



# ALUMNI BUZZ

IFMR ALCOM'S NEWSLETTER

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# CHAIRPERSON'S ADDRESS

## Message from the Chairperson, Alumni Committee @ IFMR



Dear All IFMRians,

At the outset wish you all a very blissful, prosperous and healthy year 2018.

It gives me immense pleasure to present the first edition of the IFMR alumni newsletter to you. This newsletter is an attempt to offer you a quick digest of all the important events that have happened at IFMR last year, milestones achieved by your Alma Mater, events organized by the Alumni Committee (Alcom), and latest accomplishments of our alumni.

On this occasion, I feel proud to inform you that Year 2017 was a year of success for IFMR. We have received the SouthSAQS Accreditation for 5 years effective December 14, 2017, from Association of Management Development Institutions in South Asia (AMDISA). It would be a major landmark in the history of IFMR.

The Alumni Committee at IFMR is committed towards engaging the alumni in various ways to build a stronger institution. Last year Alcom organized a number of events with your active support and cooperation. We have also planned some more events and activities for this year. We solicit your active participation and support to conduct them successfully. Your invaluable support will go a long way in making this community vibrant and will inspire those who are beginning their journey at IFMR. If you have newer ideas or suggestions, please feel free to write to me directly.

Hope you will enjoy reading the newsletter.

Best wishes,

**Dr. Jyoti Prasad Mukhopadhyay (Assistant Professor, Economics Area)**

Chairperson, Alumni Committee, IFMR

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# COVER STORY

**Drivers of enterprise**

**- Yogesh Chordia**



Cameron Herold a leading entrepreneur & speaker in his Ted talk at Edmonton said 'MBA programs don't teach students to be entrepreneurs, they teach them to go work for corporations'. His words fit the Indian Bschoo scenario perfectly! B-schools in India don't encourage their students to become entrepreneurs. B-schools are themselves absorbed with the placement puzzle, which is perplexing, as even B-schools are not able to secure worthy jobs for all their students. It's not wrong to work for corporations but can MBA's do their bit to help boost the prospects of Indian economy by creating enterprises rather than seeking employment from them.

Tony Robbins the popular motivational speaker says 'if you do what you have always done, you will get what you have always gotten'. India has relied on large corporations for far too long to take care of the employment situation. In the current state of affairs even large corporations are struggling to keep their existing workforce in play. India at this stage is in need of hundreds and thousands of startups to take its growth story forward while India particularly is way behind in job creation. Unless India can employ its youth, the developed India that we envisage is a distant story.

Why are MBA's always focussed on placement numbers? Why can't MBA's have meaningful conversations on innovative business ideas and solutions for nation's problems through business and management skills they learn? No other set of educational institutions provide the kind of facilities and collaboration possibilities better than a Bschoo. With the kind of socio-demographic and educational diversity present in a Bschoo, it's the perfect place for people to get together and start an enterprise or to ideate about an enterprise.

# COVER STORY

India has been promoting 'Start-Up India' and 'Make In India' and must capitalize on these initiatives by encouraging and providing incentives to various educational institutions to promote the idea of enterprise. B-schools must make courses on entrepreneurship mandatory and provide platforms for its students to partake in ideation and business model generation. Promoting 'Make in India' and 'Startup India' at B-schools could be a game changer for these initiatives.

Another question that presents itself is that 'why are majority MBA's job seekers and not job creators?' Are MBA's risk-averse? Or is it fear of failure? Or is it plain simple financial returns conundrum? Professor Timothy Folta of Purdue University says 'it's a myth that entrepreneurship involves risk, he says an entrepreneur is no more risk-seeking than a manager'. If the primary concern is the failure then I firmly believe, failure is something that all of us must encounter in our life. Michael Jordan the legendary basketball player once said 'I can accept failure, everyone fails at something. But I can't accept not trying'. If you look at the history of the world, all great leaders have failed and bounced back. Failure must not be feared, failure must be embraced. Virginia Satir the famous American psychotherapist said that 'the certainty of misery is preferred to the misery of uncertainty'. MBA's must start taking risks with an open heart and mind as the potential in the enterprise is immense.

Jim Rohn the motivational speaker says 'you are the average of the five people you spend the most time with'. If B-schools can create a job creator rather than job seeker mentality **in their students** it could revolutionize the purpose of B-schools entirely. Indian B-schools must learn from the Ivy League schools like Harvard, Stanford, University of Pennsylvania (Wharton), INSEAD and their likes. These institutions foster innovation and entrepreneurship among their students, the number of billion-dollar enterprises produced by some of these schools is astonishing. Indian business schools just need to create a sustained campaign to encourage their students. If every business school in India can produce 4-5 start-ups a year **to start with** this could be the tipping point of both job creation and relevance of business schools **in the** Indian economy.

