

# GREAT CONNECT

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Dear Great Laker,

October 2014

Greetings!

We are delighted to share some of the proud moments and latest happenings in Great Lakes Family with you . Connect with your Alma Mater with our October edition of "Great Connect"!

We have been ranked among the top 10 B-schools for one year program by Outlook and our campus has been included in the envious list of '10 Most beautiful MBA Campuses in India' by Shiksha.com.

Great Lakes completed 10 years of its successful journey in 2014, and to mark the success from "Good to Great", celebrations were held across three cities in India. Uncle Bala was in New York City on a dinner invitation in honor of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi and using this occasion, he also made it a point to meet the alumni.

Here is a snapshot of major events and activities for you- Charismatic Cholas hosted informal meets at Delhi, Bangalore and Hyderabad during September break. Supply Chain Conclave and "The Maverick" were two formal events organised in September. Karmayoga workshop was conducted to train and empower rural women in the campus. TEDx hosted their first ever live webcast at Great Lakes in this October.

Dandiya Night and Sangamitra were the two most memorable cultural events organized by students.

We look forward to hear from you with your stories, comments and suggestions at [alcom@greatlakes.edu.in](mailto:alcom@greatlakes.edu.in) . As for now, I'll leave you with a quote from your Alma Mater

*You're off to great places, Today is your day!*

*Your mountain is waiting, So... get on your way..!*

Happy Reading,  
Priyanka Manoj Kumar  
Editor - Great Connect



## ***“From Good to Great”- Great Lakes completes 10 Years***

Great Lakes completed 10 years of its successful journey in 2014, and to mark the success from “**Good to Great**”, celebrations were held across three cities in India. Great Lakes' 10 years celebrations started at Taj Westend, Bangalore. The event was held on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2014 and was presided over by Ms. Vinita Bali and Mr. Subrato Bagchi. On 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2014, celebrations were held in New Delhi at Taj Mansingh and the event was presided over by Mr. Sunil Kant Munjal and Mr. D. Shivakumar. Finally, on 11<sup>th</sup> September, the celebrations were held at Park Hyatt, Hyderabad and the event was presided over by Sh. N. Chandrababu Naidu, Mr. Srinu Raju and Mr. G.V.Prasad.



More exciting captures of the event are available at

10 years celebrations at Bangalore:- <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.622165397900826&type=1>

10 years celebrations at New Delhi:- <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.622167211233978&type=1>

10 years celebrations at Hyderabad:- <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.622169074567125&type=1>



## *Memorable meet at New York City with Prime Minister and Alumni*

It was a meeting filled with excitement and nostalgia for Great Lakers Sachin Dogra, Divya Singaravelu, Priti Bala, Vivek and Anand Joseph when they met Uncle Bala over dinner on September 27<sup>th</sup> at New York City. Uncle Bala was in NYC on a dinner invitation in honor of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi, and he made it a point to meet with the alumni, using this occasion. The Alumni dinner meet was organized at Tulusi, a Michelin star-rated restaurant in NYC. Despite a fire accident at O'Hare the previous day and most of the flights being cancelled, Uncle Bala took all the efforts to be there for the meet and ensured spending time with the alumni. With Divya Singaravelu coordinating the meet from New York, the participants included Sachin, Vivek, Priti Bala and Anand. Priti & Anand showed the spirit of Great Lakers by driving all the way from Connecticut.



Uncle Bala with Shri Narendra Modi



Uncle Bala with Alumni in New York

The alumni were thrilled to watch the 10 years commemorative video of Great lakes and appreciated the heights the institute has reached since its inception. Uncle Bala also shared his future plans for Great Lakes with the alumni. With great Indian food and a lively meet, this was an event to remember. The following day, Uncle Bala met Sh. Narendra Modi, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India during the dinner function at The Grand Ballroom, The Pierre, a Taj Hotel. Uncle Bala also extended an invitation to the Hon'ble PM to inaugurate New Delhi campus of Great Lakes in December 2014. Uncle Bala is hopeful that PM would spare his valuable time for the inauguration.



## Great Lakes hosts its first Supply Chain Conclave

On September 12<sup>th</sup>, Great Lakes hosted its first Supply Chain Conclave. It was an eventful, exiting and a day full of insights and ideas.

In his key note address, Mr. Shankar, CEO, TVS Logistics Ltd. explained the way supply chain functions in his company, how have they been able to forecast accurately and how the operations are managed. The theme lecture on **“Transformative theme in supply chain”** was well delivered by Mr. Kalpesh Pathak, EVP Supply Chain, Fiat India Pvt Ltd. An extremely interesting panel discussion **“Is Forecasting Dead?”** was highlight of the conclave and was discussed over by Mr. Shashank Raodeo, Head-SCM, Mahindra Automotives Ltd., Dr. K. Ganesh, Knowledge Expert, Mckinsey India Ltd., Mr. Vasu Ramanujam, Sr. Director (India Ops), Entercoms Ltd, Mr. Vijay Wadhwani, Sr. GM Supply Chain, RelaxoFootwears Ltd, and Dr. Rakesh Singh, Professor-Supply Chain, Great Lakes (Moderator).



