

Bi-annual Newsletter **EC INSIGHTS** *Keeping you informed*



Signing of the MoU between NLCS and JNEC

MoU renewed with NLCS

Jigme Tenzin, DCES igme Namgyel Engineering College

(JNEC) renewed and signed the MoU with National Land Commission Secretariat (NLCS) on 11th February, 2021. Hon'ble Secretary of NLCS, Dasho Pema Chewang and the President of JNEC, Dr. Andu Dukpa signed the MoU

in presence of officials from both the organisations. This signing mark another important day for the college as NLCS has rendered continuous support to JNEC, providing adjunct faculty to teach various modules of surveying programmes which exponentially benefited the faculties, staff and students.

NLCS and JNEC in collaboration have hosted multiple seminars and training sessions in the past. NLCS supported the college in developing the Diploma as well as Bachelor

The Inaugural Lecture by Dr. Andu Dukpa at Bialystok University of **Technology (BUT), Poland**

Dr. Andu Dukpa

r. Andu Dukpa, President of Jigme Namgyel Engineering College of the Royal University of Bhutan specializing in the field of electrical engineering delivered an inaugural lecture during the official inauguration of the 2020/2021 academic year at the Bialystok University of Technology.

Jigme Namgyel Engineering College, part of the Royal University of Bhutan, is a partner

programmes at the capacity of subject experts during consultative workshop and programme validation, along with which NLCS also supported laboratory facilities to cater to the needs of the college. The College with support of NLCS is trying best to produce competent graduates, fit in for the kind of job expertise required by NLCS, and other private and government organizations.

The signing of MoU between NLCS and JNEC this time will further strengthen the collaboration between two organizations, and the college is working towards coordinating seminars and conferences to provide training and support to aspiring surveyors while also creating awareness on the importance of Surveying and Geoinformatics. The college would like to thank Hon'ble Dasho and entire officials from NLCS for the continued support and assure our continued efforts to always work together for the betterment of both the students and the institutions.



Hon'ble Secretary of NLCS, Dasho Pema Chewang and the President of JNEC, Dr. Andu



Dr. Andu Dukpa delivering his inaugural speech remotely.

institution of the Bialystok University of Technology. The university offers education in the fields of engineering and management. Its main goal is to professionally prepare human resources to support the development of the country's infrastructure in order to improve the

quality of life of its inhabitants. Since 2011, the unit has been headed by Dr. Andu Dukpa, who put emphasis on the development of international cooperation. The university from Bhutan is an active member of the Erasmus + program; it also carries out Cont... Page 5

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JNEC and FUTURES+: An Academic Network

Samten Lhendup, Dean of Academic Affairs

ince its establishment in 1974, Jigme Namgyel Engineering College as a technical institution has expanded its scope of development in the field of academic, research and innovation beyond the limited resources in the country. The college so far has been thriving actively in collaborating with most

relevant external projects and institution as potential partners to reinforce the growth of the college.

In 2020, JNEC is linked to FUTURES+ as an academic partner, a collaboration to strive on transforming technology innovation and a platform to share advancing knowledge. Futures+ was organized by the National Institute of Technology, Warangal and Sustainable Living Lab (SL2). According to Futures+ (2020), it is a "foresight driven community innovation program" with the aim of building more than 100 pilot projects in order to address the issues of sustainability with the use of technology through community innovation. Alongside JNEC, institutions such as CIE, IIT Hyderabad (India), National University of Singapore, Futures office (Singapore) and Wilmar Business Polytechnic (Indonesia) also joined Futures+.

The partnership will aid JNEC to work towards providing professional development, consultancy and community services, and to promote applied research for the benefit of the

Token of Ap	opreciation	
Jigme Namgyel Engineering College		
To convey our token of appreciation to your commitment towards $FUTURES+2020$		
Jointly erganised by Sustainable Living Lab and National Institute of Technology Warangal.		
Prof. Asjanovala L. Head of Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering National Nutritote of Technology, Warnagal	Me helmany Simon, Country Director, Suntainable Living Lab Indonesia	
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community. The partnership will also assist the college in building a collaborative network with other reputed institutions. The college hereafter expects to work closely with Futures+ in expanding academic horizon in the face of advancing technology and innovation in the education.