# COVER STORY

Winston Churchill once said 'we will astound ourselves even if we accomplish half of what we are capable of'. Every MBA in India must start believing in the concept of enterprise and the power of collaboration. Relying on large corporations or the government alone to take care of the entire **employment situation** in the country is not going to help the youth. Therefore the younger generation has to step up, use their education and grab the opportunities to solve the problems the nation faces. If MBA's can make the effort to create enterprises focussing on solving **nations** problems and generating employment at the same time they could play a significant role in India's growth story! Jack Welch sums this up best 'control your own destiny or someone else will'.

## **About the author:**

Yogesh Chordia is a businessman in the field of finance. He is an IFMR alumnus from batch 8 and was also the founding President of The Entrepreneurship Club-TEC at IFMR. He is also a Corporate Trainer, Management Consultant, Speaker, Mentor, blogger and member and an empanelled trainer of the Madras Management Association.

# WHAT IS GOING ON @IFMR

## SAQS ACCREDITATION

We are pleased to inform you that IFMR has received the SAQS Accreditation for 5 years effective December 14, 2017. We received the official communication in this regard from Association of Management Development Institutions in South Asia (AMDISA). It would be a major landmark in the history of IFMR.

We would like to thank the alumni who participated in this process during the peer review team visit to IFMR last year during Oct 2017. We hope you would continue to support your Alma Mater in achieving greater heights in future.

The salient features of SAQS accreditation are as follows:

- - SAQS is designed as an international quality assurance programme for mentoring, quality improvement, quality assurance, and accreditation.
- - SAQS looks for a balance between high academic quality and professional relevance through close interaction with the corporate world.
- - SAQS Quality Label is recognition of the institution's commitment to Quality and Quality Assurance through continuous improvement.



“

THE ROAD  
AHEAD

# WHAT IS GOING ON @IFMR (CONTD.)

## • Mentor-Mentee:-

We have successfully started our Mentor-Mentee Program for the current students of Batch 18. It is a unique program through which the students would get an opportunity

to interact with the alumni on a personal level. The Alumni will act as mentors and guide the students throughout the course by providing industry insights. We would like to thank.....



“

THE INDUSTRY  
INSIGHTS

## GUEST LECTURES

### Mr. Pradeep Naulia (Batch 1)

We had the privilege of having Mr. Pradeep Naulia of PGDM Batch '01 share his thoughts on the scope of Financial Engineering and Data Science specialisation with our students at IFMR. He has over a decade of leadership experience in Analytics in a variety of

industries ranging from Telecom, Software, to Finance, Call Centre. In his current role, he leads consulting engagements in Analytics/ML for Xchanging /CSC Malaysia as Senior Data Scientist.



# GUEST LECTURES (CONTD.)

## Mr. Amandeep Singh (Batch 2010)

Mr. Amandeep Singh from Batch 9 delivered an insightful lecture on “Building a brand in today’s digital world”. Batch 17 and Batch 18 also had the privilege of having an interactive session with him. The event was

conducted in association with Markaholic-IFMR Marketing Committee. He is currently the Director of Brand Strategy and New Business – Brandmovers.



## Mr. Srikant Rajan (Batch 2010)

Mr. Srikant Rajan, an alumnus from batch 2008-10 conducted a **workshop** session on "How to analyze business cases". He has a decade of experience in various fields like heavy engineering, defence business development and education technology.

He is currently working as a consultant providing services in domains of technology development and data analytics. He is currently a guest faculty at IFMR.





# DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD 2017

- **Aswin Lakshmanan** (PGDM Full-time Programme Batch 2002-2004), Senior Program Manager, Verizon.
- **Arunachalam Veerappan** (PGDM-Working Executives Programme - Batch 1996-1999), Senior Director-Finance, Flextronics
- **Mahesh N** (IFMR OUBS MBA Programme), Senior General Manager, HR, TAFE limited.

They received the award from the Chief Guest, Dr.C Rangarajan (Former Governor of Reserve Bank of India) during Annual Convocation held on Apr 22, 2017 at Sri City campus



# LET THE THOUGHTS FLOW

## Article

- **Counterparty Credit Risk in IR and FX Swaps**

**-Rajesh Khetan**



Fair Market Value of an IR or FX swap is determined by discounting the cash flows using LIBOR. LIBOR considers credit risk of debt between two AA rated banks in London. Any transaction that involves two counterparties is exposed to a counterparty credit risk. While valuing an interest rate swap or a cross-currency swap, cash flows are discounted using LIBOR which considers debt instruments of two AA rated banks. However, it doesn't consider counterparties with different credit profiles. Two methodologies are proposed to determine the fair market value of an IR and FX swap by considering counterparty credit risk.