The Supply Chain Operations Committee



(Left to Right): Dr. Rakesh Singh, Mr. Pradeep Lokhande, Uncle Bala, Mr. Shashank Raodeo, Dr. Vaidyanathan Jayaraman, Mr. Kalpesh Pathak

This was followed by another panel discussion on **“Transforming Supply Chain”** which was carried out by Mr. Kalpesh Pathak, EVP Supply Chain, Fiat India Pvt Ltd Mr. Arunachalam, VP, Pro Connect Supply chain Solutions-a Subsidiary of Reddington India Ltd., Mr. Hari Lagad, Sr. VP – Asia Pacific Region , Tall Logistics and Mr. V.S. Girish, Executive Director, ISCM (Moderator). The final event of the day was an address by Mr. Pradeep Lokhande, CEO, Rural Relations on **“Rural Supply Chain – Reaching the Last Mile”**. The conclave indeed brought along many crucial insights and interesting facts and figured into the picture which exposed the students to important dimensions of supply chain, operations and importance of forecasting.



## ***Kumudam Snehidi– Empower a woman, support a family!***

Karmayoga, one of the most successful and learning oriented programs offered by Great Lakes, which not only trains the students on Leadership qualities, compassion and empathy but also brings about a solid change in the lives of the people who need nothing more than this change. In association with Kumudam and Fevicryl, a workshop was organised by Karmayoga to train and empower the women to start their own business, and to be able to lead a comfortable livelihood. The whole event was very fruitful and brought about a sense of satisfaction to the organisers, chief guests, participants and the volunteers.

The students raised funds for 85 women to participate in the Kumudam Snehidi workshop. The enthusiastic participation and generous contribution will go a long way in empowering these families. A large number of women, around 100 arrived at the venue and took part in the workshop whole heartedly. They were given different kinds of kits using which they could explore their creativity and come up with a masterpiece, which could help them set up or participate in similar ventures. The best entries were awarded and appreciated.





## *ChaChos Connect– Coffee with Alumni*

The hectic third term ended in September and that marked the beginning of two weeks of holidays, a much needed break every ChaCho was looking forward to. The Alumni committee took this holiday as an opportunity to connect with Alumni. On 21<sup>st</sup> September, ChaChos conducted several informal meetings with the Alumni present in New Delhi, Hyderabad and Bangalore. The Alumni came in huge numbers and the exchange that took place was exhilarating. Some of the students of Spartans, Mighty Mammallas, and Progressive Pallavas batch shared their experiences with the alumni committee and the ChaChos could very well connect with their stories, jokes and fun. After all, when the home is same, no matter what the story, fun and liveliness remains. A sense of nostalgia took over the Alumni. While the meeting marked a revisit of fun and joy, the Alumni committee made sure to capture essential learning and experiences of Alumni with respect to academia, learning and excellence.

What can be a better way to spend holidays than holding up the spirit of Great Lakers!



Clockwise — Hyderabad meet, Bangalore meet, New Delhi meet



## ***Proud Moments for Great Lakes Family***

Great Lakes Institute of Management, Chennai has been ranked among the **top 10 B-schools** for its one year program by Outlook. The annual ranking of India's best B-schools, conducted by Drshti Strategic Research Services, provide meaningful insights for the budding managers and India's business leaders. This has certainly been one of the major accomplishments this year .



**Beauty Personified-** Asia's first Platinum LEED Green campus, spread over an area of 27.5 acres, equipped with cutting-edge infrastructure and amenities, fully air-conditioned residential accommodation for bachelors and married couples, ample recreational opportunities, redefines beauty for everyone. Our campus has been included in the envious list of '10 Most Beautiful MBA Campuses in India'. Thanks to the visionary founding team and the talented architects who had the vision to build such a spectacular campus.





## *Great Lakes hosts Deloitte Maverick Quarter Finals*

Great Lakes was the host for the “**The Maverick**” South Zone regional qualifier rounds on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014. There were sixteen teams competing for the case study competition out of which three will go through to the grand finale from South. “The War of Bands”- a musical round to get the finalist from the South, was also a part of this event. It was an immense pleasure to find our college’s band - “The Pox Blot” as one the contestants for the same.



GLIM WIZs—(R to L): Chembak, Pradeepta, Amal

In the early morning, teams were tested for their unconventional thinking, solutions mind set and business acumen as the boardroom round was in progress. ‘GLIM WIZs’ and ‘VINI VIDIVICI’, the teams from Great Lakes were two of the competing teams. Out of these, six teams qualified to present the case. ‘GLIM WIZs’ was one of these to present their solution to the panel of judges comprising of senior leaders of Deloitte in the stage round. Hosted in Lake Veeranaam and Mansarovar, the participations set the stage on fire. The crowd was all in a mood to cheer up their colleagues and enjoy the beats to the fullest. The stage round was followed by the “War of Bands” round. Great Lakers were tuned to the music in the air forgetting their exams and assignments. Deloitte team was more than glad to see the enthusiastic Lakers and the response from the college.