Inauguration of **JNEC** e-Yantra **Robotics Laboratory**

Bevek Subba, DECE n 22nd July, 2020, Professor (Dr.)

Kavi Arya, the Principal Investigator of e-Yantra Project at the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-Bombay), India inaugurated the JNEC e-Yantra Robotics

> Laboratory along with Dr. Andu Dukpa, the Hon'ble President of Jigme Namgyel Engineering College (JNEC).

The laboratory was established through the support of e-Yantra Lab Setup Initiative (eLSI), one of the initiatives of e-Yantra Project of IIT-Bombay. The e-Yantra, IIT Bombay team led by Prof. Kavi Arya participated in the event virtually from IIT Bombay, India.

As part of the inaugural speech, Prof. Kavi Arya emphasized the importance of innovation culture in the young students and entrepreneurship development in the colleges through e-Yantra initiatives. He also spoke about the initiatives and activities carried out as a part of the cordial relationship between India and Bhutan through e-Yantra projects. He further highlighted that JNEC e-Yantra Lab is the 372nd Lab to be established through eLSI and the first ever in Bhutan.

Dr. Andu Dukpa, President of JNEC thanked Prof. Kavi Arya and his team for the support and held that the Lab in JNEC will be available for use by students and staff of all disciplines. Dr. Andu said that subject areas such as data science, machine learning, IoT and artificial intelligence are the future of engineering, and JNEC must continue to support such initiatives to encourage the mentioned subjects in the college. He further stated that everyone should get access to the Lab and that JNEC e-Yantra Robotics Lab should henceforth initiate programmes to benefit the youth in the



community, especially school going children during the vacation period.

e-Yantra is a project hosted by IIT-Bombay to provide education in embedded systems and robotics. The project is sponsored by the Ministry of Human Resource Development of India through its National Mission on Education through ICT. The project provides opportunities to students through e-Yantra competition: e-Yantra Robotics Competition (eYRC) where the winner is awarded 6-weeks of internship opportunity in IIT Bombay; e-Yantra Ideas Competition (eYIC) to solicit ideas from student-teacher teams and train the students in articulating the local problems. JNEC will also participate in the annual e-Yantra Robotics and Ideas competition and other competitions held globally.

Four faculty members, Mr. Bevek Subba from the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Ms. Sonam Wangmo from the Department of Information Technology, Mr. Thinley Tobgay from the Department of Electrical Engineering and Mr. Tandin Wangdi from the Department of Mechanical Engineering were involved in the setting-up of the Lab in JNEC.

The main objective of establishing the Lab

in JNEC is to promote and provide robotenhanced-education in JNEC. Through the robotics technology, JNEC aspires to inculcate innovative and entrepreneurial mindset in the students, encourage creative ideas and promote interdisciplinary learning. In addition, the Lab will also facilitate and organize robotics competitions.

The JNEC Robotics team showcased "Obstacle Detection and Video Surveillance Robot" during the first Innovation Day held in the college with the theme, "Creating Platform, Harnessing Innovation" coinciding with the 40th Birth Anniversary of His Majesty The King and the 46th College Foundation Day on February 21, 2020 and February 22, 2020 respectively.

As a part of the event and in response to COVID-19 pandemic, JNEC e-Yantra Robotics team exhibited an Automatic Hand Sanitizer Dispenser designed and developed by the JNEC team.

Mr. Bevek Subba, the Coordinator of the Lab thanked the IIT-Bombay team led by Prof. Kavi Arya and Hon'ble President of JNEC for the support in establishing the laboratory.

Academics honoured with Gold Medal

Dechen Wangmo, DCES(Ed)

c he accomplishment and achievement of the educators in the field of education is one of the important aspects of the quality of educators and their quest

towards strengthening the values and quality of an education. Mr. Tashi Wangchuk, faculty in the Department of Information Technology at Jigme Namgyel Engineering College exhibited this very quality on successfully completing his masters study.

