



Connecting Thinkers..

Editors' Message



Dear Thinkers,

July – August is always a busy and exciting time for us at JAIN. We see the new faces of aspiring M.Phil and Ph.D Research Scholars. When they come, with nervousness writ all over, to sit for their entrance examinations and having cleared that, when return armed with their ‘proposals’ to sit for their interviews. One of the first questions we invariably ask them in their interviews is tell us something about yourself and why do you want to do research. The passion and conviction in their answers is what keeps the higher education system alive and kicking in our country. So why do we do Research? The trajectory of an M.Phil/Ph.D Researcher is a long, laborious and demanding one but it is the excitement of creating new knowledge that keeps us ticking. As Albert Einstein said, ‘If we knew what we were doing, it would not be called research would it?’ Thus those committed to research know that their contributions play a fundamental important role in constructing the future of society.

Research is the playing field for innovation, where we sow the seeds for the crops to be harvested by our coming generations. The discoveries in academic research institutes, in all areas, be it Physics or Political Science, lead to the emergence of new techniques and technologies which will shape the world we live in today and tomorrow. Terry Freedman, in *The Importance of Research for ICT Teachers* had said that "Research can shed light on issues we didn't even know existed, and can raise questions we hadn't realised even needed asking." Today, robust research is needed to uncover the lies that spread around as facts. With the use of internet technology and social media, pseudo journalism is a big concern which must be countered by genuinely researched facts. Thus all research invariably leads to answer the endless curiosity the humans have.

People have been engaged in research from the ancient of times since they started living on earth. While as a researcher you seek answers to questions of great interest to you, your research problem could be aesthetic, social, political, scientific or technical. You choose the tools, gather and analyse the data, and report your findings to a wider audience. Thomas Edison, one of the greatest inventors of all times did research all his life, and invented almost 1,100 (1,081 to be exact!) different things - from gramophone to light bulbs. So a very warm welcome to all new budding researchers at JAIN – join the quest for truth.

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GUIDE'S COLUMN

Balancing between Teaching and Research - The need of the hour for academicians. *“Teaching is learning. When you are teaching full time you have to do research, stay current”*, said Jimmy Heath. The only way to have a satisfying and successful academic career today is to be both a passionate teacher and a dedicated researcher. Promotion processes, as well as, your own desire to advance your field usually require that you devote considerable time to research and publications. On the other hand, teaching is one of the primary obligations. How to strike the right balance? How Research assists Teaching -

Research results inculcate fresh material in the class room : New research results represent prevailing theories, the outcome of our cumulative understanding and the application of concepts to the most relevant problem domains. There is no better way to keep the course material current than to peruse the latest research and update the material so that it reflects current understanding.

Exposing students to current problems in industry : Our understanding continues to evolve as new research results emerge. In many areas, industry aggressively tracks new technologies and research results. The students aim will be more poised to make important contributions in industry if they are well-versed in current technologies. It becomes teacher's responsibility to bring in an exposure to the students to the existing problems that the industry is looking for, which definitely demands an expertise in research knowledge.

How Teaching assists Research -

Going to the depth of knowledge : Research is the process of creating new knowledge. Making progress in creating knowledge requires a significant amount of basic knowledge before one can reach the frontier of a topic.

Good teaching requires the depth of knowledge about the subject.

This process of building an understanding helps in turn to master the existing theories, and how those existing knowledge can be extended in the field of research.

Teaching Ph.D. students about a particular topic : Teaching and constant discussions with Ph.D students also opens up new doors towards innovations. The following are some of the points that may be helpful in establishing a balance between teaching and research: - Giving guest lectures on the area of expertise; Introducing electives on most happening topics; Building teaching library of videos, presentations and syllabus related class activities; Encouraging student projects and paper presentations about current research topics; Constant upgradation of curriculum in match with the recent research results. Most importantly, students get inspired by the teachers tremendously. Bringing in the thirst for knowledge in students and motivating them to make discoveries themselves is a unique opportunity that we have as educators. Developing these young future researchers is yet another big way of our contributions to the field of research. Finally, keep in mind that your experience can make for a valuable contribution to the scientific community, for example, in the form of a report on your efforts in science education, or by posting comments to this article...!!!!

