



## **Thiagarajar School of Management (Autonomous) Madurai**

### **A Brief Report on Faculty Retreat to Thekkady**

**29-31 May 2022**

TSM conducts an Annual Faculty Planning Meeting every year to discuss the completed academic year proceedings and plan for the upcoming academic year. This year, in addition to the plans for the next academic year, the team discussed the road map for the next five years. The Faculty Members and their Family Members went for a Faculty Retreat to Thekkady during 29-31 May 2022. Around 26 Faculty Members participated in this trip.

The trip aimed at providing a new setup to introspect of what had happened in the last 2021-2022 and to deliberate on what could be the way forward, both in the next academic year and in the next five years. The trip facilitated to get fresh ideas in all the critical domains.

Dr. Murali Sambasivan, Director, TSM, presented his three-year strategic rolling plan for TSM to all the TSM Faculty members. The family members also participated in this session and were excited by the growth path presented by the Director. In addition, the Family members appreciated the commitment of top Management in the institution's growth.

Dr. Vignesh and Team presented the placement proceedings and the areas of improvement. The faculty council appreciated the Placement Team for achieving the current year Final Placement average CTC is Rs.6.95 lakhs, which is a good improvement compared with the previous years. However, all the Faculty Members are unanimous that TSM's average placement salary to be increased significantly. The Faculty Council suggested identifying the recruiters in Mumbai, Delhi NCR regions, organizing Recruiters Conclave, conducting competency skill mapping of all the students etc.

Dr. Manjula presented the admissions proceedings. The faculty members pondered how to increase the diversity of other states students and increase the CAT/MAT students than TANCET students.

Dr. Wajahat, a member of the Certifications Committee, presented the possible certification programmes which could be offered in the upcoming academic year. The committee received suggestions including possible tie-ups with CII, NSE, and reputed organisations in offering joint certification programmes. Exploring the chances of collaboration with Online certification portals like Coursera, Udemy was also discussed.

The meeting on 29 May 2022 which is supposed to complete at 6:30pm extended till 8:30pm due to the active participation of all the faculty members.

During the Faculty Council Meeting proceedings, the family members had a good time exploring the nature in the resort. The organizing team organized games and fun activities exclusively for the family members and kids.

On 30 May 2022, early morning Yoga Sessions was organized for Faculty Members. The importance of breathing exercises and simple yet powerful stress relaxation techniques were taught. The session was led by Dr. Nachiketas and one another Certified Yoga Expert in the Resort. After the boating in the Periyar Lake surrounded by the serene western ghats, the rejuvenated faculty members continued their discussions about the institutional long-term plans.

Dr. Balaji & Dr. Goutam, members of the BBA committee, presented the BBA action plan. The team presented the top BBA programmes in Madurai, Chennai & in India and compared the Fees Structure and curriculum of various institutions. Lot of ideas came in on how to position the TSM BBA programme. Once we receive the required statutory approvals, the committee is set to launch the high quality and differentiating BBA programme.

Dr. Pradeep, member of University Committee, presented the possibilities of TSM becoming a University. Different options like Deemed-to-be-University (like SRM, VIT), Private State University (like KREA etc) were discussed.

Dr. Nataraj presented the proceedings of the MDP done in the last year 2021-2022. The faculty team was appraised that around Rs.45 lakhs was generated as revenues from the MDPs during the last year. The Faculty Council discussed the possibilities of increasing the MDP revenues, including the PGDDSBBA programme, to around One Crore Rupees. The Faculty Team looks forward to Mr. Satish Raman's support in this regard.

Dr. Nachiketas presented the Consultancy proceedings. This area which is in budding stage requires lot of initiatives. Dr. Nachi suggested having templated solutions for generic managerial and business problems. These templates with little customization can be offered as customized solutions to the lot of MSME in and around Madurai.

