

Great Lakes Institute of Management, Gurgaon

Campus GLIMpse

Apr - Jun | 2026

Issue: 17



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INSIDE CAMPUS

Dr. Raj Krishnan Shankar appointed as Director of Great Lakes, Gurgaon



Great Lakes, Gurgaon is pleased to announce that **Dr. Raj Shankar Krishnan** has joined us as the **Director of the Institute**. Prof. Raj is a distinguished academic, researcher, and educator, and brings a unique blend of global academic excellence and industry experience. Prior to joining Great Lakes Gurgaon, he served as **Associate Professor of Entrepreneurship at Nord University, Norway**, and **Program Director and Professor of Strategy & Entrepreneurship at Great Lakes Institute of Management, Chennai**.

An internationally recognized scholar with publications in **leading FT50 journals**. A **national award-winning entrepreneurship educator**, Prof. Shankar has taught and designed executive education programs for senior leaders across Asia, Europe, and the Americas. He has been empanelled as an entrepreneurship expert by the **Ministry of External Affairs**, Government of India, and was Highly Commended as **MBA Director of the Year 2026** by the Association of MBAs (AMBA), London.



As Great Lakes Gurgaon enters its next phase of growth following its achievement of becoming the **youngest business school in India to earn the prestigious AMBA and AACSB 'Double Crown' accreditation**, Prof. Shankar's visionary leadership, research excellence, and commitment to innovation will further strengthen the institution's pursuit of academic and institutional excellence.

We warmly welcome Prof. Raj Krishnan Shankar and wish him every success as he leads Great Lakes Gurgaon towards new milestones.



The Corporate Learning & Development Department at Great Lakes, Gurgaon successfully hosted the **3rd Annual HR Conclave 2026** on "**Human Capital in the Age of Artificial Intelligence**." The conclave brought together leading CHROs, CXOs, policymakers, academicians, and industry experts to explore how AI is reshaping organisations, leadership, talent development, and the future of work.

The event featured two thought-provoking **panel discussions**, **keynote addresses**, a **fireside conversation**, and an **awards ceremony**, fostering rich dialogue on building AI-ready organisations while preserving the uniquely human capabilities that drive innovation and sustainable growth.



Inaugural Address

Gautam Lakhamraju

COO & Co-Founder, Great Lakes Gurgaon

Tracing the institute's journey from a bootstrapped startup to an agile, industry-responsive school, he called for reimagining management education for an AI-first future beyond slides toward critical thinking, storytelling, experimentation, and hands-on problem-solving.

Keynote Address

A compelling keynote session by **Sumit Seth**, NeuroBusiness Group Asia on ***The Neuroscience of Peak Human Performance*** underscored that successful AI transformation depends as much on emotional resilience, critical thinking, and adaptability as on technological advancement.

"AI transformation is, at its core, a human transformation."



PANEL 1

Reimagining Human Capital for AI-Enabled Enterprises - The discussions emphasized redesigning talent strategies, workflows, and leadership models to enable AI adoption through trust, continuous learning, and responsible governance.



PANEL 2

Learning Culture in the Age of AI - The Industry leaders highlighted the need to move beyond traditional learning metrics towards capability transformation, adaptive learning ecosystems, and enterprise-wide AI readiness.



The conclave concluded with an engaging fireside chat on **India's AI Ecosystem & the Future of Leadership** with Abhishek Singh, IndiaAI Mission and Vinet Nagpal, CSC. The conversation explored India's rapidly evolving AI ecosystem, stressing inclusive innovation, ethical AI governance, digital public infrastructure, and the enduring importance of empathy in leadership.

Recognising Excellence

The conclave concluded with the Awards Distribution Ceremony under the Great Lakes Industry Mentorship Program for Student Excellence, celebrating outstanding students and the mentors who shaped them.