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Indian Apparel Retail Industry – Opportunities and Challenges

Textile and clothing sector is one of the oldest industries in India. The origins for retail business in India emerged with *Kirana* stores and *Mom-and-Pop* stores. Then in 1980s, economy showed boom of retail by entrance of Bombay Dyeing, S Kumar's, Raymonds, etc. Slowly and gradually apparel retail industry in today's scenario is fastest growing industry. As per Retailing sector analysis report by equity master on March 26, 2018, the unorganised retail share in India constitutes 93 per cent of overall trade whereas in western countries organised retail forms around 80 per cent. This clearly depicts the lot of scope for further penetration of organised retail in India. As per India Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF), June 2018, the retail industry contributes approximately 5 per cent to India's gross domestic product (GDP) and is expected to grow to US\$ 1,100 trillion by 2020. Organised retail penetration is expected to increase from 7 per cent in FY 2016-17 to 10 per cent in 2020. India is expected to become the world's third-largest consumer economy. India's retail sector is growing exponentially, due to economic growth, change in demographic mix, increasing disposable incomes, urbanisation, changing consumer tastes and preferences being the most important driving factors. Retail sector developments are taking place not only in metro and tier-1 cities, but it is also started penetrating in tier-II and tier – III cities and resulting in the growth of organised retail in India.

Apparel retail industry comprises of Men's wear, Kids wear and Women's wear, where men's wear dominating the sales. Emerging trends in this industry are use of smart garments such as smart watches etc as well as smart casuals taking the trend from formal wear; Online retail too is growing at a fast pace due to it's unlimited reach and as per IBEF, June 2018 the online retail market is expected to grow from US\$ 18 billion to US\$ 60 billion between 2017 and 2020.

Green, eco-friendly and sustainable manufacturing by no use of harmful chemicals in apparel manufacturing

In spite of the growth of this industry, there are various challenges faced by this industry like infrastructural bottlenecks which hampers logistics efficiency and poor internet availability due to which there is large segment which is yet untapped. Besides, forecasting of demand and supply is challenging due to changing demographic patterns and consumer behaviours towards preferences. Indian apparel retail industry has shown sustainable long-term growth. In spite of being on a growth path with changing trends, this industry is facing challenges which needs to be tackled so that the potential and scope of this industry can be capitalised fully. By resolving these issues not only will we be able to uplift the development of this industry but also create further positive impact on the nation's GDP.

*Astha Kumbhat
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12th Summer School on Quantitative Methods Concludes

The 12-day Residential *Summer School on Quantitative Methods on Social Science Research* organised jointly by **JAIN University** and **CSDS-Lokniti** concluded on 26th July, 2018 at the Global Campus in Kanakpura. Attended by over 24 participants from 18 states in India, the Resource Persons included Dr. Irfan Nooruddin from Georgetown University, Dr. Siddhartha Swaminathan from Azim Premji University, Dr. Sanjay Kumar from CSDS, Dr. Suhas Palshikar and Dr. Rajeshwari Deshpande from Savitribai Phule University, Dr. K.K. Kailash from University of Hyderabad and Dr. Sandeep Shastri from JAIN.



Doctoral Degree: Dream Come True

As I was born and brought up in a small town, it was a dream from my childhood to be called a Doctor. Always I had my Mother's strong support in preparing me to reach my goals. That moment was filled with excitement and surprises, when I registered for Ph.D at Jain University in 2011. Journey through my research, in the area of Image processing was really exciting. Pre-Ph.D courses made me go back to my college days of becoming a student. Research Methods classes were ever fresh, knowledgeable and interesting. In my research of developing different algorithms for Image tracking and fusion using Square root Algorithms, successful implementation of one algorithm made way to the next new algorithm of Tracking and Fusion. These new algorithms could be extended for real time applications in the field of defence and commercial applications as well. Research journey has made me realise that there could be several solutions for the same problem statement. The way/method we choose has to be the best according to the application needs.