In 2008, he was awarded the prestigious Nehru-Wangchuck scholarship to pursue M.Sc in Digital Forensics and Information Security from Gujarat Forensic Sciences University, Gujarat, India. Concerning the university, Gujarat



Forensic Sciences University (GFSU) is a state university in Gujarat, India, established as the first university in the world solely dedicated to forensic and investigative science due to acute shortage against the increasing demand for forensic experts in the country and around the world.

Upon receiving the Masters degree in M.Sc in Digital Forensics and Information in 2020, Mr. Tashi Wangchuk was awarded the gold medal with certificate of merit for academic excellence during the GFSU convocation held on 26th November 2020. Besides, he has demonstrated numerous achievements and obtained several merit certificates in the field of academics throughout his educational journey. While on study, he also published books titled '*Linux* system administration : A hands-on guide' and '*Linux network services administration : Build* a virtual network and practice'.

It is indeed a pride for the Royal University of Bhutan and the country for his achievement as an international students at GFSU. The College takes privilege in congratulating his academic success as an educator and for being exemplary to many growing educators in the university. The college looks to his diligent and valuable contribution in the academia.

A Workshop on Problem Based Learning in JNEC

Ngawang Chojey, ARO

Problem-Based Learning (PBL) is an instructional method in which students learn through facilitated problem solving. Jigme Namgyel Engineering College (JNEC) has introduced PBL from 8th May 2019 by organizing inhouse Problem Based Learning

workshops. PBL in JNEC is collective progression of teaching-learning pedagogy as a part of the European Union (Erasmus + Capacity Building in Higher Education Program) funded project titled 'Strengthening Problem Based Learning in South Asia Universities – PBL South Asia' for which JNEC is a partner institute along with nine other partner universities across South Asia. The Project is led by Alto Global Impact of Alto University, Finland.

A workshop titled Experience Sharing and Way Forward for PBL Activities in JNEC was held on 4th November 2020 on college campus. This is the third in-house workshop aimed to induce clear concept of Problem-Based Learning (PBL) against the existing practice of Project-Based Learning. The workshop was facilitated by Dr. Andu Dukpa, President of the College. In the opening session, he shared the aim and objectives of adopting PBL as a part projects work in place of existing practices for students pursuing bachelors and diploma programmes in the college. He also explained the distinction between the conventional practices of Project-Based Learning and Problem-Based Learning as newly adopted approach.

The workshop was further enriched with experience sharing session by some of the academics who underwent PBL training on PBL South Asia Workshop for Faculty



and Advanced students at IIT Bombay and conducted PBL based projects. Mr. Thinley Tobgay, Assistant Lecturer, Department of Electrical Engineering and Mr. Kul Prasad Sharma, Associate Lecturer, Department of Humanities and Management shared that the basic aspects of PBL approach does not require any specific background but it is necessary to understand the assigned theme and collaborate in the group to garner the innovative results. Through the working team, they understood that PBL is a method to engage students' curiosity and initiate learning the subject matters. It also prepares student to think critically and analyze appropriate learning resources to approach the proposed project. They also explained that for PBL projects, the role of mentor is not to monitor and intervene into the activities of the working group constantly, rather their role is to facilitate the group towards independent learning as team and act as a link for mobilizing required resources.

It was clear to many academics that PBL is student-centered and problem-centered approach. PBL uplift teamwork and collaboration, promote self-learning and enhance critical thinking and is a measure to "think out of box". However some academics argue that the proposed PBL is similar to the existing practices of carrying out projects.

Mr. Phurba Tamang, Associate Lecturer from Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying also shared his experience of being a mentor to students' project based on PBL in Spring Semester 2020. He mentored a pilot PBL Project in collaboration with a team of four students and a mentor from Aalto University and five students with a mentor from JNEC. The joint project looked into the 'sustainable waste management in Samdrup Jongkhar Thromde'. The team members from both sides comprised of mentors and students with diverse discipline. They identified a practical solution and made the recommendations as an outcome of their joint project.