Neuroscience of Influence

Empowering Leaders Through Brain Science

Great Lakes, Gurgaon, in collaboration with the **NeuroBusiness Group, USA**, hosted a one-day **Management Development Program (MDP)** on "**Neuroscience of Influence.**"



Combining neuroscience with practical leadership applications, the session equipped participants with evidence-based frameworks to enhance communication, influence, decision-making, and leadership effectiveness in today's dynamic workplace.

The programme brought together professionals from **14 leading organisations** across the Delhi-NCR region, including **Accenture, EY, and WNS**, along with members of the Great Lakes community.

2nd Internal AI Hackathon Sparks Innovation Across Campus

Great Lakes, Gurgaon successfully hosted its **2nd Internal AI Hackathon**, bringing together cross-functional teams of faculty and staff for a one-day innovation sprint. Focused on solving real institutional challenges, participants developed practical **AI-powered workflows** to enhance operational efficiency and improve everyday processes across the institute.



The event was evaluated by an external jury of **three AI experts**, with **Team Numero Uno (Executive Education)** emerging as the winner, followed by **AI Avengers (Admissions)** and **The Neural Network (Marketing)**. Several of the innovative prototypes developed during the hackathon are now being explored for implementation across the institution.

Strategy Meet 2026: Shaping an AI-First Future



Great Lakes, Gurgaon convened its Annual Strategy Meet 2026, bringing together institutional leaders to define the roadmap for an AI-first future. The discussions focused on strengthening student outcomes, enhancing academic excellence, advancing research, deepening industry engagement, and reinforcing the institute's brand positioning.

The meet reaffirmed Great Lakes' commitment to leveraging AI, innovation, and collaborative execution to build future-ready leaders and sustain institutional excellence.

Prime Time Exclusives

Inspiring Conversations on Leadership, Learning & Transformation

Great Lakes, Gurgaon continued its **Prime Time Exclusives leadership series** in collaboration with **Anjali Dutta** from *Tech Mahindra* to deliver a series of exclusive leadership webinars for employees across the globe.

The sessions featured **Dr. Jones Mathew** on "*From Case Studies to Real Stories: Redefining Management Education*," **Dr. V. P. Singh** on "*The Human Side of Economics: Money, Mindsets & Modern*," and **Ms. Amanpreet Aulakh**, Head - Strategic Initiatives, on "*From Branches to B-Schools: A Journey of Reinvention*." Together, these sessions reinforced Great Lakes' commitment to fostering thought leadership and meaningful industry engagement.



Prime Time Exclusives New Age Educations and Challenges



Dr. Jones Mathew



Dr. Vikas Prakash



Amanpreet Aulakh



Anjali Dutta

AWARDS & HONOURS



Great Lakes Gurgaon Wins Gold at the ET Education Excellence Awards

Great Lakes Institute of Management, Gurgaon has been awarded the Gold Award in the Excellence in Business & Management Education category at the ET Education Excellence Awards 2026, reaffirming its commitment to academic excellence and industry relevance

Dr. Vishal Dagar Recognized Among the World's Top Economists



Dr. Vishal Dagar has earned distinguished international recognition for his exceptional research contributions in the field of Economics. He has been ranked among the **Top 10** Economists Globally in the 2021 Cohort by IDEAS RePEc, one of the world's most prestigious and widely recognized ranking platforms for economics research. Further reinforcing his global academic standing, Dr. Dagar has also been ranked 1,694th among the World's Best Scientists in Economics and Finance by Research.com. He is additionally ranked **4th in India** in the same discipline, reflecting the significant impact, quality, and global reach of his scholarly research.

