has, until now, proven extremely difficult. The chemists' discovery enables non-biodegradable fluorinated hydrocarbons, similar to Teflon, and possibly even climate-damaging greenhouse gases, such as sulphur hexafluoride, to be converted back into sustainable chemicals.

Read more at:

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2023/02/230227132700.htm>



Reducing pesticide pollution and the intensity of harvesting can increase crop yield and contribute to climate change mitigation (February 8, 2023)

Researchers have found that carbon sequestration and plant resilience, as well as forage pasture yield, can be increased through critical adjustments in agricultural management. The results provide a roadmap for reducing pesticide loads in soils and the first steps towards increasing climate change mitigation while improving crop yield in grasslands.

Read more at :

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2023/02/230208125121.htm>



Energy-efficient construction materials work better in colder climates, say researchers (February 3, 2023)

In a new study, researchers claim that the energy payback period of using phase change materials, new technology in the construction industry, is the shortest in a colder climate. The optimal location for their usage is the interior on the northern side of the building. The study provides informed answers regarding the application of PCMs to improve buildings' energy efficiency.

Read more at:

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2023/02/230203105332.htm>



Biochar offers new promise for climate-smart agriculture (February 21, 2023)

Researchers see the interconnections between the systems in nature and how each component impacts the others. In Connecticut, rich in forests and farmland, experts see the potential that could position the state at the forefront of a climate-smart agriculture (CSA) approach using an emerging sustainable practice called biochar.

Read more at:

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2023/02/230221113042.htm>



'Game-changing' findings for sustainable hydrogen production (February 8, 2023)

Hydrogen fuel could be a more viable alternative to traditional fossil fuels, according to the University of Surrey researchers who have found that a type of metal-free catalysts could contribute to developing cost-effective and sustainable hydrogen production technologies.

Read more at:

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2023/02/230208125135.htm>



New design for lithium-air battery could offer much longer driving range compared with the lithium-ion battery (February 23, 2023)

Scientists have built and tested for a thousand cycles a lithium-air battery design that could one day be powering cars, domestic airplanes, long-haul trucks, and more. Its energy storage capacity greatly surpasses that possible with lithium-ion batteries.

Read more at:

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2023/02/23022210559.htm>





Feedback loops make climate action even more urgent, scientists say (February 17, 2023)

Researchers have identified 26 global warming accelerators known as amplifying feedback loops that the researchers say aren't being correctly included in climate models. They note that the findings add urgency to the need to respond to the climate crisis and provide a roadmap for policymakers aiming to avert the most severe consequences of a warming planet.

Read more at:

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2023/02/230217120546.htm>

Wastewater sector emits nearly twice as much methane as previously thought (February 28, 2023)

Researchers reveal that actual methane emissions from the wastewater treatment sector in the U.S. are nearly double what existing international guidelines would predict. Municipal wastewater treatment plants emit roughly double the amount of methane into the atmosphere than scientists previously believed, according to new research from Princeton University. And since methane warms the planet over 80 times more powerfully than carbon dioxide over 20 years, that could be a big problem.

Read more at:

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2023/02/230228172159.htm>



Estuaries face higher nutrient loads in the future -- particularly on the Atlantic coast (February 28, 2023)

A new study finds that the Atlantic coast and eastern Gulf Coast of the United States are likely to see significant increases in nutrient loading in coming decades, putting those areas at heightened risk of experiencing harmful algal blooms. Nutrient loadings are of interest primarily because they are critical contributors to algal blooms, which pose risks to both human health and the environment.

Read more at:

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2023/02/230228113800.htm>



PG ACHIEVEMENTS



Munshi Nadim Ahmed
MBA-SM 2021-23

Munshi Nadim Ahmed of MBA Sustainability Management batch 21-23 completed his term as SDG coordinator at SDSN Youth for 2022-23. SDSN Youth is a global network of youth that promotes sustainability and SDGs. It also strives for a sustainable solution for global environmental issues. One of his significant contributions was to develop a position paper on Asia- Pacific Youth priorities.

The paper highlighted the issues and priorities of the Asia-Pacific region's youth, including the need to minimize carbon emissions, the importance of climate education, North-South equality, and the necessity to give marginalized voices a larger platform. The paper was presented at COP 27 conducted by the UNFCCC at Sharm-Al-Sheikh. It gathered the attention of global policymakers.

UG ACHIEVEMENTS

Abhilash Sachdeva - BSc. SD 2nd Year

Abhilash Sachdeva received the Millennium Fellowship from United Nations Academic Impact signed by Robert Skinner, Deputy Director and Chief of Partnerships and Global Engagement, United Nations, and Sam Vaghar, Executive Director, Millennium Campus Network, for his project Atithi Not Devo Bhava recognizing the positive impact he has made in the community which aligns with the UN's mission to promote peace, sustainability, and human rights. This fellowship symbolizes his commitment to the betterment of society and serves as a reminder of the positive change he can bring about.



Abhilash Sachdeva Represented the School of Sustainability at a Youth4WaterPlus Workshop organized by UNICEF. The topic of the workshop session was "Transforming Ideas to Action for WASH and Climate." The session was attended by 20 youths from Odisha from urban, rural, and indigenous settings who are passionate about Water, Sanitation, Hygiene, and Climate Change issues.

He also published and Displayed a poster on the theme "Making agriculture resilient for climate change: Water shortage, an opportunity for action and collaboration" at The 2nd WASAG INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON WATER SCARCITY IN AGRICULTURE held in Praia, Cabo Verde, West Africa, from February 7–10, 2023. The event gathered specialists and practitioners from all over the world to talk about ways to deal with how climate change is affecting agriculture.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS



Dr .Prof Arup Roy

Dr. Prof Arup Roy, Assistant Professor, School of sustainability, XIM University Bhubaneswar, Published an article in the International Journal of Energy Sector Management titled: The impact of foreign direct investment, renewable and non-renewable energy consumption, and natural resources on ecological footprint: an Indian perspective.

This study investigates the impact of foreign direct investment, renewable and non-renewable energy consumption, economic growth, trade openness, and natural resources on ecological footprint. This research investigates the effects of direct foreign investment (FDI), trade (TA), and natural resources (NR) on the environmental footprint (EF) within the framework of economic growth (GDP), renewable (RE), and non-renewable (NRE) energy consumption.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS



Dr. Prof Elizabeth Abba

Dr. Prof Elizabeth Abba, Associate Professor School of Sustainability, Associate Dean of International Relations Xim University, made a joint presentation with international partners at Magis Exchange Programme by the International Association of Jesuit Universities and International Week on Sustainability by the Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Antwerp. The presentation (Online) under the theme “Beyond bilateral projects: Cooperation in network and consortia” was accepted in the International Higher Education Dialogue from 1-3rd March 2023 by Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (The DAAD), the Association of Indian Universities and the Executive Unit for the Financing of Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation (UEFISCDI).

SCHOOL OF SUSTAINABILITY

Business corporations, UN agencies, government departments, civil society, and other development actors are seeking a different cadre of human resources who can align profit with ecological and social missions.

The School of Sustainability is established at XIM University to fulfill XIM University's social and environmental mission of bringing about transformation in our society. Being the first of its kind in India, the School aims to create and nurture the next generation of managers and leaders who can anchor and accelerate sustainability as a strategy for economic growth and sustainable human development.

Thus we take the first steps, knowing we have a Planet to Heal, a Planet to save for ourselves and our future generations.



For more details, please visit: <https://sos.xim.edu.in/>



<https://bit.ly/3QB5cb8>



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