INTERNATIONAL VISION SEMINAR 2021

Sustainability in the Age of Disruption

Technical Workshop: Thursday, February 25, 2021
Seminar: Friday, February 26, 2021
Saturday, February 27, 2021
Over the last two decades, Globsyn Business School (GBS) has uniquely positioned itself as India’s only ‘Corporate B-School’, with its two years full-time Post Graduate Diploma in Management (PGDM) being approved by AICTE. We have received many laurels from the education fraternity from time to time and have been ranked among the Top 50 B-Schools in India, as per Business India’s Best B-Schools Survey 2020. With a legacy of nearly two decades in amalgamating education with technology, GBS now has more than 3000 alumni pursuing meaningful careers in India and abroad.

Vision Seminar Series
Globsyn Business School believes that apart from becoming competent business managers, its graduates should also be responsible citizens of the society at large. Among several activities towards this end, a Vision Seminar Series was instituted in 2017 with the aim of sensitizing participants on issues of social concern where business managers and their organizations can make an impactful contribution. The theme for the first Seminar in 2017 was “Spirituality in Management Education” followed by “Women Empowerment” in 2018. Vision Seminar 2019 was on theme “Corporate Ethics and Responsible Leadership,” and was followed by International Vision Seminar 2020: “Technology in Management in the Age of Industry 4.0”.

International Vision Seminar 2021: Sustainability in the Age of Disruption
The lexicon (Collins English Dictionary) defines the word "sustainability" as the capacity to endure. In other words, it is the ability to maintain things at a certain rate or level of existence. Therefore, sustainability enables meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Obviously, this will involve programmes, initiatives and actions directed at the maintenance and preservation of a particular resource. Besides natural resources, we also need economic and other resources. As a corollary to this, we can consider the four pillars of sustainability in four distinct areas aspects, namely: Human, Social, Economic and Environmental/Ecological resources. The means of ensuring sustainability are varied. Some of these ways would include: reducing energy consumption, eating frugally, living judiciously, recycling waste, saving water, lowering the carbon footprint etc. – the list goes on. Business sustainability necessitates practicing green procurement aimed at ecological protection, increasing social inclusiveness, giving a thrust to innovation, out-of-box thinking etc.

Disruption refers to disturbance or problems which interrupt an event, activity or process. Disruption means radical change in an existing industry or market due to technological innovation or loss of
resources, natural decay in factors of production and even natural changes beyond human control like rapid spread of virus or diseases. The ongoing worldwide COVID-19 pandemic has caused economic havoc across business sectors. However, it has also seen the ability of human mind and intellect to make innovation like creating anti-virus drugs very quickly and ushering in digital and other technological transformation in every area of human activity.

This is precisely the case in point, which this International Vision Seminar attempts to address – identifying critical areas and resolving problems to ensure Sustainability. Champions of industry, leading academicians, thinkers and strategists, and researchers both within and outside the country, will deliberate over two days to examine different areas and suggest how sustainability in its various aspects related to business, can be tackled effectively and efficiently.

The International Vision Seminar 2021 is dedicated to the theme “Sustainability in the Age of Disruption”. Cast over three days, including a pre-seminar workshop, the Seminar is divided into four sub-segments as follows:

(i) **Human Sustainability**: Human sustainability is one of the four pillars of sustainability. It is important that humans as individuals behave in a way that keeps themselves motivated in the age of disruption. There are possibilities of mental turmoil, frustrations, loneliness and a sense of disengagement either because they do not find tune with what others are doing or they feel left out in the way in which others are behaving in disruption. There are times when a team falls flat because the team members are not motivated enough or motivated differentially. In that case not only the team suffers but also the organizations. This panel would deliberate upon how such issues can be handled for an individual so that they can perform optimally as a team as well as it is beneficial to the organization.

(ii) **Social Sustainability**: Social sustainability is the next of the four pillars of sustainability. Human beings are social animals and hence cannot live without interacting with society. In an age of disruption, society also behaves in a strange way. Society becomes oblivious of the fact, how they would function as a group and the result of this is that they are not clear as to how they should govern themselves. It is important for social behavioral experts to deliberate on the concepts of Bandura’s social learning theories and thereby un-conditioning the already conditioned mind so that the social fabric can be strengthened with diverse and innovative ways of life. This panel will cover issues related to how societies would cope up with the impending situation arising out of disruption and how flexibility in a normative society is a challenge and at the same time an answer for sustainability.

(iii) **Economic Sustainability**: The third pillar of sustainability is economic sustainability. In the world of disruption, there is no certainty as to how the economic parameters will behave based on how people would react in situations of disruption. Hence the parameters of GDP, Inflation, Price-Index, and Purchasing Power may fluctuate during this time and not behave in the way in which they would normally do. This panel will deliberate upon how organizations can face up to the challenges of fluctuating economic parameters and thereby be sustainable in a disruptive economic environment.

