Principal’s Message

Welcome to the Autumn issue of Pacific Reflections!

This year is truly shaping up to be an exciting Year for all of us and with a lot of new experiences to look forward to.

We are excited about what this year continues to offer to all of us and our desire is, whatever your set goals are for the year, they will come to pass.

The previous months have been exciting for us in that we witnessed yet another Graduation of our students. It gives me pleasure and joy that we continue to contribute a better citizenly to society having provided training to students from all walks of life and diverse cultures. There is a quote that continues to resonate in my heart “Graduation is only a concept. In real life every day you graduate. Graduation is a process that goes on until the last day of your life. If you can grasp that, you’ll make a difference.”

In view of the above, I would like to encourage all our students to be committed to your studies, pursue your dreams and vision and focus on attaining something that will make a difference to the society and mankind. I have very exciting news for you all: Pacific College has lodged our application to become a Higher Education Provider and it is in progress. If all goes as planned, we will be accepting enrolments in our proposed bachelor program later this year.

In a few months’ time, we will be celebrating 14 years of offering quality education and training for industry needs. We look forward to you joining us in commemorating this momentous occasion. We sincerely hope all our students have a rewarding and memorable experience at Pacific College of Technology and we look forward to celebrating all your future successes.

Enjoy reading this issue of Pacific Reflections!

Pradip Dhakal
Principal
Nowruz Afghan New year celebration
Pacific College of Technology participated in Nowruz Festival (Afghan New Year) held at Auburn Park. The event was well attended and had a wonderful interaction with the Afghan community to promote our programs.

Clean Up Australia Day
In 1989, an ‘average Australian bloke’ had a simple idea to make a difference in his own backyard - Sydney Harbour. This simple idea has now become the nation’s largest community-based environmental event, called Clean Up Australia Day. It is a non-government funded, not-for-profit organisation that mobilises hundreds of thousands of Australians every year to produce fundamental, positive change and clean up the country. Last year, over half a million volunteers removed 16,150 tonnes of rubbish at more than 7,000 locations across the country, and this year was also a resounding success.

Despite a last minute rescheduling due to rain, Pacific College of Technology staff, students and faculty, in collaboration with Auburn City Council, participated in the nation-wide day activity. Volunteers from the College community took action to clean up, fix up and conserve our prized Australian environment. Plastic bags and gloves were provided to participants, and everyone rolled up their sleeves and pitched in to do their bit to give back to this great country. Following the event, the results were immediately very visible in the areas cleaned up, and there was a lot of positive feedback by students and Auburn residents alike. Special thanks to everyone who participated!

Excursion trip to Auburn Botanic Gardens
As part of our social and cultural experience of Australia for overseas students, the College organised an excursion trip to Auburn Botanic Gardens.

The trip was full of fun and excitement. The students were very happy to explore the flora and fauna including Peacock galary at botanic garden. The students found the trip refreshing, informative and worth visiting.

The Auburn Botanic Gardens is a place of natural beauty where people can learn more about horticulture, birds and native animals. The Gardens cover 9.2 hectares of lush parkland and since 1977 have hosted thousands of group excursions and hundreds of wedding and civil ceremonies.
Trip to CeBIT EXPO

In early May, an eager and tech-savvy delegation of Pacific College of Technology teachers, faculty and students with a keen interest in all things IT visited CeBIT 2016 at Olympic Park.

The technology expo allowed the group to take a peek at some of the 450+ exhibitors, from start-ups to global companies. As the largest technology exhibition in Australia, CeBIT has a reputation as a leading platform for showcasing the latest innovations in business technologies that can make a real difference to business, and thus was an obvious choice for a PCT excursion. Feedback from all attendees this year was overwhelmingly positive, with IT students in particular benefiting from the hands-on experience of visiting this cutting-edge trade show.

Graduation Ceremony 2016

The College held its 2016 Graduation ceremony at St Phillips Community Hall, Auburn on 19th April 2016. Approximately one hundred people (PCT staff, and guests) attended the fabulous event. Mr Pradip Dhakal also congratulated all the graduates for their successes and wished them all the very best. The guest of honour for the night was Donald Llam. He delivered an uplifting and inspiring speech to our PCT graduating students. The Principal and the Guest of Honour awarded the deserving students with their graduation certificates. Fortyone Students graduated across Business, Accounting and Information Technology. The college also announced some prestigious awards for the students.

We would like to congratulate the following student’s who were awarded with Special Awards.

**Principals Award** - was based on academic, attendance, character and conduct. This was the highest award of the night and was awarded to Parbati Paudel Tiwari.

**Best Male and Female students of the Year** - This category of award was based on their classroom performance, assessments, final examinations' attendance and conduct, and was awarded to Jeongah Kang & Tayeef Mahmood respectively.

The ceremony also showcased a cultural Samoan Taualuga Dance presented by our very own staff-Maddy.
Staff Food Festival
Pacific College of Technology organised its first ever food festival 2016 for Staff. We had a wide range of diverse food.