Pox Blot's performance



## *Sangamitra 2014*

Fresher's party-the first interaction that we, the first year PGDM students had with our seniors. The first question that pops into our minds is 'What is unique about a fresher's party? Happens in every other college.' The same agenda of dancing, singing and the never-ending speeches! But no! this was nothing close to the usual. Our seniors had sent out invites to us asking if we were interested in performing in the event. A few of us volunteered and that is how I landed myself with my first performance in college. As soon as we agreed to do a performance, that too with an opening classical dance, I got along with my friends and formed a group of three. Choosing the song, finalising the costumes, choreographing and rehearsing the steps, finding time in between our hectic class schedule, it was chaos for a while.

The evening started with light music performances by first year students. Then before we knew it, it was the time for our performance. Getting back on to the stage after all these years, the flash lights, hearing the crowd cheer, the spotlight, the smoke, the beat of the music, I felt my heart beat rising. It was like home coming for an estranged kid. Following our show were two group dance performances by our fellow batch mates. There were two bands from the first year who played famous tunes and a few of us even moved to their groovy numbers off the stage! Like the topping on the dessert, the seniors staged their shows that nearly threw us off our feet. We were very much amazed by the amount of hard work they had put into this event! Then came the surprise quotient of the night, Uncle Bala! He graced the occasion and gave away tokens of appreciation to achievers. To finish things off with a bang, we had a DJ night. We really did feel welcomed and at home. Thanks to our seniors. As for me on the other hand I got another chance to relive my dream!

Srimathi Ramanujam  
PGDM 2016





## ***Dandiya Night– A night of dance, colors and smiles!***

Under the sky full of lights, one could see smiles all around. Everybody with their bright and colorful attire and dandiya sticks in their hands were ready to have one of the greatest evenings in the Great Lakes campus. An evening, which was full of vigor, happiness, enthusiasm, colors of joy, love and celebrations.

All of us wanted to come together, with the people who have become our second family, a place which has become our second home, and celebrate with the zeal we never had, dance like we never had. As surprising as it may sound, none of us really missed our homes so much.

That evening bonded all of us together because we all were alone, and yet together- to celebrate the spirit of Navratra. We started with the Puja, which again was very special because of the togetherness it came with. Then we started with the Dandiya, most of us not knowing what to do, but one thing we for sure knew of – that this day is only going to happen once for us and we better enjoy it to the fullest. And we for sure did!

Amishaa Arora  
PGPM 2015





## *TED<sup>x</sup> Live at Great Lakes*

TED<sup>x</sup> hosted their first ever live webcast at Great Lakes on 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2014. TED is an acronym for **Technology, Entertainment and Design**. It was an independently organized Ted event and was a live webcast from Rio De Janeiro. The themes of the two sessions that were webcasted were “Urban Canvas” and “Field Work”. The event saw an exhilarating participation from both the PGDM and the PGPM batches. The event was a good platform for students to learn about industry and move at par with global updates.



Organizing Committee





## *Placement Season 2015 kicks off with Alumni*

It was great to have our alumna, Ms. Soumya Subramanian- Consulting Head-Marketing & Pre-Sales Division at Blue Ocean Market Intelligence (Champions Batch of 2009) in the campus for the pre-placement talk. She brought rich industry insights and made the first experience of PPT, an overwhelming one for the students.



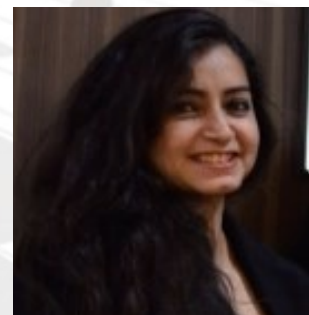
Soumya Subramanian

Followed by this session, we had an interaction with Ms. Vidhyasagari Sundaram- Manager at ZS Associates (Patriots Batch 2010). She shared her interview experience with students and provided a direction to prepare for the upcoming placement process.



Vidhyasagari Sundaram

Ms. Harleen Wahi- SAP consultant at Deloitte U.S. India (Mighty Mammallas Batch of 2012) visited campus along with her team for the pre-placement talk. During the session, she provided insights about the work culture at Deloitte and the company's expectations from students.



Harleen Wahi



## A glimpse of campus life



**The Editorial Team:** Samer Akhter, Nupur Agrawal, Priyanka Manoj Kumar and Raghvi Behl (PGPM 2014-15)

**Campus:** Dr.Bala V Balachandar Campus, ECR, Tamilnadu - 603 102 | Phone : +91 44 30809000 | Fax : +91 44 30809001

**City Office:** 2nd Floor, NPL Devi Building, No. 111, Kalki Krishnamoorthy Salai, Thiruvanmiyur, Chennai - 600 041



Great Lakes Celebrates 10 Years of Excellence From "Success to Substance"

Associations



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