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No: GTU/QP-Designing/ 3767

Date: 26/05/2014

Date:10/06/2014

Time: 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Venue: **Gujarat Technological University, Nr. Vishwakarma Government Engineering College
Nr. Visat Three Roads, Visat - Gandhinagar Highway Chandkheda, Ahmedabad – 382424**

A Cordial Invitation to contribute in upgrading the pedagogy and to decide appropriate testing method for the MBA programs

GTU has taken initiative for the task related to “*The Art & Science of Designing Question Papers*” for various programmes. As first step one such “confluence” was arranged at GTU, Chandkheda campus on 5th April, 2014 and subsequently at different zones of G.T.U. A SIMILAR event is being planned to contribute in upgrading the pedagogy and to decide appropriate testing method for the MBA programs.

To participate , please register on or before 05/06/2014 ; 6:00 PM

<https://docs.google.com/a/gtu.edu.in/forms/d/1Q2ymJQOB70x67Ln-s210oAB4jk2A20J0mD8pyi2K4FO+HKs/overview>

When one of the richest persons and the steel king of the world, Mr Lakshmi Niwas Mittal was asked, what regret he had in life? He replied politely by saying he did not do MBA. MBA is one of the most renowned degrees across the globe, after the completion of graduation from any discipline. The students prefer to go for a degree in management since it offers a huge opportunity in the different areas. The students from different background i.e. commerce, engineering, medical, computer, science, arts opt for management qualifications as it sharpens their mental abilities as well as provide a better platform for the faster growth.

After 2007-08 (the global financial recession) the dimensions of business and MBA education have changed. Most of the corporate communities have changed their opinion about the acceptability of skill sets of the management students. According to the business leaders, the gap between the academia and the requirement of the corporate world has widened. In spite of the finest curriculum and very rich and potential academic resources, we are not able to clear this vacuum. Lacks of appropriate association and conventional testing method have not been producing the desired result. The biggest challenge for the management institutes and business schools is to bridge this huge gap.

With this preface, our dynamic Honourable Vice Chancellor, Dr Akshai Aggarwal, has initiated the project called ‘*Confluence: The Art & Science of Designing Question Papers*’ with the objective of (i) designing guidelines for setting good quality examination papers and (ii) for each subject, preparing two sample question papers, which can be used to measure a student’s



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competence in the whole of the syllabus of the subject well. A question paper is the heart of testing methods. The contents of a question paper is directly correlated with the issues like what is to be tested? How it is to be tested? And Why it is to be tested? An examination paper should assess a student's understanding of concepts rather than evaluating the skills of rote-learning. Badly set or unbalanced question papers can put even the most carefully designed syllabi to shame and can act as a dis-incentive for attending classes and may not permit a great learning environment to develop.

The academic community, the Deans, The Directors and the Professors across the university have contributed exceptionally well in the area of students development and their upgradations in the past. We once again seek you valuable inputs and invite you to share your rich experience for the betterment of the students and the university. We need your guidance on the following issues while framing the new pedagogical changes and testing methods.

Out of the interactions with more than 70 HR managers across the state, we found the following requirements in the students: Sound communication skills, effective presentation skills, computer literacy, sound knowledge of the relevant software (like ERP, SAP, SPSS, Tally, TORA etc.) self awareness and self reflection, reporting skills (feedback), soft skills, basic etiquette and mannerism, how to run and participate in the meetings, good academic skills like understanding the models and their limitations, understanding the macro level environment, leadership skills, behavioural aspects of cross culture, critical, creative and integrative thinking.

Parallel to this, we must concentrate on the students' aspirations and their perceptions. It is equally vital to understand why a graduate student would opt for a management course from our university. Some of the concerns from their side are, gaining additional knowledge in the area of management, exposure to the corporate world, individual growth, improved communication and interpersonal skills, to understand to interrelate the managerial and technical issues, and very importantly: the PLACEMENT and an MBA degree.

We look forward to an interactive session which will improve and enhance the universities' strength and upgrade the calibre of our students and the entire educational system. Thanking you in a positive anticipation.

The following experts will share their views and valuable suggestion regarding the subject.

- (1) DR. Shilendra Gupta (Calorx Teachers University)
- (2) Prof. Bharat Dalal (Founder Professor IIM)