The session concluded with the information on the adoption and introduction of the four PBL based modules in the curriculum in place of existing Project Work modules of Diploma and Bachelor programmes that will be implemented from Autumn Semester, 2020. The decision was approved through 162nd College Academic Committee (CAC) meeting.

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JNEC, Bi-annual Newsletter

	COLLABORATION AND LINKAGES		
A) Within Bhutan			
1	Bhutan Telecom Limited		
2	Construction Development Board, Thimphu, Bhutan		
3	Loden SEED, Thimphu, Bhutan		
4	National Land Commission Secretariat, RGoB, Thimphu		
5	Samdrup Jongkhar Initiative- Lhomon Society Dewathang, S/Jongkhar		
6	Tashi Infocomm Limited, Samdrup Jongkhar, Bhutan		
7	Department of Information and Media, MoIC, Thimphu, Bhutan		
8	Department of Renewable Energy, MoEA, Thimphu Bhutan		
B) With Internationals			
1	Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, Uttarakhand, India		
2	Ashikaga Institute of Technology, Japan		
3	Bialystok University of Technology, Poland		
4	Gheorghe Asachi Technical University, Romania		
5	Aalto University, Finland		
6	Waseda University, Japan		
7	Kansai University, Japan		
8	Nakayama Iron Works, Japan		
9	College of Engineering Pune, India		
10	FUTURES +, Singapore		
11	Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena, Spain		
12	Wroclaw University of Science and Technology, Poland		
13	World Intellectual Property Organization, Switzerland		
14	Indian Institute of Technology Guwabati		

	RESEARCH PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS			
Sl. No	Research Topic	Researcher	Source of Funding	
Completed Research				
1	Educators' Beliefs on Gender Differences in Mathematics Performance and Mathematical Ability of Their Students	Sonam Gyeltshen (JNEC) and Kul Prasad Sharma (JNEC)	Annual University Research Grant (AURG)	
2	Enhancing Food Security via Intricate Assessment of Crop Water Requirement, Soil Nutrient and Agro-Climatic Condition – A Case Study in Samdrup Jongkhar	Sanjit Kumar Bhattarai (JNEC), Ayan Bhuyan (JNEC) and Tandin Wangchuk (JNEC)	Annual University Research Grant (AURG)	
Ongoing Research				
1	Examining the influence of university Teachers' Qualification and experience on students' academic achievement in mathematics	Sonam Gyeltshen (JNEC), Man Singh Tamang (SC) & Ngawang Namgyel (JNEC)	Annual University Research Grant (AURG)	
2	Geo-hazard Risk Assessment and stabilisation Road Slope Disasters in Bhutan: A case study on Landslide along Dewathang-Samdrup Jongkhar Highway	Phurba Tamang (JNEC), Vasker Sharma (JNEC), Lobzang Dorji (JNEC) & Jigme Tenzin (JNEC)	Annual University Research Grant (AURG)	
3	Transforming STEM Education to IoT STEM AI: Reaching Emerging Technologies to Grassroots	Sangay Chedup (JNEC), Bevek Subba (JNEC), Deo Raj Biswa (JNEC), Tandin Zangmo (JNEC), Srijana Gajmer (JNEC) and Dr. Karma Utha (SC)	Research Endowment Fund (REF)	
STAFF UPDATE				

NEW ADDOINTMEN

NEW APPOINTMENT

Ms. Kezang Choden, Technician in Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying

Ms. Eshori Kumari Adhikari, Asst. Lecturer in Department of Humanities and Management

Mr. Sangay Phuntsho, Asst. Lecturer in Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying

Ms. Sanjana Pokhrel, Asst. Lecturer in Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying

Ms. Ugyen Choden, Asst. Lecturer in Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying

Ms. Dechen Wangmo, Asst. Lecturer in Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying

RESIGNATION

Mr. Ayan Bhuyan, Associate Lecturer in Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying

