

**REPORT ON THE FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME ORGANIZED BY KIRIT P. MEHTA SCHOOL
OF LAW, MUMBAI.**

Topic: *‘Evolving KPMSOL as a leading 21st Century Law School’*

Date: 23rd -24th November, 2018.

Venue: NMIMS University, Navi Mumbai Campus.



**KIRIT P. MEHTA
SCHOOL OF LAW**

Faculty Development Programme
on
“Evolving KPMSoL as a Leading 21st Century Law School”
23-24 November, 2018

Programme Schedule

Day-1: Friday 23rd November, 2018

Time : 10.00am to 4:35 pm

Venue : Orientation Hall, NMIMS Navi Mumbai Campus

Segment – I: Inaugural

10:00 am -10:30 am	Registration
10:30 am – 10:35am	Inauguration (Saraswati Vandana)
10:35am -11:15 am	Inaugural Session: Welcome address by Dr. Alok Misra (Dean, KPMSoL)
11:15 am -1:00 pm	Keynote address by Dr. Manoj Kumar Sinha (Director, ILI, New Delhi)
1:00pm – 1:15pm	Interaction with the guest
1:15 pm -1:25 pm	Vote of Thanks (Assist. Prof. Vrinda Mohan)
1:25 pm - 2.25 pm	Lunch

Rapporteur: Assist. Prof. Afrin Khan

Segment – II:

2:25 pm - 3:30 pm	Session II – Navi Mumbai Campus Visit Conducted by Assist. Registrar Ms. Anupriya (Navi Mumbai Campus)
3:30pm – 3:45pm	Tea break
3:45 pm – 4:30 pm	Session III - Theme: Ideating innovative plans for KPMSoL Panel chaired by Harshal Shah (Mentor, KPMSoL) Panelists: Anu Mishra, Jharna Sehejwani and Sinjini Sen
4:30pm – 4:35pm	Vote of Thanks (Assist. Prof. Sohini Shrivastav)
4.35 pm onwards	Team building and cultural activities

Rapporteur: Assist. Prof. Ekta Saini

Day-2: Saturday 24th November, 2018

Time: 10:00am to 4:10pm

Segment III:

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Breakfast
10:30 am– 11:15 am.	Session-IV - Theme: Corporate Requirements at the global level from academia and alumni's of KPMSoL Speaker: Murali Neelakanthan (Principal, Amicus)
11:15 am – 11: 30 am	Q & A Session
11:30 am – 11:35 am	Vote of Thanks (Ms. Chetana Lal)
11: 35 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.	Theme: Professional requirements of Emotional Intelligence and Stress Management from students Session-V: Speaker: Mayurika Das Biswas (Psychologist)
12:20 pm – 12:35 pm	Q & A Session
12:35 p.m. – 12:40 p.m.	Vote of Thanks (Assist. Prof. Sunil George)
12:40 pm –1:30 pm	Lunch

Rapporteur: Assist. Prof. Deepika Chhangani

Segment IV:

1.30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	Theme: Expertise and skill requirements of Banking sector from alumni's of KPMSoL Session – VI: Speaker: Natasha Mangat (Vice-President & Sr. Counsel, Citi Bank - India)
2:15 pm – 2:30 pm	Q & A Session
2:30 p.m. – 2:35 pm	Vote of Thanks (Dr. Nazima Munshi / Ms. Chetana Lal)
2:35 pm – 3:20 pm	Theme: Professional skill competencies required by Law Firms from alumni's of KPMSoL Session – VII: Speaker: Rashmi Deshpande (Partner, Khaitan & Co.)
3:20 pm – 3:30 pm	Q & A Session
3:30 pm – 3:35 pm	Valedictory Session (chaired by Ms. Rashmi Deshpande)
3:35 pm – 3:45 pm	Dean's Closing Address
3:45 p.m. – 3:55 p.m.	Vote of Thanks (Assist. Prof. Rakesh Nambiar)
3:55 pm – 4:10 pm	Certificate Distribution
4:10pm onwards	Tea Break

Rapporteur: Assist. Prof. Twinkle Maheshwari

Day-1: Friday 23rd November, 2018
Time : 10.00am to 4:35 pm
Venue : Orientation Hall, NMIMS Navi Mumbai Campus

Segment – I: Inaugural

Rapporteur- Asst. Prof. Afrin Khan

Inaugural Session: Welcome address by Dr. Alok Misra (Dean, KPMSoL)

Dr. Misra commenced his welcome address by introducing Dr. Manoj Kumar Sinha, the key note speaker for the session. The Dean introduced Dr. Sinha as an imminent professor in the dynamic field of International Law and thanked him for sparing his time to address the audience. Further, an over view was given of the various programmes like B.A LL.B and B.B.A LL.B along with two upcoming specializations in LL.M offered by the School of Law at its Mumbai and Navi Mumbai Campus. Dr. Alok Misra closed his speech with expressing his gratitude towards the management of NMIMS University for their constant guidance and support extended to all its students.