(iv) **Environmental Sustainability**: The fourth pillar of sustainability is environmental sustainability. Environment is a very important component of human existence though humans seldom realize its importance. In the era of disruption, it is extremely essential to be sensitive to the environment and be conscious of the fact what the environment wants of humans rather than the other way round. It is important in disruption to create ecological balance in earth without derogatory effects on environment. This panel would deliberate on how environmental sensibilities can be maintained and how organizations can be sensitive to the environment in the era of disruption.
Program Details: Pre-Seminar Workshop (February 25, 2021) – Online Zoom Platform

**Inauguration** (02:30pm to 03:00pm)
Welcome Address: Prof. R.C. Bhattacharya, Vice-Chairman, Globsyn Business School, India
Keynote Speaker & Chief Guest: Dr. H. P. Kanoria, Chairman, SREI, India
Guest of Honour: Dr. Upinder Dhar, Vice Chancellor, Shri Vaishnav Vidyapeeth Vishwavidyalaya (Indore), India

**Break** (03:00pm to 03:05pm)

**Workshop: “Role of Ethics and Spirituality in Business Sustainability in the Age of Disruption”** (03:05pm to 04:45pm)
Workshop Leader: Mr. Arun Mathur, Founder Director, UltimQuest Knowledge Inc., Canada
Moderator: Prof. Kaushik Ghosh, Globsyn Business School, India
Vote of Thanks: Dr. Debaprasad Chattopadhyay, Faculty & Convener, Globsyn Business School, India
Program Details: Seminar Day-1 (February, 26 2021) – Webinarjam Platform

Inauguration (04.00 pm to 05:30pm)
Welcome Address: Dr. Subir Sen, Principal, Globsyn Business School
Inaugural Address: Dr. Damodar Acharya, Ex-Chairman, AICTE
Theme Address: Prof. R.C. Bhattacharya, Vice Chairman, Globsyn Business School, India

Inauguration and Lamp Lighting, Globsyn Mantra

Chief Guest Address: Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal, Secretary General, Association of Indian Universities (AIU), India
Guest in Chief: Mr. Arjun Malhotra, Chairman Advisory Board, Accolite, USA
Guest of Honour: Dr. Mahendhiran Nair, Pro-VC, Sunway University, Malaysia
Distinguished Guest: Mr. Geoff Perry, Executive VP, AACSB
Vote of Thanks: Prof. Rohit Srivastava, Dean (Administration), Globsyn Business School, India

Break (05:30pm to 05:40pm)

Panel Session I: Human Sustainability (05:40pm to 06:40 pm)
Session Chair: Mr. Sujoy Banerjee, Group Chief People Officer & Head – Marketing, Gainwell Commosales Private Limited, India
Panelist: Mr. Subir Chaki, MD, Killburn Engineering, India
Panelist: Dr. Rajeshwari Narendran, Professor and Trainer, IIMU & MLSU
Panelist: Dr. Rupali Basu, MD and CEO, Woodlands
Discussion: Q/A session
Session Moderator: Prof. Manas Chakravarty, Faculty, Globsyn Business School, India

Break (06:40pm to 06:50 pm)

Panel Session II: Social Sustainability (06:50pm to 07:50pm)
Session Chair: Mr. Jawhar Sircar, Former CEO, Prashar Bharati, India
Panelist: Dr. Sanjaya Gaur, Clinical Professor of Marketing at the NYU School of Professional Studies & Researcher of Social Identities, New York, US
Panelist: Dr. Aditi Mitra, Senior Lecturer, Sunway University, Malaysia and ex-Research Manager, Nielsen, Malaysia
Panelist: Mr. Somesh Dasgupta, Group President, India Power Corporation Limited & Chairman, Energy & Power Committee of ASSOCHAM, Regional Council
Discussion: Q/A session
Session Moderator: Dr. Subir Sen, Principal, Globsyn Business School, India
Program Details: Seminar Day-2 (February 27, 2021) – Webinarjam Platform

Panel Session III: Economic Sustainability (05:00pm to 06:00pm)
Session Chair: Swami Narasimhananda, Monk, Ram Krishna Mission and Member, International, Interdisciplinary and Interreligious research group on Consciousness Studies, UNESCO
Panelist: Dr. Debaprassanna Nandy, Sr. Director, ICAI
Panelist: Dr. Premkumar Rajagopal, President, MUST, Malaysia
Panelist: Ms. Babita Baruah, Global GTB Head – Ford, India
Discussion: Q/A session
Session Moderator: Dr. Tanusree Chakraborty, Faculty, Globsyn Business School, India

Break (06:00pm to 06:10pm)

Panel Session IV: Environmental Sustainability (06:10pm to 07:10pm)
Session Chair: Dr. Vinitha Guptan, Vice Chancellor, Saito University College, Malaysia
Panelist: Dr. Aniruddha Mukhopadhayay, Professor and Post Doctorate Environmental Researcher, Calcutta University, India
Panelist: Dr. Sanjoy Mukherjee, Professor of Sustainability, IIM Shillong, India
Panelist: Mr. TVS Shenoy, Chief, New Materials Business, Tata Steel, India
Discussion: Q/A session
Session Moderator: Dr. Debraj Datta, Faculty, Globsyn Business School, India

Break (07:10pm to 07:15pm)

Valedictory Session (07:15pm to 07:45pm) – Zoom Platform
Valedictory Address: Dr. D.C. Jain, Co-President and Global Advisor of China Europe International Business School
Conclusion & Vote of Thanks: Dr. Sabyasachi Dasgupta, Convener, International Vision Seminar 2021, Globsyn Business School, India

Emcee of the ceremony:
Dr. Ranita Basu
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