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In conversation with the first recipient of India-Bhutan Friendship Scholarship

uring the State Visit of Indian Prime Minister, H.E. Shri Narendra D Modi, in August 2019, a Memorandum of Understanding/Agreement was signed, which addressed cooperation in

Technical Higher Education for Bhutanese, to study in India. Development Unwavering so, the India-Bhutan Friendship Scholarship was announced in the early

months of the year 2020. The Scholarship is dedicated to mark glorious celebration of the 40th Birth Anniversary of His Majesty, Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck. The scholarship also celebrates harmonious bond of friendship the two countries have cherished and nurtured since ages.

Ms. Srijana Gajmer, Associate Lecturer of Jigme Namgyel Engineering College is exalted to receive the first ever India-Bhutan Friendship Scholarship to pursue M. Tech. in Control & Automation Engineering in Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITK).

In an exclusive interaction, she shares her joy with Mr. Ngawang Chojay, .

Ngawang: What course of expertise are you pursuing and what is your motivation?

Srijana: "I am pursuing M.Tech in Control and Automation Engineering, with my focus in Artificial Intelligence. I am greatly motivated by the words of His Majesty The Druk Gyalpo, who has enlightened us on a new arena that Bhutan can delve into. Artificial

The Inaugural Lecture by Dr. Andu Dukpa at Bialystok University of **Technology**

projects with academic centers in Canada, Japan and Nepal.

The cooperation between the Bialystok University of Technology and Jigme Namgyel Engineering College has been developed since 2016. Since then, 14 students from Bhutan have studied at our university under the Erasmus + program . Lecturers also participated in the international exchange: in Bialystok we hosted 11 teachers from Bhutan, 6 employees of the University of Technology took advantage of the opportunity to visit JNEC . One of the JNEC teachers obtained a master's degree from the

Intelligence will form the basis of tomorrows' technologies and comfort. Bhutan, righteously is in a comfort zone to explore and work on the technologies, that is growing rapidly in the rest of the world. I strongly believe that, Bhutan can achieve digital and

technological self-sufficiency, and there are opportunities, while the only gap is the ones willingness to grab them and work towards it".

Ngawang: Can you elaborate how the course is being carried out?

Srijana: "Due to the unavoidable situation, IIT Kanpur has taken a prudent decision to enable the courses through study from home schemes. There are interactive MOOC and Educational platforms, that enable course materials, quizzes, digital library, access to useful online software and repositories. The course materials are available to the students and discussion forum with the tutors are available throughout the duration while a virtual interaction is scheduled every week to discuss and highlight key concepts. The quizzes and assignments have been carefully designed, to avoid issues pertaining to plagiarism, while every student gets an opportunity to express their learning".

Ngawang : What would be your experience of studying in IITK?

Srijana: "Undoubtedly, IITK is one of the most revered and finest Institutes in the world, and the quality of technological education is the utmost priority. The faculty have been inspiring, contributing towards learning and available for consultation. For an individual there is an

Faculty of Engineering Management at PB. In 2017, Bialystok University of Technology was also visited by Dr. Andu Dukpa, and the visit to the university in Bhutan was made by Dr. Eng. Marta Kosior-Kazberuk, prof. PB.

Bhutan is an amazing country located in the Himalayas. It has only 700,000 inhabitants. In the 1970s, the then king of Bhutan introduced a new economic model to the country - he replaced the GDP index with an index that can be translated into "Gross National Happiness". The royal program introduced rules to help achieve social equality and increase the sense of life satisfaction among citizens, including by not agreeing to economic development



enormous leap from Under Graduate course, and the Institute generously opens up, a plethora of opportunities and ideas to us. It was a revelation for me, on the possibility of area and field of research or projects that could be carried out as an individual or collaboration that can be made. There are State of The

Art laboratories and centers, that have fostered numerous discoveries and startups, which is of global stature, while anyone who has ideas, is wholeheartedly welcomed. In the vastness of ocean of knowledge, I am patiently picking the best and realizing, how important it is to keep up with the scene of today and learn for tomorrow".

