



Making the Connection

MANAGEMENT EDUCATION POWERING DEVELOPMENT

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Academic Host



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Executive Summary

Over four days in Delhi, India nearly 150 management education, development and industry professionals from 36 countries convened for the 7th Annual Global Business School Network Conference, hosted by the Institute of Management Technology, Ghaziabad. Through insightful speeches, engaging discussions and enlightening site visits, the conference focused delegates on the theme of the day: *Making the Connection: Management Education Powering Development*.

Additionally, GBSN piloted a research mentoring program at the conference, matching junior faculty with experienced researchers from GBSN Member Schools.

Day 1: Members Meeting

With more member schools represented than ever before, this year's meeting proved to be one of the most interactive and productive yet.



Mzikayise Shakespeare Binza (Cape Peninsula University of Technology) shares his perspective from South Africa in an "Industry in India" breakout session.

Discussions ranged from how GBSN can provide more robust resources, to ways to implement mentoring programs, to the best approaches to address the shortage of qualified Ph.D.s.

GBSN unveiled a new pilot program called **"BRIDGE: Building Relationships to Develop Global Excellence"** that aims to leverage the wealth of experience, knowledge and passion in the network to build the capacity of schools in the developing world through mentoring, access to GBSN events and resources, and capacity building programs. GBSN introduced the first three schools involved in the pilot program: **African Nazarene University** (Kenya), **American University of Central Asia** (Kyrgyzstan) and **Universiti Tun Abdul Razak** (Malaysia).

Day 2: Management Education Powering Development

The conference opened with a traditional Indian lamp-lighting ceremony, representing the light of knowledge. Lighting the lamp were **GBSN CEO Guy Pfeffermann**; **Director of IMT Ghaziabad, Bibek Banerjee**; **Union Cabinet Minister of Urban Development, Shri. Kamal Nath**; and **Chairman of Max India Limited, Analjit Singh**.



Mr. Analjit Singh, Chairman and founder of Max India Limited discussed the good and the bad of management decisions in India over the past few decades.

Opening speaker **Shri. Kamal Nath** focused on how today's challenge isn't just growth, rather is it the management of growth. In his view inclusiveness is the key to the future of management since it brings together growth that touches all sections of society.

The second opening address by **Mr. Analjit Singh** considered his own experience as a manager in India. He mentioned India's last 20 years have seen huge growth centered around IT and technology. But for a country looking to cement its position in the top countries in

It was good to meet with other like-minded individuals. As much as other business school and/or international program conferences have interesting speakers and sessions, they are often too far removed from my work to really help me grow and develop new ideas.



Over 150 participants from 36 countries gathered at the Taj Palace Hotel in Delhi, India for a conference that featured speeches and interactive discussions that focused on building management education capacity to make an impact on the developing world.

[At the GBSN conference] I have come to know about the emerging developments in management education. In addition, I have made a network of people which may be beneficial for joint research and teaching.

the world, it will need to come out on multiple fronts to sustain the growth.

After the opening ceremony an international panel of deans took the stage for a discussion on *Regional Trends in Management Education*. Moderated by **Soumitra Dutta, Incoming Dean at Cornell University's School of Management**, the panel debated common trends, challenges and successes of business education, as well as identified unique regional issues that need to be addressed.

The panelists, who included **Prof. Steven Dekrey, Senior Associate Dean, Hong Kong University of Science & Technology** (China), **Dr. Enase Okonedo, Dean, Lagos Business School** (Nigeria), and **Dr. Pankaj Chandra, Director, IIM Bangalore** (India), emphasized the importance of incorporating learning from management practices around the world.

The rest of the day was filled with a closed door Dean's session and presentations and roundtable discussions on topics that included:

- » *Catalyzing Management Education in Africa*
- » *Sourcing, Scoping and Aligning Action Learning Projects*
- » *Going Beyond Accreditation: How to Measure Quality*
- » *Creative Approaches to Internationalization*
- » *Successful Strategies: Executive Education for Emerging Markets*
- » *Incorporating Management Education into Development Efforts*

In the evening the annual Gala Dinner featured the presentation of the award for GBSN's **MBA Challenge Video Contest winner, a team from Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth**. Their winning video is about a project to develop a \$300 house in Haiti.

The keynote address by **Aparajita Ramakrishnan, Senior Program Officer, Avahan, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** detailed how her team addressed the HIV/AIDS epidemic among sex workers. They achieved impressive outcomes by maintaining field engagement, active program management, and constant tracking and monitoring.

Day 3: Industry in India

The keynote address on "Industry in India" by **Arun Maira, a member of the Planning Commission of India**, discussed the complex and ever-changing Indian business models.

Maira identified four forces driving the Indian business climate; the global market, the political recognition of people's rights, the force of communication (news, social media, and freedom of press) and the recognition that there is a lack of water, soil and atmosphere. In addition, Mr. Maira discussed the declining trust the Indian public has in the government and its business institutions.

Delegates then chose one of four panel discussions focused on sectors of industry. These panels discussions set the stage for site visits to local businesses later in the day.

- » *Agribusiness: Mother Dairy*
- » *Sustainable Management/Corporate Social Responsibility: GenPact*
- » *Health: Sir Ganga Ram Hospital*
- » *Social Enterprises & Entrepreneurship: Sakha Consulting Wings*

Day 4: Campus Visit

Delegates visited the Akshardham temple en route to the campus of conference host **IMT Ghaziabad**. After a presentation on the history and innovations of IMT and a fascinating hand-shadow student film about India, delegates went on a campus tour, culminating with an Indian meal complete with student musical and dance performances.



Professor Will Mitchell (Rotman School of Business) and Steve DeKrey (Hong Kong University of Science and Technology) shake hands at the GBSN members meeting.