FACULTY ENGAGEMENTS



Dr. Jones Mathew Principal

- Panelist at the Directors' Conclave during the Global Business Research Conference (GBRC) 2026 hosted by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), New Delhi
- Quoted in BW Education's industry story: Private Universities Surge Ahead As Public Colleges Slow



Dr. Surya Prakash Professor, Operations

- Invited at 2nd International Conference on Innovative Technologies for Sustainable Business Transformation and Agricultural Practices (ITSBT-2026).
- Invited as a delegate for 15th edition of the India Warehousing Show 2026 in Delhi
- Invited as a panelist at the India International Cargo Show (IICS) 2026 - New Delhi

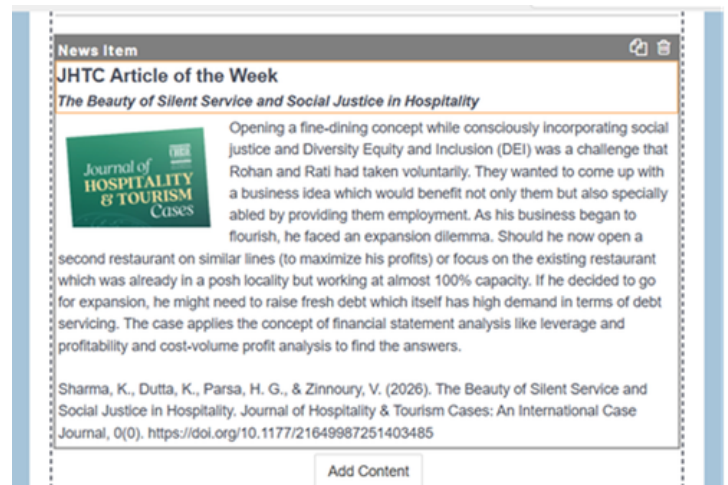


Dr. Amit Kumar
Associate Professor,
Marketing

- Served as an external examiner for proposal presentation of three Doctoral students at NMIMS, School of Business Management, Mumbai.
- case study on Honasa consumers, co-authored with Oorja Bhatnagar, a PGPM student (2025-26), was published in Business Standard

Dr. Kirti Sharma
Associate Professor,
Finance

- case study titled "The Beauty of Silent Service" in the Journal of Hospitality & Tourism Cases has been listed as "JHTC Article of the Week".



Dr. Jaya priyadarshini
Assistant Professor,
Operations

- Invited as a panelist on the topic 'Synergising Industry and Educational Efforts for an Optimised Logistical Future' at the 15th edition of the India Warehousing Show 2026



PUBLICATIONS & RESEARCH

RESEARCH ARTICLES PUBLISHED



Quality in management education through accreditations

Quality Assurance in Education

ABDC B Journal

By Dr. Ravindra Ojha, Dr. Jones Mathew and Priyanka Trakroo

[DOI Link](#)



Climate transparency under the lens

Social Responsibility Journal

ABDC B Journal

By Dr. Kirti Sharma

[DOI Link](#)



Energy poverty dynamics and geostrategic shocks

Energy Policy (Elsevier)

ABDC A Journal

By Dr. Vishal Dagar

[DOI Link](#)



Corporate governance and sustainability

Management Decision

ABDC B Journal

By Dr. Vishal Dagar

[DOI Link](#)



Wine Tourism Experiences

Journal of Tourism and Development

ABDC B Journal

By Dr. Dilip Kumar

[DOI Link](#)

DISCOVERY DIALOGUES



Discovery Dialogue - Chapter 13

Great Lakes, Gurgaon conducted Discovery Dialogues Chapter 13 session. **Dr. Yupal Shukla**, Associate Professor at HCT College, Dubai conducted a session on the topic '*Crafting Experimental Manipulations: Dos and Don'ts*'

GREAT CONVERSATIONS SERIES



Great Conversation Series - Session 1

Great Lakes, Gurgaon inaugurated its first talk under Great Conversations series by **Joy Bhattacharjya**, one of India's foremost voices in sports management. Drawing on his rich experience with the Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) and the FIFA U-17 World Cup, he shared compelling insights on building successful sports ventures, fostering effective leadership, shaping high-performance organizational cultures, and understanding the psychology of winning. The engaging session offered students and faculty valuable perspectives on leadership, teamwork, and institution building beyond the world of sports.