Ngawang : What would be your advice to perspective applicants of the scholarship?

Srijana: "The process of selection for IITK was transparent and structured. An interview of the shortlisted candidates was conducted by committee from the Institute, so it is important for the individual to have clarity of what they want to pursue. Studying in an Institute of a repute so high, has all the perks and exposure to offer. This scholarship opportunity would prove great learning experience and revive a researcher and explorer in an individual. I am grateful to Government of India, Royal University of Bhutan and Jigme Namgyel Engineering College, for this lifetime opportunity and assume fortunate. The scholarship comes with enormous prestige and immeasurable rewards, so I encourage aspirants to apply for the opportunity, that is available to three best Bhutanese students, every year.

at the expense of natural resources and local culture, free education and health care. The royal concept of sustainable development has also been analyzed by the world's best economists and has influenced international politics. During his guest lecture, Dr. Andu Dukpa discussed the impact of the Gross National Happiness index on the development of higher education in Bhutan and around the world. Whether you become an engineer or doctor, farmer or politician, ultimately our main goal as a human being is happiness and prosperity. Therefore, the education we provide should help us achieve this goal: happiness and prosperity, argued Dr. Andu Dukpa.

OUR HEROES

JNEC would like to thank all the staff volunteers, JNEC Desuups and Rovers Scouts for keeping the college safe in the COVID-19 Pandemic.



Virtual National Training Program on Intellectual Property

Ngawang Chojay, ARO Jigme Namgyel Engineering College (JNEC), Royal University of Bhutan (RUB) in collaboration with World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) has organized 'Virtual National Training Program on Intellectual Property'.

The training was chaired by Dr. Phanchung, Director, Department of Research and External Relations, OVC, RUB, Bhutan and Mr. Duong Chi Dung, Director, Division of Least Developed Countries, DALCD, WIPO, Geneva. The two days training was a part of project titled 'Capacity Development in Innovation and IP Rights for the Royal University of Bhutan (RUB) and Development of University-wide Innovation and IP Policy and Strategy' supported by WIPO. The World Intellectual Property Organization is one of the 15 specialized agencies of the United Nations (UN). Pursuant to the 1967 Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization, WIPO was created to promote and protect intellectual property (IP) across the world by cooperating with countries as well as



Participants attending the virtual training

Copyrights,

Geographical Indicators and

Strategy Framework.

international organizations. It began operations on 26 April 1970 when the convention entered into force.

A total of 35 officials from various RUB colleges and office of vice chancellor participated in the virtual training. The two days training were based on the following themes;

Theme 1 : Introduction to Intellectual Property: Key concepts and Issues,

Theme 2 : Intellectual Property Tools for LDCs: WIPO Support Programs for Promoting Innovation, Creativity and Development in LDCs.

Theme 3 : Patents, IP and Developments – Special focus on Patents,

in creating awareness and reaching valuable information related to Intellectual Property Rights (IPR).

Rover Scouts Investiture Ceremony

A c a d e m i c Development *Kala Tshering, DME* orresponding with the

orresponding with the occasion of 65th Birth Anniversary of His Majesty the 4th King on 11th November 2020, the Rover Scouts Investiture Ceremony of Jigme Namgyel Engineering

College was held to recognize the role of young students as the scouting member.

Founded on the motto, "Service to Others", the Rover Scouts was initiated to provide opportunities in the area of leadership and management. The purpose of scout movement is to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities. The members who are mentally and emotionally prepared to commit as the member of the rover scout are ushered through this investiture ceremony, signifying their preparedness. Further, the new crew members will be trained in different areas of scouting to align with the fundamental principle of scouting. This year rover scout investiture ceremony was held for a total of 15 students, 4 boys and 11 girls who were awarded the service badges in the ceremony. The new council members were also awarded Tashi Khadar to recognize important roles and

responsibilities they will shoulder.