[Inset from left: Dean, KPMSoL: Dr. Alok Misra giving his welcome address; Director, ILI: Dr. Sinha delivering his keynote speech]

Keynote address by Dr. Manoj Kumar Sinha (Director, ILI, New Delhi)

Dr. Manoj Kumar Sinha discussed the methods to be employed in teaching which was in consonance with the theme of the FDP. The following points were discussed in the key note address:

1. Brief content: The foremost and important aspect he explained was to be brief with the content and secondly, it is of paramount importance that the teacher connects with the

students. Teachers have an excellent opportunity to experiment in the class and this window can be utilized only if the teacher takes an initiative for the same.

2. Upcoming facets of law: Additionally, we are fortunate to study in an era where various specialized and niche subjects have been evolving globally and these must be as far as possible incorporated in the course structure. Areas of law such as Intellectual Property Rights, International Humanitarian Laws, and International Criminal Law have gained momentum in all law schools.
3. Course expectation building: The speaker stated that as a recent trend the students expect to know the career opportunities with reference to a course taken up by them. The role of a teacher is to understand these demands and have an answer for them.
4. Use of Technology: The other points included aspects of technology, e-research, and accessibility of information, plagiarism and the importance of dissemination of information to the students. It was stated that less reliance must be placed on PPT and limited content must be broadcasted else the professor is restricted in the absence of this technology.
5. Importance of e-learning: It was very aptly stated by the speaker that learning takes place 10% through reading, 20% vide hearing, 30% by seeing and visualizing, 40% by hearing and seeing, 80% by hearing, seeing and doing. The idea here was that e-learning and technology collectively can be a profitable amalgamation however, too much dependence must not be placed on the same since it adds as a communication barrier between the professor and the students.
6. Right to Development: A very stimulating topic of Right to Development was engaged up by the speaker to elucidate in what way two perspectives can be used in the class while teaching. The take away from here being that while a law professor can talk about the evolution of UDHR, ICCPR and the 1985 Declaration on the Right to Development and person with a background in economics can take up the topic from a different perspective.
7. Approach in research: Lastly, Dr. Sinha said that for any successful research it is very vital that the topic has a practical and a pragmatic approach which could involve visit the area/place that is a part of one's research.

The session concluded by a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Vrinda Mohan, Faculty Convener for the FDP.

Segment – II:

Rapporteur- Asst. Prof. Afrin Khan

Session II and III

The second segment of the Faculty Development Program comprised of two sessions. In the first session the faculties were taken on a campus tour of NMIMS, Navi Mumbai Campus by Ms. Anupria, Assistant Registrar of the Campus. The campus is located in natural serene environment and provides an ideal atmosphere for pursuing higher education programs with its state of art laboratories, computer labs, well equipped library, and spacious classrooms. The campus also has separate recreation rooms for boys and girls as well as music room to provide students with an atmosphere to grow in a holistic environment. The campus tour ended with tea break.



[Inset from left: Mr. Harshal Shah brainstorming the panel discussion]

The second session of the second segment of Faculty Development Program comprised of brainstorming session by the faculties. The theme of the session was ideating innovative plans for KPMSoL. The session was chaired by Mr. Harshal Shah, the Mentor of KPMSoL. The Panelist of the Session were Ms Anu Mishra, Ms. Jharna Sehejwani and Sinjini Sen, faculties at KPMSoL, Mumbai Campus. Several innovative ideas were mooted during the session by the panelists and the framework and implementation of these ideas were duly deliberated upon by the faculty members attending the session. During the session several good practices which are followed in leading Law Schools of the World like Harvard etc. were discussed in detail and several innovative ideas were proposed.

