

## FDP – ‘An Experiment for Lifelong - Journey’

### Why FDP & Life after FDP?



This is one of the most difficult question which comes to everyone’s mind. Yes, indeed it was also a difficult decision for me as well and especially when you have a good teaching experience and have level and responsibilities to look after. I am Saurabh Krishna working at Institute of Hotel Management – Aurangabad, Taj Group Hotel School as an Assistant Professor for Tourism & Hospitality Management. Since my mother



was a teacher I have always wanted to associate myself with the academic fraternity. FDP from IIMA has been a dream come true, but to make that dream happen, you have to give it your all. Frankly speaking, I benefited in ways which were absolutely different from what I expected when I had applied. I should also mention, we

can’t simply imagine the benefits, nature and the rigour of the course unless and until you reach KLMDC (FDP classroom). Firstly, you don’t believe you are sitting in IIMA classroom, which is one of the toughest B – School in the world to get in, and then you start seeing the most respected and the legends getting in and welcoming your batch to your new home. I guess it’s one of the most proud moment of your life to witness that moment and later interact with the faculties, and then post tea you will be welcomed with the first case to discuss and the journey starts. As I have always mentioned with my batch mates.

*“After reaching IIMA I realized probably getting in at IIMA was much easier than passing out from IIMA”*

When I see life before FDP, during FDP and post FDP, there is a huge difference in terms of learning experience, hard work and many stories to talk about, and each one of them is interesting, exciting and inspiring.

FDP offers you a unique learning experience with a detailed course material, grade based assessments, and an active participation of both faculty and the participants. You will have to agree with me and believe about the fact that, FDP will have a lifelong impact on your overall personality, teaching skills, learning skills, and the way you look at the academic fraternity. Without FDP I wouldn't have had the confidence to pursue into the high quality academic writing,

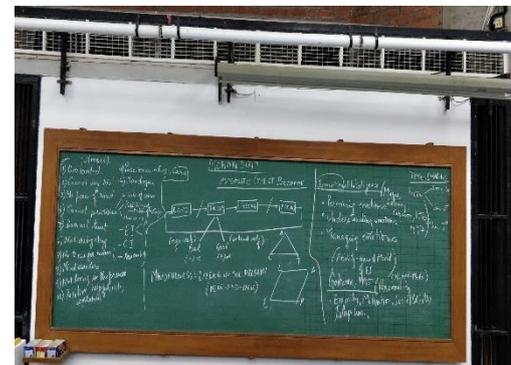


teaching and researching and even developing cases on management topics. World class facilities, 24\*7 library, well furnished and comfortable dorms and the discussion room, gym, cafeteria serving cyclic menus, cafes etc. IIMA itself will be your world, you wouldn't feel like even peeping in the outside

world. Being one of the oldest course FDP has gone through many changes to make it one of the most comprehensive module for the academic world, within short span of time you would realize that you have been introduced to the formal, and highly competitive environment.

**Diversified Learning & Socializing with Peers:** - At IIMA

– social interaction is the key to excel and grow. The group assignments and the case study discussions within the group develops and helps you understand things in a much better way with the varied dimensions of any elements or topics. Peers with different specializations, subject



expertise and their academic experience often brings about different perspectives and contribute to more objective and balanced classroom discussions I would be happy to even mention that batch 2018 had the maximum number of peer

learning classes. As a result you find mentors, colleagues, and lifelong true friends who stay with you during and after the FDP as well.

### **Intensive Course & Case Method of Teaching: -**

IIM Ahmedabad is known for the Case method of teaching, which makes a unique experience to learn and think out of the box. I have personally adopted this method of teaching for my classrooms and I have seen a great change in terms

of the class participation, discussion and the overall interest of the students. Modules on Case Method in Management Education, Crafting and Publication of Research also taught us to develop cases and it further developed the interest which resulted in the publication

of some good cases from our batch.