This way of thinking has given me the confidence, strength in real life to search for solutions for any sort of problem. Further, I can never forget thanking my guide Dr. Jitendra Raol, NAL scientist, who has continuously triggered me with energy, patience and enthusiasm throughout my research journey and made me reach my goal. His consistent, organized way of guiding, made us to sail through the ocean of research smoothly. I extend my heartfelt thanks to Jain University which has given me an opportunity and supported me in completing my research work of Doctoral degree. Sure this lifetime achievement should be supporting me in leading my future life successfully.

This way of thinking has given me the confidence, strength in real life to search solutions for any sort of problem

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My Passionate Journey as a Doctoral Researcher

My Research Journey as a doctoral student in JAIN University under the charismatic guidance of my guide, wonderful teachers and friends was exciting, positive, and rewarding. The journey started on a rather interesting note from my work place when the IT Company I was employed, got acquired by another IT firm. I started noticing the impact of this management decision on the lives of its employees. Many started fearing of job loss, some cheered for betterment of their current roles! There was total chaos in the company in the early days of the acquisition announcement. Incidentally, I was selected to be a part of the larger team who will manage the ‘needed change’ in the company. The role will be to act as change agent to bring stability to the organisation. Later during my career, I have worked with many IT companies that too, have witnessed amalgamations! These experiences triggered an interest in me to do an in-depth research on ‘**Mergers and Acquisitions in IT companies**’. Luckily, I have many ‘buddies’ who were also helpful in fulfilling my research in a systematic way. My years of experience with many major IT companies and consulting firms proved a boon and guiding factor in my research work.

I have reviewed hundreds of journals, spend hours in discussion with industry experts, attended many conferences in order to pursue my passion for research in M&A in IT companies. The reviewed literature has provided valuable insight into the rather complex concept of mergers and acquisitions. But adequate focus on certain dimensions of mergers and acquisitions in India particularly in the IT space was not given especially on the regulatory regime and cultural issues. It is this gap that I focused on. The two biggest obstacles in the way of completing a merger or an amalgamation remains the often long drawn procedure required for the sanction of a scheme of arrangement and achieving a culture synergy between the combining entities. The delays in M&A transaction in India often impact not only timelines but also deal mechanics! The objective of my research study was to ascertain / identify the factors that motivate the IT companies in particular to switch to the merger / acquisition mode and to critically examine the regulatory regime governing mergers and acquisitions in the country’s IT space. I those encouraging discussions, ideas, and feedback. It’s their positive attitude that helped me to go through the difficult times in this long journey. I am so fortunate to get a great mentor and friend as my guide . Then came the support from family and friends, listening to them and talking with them about research goals and plans was incredibly rewarding to me. I think a research journey is full of excitement, surprises, challenges, and uncertainties. The process of doing a Ph.D program is like an emotional roller coaster since one may experience many ups and downs during this process. But my advice to research scholars is to keep working hard and to be passionate, positive, and to persevere.

*Dr. Bobby Kurian
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A Few Words as a Research Scholar at Jain University