Great Conversation Series - Session 2



Great Lakes, Gurgaon hosted its second talk under Great Conversation series by acclaimed film critic, author, and The Indian Express columnist **Shubhra Gupta** for an engaging session on "The Mechanics of Storytelling." Drawing on her extensive experience in cinema and cultural criticism, she explored the art of crafting compelling narratives, the role of creativity in communication, and the enduring power of storytelling. The session provided students with valuable insights into how effective narratives shape leadership, influence decision-making, and inspire meaningful connections across diverse contexts.

GLIMS Journal of Management Research and Technology



The 2026 issue of the **GLIMS Journal of Management Research and Technology** (MRT) has been successfully published and is now available online. Preparations for the next issue are already underway, reflecting the journal's continued commitment to advancing high-quality scholarly research. The journal has also initiated the Sherpa Romeo registration process, with positive progress anticipated in the coming months. In parallel, sustained efforts are being made towards securing Scopus indexing, further strengthening the journal's global visibility, academic credibility, and research impact.

EBSCO

J-Gate

Google Scholar

SAGE Spectrum

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable Impact through Karma Yoga

Karma Yoga continued to create meaningful social impact through community engagement, experiential learning, and sustainability initiatives. Faculty and student representatives undertook a six-day field immersion in Mehalchauri, Uttarakhand, collaborating with local schools and communities to assess needs, provide educational support, and promote sustainable development. The students also conducted Karmabhoomi school visits, mentoring young learners, identifying institutional and student needs, and fostering teamwork and community engagement. Observations related to student well-being and inclusion were documented and appropriately escalated to strengthen support mechanisms. Student-led sustainability initiatives transformed discarded materials into creative learning resources, reinforcing environmental responsibility and innovation. The academic cycle concluded with the submission of observations, assignments, reports, and consolidated evaluations.



30

Senior Professionals



6

Cross-functional Teams



20+

Innovation Ideas Generated



1

Flowering of Ideas Framework



Dr. Swapnil Sahoo and Prof. S. K. Palhan conducted a Management Development Program (MDP) at Ernst & Young, introducing the proprietary "Flowering of Ideas" framework for collaborative problem-solving and innovation. The participants applied the framework to address the challenge of reducing vehicular air pollution in Delhi, generating 20+ innovative solutions before prioritising the most impactful ideas using structured evaluation criteria. The highly interactive programme enhanced creativity, teamwork, and solution-oriented thinking, while reinforcing Great Lakes, Gurgaon's commitment to delivering impactful, industry-focused executive education.

Shaping the Future of Sustainable Business

Under the aegis of the Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development (CoE-SD), Great Lakes, Gurgaon, in partnership with Development Alternatives and Pierag Consulting as the Knowledge Partner, successfully hosted a closed-door CXO Roundtable on "**ESG at the Crossroads: From Compliance to Competitive Advantage**" to mark the launch of a broader sustainability capacity-building initiative jointly led by Great Lakes Gurgaon and Development Alternatives.



20+ CXOs

Senior Leaders
Engaged



**Cross-Sector
Dialogue**

Candid Strategic
Discussions



**Industry
White Paper**

Policy-focused
Recommendations



**ESG Thought
Leadership**

Compliance to
Competitive Advantage



**Future Learning
Initiatives**

MDPs • Certifications
• Webinars



GREAT LAKES GURGAON • DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVES • PIERAG CONSULTING



The meticulously curated roundtable brought together **over 20 senior leaders from diverse industries and sectors** for candid and forward-looking discussions on the evolving ESG landscape. The dialogue focused on lessons from current ESG practices, emerging risks and challenges, and practical strategies for embedding sustainability into the core architecture of business rather than treating it as a compliance exercise. Participants also explored how collaboration between **Samaj (Society)**, **Sarkar (Government)**, and **Bazaar (Markets)** enabled by **Niyat (Intent)** and **Taqneek (Technology)** can transform ESG into a powerful source of long-term competitive advantage. A key outcome of the roundtable is the development of an **industry-agnostic white paper** that captures the collective insights of participating leaders and will be shared with policymakers and industry stakeholders.



