



PRESS RELEASE

IIM Ahmedabad Conducts Annual HR Conclave at New Delhi

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The Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA) organised their Annual HR Conclave on March 4, 2017 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

Prof Ashish Nanda, in his inaugural address, mentioned that “IIMA plans to amalgamate classroom experience with digital technology so as to evolve a blended learning model”. He spoke of the democratisation of knowledge transfer through MOOCs but also concerns about quality. Executive Education is becoming a key part of the "learn some-earn some" trajectory of most professionals' careers. Prof. Nanda emphasised that ‘the IIMA Executive Education is committed to embracing digital technology to enable effective learning by participants.’

Mr. Pranav Kothari, in his keynote address, highlighted the unique ability of digitisation in helping achieve personalisation and micro assessment. He shared how the limitations of current pedagogy could be balanced through firm, speedier and reliable feedback mechanisms to provide an equal platform - regardless of abilities. He discussed how the

fundamentals of learning remained intact while digitalization played the role of a teacher/facilitator for faster learning processes. The inaugural session ended with Prof Morris bringing out the linkages of executive education and digitization in his address and Prof Varkkey proposing the vote of thanks.

The first panel discussion titled “Learning Challenges in the Digital World” was chaired by IIMA’s Prof. Amit Karna with panel members consisting of Mr. Anish Srikrishna, President, Times Centre for Learning Ltd; Mr. Aniruddha Tewari, Corporate Project Manager, Amdocs and Mr. Kamlesh Vyas, Director – People Advisory, Ernst & Young.

The panel discussion focussed on understanding the need for the role of the facilitator, the intrinsic motivation of the participant, the need for blended learning to leverage the advantages and best of both the learning experiences while forming a community of the stakeholders consisting of the learners, designers and facilitators to work together to create a learning experience par excellence in the changing times.

Post the panel discussion, Prof. Sebastian Morris unveiled the annual calendar of IIMA’s Executive Education and introduced the courses IIMA would be undertaking in the blended learning space, with 3 courses being offered with Hughes Global Education and 2 with NIIT Imperia as the digital technology partners.

The second panel discussion titled “Digitization and Future of Organisation” chaired by IIMA’s Prof Sunil Sharma had a panel consisting of Dr. Babu Lal, Executive Director Corporate Learning and Development, BHEL; Mr. Manish Chawla, GM, Global Industrial Products, IBM and Mr. Jagdamba Prasad Joshi, HR Business Partner, Schneider Electric. The panel discussion focussed on the adaptability of the organisation to digitization, the future of technology, and technology as an enabler, not a complete solution for training.

The discussion revolved on the need to reinvent people, places and practices to embrace digitization and prepare brick and mortar companies for a future world. The panel members discussed the belief that organisations need to prepare for the future age with clear strategy, clarity of the leadership team for embracing technology and enabling stakeholders with right skills, maturity and strategy.

The emerging idea in the conclave was that digitization is an irreversible reality and can benefit organisation and people. But for the transformational process to be successful, it is necessary to embrace the idea and accept the change in totality rather than in bits and pieces.

- The End -

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