Some of the main ideas proposed by the panelist for discussion were signing of MOUs with various law schools, both National and International such as University of Cologne, University of Nannetere, McGill University, NLSIU, NUS, ILI, etc.; Creating a database of case laws which has access to all case laws of Supreme Court and reputed High courts - run by students (similar to Harvard Law school's portal where they upload the decision of every court); Introduction of a cyber-cell for spreading awareness of issues of cyberspace and ways to curb or deal with cyber bullying; MDPs on current management practices and techniques, to be applied as per demands of the lawyers which will help them in counselling or meetings with clients.; Students and faculties collaboration for filing of patents and trademarks for real by contacting new start-ups or business men who need assistance in this regard; Proposal for starting a legal aid clinic, a mediation clinic where students with guidance of faculties can mediate disputes and resolve them or provide legal advice; Collaborations with various think tanks and policy organizations for creating a research databases or providing assistance for their research, in turn leading to internships for students; Workshops or seminars can also be organized along with them; Introduction of a multi-disciplinary course on technology and law can be started for students for dealing with issues of Big data, Artificial intelligence and block chains; Introduction of a Public interest programme: By connecting leading NGOs to file actual petitions or PILs with the help of faculties and students. This shall open internship and placement opportunities as well(Similar as Minnesota Law School); Introduction of a programme like "Innovation for Justice to explore solutions to reduce evictions in Arizona & Utah" by University of Arizona & Brihigam Law School) so as to offer legal solutions for various issues in the city of Mumbai or state of Maharashtra such as encroachment by street vending, environment related issues etc.; Networking with Government Ministries and doing consultation papers, researches for the Maharashtra Government, various Governmental Organizations; Conducting training programmes for officials in various Organizations such as Banks, Corporates etc. in areas such as Contract Drafting, Contract Negotiation, IPR management besides many more.

The session proved to be very insightful and interesting and ended with a vote of thanks which was proposed by Ms. Deepika Chhangani, faculty Mumbai Campus.



[Inset from left: Team building session with faculty and staff of NMIMS- KPM School of Law]

The session was followed by Team building and cultural activities wherein the faculties bonded with each other over several team building exercises.

Segment – III:

Rapporteur- Asst. Prof. Deepika Chhangani

Session-IV - Mr. Murali Neelakanthan (Principal, Amicus)

The theme of the session was “Corporate Requirements at the global level from academia and alumni’s of KPMSoL”. Mr. Murali Neelanthan started the session by indicating the necessary skill set required by the faculties in the contemporary environment of education today.



[Inset from left: Principal, Amicus: Mr. Murli Neelakanthan delivering his speech]

He greatly emphasized on the following key issues to be addressed by faculties while undertaking curriculum activities.

1. Problem Solving Approach – He emphasized that there is a huge need of problem solving approach in law firms as they exist today. It is of paramount importance for the faculties to inter weave identification and analysis of relevant laws and necessary communication (verbal and non – verbal) skills to students in order to prepare them for real life client consulting sessions as well as addressing client problems in a real and effective way. He assertively stated that lecture methods cannot be considered as an effective way of teaching today and faculties should continuously strive to innovatively develop this approach.
2. Application of Sections to Factual Issues – He considered that it is of vital importance to inculcate necessary skills to students so as to make them apply necessary legal sections to factual issues correctly, analytically and effectively. This skill set helps in creating a valuable acumen for drafting agreements and litigation practice.
3. Curriculum Drafting – He further emphasized that it is impossible for a law faculty to teach each and everything in a given law subject. Hence, a faculty should aim at teaching a relevant and precise syllabus in the most efficient way. Further, the faculty should aim to teach a curriculum which is contemporary relevant by incorporating recent cases. These cases can be identified from newspapers and other sources. Faculties can focus on genesis and history of subjects in order to connect the contemporary content of these syllabuses.
4. Continuous Research and Writing – He lastly emphasized that there is huge relevance of continuous research and writing by faculties on the respective subjects they teach in a law school. There is a huge need to accelerate research conducive environment in a law school. It is high time for academicians to realize their key relevance in legal reforms and judicial system. The academic research and submissions need to play a crucial role in this regard. Example: Innovative ideas and great medical research comes from teaching hospitals.
5. Creating environment flourishing skill sets – As a law school, it is vital for the faculties to incorporate the habit of reading contemporary sources to the students. These sources can vary from Business Magazine to the Economic Times and others.

Session-IV – Ms. Mayurika Das Biswas

The theme of the session was ‘Professional requirements of Emotional Intelligence and Stress Management from students’. Ms. Mayurika started the session very cheerfully while requesting everyone to interact in the session.



[Inset from left: Psychologist Ms. Mayurika Biswas conducting her session; Dr. Alok Misra presenting Ms. Biswas with a memento]

She narrowed down her discussion to the following key issues:

1. Handling difficult people and situations: Emotional intelligence helps an individual to combat these situations in the most efficient and professional way. She clarified through various day to day examples that it is crucial to prioritize difficult situations and people in life to understand the real problem beneath it.
2. Repetition and Affirmative Technique – She highlighted that how the human brain is programmed to affirmatively believe and follow instructions which are repeatedly fed to it. This helps an individual to create an affirmative, effective way to handle these difficult situations in life.
3. List of Key Actions – She showcased a list of key actions which should be undertaken by individual to combat day to day issues such as laughing at issues, befriend your nemesis etc.
4. Emotion Free Technique (ERT) – She concluded the session by conducting ERT or the emotion free technique by showcasing these huge problems in the form of a tiny cute cartoon named Pikachu which was followed by a narration which was duly repeated by everybody in the session to end the technique effectively.