I thought of doing research work after my age of fifty years and after completing twenty seven years of my professional service as a faculty in the technical institution. Since my remaining service were a few years ahead, I just set a systematic plan for completion of my research work so that I can enjoy the remaining very few years of my service. I had two research guides who stood as the backbone behind me throughout my research work from initiation, encouragement, guiding and played a vital and key role till completion of my viva. I used to approach them frequently about my research topic and they used to give me valuable inputs as and when required. My journey as a research scholar at Jain University was a memorable one and it was a wonderful experience. To seek admission for doing Ph.D at Jain University, I had undergone a written test, interview and got selected for admission during August 2014. The course work subjects especially the research methodology class had put me on a proper path to carry out the research work in a timely fashion. The University planned and conducted the course work classes, examination, skill development program and synopsis presentation in a very systematic way which enabled me to complete the course work in one year and also conducts additional programs like Research Retreat to enhance our knowledge and also provide a platform to exhibit our research work progress. I am very much satisfied with the way they conduct Pre-Submission Colloquium. I got lots of inputs from the colloquium committee examiners in respect of my objectives, methodology, result analysis and conclusion which enabled me to submit my thesis during March 2018. I completed my final viva-voce during June 2018 and got my Ph.D degree awarded during July 2018. Thus everything was completed within four years as per my plan. I take this occasion to thank the Board of Management of Jain University for providing me an opportunity to carry out my research well in time. I express my sincere thanks to their entire research team who supported me during my research journey.

Dr. T. D. Vishnumurthy
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**Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never
cease to grow.**

Anthony J. D'Angelo

Skill Development Workshop Feedback

An overture from one's Institution to equip its wards with a "bag of skills" (to quote Dr. Bhagavan) was a great surprise for me. The experience of the programme gifted me another reason to believe that the choice of the institution I made a year back as a novice to pursue research was right. The focus of the research on day one was a proper assessment of each individual's strengths and weaknesses in terms of their presentation skills. Constructive suggestions and opinions given by our experienced resource person, Dr. Bhagavan, accelerated the pace of the learning process and improvement. His fine observations and intricate analysis was remarkably helpful. A research is an individual as well collective endeavour. On the second day, the participant-oriented activities under the supervision of our eminent teachers broadened our understanding and vision of research. The fun activities followed by their grave analysis made me realize how there is potential for learning and practice in the most humble human actions. Contemplation and discussion on the challenges and opportunities for further learning in research process took place using the analogy of "Cook without Fire" competition. The Skill Development Programme was a windfall for each of its participants before their proposal presentation. The thought process behind providing such an opportunity for scholars, therefore, has to be lauded.

*Pashiya,
Ph.D Research Scholar in English*

Two days of skill development workshop was packed with a good amount of grilling, yet which contained a lot of learning, learning from our mistakes, how to be a genuine presenter, how to analyse and a be a positive critique and how to make use of whatever limited resource and time we have to our benefit. Another beautiful thing that I learned in these two days is when I was told of my mistakes by my colleagues, those feedbacks were a real self check for me, which is going to be so beneficial for me in my research journey. The activities conducted in the workshop these two days were really beneficial, the workshops of day 2 were creative, and even on a weekend workshop day, all the scholars had so much fun as there was so much to learn in a entertaining way and being able to connect this learning with research. All in all it was illuminating, interpretative, energizing and vibrant two days. Thank you so much for such an experience and helping us on brushing our skills of being a better researcher.



*Roshni Chhetri
M.Phil Research Scholar in Psychology*

Benjamin Franklin so beautifully said “Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.” The two days of Skill development workshop conducted by JAIN on 29th and 30th of June 2018 was an awesome experience in itself. The two day activity filled with so much of learning, without having a feel that we are in a classroom for full day. Fun filled activity which made us understand the nuances of making a good presentation. Those can be from the posture we take while we stand, the smallest of the hand gestures which we made, the voice and the tone modulation. I never felt that understanding a fireless cooking could be so very well be connected with the research process that we have undertaken. Roles of a leader, balancing the roles and surging ahead. Creating music from the given props was another activity which I enjoyed the most because with the given limited resources we need to do our research work in the best possible manner. In totality for me though I have been making my students do all these activity the best part of was that I first unlearned.....then I Learned it again because in the words of J.R Rim “Intelligence is what we learn. Wisdom is what we unlearn.”