Brekkie Day
As an ongoing activity, PCT organises brekkie day for all its staff and students from time to time.

Film Festival
For the first time Pacific College of Technology organised a Film Festival. This showcased a collection of different short movies.

PCT APP
We are living in an age where our thinking is not possible without Smartphone’s or electronic gadgets. Pacific College of Technology is proud to announce PCT APP.

Keeping in mind that our student’s will make a maximum use of it. The app has been made user friendly.

It is now available to download from Google play and App store. Search “PCT” in the app store and find the app with PCT’s logo. This is what the homepage looks like;

National Home Doctor Service
National Home Doctor Service is Australia’s and Sydney’s largest network of home visiting doctors. Our 500 doctors provide afterhours care to patients at home on weeknights, weekends and holidays. While awareness of the service is low, we are growing as more people become aware of the option calling 13 SICK (13 74 25) for a doctor to visit them at home when their GP is closed.

This service is also available to International Students with appropriate OSHC cover. Terms and conditions apply
SVP to SSVP
As at 1st July 2016 SVP will cease to exist and all institutions of learning for visa purposes will now be assessed under the new system SSVF.

On 16 June 2015 the Australian Government released the Future directions for streamlined visa processing report and announced the introduction of a simplified student visa framework (SSVF) to support Australia's education services sector. Subject to the regulatory change process, it is expected that the SSVF will be implemented by July 2016.

Key changes under the SSVF will be a reduction in the number of student visa subclasses from eight to two; and the introduction of a simplified single immigration risk framework for all international students.

Reasons for change: The changes are designed to make the student visa framework simpler to navigate for genuine students, deliver a more targeted approach to immigration integrity and create a level playing field for all education providers. For more information please visit: https://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Stud/Stre

ANZAC DAY
ANZAC was the name given to the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps soldiers who landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey early morning of 25 April 1915 during the First World War (1914-1918).

When war broke out in 1914 Australia had been a federated nation for only 13 years, and its government was eager to establish a reputation among the nations of the world. When Britain declared war in August 1914 Australia was automatically placed on the side of the Commonwealth. In 1915 Australian and New Zealand soldiers formed part of the expedition that set out to capture the Gallipoli peninsula in order to open the Dardanelles to the allied navies. The ultimate objective was to capture Constantinople (now Istanbul), the capital of the Ottoman Empire, an ally of Germany.

The Australian and New Zealand forces landed on Gallipoli on 25 April, meeting fierce resistance from the Ottoman Turkish defenders. What had been planned as a bold stroke to knock Turkey out of the war quickly became a stalemate, and the campaign dragged on for eight months. At the end of 1915 the allied forces were evacuated from the peninsula, with both sides having suffered heavy casualties and endured great hardships. More than 8,000 Australian soldiers had died in the campaign. Gallipoli had a profound impact on Australians at home, and 25 April soon became the day on which Australians remembered the sacrifice of those who died in the war.

Although the Gallipoli campaign failed in its military objectives, the actions of Australian and New Zealand forces during the campaign left a powerful legacy. What became known as the “Anzac legend” became an important part of the identity of both nations, shaping the ways in which they viewed both their past and their future.

As a result, one day in the year has involved the whole of Australia in solemn ceremonies of remembrance, gratitude and national pride for all our men and women who have fought and died in all wars. That day is ANZAC Day - 25 April.
Soccer: A-league Grand Final
After clinching a comfortable 3 -1 victory over Western Sydney Wanderers, Adelaide has finally won the Hyundai A-League Grand Final at Adelaide Oval on Sunday in front of 50,119 fans. With biggest attendance for a domestic match, Adelaide Oval was filled with soccer enthusiast’s for both teams were Adelaide United crowned an extraordinary season by winning the Championship just weeks after lifting the Premiership.

After a predictably tense and physical start the game exploded into life with two goals to the home side midway through the half, handing Adelaide United a clear advantage going into the break. The visitors had looked flat but found a spark inside the first 15 minutes of the second half with Scott Neville’s superb strike to make it 2-1. Wanderers had the momentum and pressed furiously for an equaliser.

Adelaide had a goal ruled offside, which could have completely killed off the game. But in the end, Sanchez did kill off the Wanderers with a clinical finish as the United chant reverberated around Adelaide Oval. It wasn’t to be for the Wanderers, the team that has made it to the Grand Final three times in last four years without success.

Rugby
The team that seemed favourite the Parramatta Eels are now locked in a salary cap scandal which has caused them to lose 12 League points putting the Cowboys on top of the ladder.

Rabbitohs have not experienced much of any success having lost the last 5 games, it is their hope according to Rabbitohs Head Coach, Michael Maguire, the named new-line up against the Parramatta Eels, with skipper Greg Inglis set to shift from fullback as part of the changes will line up at five-eighth for the Rabbitohs partnering with Adam Reynolds in the halves may help give the shake up needed to light up a spark to the men in Red and Green.