CAMPUS LIFE

The Alchemists Begin Their Year.

16th PGPM Cohort
Commencement
Ceremony
20 May 2026

Great Lakes, Gurgaon opened its doors to the **16th Post Graduate Program in Management** cohort formally named '**The Alchemists**' with a ceremony that set the tone for an intensive, transformative year of study, discipline and leadership formation.

16	08	10	11
TH PGPM COHORT	DAY INDUCTION	C-SUITE VOICES	TALENT ACTS

— THE WELCOME

Dr. Vikas Prakash, Program Director, PGPM, formally received the incoming batch, framing the year ahead as one of rigour and reinvention. **Mr. Mohan Lakhamraju**, Chairman, urged students to be intentional, disciplined, and committed to making the most of the journey. **Mr. Gautam Lakhamraju**, Chief Operating Officer, spoke of the institute's commitment to student growth and later spent the day among the cohort.

— THE CHIEF GUEST

Delivering the Commencement Address, **Mr. Kunwar Himmat Singh**, Director – Corporate Affairs, Nestlé South Asia Region, drew from his corporate journey to offer perspectives on building a meaningful career, managing stakeholder relationships, and leading with purpose – a keynote that anchored the day in the language of practice.



— EIGHT DAYS, ONE MINDSET

The cohort was received into an immersive 8-day induction programme designed to build technical capability alongside a leadership mindset. Mindfulness and self-effectiveness sessions sat beside Python and Excel bootcamps, C-Suite dialogues, an AI mini-hackathon, alumni engagement, and experiential learning – a holistic introduction to the rigour, culture, and collaborative spirit of Great Lakes.



Kunwar Himmat Singh
Director, Corporate Affairs,
Nestle South Asia Region

Nitin Madan
MD & CFO,
Barclays GCC India

Atul Pokhriyal
Partner,
Boston Consulting Group

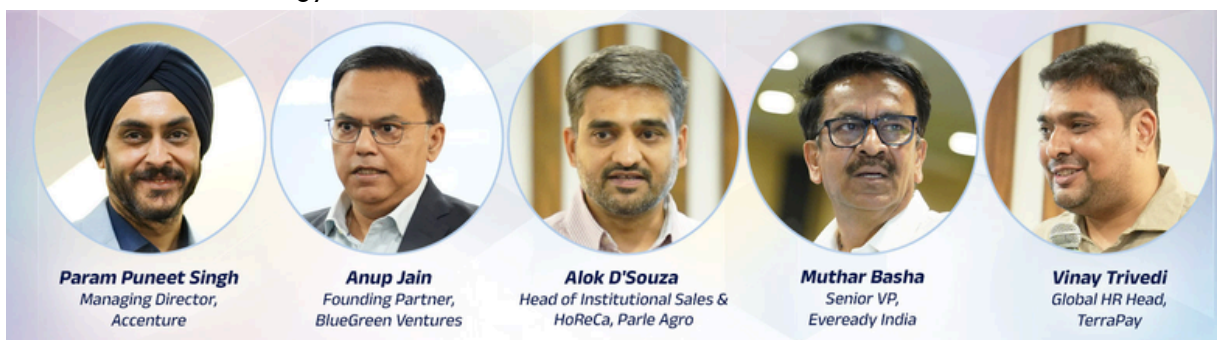
Angad Reyar
Head of Worldwide Inventory
Optimization, Amazon

Anjali Dutta
VP & Global Head -Digital
Experience Design, Tech Mahindra

— THE C-SUITE, DISTILLED

“The series bridged classroom learning with executive insight, exposing students to leadership perspectives and the practical knowledge needed to navigate a dynamic business landscape.”