### **Innovative Teaching Approach: -**

The innovative teaching methods in the FDP by the distinguished faculties gives you a new dimension for the teaching methods. The dynamic and interactive teaching methods used by faculties helps you to understand the changes which

we must bring to enhance our classroom delivery as well the preparation one must do before conducting a class. I have personally worked on the better teaching plan, research and preparation before the class which resulted to have better connect with my students and

dynamic classroom environment which happened only because of FDP.



## **The Arvind Mill & Amul Experience: - (An Utterly Butterly Experience)**



FDP is not only limited to the classrooms and the long series of lectures, field visit is one of the best addition to enhance the overall learning and to have a hands-on experience, practical knowledge and to understand the current industry trends. FDP 2018 batch went to Amul and the Arvind mills to experience the industry scenario and the management functions on the shop floor.

The batch enjoyed the visit at the same time, we also had the chance to interact with the staff and the senior management team of Amul & Arvind Mills. The other beauty was that we had a detailed discussion and sharing of the learning experience of Amul & Arvind in the classroom.



## **Guest Lectures & Speakers: -**

FDP is a platform which offers you some incredible learning experiences, we get to experience the perspective of guest speakers, experts and industry leaders. Learning is not only limited to the classroom teaching or to the books, we had some really interesting and intense discussions with the industry leaders and the guest speakers.



This has really helped us to expand our horizon, develop new industry connects and even collaborative research work. The cases which we developed as a part of our module has further enhanced our knowledge regarding the Industry and academics relations, and given an opportunity to work with the owners and the employees of the companies, that really taught us how significant it is to have a strong connect between Industry and academia.



### **Publication & Research: -**

FDP is a great time to try out the research ideas you've been thinking about to work upon and develop. Faculties go extra miles to support and encourage you and your ideas for publication and guides you on the correct path. Post FDP you see your bucket which is full of 'to do list' as you are highly inspired by the work



of your batch mates and the faculties of IIMA. Collaborating with your batch mates, faculties and even the industry partners are quite possible as you see many opportunities it just depends upon you and your commitment. Post FDP, we really learnt to always try something new in our teachings, publication, research, and case writing if you succeed you succeed but if you fail you still succeed because that teaches you so much and helps you to even experiment more and excel, because at IIMA

everyone would admire you and your efforts of taking risks and making an endeavour for your ideas and passion.

## Extra Co-Curricular Activities & CSR Activities: -

Everyone is aware about the academic rigor of IIMA but very few know the other secrets, let me reveal it to you, as soon as you join the family you are exposed to the different clubs of IIMA, and you should not have even a second thought to associate yourself with the club, some of the clubs are drama club, dance club, literature club, sports club, photography club and even a laughter club for whom who loves to make people laugh,

which is the most difficult thing to do. Our batch also had a chance to visit the UNESCO heritage site, Patan & Modhera which was recommended by one of our faculty and supported by our FDP chairperson. Apart from that IIMA teaches you to give back to the society, PRAYAAS is a CSR started by IIMA, where the underprivileged students are taught, many of our batch mates were the active contributing member of prayaas and taught PRAYAAS students, even our batch organised a small event and drawing competition for the Prayaas kids. FDP also teaches you that with your academic work and other responsibilities you should never let your passion and your interest die and we must give back to the society which must be passed on to our students who work under extreme academic pressure at the same time they must be taught to contribute to our society. At my institute with my students now we support and work very closely with a NGO and contribute to the Aurangabad tourism development.



Many participants have felt that FDP is an opportunity to experiment. An experiment which puts you under extreme academic rigour, cut – throat competition, deadlines, team work, time – management, research, case method of teaching & learning, meticulous planning, strategy for yourself, peer learning and the level to which one can stretch themselves to achieve the word “PERFECTION” and IIMA is known for PERFECTION for the last 6 decades. I can proudly say one must take this journey of experiment to experience themselves and the mecca of knowledge.



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