Courses offered at PCT
As per the recent changes in the Training Packages, the courses we had on scope were superseded and we now have new courses on board with different course duration. The courses and total duration are:

**Accounting**
- FNS60215-Advanced Diploma of Accounting -12 Months
- FNS50215-Diploma of Accounting -12 Months
- FNS40615-Certificate IV in Accounting -12 Months

**Business & Management**
- BSB61015-Advanced Diploma of Leadership and Management -12 Months
- BSB50415-Diploma of Business Administration -12 Months
- BSB40415 - Certificate IV in Business Administration -6 Months

**Information Technology**
- ICT60215-Advanced Diploma of Network Security -12 Months
- ICT50415-Diploma of IT Networking-12 Months
- ICT40415-Certificate IV in IT Networking -12 Months

New Additions to PCT Staff Families
Pacific College of Technology would like to congratulate the following staff and wish them wonderful parenthood for their new born.

- **Amit Nepal**: for having a gorgeous baby girl.
- **Suman Gautam**: for his second bundle of joy.
- **Sonia Hasna**: for her first little angel.

Triva
Come and see us at the reception and grab a gift bag if you think you know the answers!!

**QUESTIONS:**
1) What is the meaning of Australia?
2) When is the Queens Birthday?
3) Which one is Australia’s tallest bird?
4) Which Strait separates Australia and Papua New Guinea?
5) What does A stand for in ANZUS?
6) How was Australia known in the 18th Century?
7) Which structure in Delhi resembles Sydney Opera House?
8) Which Hollywood actor and director was born in USA and moved to Australia at the age of 12?
9) By how many hours Australian Eastern Standard Time is ahead of Indian Standard Time?
10) What is the name of PCT director of studies?
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Featured Staff Member & Student

Staff Member in Focus
We caught up with Kaushik Chakraborty, Trainer, to ask him a few questions about his experiences at PCT.

Where are you from?
I am from Kolkata (India) where I was born and spent most of my life before coming to Australia.

What do you think is the best thing about working at Pacific College of Technology?
The work environment is great, staff members and other trainers are friendly and very cooperative. College management is flexible and open minded and they encourage inputs from all staff members. The Management is also quite approachable and values our personal space and so employees have a privilege to enjoy a bit of freedom and independence at work.

Could you share a favourite PCT memory?
Yes, it was my first Christmas Cruise party in the year 2013. It was a huge gathering of staff members including trainers, their families and students. We enjoyed great food and drinks while our boat floated gently across the beautiful Sydney harbour. Everyone including trainers, staff and students enjoyed the colourful party which was fun-filled with heaps of laughter and dance.

What is your favourite book?
Chander Pahar (English title: Mountain of the Moon) by Bibhutibhushan Bandopadhyay. It is a Bengali adventure novel where a Bengali boy went out to explore Africa with very limited resources.

What is your favourite song?
Imagine by John Lenon. I was fifteen, when I first heard this song. I fell in love with the composition and lyrics when it says 'Imagine there's no countries.....Nothing to kill or die for... And no religion too, Imagine all the people...Living life in peace...' and I strongly believe someday people will join to make this world as ONE.

Student Focus
Hwaryeong Yim is currently pursuing a Diploma of Business Administration at Pacific College of Technology.

Where are you from?
I'm from South Korea

What is the best thing about studying at Pacific College of Technology?
The best thing about studying at Pacific College of Technology is that even though we came from all over the world, it still feels like home. Pacific College of Technology has become my family.

Could you share a favourite PCT memory?
My favourite academic memory from college was when I truly understood subjects of Diploma of Business Administration for the first time, thanks to my teachers.

What are your hobbies and interests?
I play badminton once a week. I like to keep fit, and it helps me to improve my strength and stamina.

What is your favourite book?
My favourite book is 'Don’t eat the marshmallow'; this book awoke and cemented my self-awareness. I remember thinking, 'I need more patience to overcome issues I would be faced with.

What is your favourite movie?
It's 'The prestige', What I like most about this film is that they don't waste time with unnecessary exposition and explanation. As a director, he respects his audience enough to assume they can connect the obvious dots, and I appreciate that.

What is your favourite song?
I like K-pop. They're pretty and handsome yet very talented in singing and dancing. Their MV's really attracts me. They try to show various type of MV's and music that makes me impressed.

Student Focus
Contributions - At Pacific College of Technology, we love all things artistic. We would like to publish your poems, artwork, photographs, stories and more in our next newsletter! Please contact us to have something considered for publication at romi.kharel@pct.edu.au.
If you would like to provide comment or contribute to future editions of Pacific Reflections, please contact the Newsletter Publications Team. It has been a pleasure bringing you this edition of Pacific Reflections; we hope you enjoy reading it!

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