The leaders from banking, consulting, ventures, FMCG, technology and payments walked the cohort through the mechanics of enterprise: how decisions are made, how teams are built and how strategy meets execution in the field.



Param Puneet Singh
Managing Director,
Accenture

Anup Jain
Founding Partner,
BlueGreen Ventures

Alok D'Souza
Head of Institutional Sales &
HoReCa, Parle Agro

Muthar Basha
Senior VP,
Eveready India

Vinay Trivedi
Global HR Head,
TerraPay

72hrs

An AI Hackathon that turned ideas into working prototypes.

Over three days, the cohort transformed concepts into functional AI-powered tools using Replit, Lovable, and Notion — building solutions for placement prep, ATS-ready resumes, academic support, well-being, and campus management. A start marked by creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving from day one.

● MIND & METHOD

Self-effectiveness, well-being & teamwork.

Guided meditation, mindfulness, and interactive team-building gave students practical tools to manage stress, sharpen focus, and build the trust essential for a demanding academic year.



● ALUMNI CIRCLE

The Power of Networking.

Distinguished alumni returned to share candid lessons from B-school and beyond — on career planning, placements, and long-term growth — reinforcing a network that supports future leaders from day one.



● TALENT EVENING

Eleven teams. One stage.

An energetic evening of music, dance, and cultural expression gave the cohort a platform to celebrate creativity and forge the connections that will carry them through the year.



The Catalyst

Great Lakes Institute of Management, Gurgaon welcomed its incoming PGDM cohort — a class named for its promise to transform ideas, learning, and experience into meaningful impact.

01 · WELCOME

A journey of curiosity

Dr. Poornima Gupta welcomed the cohort, urging them to embrace uncertainty, overcome the fear of mistakes, and nurture constant curiosity. She spoke of the pillars of effective learning — discipline, inclusivity, and collaboration — reminding students to start early and stay consistent rather than wait for panic to drive action.

02 · KEYNOTE

Momentum, not speed

Saurabh Sharma
Sales Director, Red Bull India

"Meaningful careers are built not by bursts of speed, but by creating momentum through consistent action, adaptability, and resilience."

Drawing on nearly two decades of leadership and relatable analogies from physics, Sharma urged the cohort to embrace challenges with curiosity and stay grounded in continuous learning — recognising that every decision, relationship, and experience compounds toward long-term success.



03 · THE BLANK CANVAS

Paint your own journey

Gautam Lakhamraju
Chief Operating Officer

- Be intentional and disciplined in your efforts.
- Translate insights into meaningful action.
- Take full responsibility for outcomes — especially in placements and transitions.
- View the PGDM as an opportunity for reinvention and growth.

04 · BODY, MIND & SOUL

Yoga for the Triple Bottom Line

An early-morning session at the Amphitheatre with Prof. S.K. Palhan introduced the cohort to the Karma Yoga Program — a signature Great Lakes initiative in community leadership and social responsibility.

05 · ALUMNI CONNECT

Learning from experience

An Alumni Interaction and Networking evening centred on translating classroom learning into career outcomes — and on leveraging the Great Lakes network for lifelong collaboration.

06 · INDUSTRY INSIGHTS

Voices from the field

Four pragmatic sessions across HR, consulting, marketing, and go-to-market — mapping career pathways for the incoming class.

01 Leading People Through Change

"People strategy is central — not peripheral — to business performance."

SANJAY CHATURVEDI · CHRO, Valvoline Cummins

02 Building a Career in Consulting

"Adaptability, client trust, and structured problem-solving define the craft."

DEEPAK SINGH · CHRO, Protiviti India

03 Acing Case Competitions

"Frameworks for structured thinking under pressure — how to stand out."

ALEKHYA CHAKRABARTY · Senior VP — Marketing, Info Edge India Ltd.

04 Winning in Sales & Go-to-Market

"Understanding distribution and the customer front line shapes stronger leaders."