The program was graced by Dr. Andu Dukpa, the President of the college. The program was commenced by paying homage to His Majesty the 4th Druk Gyalpo on the 65th Birth Anniversary with offering of butter lamp and khaddar. Considering the pandemic situation in the country, the program was joined by few officials that includes Deans, Heads of the Department, Student Councilors and Desuups of the college.

"The future of the nation lies in the hands of our younger generation, it is therefore crucial that they live up to our high expectations and ensure the continued well-being of the people and security of the nation". It is indeed the day to celebrate and honor these invaluable guiding lines of His Majesty the Fourth King towards the younger generations in the country.

Theme 4 : Copyrights and Related Rights

IP and Development - Special Focus on

Theme 5 : Trademarks, Industrial Designs and

Theme 6 : Innovation and Creativity in

Institutions and Organizations: Policy and

The online training which will be followed by

face to face training is expected to initiate the

human capacity and develop IP related policy of

RUB led by JNEC. The college will also support

the schools, communities and organisations





Stakeholder Consultative Workshop for New Diploma Programme

Sanjit Kr. Bhattarai, DCES

n 21st and 22nd January 2021, the Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying (DCES) conducted a stakeholder consultative workshop for the titled 'Diploma in Construction Site Supervision'. Despite the pandemic situation, the department could convey the workshop with the collective

participation from engineers and managers from government and private agencies of Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag. There were in total ten participants bearing pivotal roles of Project Engineer, Project Manager, Project Engineer and Site Engineer at their respective department.

The Head of Department, Mr. Jigme Tenzin the shared the aims and objectives of introducing this programme, expressing the need of support from participants in providing valuable feedbacks, comments and recommendations to enhance the programme content. The workshop commenced with a brainstorming session where participants gained the overall idea of the and the process required in developing a technical programme. The participants humbly expressed their interest and positive feedback after understanding the aims and objectives of the programme. Along with the Head of Department, the focal person Mr. Vasker Sharma coordinated the workshop with due diligence, collaborating with the participants in seeking the critical developments and inputs for programme so that it becomes more viable for the construction market and industry.

The programme aims to develop a professional workforce in the construction sector as Construction Site Supervisors to ensure completion of any construction projects. It aspires to blend engineering profession and management roles into the wholesome curriculum for the development of competent workers to shoulder formal roles within the construction industry as Construction Supervisors. Site

quality and

timelv



Dean of Academic Affairs with the Consultative Workshop participants

Construction site supervisors play a central and pivotal role in the planning and execution of building and highway projects of all sizes and spanning all sectors. They assist with planning, organizing, and supervision of infrastructure construction projects and maintenance works.

Through the Diploma course, students will be introduced to the key principles of construction management and project supervision, incorporating sound planning and estimating, site organization, management of equipment and materials, human resource management, and a series of legal and contractual considerations. Besides, they will learn basic civil, electrical and mechanical work skills. The students will also be facilitated with industrial visits and field attachment program to gain hands-on experience and to understand the needs and functioning of a potential employing organization.

The programme structure is designed to take prior relevance to the international institutes offering similar courses such as San Diego State University, British Columbia Institute of Technology, Baltimore City Community College (BCCC), and National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET) in India. The workshop participants were supportive and provided positive feedbacks on the need of this programme to built competent professionals to supervise the construction sites. The participants shared their experiences and the need to re-structure the professional roles and responsibilities in construction projects to enhance the quality and for timely completion. Participants also provided critical comments on the programme development with some additional remarks to include the contents related to traditional Bhutanese construction methods and the latest construction materials and technologies available in the market. They shared that there is a lack of qualified site supervisors in the construction industry and the development of such programme is considered need of the time. The two days consultative workshop strengthened the programme content with constructive feedbacks and recommendations from participants for further incorporation.

Dean of Academic Affairs, Mr. Samten Lhendup graced the closing remark of the workshop extending appreciation and acknowledgment from the college for their invaluable participation and contribution. The department will look forward to revise the content before introduction by July 2021.