Reji Meprathe
Ph.D Research Scholar in Management

Among all the other workshops, the Skill Development Workshop organised by CERSSE, Jain University had a completely different flavor. Several interesting interactive components within it helped us gain deeper insights into our research journey. The first activity, ‘Research Identity’ wherein each participant was required to give a two minute presentation, provided insights into the basics of presentation skills. Our Professors guided the discussion following the presentation with invaluable inputs. Personally, I realised the importance of parsimony in presenting one’s idea. Post lunch, an opportunity to play different roles was created through a group activity ‘In the Hot Seat’. It did make sense, because as a researcher one should be confident in defending one’s own stance logically, in the face of counter questions. Watching our Professors, skillfully countering us was a learning experience. Next day, we all participated in an interesting team activity ‘Master Chef’, wherein we had to face a challenging and enjoyable task. The skills necessary for teamwork were beautifully explained by drawing analogies between the various components of the activity and the challenges faced in a journey of a researcher. Finally we orchestrated with ‘musical instruments’ to give a fitting end to the two day workshop. I am grateful to the Professors and my peers for providing a great opportunity of learning.



Ashoka Choudhury
Ph.D Research Scholar in Mathematics

Skill Development Workshop Feedback

I learnt-

*How to Package
"content of my re-
search work in the
context of academic
Audience" ?*

S. Simran

*Peer learning is much more
effective than classroom lec-
ture. Feedback from peers &
Professors was an incredible
eye opener.*

Radhika V

*In the Morning- "No
fear"
In the Evening- "Only
Confident"*

R Aravintharaj

*I learnt how to
prepare myself for any pro-
fessional
presentation
How to act
Professionally*

Shivarudraih B

*To keep the Smile on my face always .To keep calm and to be patient
while presenting which helps in time management. To be a good lis-
tener.*

Padmashree

Achievements and Publications

Dr. Meera Chakravarthy, Research Guide, Jain University, was one of the translators, honoured by Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the release of the translated volumes of 'Vachana', penned by 12th century social reformer Basavanna and others, in 23 Indian languages on the occasion of Basava Jayanthi.

Dr. Mythli P. Rao, Dean, School of Languages, was the External Member in the Audit Panel nominated by Central Hindi Directorate, Ministry of HRD Govt of India.

Dr. Priyanca Mathur, Associate Professor CERSSE, published a Chapter titled “The Stateless People: Rohingya in Hyderabad” in the book *The Rohingya in South Asia* edited by Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury and Ranabir Samaddar, published by Routledge. ISBN 978-1-138-61101-6.

Dr Yuvaraj Chakradhari, who completed his Ph.D in Biotechnology at JAIN has been appointed as a Post Doctoral Fellow at the National Institute of Technology at Raipur. JAIN congratulates him on this success.

Fr Vineeth George, M.Phil Scholar in Management got his M.Phil research published in the form of a journal article co-authored with his research guide Dr Harold Andrew Patrick, Dean (Academics), CMS Business School, Jain University in the SCOPUS indexed International Journal of Pure and Applied Mathematics Vol. 119, No. 15, 2018, 1629-1637, ISSN 1311-8080 (printed version), ISSN 1314-3395 (on-line version)

Ms. Savita V. Patil, Ph,D Research Scholar in Biotechnology, was the only candidate selected from India to participate in the *International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP)* 2018 at Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.



Meera Chakravarthy being felicitated by the Prime Minister



Prof .

Ms Savita Patil in Boston

Thinklet Congratulates the Achievers and wishes them Good Luck for all their future endeavours!

Specific Research Methodology Workshops for Ph.D Research Scholars (2017 Batch) have commenced at Atria Towers, Palace Road. The first ones were conducted by **Dr. Venkaterswaran and Dr. Aravindan** in Engineering, **Dr. Yoganand Kore** in English and **Dr. Priyanca Mathur** in Humanities and Social Sciences



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ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE SHOULD BE SENT BY **20th August 2018**
WITH **NOT MORE THAN 250 WORDS**

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, E-MAIL ADDRESS AND THE KNOWLEDGE DOMAIN OF YOUR INTEREST

Corrigendum – In the Thinklet July 2018 Issue the article ‘Being Local and Naatiness’ was not authored by Ms. Meenakshi Ravuri but by Ms. Veena Hassan. We regret the error.