ARPIT PAL SINGH · National GTM Head, Adani Wilmar Ltd.

ONWARD

"The Catalyst" begins — a diverse cohort ready to transform ideas into impact.

Learning from the Best

Leadership Lessons from the Frontlines of E-commerce

Great Lakes, Gurgaon hosted **Mr. Nitin Agarwal**, Chief Business Officer - Media & Electronics, Cocoblu Retail, for an insightful Talk. Mr. Agarwal shared valuable perspectives from his leadership journey. The session provided students with practical insights into the rapidly evolving retail and e-commerce landscape, highlighting the importance of strategic thinking, innovation, and leadership in driving business success. His experiences and advice offered aspiring managers a deeper understanding of navigating today's dynamic business environment.



Conversations that Shape Careers

Industry Insights: Careers in Consulting

The PGPM Class of 2027 attended an insightful industry session on “**Careers in Consulting**” by **Mr. Kunal Choudhury**, Director & Head HR, Alvarez & Marsal. Drawing from his leadership journey, he shared valuable insights on resilience, adaptability, continuous learning, and effective communication, while offering practical guidance on building a successful and rewarding career in consulting.



STUDENT AWARDS AT NATIONAL COMPETITIONS



Rank 3 | IIM Rohtak Article Writing

Prerna Arora (PGCM 27) secured 3rd position in Article Writing Competition conducted by the Indian Institute of Management, Rohtak.



RANK 4 | IIM R QUANT PLAY

Sayantani Goswami (PGCM 27) secured 4th position in the national-level quiz, Quant Play, organized by Indian Institute of Management, Rohtak



Rank 4 | IIM V Brand Aficionado

Parth Gupta and **Aarya Vashisth** (PGDM 26) were ranked 4th in national-level case competition organized by the Indian Institute of Management, Vishakhapatnam



RANK 4 | SIBM SEED TO SCALE

Pragati Patil, Udit Kumar and **Rohit Dange** (PGDM 27) secured 4th position in Seed To Scale, organized by Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, Pune.



RANK 5 | MDI G TRAJECTORY

Prarthna Mishra and **Neha Sah** (PGDM 27) secured 5th Position in national-level case study challenge, organized by the Management Development Institute Gurgaon.



TOP 8 | IIM SAMBALPUR ADWITEEYA

Palak Jain (PGDM 27) secured Top 8 position in the national-level case competition Adwiteeya, organized by Indian Institute of Management, Sambalpur

WHAT'S NEW

Global Learning Experiences

Expanding Horizons Through International Exchange



The programme fostered a global mindset, cross-cultural competence, and leadership readiness.

Students from Great Lakes, Gurgaon participated in the **IESEG School of Management Immersion Programme in Paris**, gaining valuable exposure to European business practices and global perspectives. The programme featured courses on International Marketing, FinTech & AI, Sustainability, and Leadership, complemented by immersive cultural experiences that fostered cross-cultural understanding and global collaboration.



Pratikshya Pattnaik (PGDM Class of 2026) recently completed an enriching Winter Term at **HHL Leipzig Graduate School of Management, Germany**, as part of Great Lakes' Student Exchange Program.

The exchange offered far more than academic learning, providing an immersive international experience through cross-cultural collaboration, global networking, and exposure to international business practices. From engaging classroom discussions in Leipzig to building meaningful connections with peers from around the world, the experience broadened her global perspective and enhanced her readiness to navigate today's interconnected business landscape.

ALUMNI CORNER

CELEBRATING ALUMNI EXCELLENCE!



We are proud to share that Great Lakes, Gurgaon alum **Vikas Kumar (PGPM 2017)** has been promoted to **Director of Product at ZS**.

His achievement is a testament to his dedication, leadership, and pursuit of excellence, reflecting the remarkable impact Great Lakes alumni continue to make across industries. We congratulate Vikas on this well-deserved milestone and wish him continued success in his journey.