JNEC Y-Peer on World AIDS Day

Sarda Chuwan, DEE

he World AIDS Day is observed every year on 1st December across the globe since 1988. In the midst of unprecedented impact posed by COVID-19

pandemic on global society, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has called on the leaders around the world for "global solidarity" to overcome the challenges posed by COVID-19 on

the HIV response. This year, WHO has chosen to focus on "Global solidarity, resilient HIV services" as the theme for World AIDS Day.

Despite substantial and continuous effort in providing HIV services across the globe, it is learnt that the pandemic in 2020 has slowed down the progress of achieving the treatment plans. Considered as the threat to human society, it felt necessary to take advance precautions in form of awareness program and related measures to eradicate the cases of HIV. On this day, people around the world come together to show support for people living with HIV, to create awareness and to remember those who have died from HIV related diseases.

In hope of renewing or fights against the spread of HIV and ensure continued HIV care, the JNEC Y-Peer organized the program to join the world in observing the World AIDS Day. The Y-Peer club distributed red ribbons amongst staff and students and also initiated to wear uniform dress, red in color by all students signaling the fight against HIV/AIDS and indicating support to people living with HIV.

In Bhutan, since 1993 total number of HIV/ AIDS cases stands at 687 in total, majority of whom are from the age group of 25 to 49 years. However, lesser number of HIV positive cases were reported above the age of 50.

JNEC Y-Peer, therefore continues to coordinate and organize programs every year in the college to educate and show far reaching concerns to many young people on the global impact of HIV cases and indeed in the small country like Bhutan.



Y-Peer members on World AIDS Day



Jigme Namgyel Engineering College has organized series of Fitness programs for students during the lockdown. The fitness programs were organized to encourage the students to remain in the campus and to create awareness on the physical health and fitness during the COVID-19 nandemic.

leaders' function.

Basic Leadership Training for Student Leaders

Namgay Tshering, DEE

the role of student leaders is considered as an important aspect of college management. Student leaders at their various capacity do contribute in the overall management of the college specifically in carrying out multiple activities related to students and managing the students' welfare. On this

account, student leaders in the college which includes Councilors, Club Secretaries and Class Representatives are provided leadership training to make individuals more efficient in undertaking their role.

The basic leadership training session initiated by the office of student affairs team was held on December 5th, 2020 mainly focused on the importance of public relations, role of communication for leaders and the ways how Mr. Norbu Tshering, Asst. Professor of Mechanical Engineering Department led the opening session on public relations. He said, "being a leader among the team, we must know our strength and weakness", defining the public relations as the practice of managing the flow of information between an individual or an organization and the public.

The student attendees were shared on the several areas such as exposure to audience, managing internal and external relations, cooperate social responsibilities and team culture to ensure effective public relations as a leader.

In the next session, Mr. Namgay Dorji, Lecturer from Humanities and Management Department highlighted on the role of importance of communication for leadership. He pointed out quoting Lee J. Colan ,"Successful leaders, successful communicators engage both the minds and the hearts of people". He shared that leadership is all about effective



Students attending the Leadership Workshop

communication. During the session, he shared on various aspects of communications such as barriers of effective communication, features of effective communication for leadership and ways to overcome the communication skills. As a student leader, many felt the essence of effective features of communication that are completeness, conciseness, consideration, concreteness, and courtesy.

Mr. Pema Wangchuk, Lecturer in Humanities and Management Department concluded the session with practical activities mainly to understand and respond to various situation while playing a role of leadership. The session made highlighted through examples of great leadership figures on how to influence the mass to be the agent of change. The session also enriched participants on setting of SMART Goals to achieve the targeted objectives and to be critical on regular basis with the aim of benefiting all.

All the member participants felt the importance of such training, where individuals were exposed to many key aspects of leadership which were never known even after being appointed as student leader. The sessions have been interactive with question and answer opportunity towards the end. The office of student affairs team headed by Dean Student Affairs expects to continue such training for student leaders supplementing additional time and area of talks based on the feedback from student leaders. Media Presentation and report compiling.

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