The session concluded by a vote of thanks delivered by Mr. Sunil Geoge, Area Chairperson, LLM Programme.

Segment- IV

Rapporteur- Asst. Prof. Twinkle Maheshwary

Session- VI- Miss Natasha Mangat (Vice- President & Sr. Counsel. Citi Bank- India)

The theme for the session was ‘expertise and skill requirements of Banking Sector.’ The speaker started the discussion clarifying the intent of the Lecture, that was, ‘what a student can be made to do, to change the Banking Industry’. She discussed in detail the importance of application of mind on law rather than knowledge of law, mentioning that law can be read in books and therefore it is not of much importance. Therefore, need of the hour is to equip the students with the ability to analyse and apply the given law in the real life situations.



[Inset from left: Vice President & Sr. Counsel: Ms. Natasha Mangat conducting her session; Ms. Chetana Lal presenting Ms. Mangat with a memento]

Taking the discussion further, she mentioned that law changes from books when it moves to courts and hence, the intention behind any law should be known to the students in order to be able to get into the professional world. The Law firms would look for a person who is willing to change the set ways and laws. The appealing factor for the recruiters is when the Learner has the intention to craft the law, amend the law and able to identify the lacunas in law. Further, interviews at different sectors doesn't change with the areas of work and therefore the skills required to get in the banking sector are-

- Zero Banking Skills
- Desire to work

- Work as passion and not for only money i.e. Money should not be the only driving factor.

The lecture went on identifying the desire of the student from the job or internship, the following points were identified as most relevant-

- Good Firm
- Good Money
- Value addition to the CV

On this point the speaker agreed that everyone is just looking to make money with a job but one fails to realize that what is important is to change and become capable, the money will follow and then the person need not take any efforts for it. Therefore, the emphasis was laid on taking up litigation in the initial stages of career by the students who really want to learn and work. They will make their own way out for all the economic dilemma they have. With this note the discussion came to an end.

Ms. Chetana Lal, proposed the vote of thanks after the session came to an end.

Session- VII- Miss Rashmi Deshpande (Partner, Khaitan & Co.)

The theme for the session was ‘Professional skill competencies required by Law Firms from alumni’s of KPMSoL’. The speaker for the session started by introducing herself and taking the discussion directly to what are the skill set required by a student to work in a law- firm, and what is the role of the institute and teachers in this development.



[Inset from left: Partner, Khaitan: Ms. Rashmi Deshpande delivering her session; group picture of FDP participants with the Valedictory resource person]

The following points were identified as most relevance that how the students can be equipped by the law school so as to be ready for the job-

- Change the curriculum and include the following things in the curriculum as curriculum plays an important role in strengthening the skills of the student.
- 1. Have strong internship programs that will help the student in learning client communication and client interaction which is one of the major things that is lacking in the students.
- 2. Refer to the curriculums of other law schools and pick up the good parts of their curriculum to strengthen our own curriculum.
- 3. The students who have had internships at Tier 1 and Tier 2 firms can share their experiences in the law firm with the juniors and colleagues by way of a seminar or presentation or lecture.
- 4. Students should have strong research skills as its one of the basic elements that is required in the internship and even when a student enters the professional world. This could be also done by way of including training of e-resources as a part of the curriculum by the institute.
- 5. Students should be able to apply the classroom knowledge to the practical situations. Therefore they can be taught in the same way, where the emphasis is laid majorly on application of the laws. The exam papers could be made in a way to check there application skills, as it is the key to be a good professional.
- 6. Students should look for good assessment internships where they can be offered PPO's after their internship duration.
- 7. Students should not only be taught legal language which is required by the courts but also new- age communication skills should be taught to the students where the importance of usage of simple language can be taught to them. As simple language is required for interaction with the clients and its not to impress them.
- 8. Curriculum should be structured in a way that it includes inter-disciplinary subjects and papers could be made in a way where the students have to apply the different kinds of laws applicable in that given situation.
- 9. Students should be made to read business magazines as the knowledge about the business of the client is of utmost important for a good lawyer.
- 10. Students should be asked to write detailed research papers, as research papers highlight personal thinking of an individual. These research papers can also be published on students name in reputed journals.

Focusing and discussing on the above points, emphasis was also laid on the importance of classroom teaching, as the basic knowledge acquired in the class is very important to everyone and it cannot be replaced by anything.

The session was followed by the closing address by Dr. Alok Misra (Dean of KPMSoL)

Vote of thanks was proposed by Asst. Prof. Rakesh Nambiar.