An open talk session was organized by the Organising Committee, where all the Faculty members spoke on the (not limited to) the following topics:

- What is your most cherished moment(s) at TSM?
- What do you think is TSM's strength?
- What do you think are your significant achievement(s) at TSM?
- Where do you want the TSM to be in 2027?
- How can I contribute to that?

- What kind of support do you require at TSM to achieve your career goal?
- Do you have any regrets? Did you face any challenges?

It is heartening to note that all the Faculty Members want to be a part of the TSM growth journey and are excited to contribute their best. Several games to increase the bonding and cohesion among the faculty members and their family members were organized.

On the last day, all the faculty and family members visited the spice plantation and got to know about the different types of spices.

The team returned to TSM campus fully refreshed, rejuvenated and recharged.



**Feedback from the Faculty Members** (it is reproduced as given by the Faculty and is shown in italics):

**Dr. Prince (new joinee):**

Thank you organizers, Management and every participant. An awesome trip with amazing people..It indeed is a "TSM FAMILY"

**Dr. Narend (new joinee, Former VP at Barclays)**

*Wonderful unforgettable lifetime experience. Kudos to Balaji, Goutam and team for making this dream come true..*

**Dr. Manjula:**

*Prof.Balaji and Prof.Goutam without your initiative this wouldn't have happened..Many a thanks to both of you for organizing such a wonderful faculty family trip ..also thank our principal, director, chairman sir in particular who have supported us for this event a lot and also our Management for their contribution towards the faculty and staff welfare of TSM..*



**Dr. Mathiyaghagan:**

*After the long time, I enjoyed lot and totally different experience. This type of tour never happened before in my life. Once again, thanks to TSM family members. Thanks for your nice arrangements, Balaji sir & Goutam sir. They did wonderful work. We enjoyed it a lot.*

**Dr. Vignesh:**

*We are enjoyed like anything on each every single moment at Thekkady..*

*Thanks to Mrs CMD, Chairman, Director, Principal and all the administrative support.*

**Prof. Shruti:**

*Kudos to Balaji sir and Goutam sir for having been excellent tour managers and planners... special thanks to meenakshi sir and chidambarakumar sir for having taken care of all administrative tasks related to the trip*

*Balaji sir and Goutam sir - u displayed another talent of yours... hats off you professors*

**Dr. Pradeep:**

*Thanks for the Management, organizers, faculty and family members for this wonderful and well planned trip..👍👍*

**Dr. Senthil:**

*Thank you Dr. Balaji & Dr. Goutam, an excellent and well planned trip. Totally the trip is a memorable and "WOW" experience.*

*And special thanks to our our Management.*

**Dr. Ramesh:**

*Thanks a lot for the wonderful trip @BALAJI M @TSM Goutam Sutar.. Had a good time with all, especially all kutties..*

**Dr. Mutharasi:**

*Heartfelt thanks to Balaji Sir and Goutam for all the wonderful arrangements and to Selva mam for initiating this trip. Was nice to meet everyone's family...*

**Prof. Sivasakthi:**

*Yes thanks one and all who made this 3 days a memorable one*

**Prof. Sivakumar:**

*Thanks to our stars Dr Balaji and Dr goutam*

*For making our stay memorable..Thanks aren't enough to the duo..God bless*

*Thank the entire organising team for a memorable trip..Thank the management ms Valli Mr bangera and director for arranging the trip with family..I hope this will energise the team to achieve greater heights in making TSM a educational institution which achieved a big change in a very short period of time ..*

*Let God bless TSM and who all work in TSM both teaching and non teaching*

**Dr. Kongkona and Dr. Nachiketas**

*Thekkady-Spice-Village was a memorable trip. It was very nice to see my colleagues(starting from our Director) with their family and kids joining this trip.*

*The 3 days reminds us, that for a better future for our kids, we must put our heads together and make a good(2022) - great(2030) TSM transition.*

*Special mention is Spice Village. What a beautiful place. Wonderful hospitality(remember the send-off cake!). Thanks to the organising team led by the Deans for planning this well.*