### Article Link

<http://www.garp.org/#!/risk-intelligence/all/all/a1Z40000003f4m5EAA>

### About the author:

Rajesh Khetan has specialized in Financial Engineering from IFMR - batch 10 (2009-11). He has worked with the Genpact Treasury team on development, documentation, reporting, validation, and back-testing of Asset Liability Management (ALM) models. He has also worked on benchmarking of a tradable portfolio, yield curve generation, complex security valuation as part of five and half years with Genpact. In November 2016, he joined Deloitte and has been working on the valuation of a private company (Enterprise Valuations) and private debt, implementation of CFTC and SEC guidelines for a swap dealer, IFRS - SPPI testing for private placements and validation of CCAR stress testing model.

# LET THE THOUGHTS FLOW (CONTD.)

## Blog

- **Trending Zone - Making use of Technical Analysis to increase odds of successful trading in the financial markets.**

**–Abhinav Arasu**



In his blog, Abhinav Arasu talks about his views on the overall market and his trading strategies. He also writes about the strategy he followed from which he received 48% over the past one year.

### **Blog link:**

<https://abhinavarasu.wordpress.com/>

### **About the author:**

Abhinav Arasu is a gold medallist at IFMR, PGDM batch 15. He has also cleared 2 levels of the CFA program and is currently a Level 3 candidate. Being highly passionate about financial markets, he also trades in the Indian stock markets. Most of his trading is based on techniques learned from the FMP course by Professor Venkatesh Bangaruswamy. His methods are slight modifications of other methods based on his observations and learning. He is currently working at IFMR capital with the RISK team and makes it a point to spend at least an hour every day in the evening with his charts.

# LET THE THOUGHTS FLOW (CONTD.)

## Book

### Incredible Champions II Published in 2017 by Notion Press

- N Chandrasekaran



Incredible Champions – Volume II brings out how various professionals are contributing significantly to the society. This book takes one through the experience and journey of the champions to illustrate and define the various issues of the social sector in India. It explains how exemplary professionals see opportunity in challenging times and circumstances to serve a larger society. Whether it is the work of K V Ramani serving the needy towards education and healthcare or that of Ramamurthy working for schools from the deprived economic community or that of Dr. Prahalathan serving the poor who need support for education and development, the objective remains the same – trying help humans around us to experience a better living. Case studies are spread across age group, from professionals in early 20s to those who are in the advanced stage in career. Similarly, a number of years have not been used as criteria for choosing a professional to be profiled. But the inspirational line of service and commitment has been highlighted. The author has tried to cover all the important aspects of the trigger to get involved in this sector, opportunities, and challenges. There seem to be some common traits in spite of unique works. These include determination, grit, humbleness, the ability of not succumbing to pressure and work with resolute and so on. The readers would find it useful to know how important it is to relate to the society. Moreover, as Indian companies focus on contributing to social capital for committing to “Corporate Social Responsibility of Business”, they can see enough scope for their engagement.

#### Book link :-

<https://notionpress.com/read/incredible-champions-volume-ii>

# LET THE THOUGHTS FLOW (CONTD.)

## Book

### **Incredible Champions II Published in 2017 by Notion Press**

**- N Chandrasekaran**

#### **About the Author :**

N Chandrasekaran is a Ph.D. in Economics - Financial Management (1990), Institute for Financial Management and Research, University of Madras. He has about 27 years corporate experience in areas relating to Supply Chain Management, Corporate Planning, Strategic Management, Mergers, Acquisitions, Corporate Restructuring, and has worked with startups. He is also a Certified Supply Chain Professional (CSCP), Association of Operations Management, USA, and also Certified Big Data Analyst. He is currently with the faculty of Loyola Institute of Business Administration, Chennai as Professor – Supply Chain Management & Business Analytics. Chandrasekaran has worked for an agro-based business for organizations like National Dairy Development Board, sugar business of leading groups, and with IT and knowledge-based companies as Head of Strategy, Human Resources Management, and Policy and Systems.

He has published a number of articles in leading professional journals and brought out a first Annual Publication named Indian Supply Chain Network. He has authored a book on Supply Chain Management published by Oxford University Press of India in 2010. He has jointly authored a book on Strategic Management published by Oxford University Press of India in 2011. He has jointly authored a book on Agribusiness Supply Chain Management which is published in 2014 by Tayllor & Francis, New York, U S A. He has also published a work on “Ethical Supply Chain Management in India” in 2012. Incredible Champions was first published in 2014 and its sequel is being published in 2017. He is a management consultant, mentor startups, and professionals in areas relating to strategy, digital marketing and data-driven analytics for insights.



## TAC -2017

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