

NEWSLETTER

1. **Name of the event:** The Requisites for your Journey in Law School
2. **Date of the event:** 26th September 2022
3. **Location:** Offline College Auditorium
4. **Type of event:** Guest Session
5. **Name of the Speaker:** Mr. Viraj Patel
6. **Number of Attendees:** 140-150
7. **Description:**

On 26th August 2022, the Centre of Excellence organized a guest session on the theme ‘The Requisites for your Journey in Law School’ for the 1st and 2nd year law students of NMIMS, Navi Mumbai. The session was hosted by Mr. Viraj Patel, Senior Advocate at the Bombay High Court. Mr. Patel specialises in Real Estate and Civil matters. Mr. Patel most graciously addressed the students and provided them with insights on what the legal sphere really looks like beyond law school. The session commenced with an icebreaker wherein, students were asked why they opted for law and what they believed were the most important traits of a lawyer. Mr. Patel used this insight throughout his presentation, thus, framing his viewpoints in a way that was most relevant to the students.

He started off by impressing upon the students how vast the legal field really is and spoke at length about the emerging fields of law. As a law student, one of the most important decisions we must make is that of which field to specialise in. He understood this dilemma very well and shared his own experiences of the various fields of law he tried a hand at. He spoke of his experiences as a criminal lawyer in the trial courts and the Bombay High Court and also the meaningful work he did as a policy analyst for an NGO. He understood, that as students, we are filled with lofty ideals towards bringing about a change and making a difference to somebody’s life, however, to this notion, he gave some very real advice. Working with an NGO, he conceded, that helping the world first calls for being capable enough to provide for your family. Thus, he addressed the conflict that is to opt for litigation or the corporate sector.

Mr. Patel also advised students to be cautious and avoid the traps he fell into as a law student. In his college days, he often received praise for his oratory skills wherever he went and let that get to his head. However, his experiences showed him that flamboyance, arrogance, emotions and volume can never mask a weak argument. His lesson was that no matter how one sounds,

the ability to research and draft impactful points in favour of your client is the most significant attribute towards winning a case.

Opportunities are a plenty in the legal sphere today. However, it is our responsibility to seize them, giving it our best shot. On that note, he advised students to be diligent and hardworking. He advised them to make themselves known to the world e.g. via maintaining a linkedin profile etc. He also provided inputs on the skills required to land a placement or an internship. On the topic of CVs, he advised the students to only put the most relevant achievements, skills and experiences with respect to the opportunity you want to land.

In the end, Mr. Patel left the students with his numerous insights about the field of law. He left an important message, that the legal sphere is dynamic, amenable to change and it is the job of us, as students, to make our way amidst the numerous opportunities that behold us.

NEWSLETTER

1. **Name of the event:** “Skills for Research Paper Writing”
2. **Date of the event:** 23rd September 2022
3. **Location:** Online
4. **Type of event:** Webinar
5. **Name of the Speaker:** Mr. Malcolm Katrak
6. **Number of Attendees:** 50-60
7. **Description:**

On 23rd September 2022, the Centre of Excellence organized a guest webinar on the theme ‘Skills for Research Paper Writing’ for the 1st year law students of NMIMS, Navi Mumbai and all the other batches were most welcomed to attend the online session. The aim of the session was to prepare the students for the challenges they will have to face during the journey of writing a quality Research Paper, and develop the skill of research and writing. The session was hosted by Mr. Malcolm Katrak, Assistant Professor at Jindal Global Law School. He received an M.Sc. in Law and Economics, Development Economics and International Development from the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development and Research and is also the recipient of the York Graduate Scholarship. He has numerous publications to his name covering a vast range of themes. He courteously explained all the elements that are essential for a beginner like the 1st year Law students to write a quality Research Paper.

He described all the contents of the research paper like the Abstract, Research Methodology, Research Question, Hypothesis, the body, Findings and suggestions, Conclusion, etc. to the students in the most unambiguous way. He bit-by-bit explained all the aspects of a research work that has to essentially be there in it and what is not necessary for a research paper to contain. For a first year Law student who does not have any experience of research writing, the session was extremely beneficial. He also explained the dos and don'ts of a research writing, Mr. Katrak elaborated that even if the freshers think that how good they are when it comes to writing, they need to burst their bubble and understand what a quality work looks like. The importance for a Law student to read and write was also explained by him, as it is the bread and butter of a lawyer's life and research work is also a crucial part of it. He strictly warned the students to avoid plagiarism of any manner and give due credit to each and every person who helped them in any way in the successful completion of the research work, even if the person is their fellow classmate.

Mr. Katrak graciously went through all the questions of the students and answered them. During the last half of the session he also presented research papers to the students, so that they can understand how a good research paper looks, and get inspired by it. He read through the papers and pointed out the author's way of explaining things in a manner that the reader can easily understand. He explained that how important it is to use a language that is not complex for the readers, which most of the students forget while writing a paper and use complex words to flaunt, which is actually not good.

By the end of the session Mr. Malcolm Katrak wished the students all the best for their law school journey and explained how publishing a research paper helps the students in deeper understanding and perspective about the topic of publication, critical thinking, research and writing skills which are very useful for a career as lawyers or in legal education and research.

NEWSLETTER

1. **Name of the event:** “Effective Presentation Skills”
2. **Date of the event:** 3rd October 2022
3. **Location:** 3rd floor auditorium.
4. **Type of event:** Guest Lecture.
5. **Name of the Speaker:** Prof. Radhika Mahajanam
6. **Number of Attendees:** Around 120-150 students
7. **Description:**

On 3rd October 2022, the Centre of Excellence organized a guest lecture on the theme ‘Effective Presentation Skills’ for the 1st and 2nd year law students of NMIMS, Navi Mumbai. The aim of the session was to prepare the students for the challenges they will have to face during the journey of Law school. The session was hosted by Radhika Mahajanam, she is a visiting faculty of Business Communication and Soft skills at IBS, Corporate trainer at iPrimedIndian and Language trainer at Kings Learning Pvt. India. Ma’am has an experience of 8 years of experience in language training, and 3 years of experience in behavioural skills and has conducted over 30 workshops at Voltas and Raymonds under Skill India Development flagship. She has also conducted over 10 modules of business communication and behavioural skills at Cognizant, Accenture and Infosys Ltd.

She told the students that Presenting information clearly and effectively is a key skill in getting your message across. Today, presentation skills are required in almost every field, and most of us are required to give presentations on occasions. While some people take this in their stride, others find it much more challenging.

It is, however, possible to improve your presentation skills with a bit of work. She went through an activity with the students where she gave random topics to few students who volunteered themselves in presenting on random topics like My favourite super hero, My mother’s favourite dialogue, The movie I’ll never watch again, and a many more. She gave students 15 seconds to think and 1 min to present. All the volunteered students participated enthusiastically in the activity and it was really fun.

By the end of the session Prof. Radhika Mahajanam wished the students all the best for their law school journey and explained how Research shows that when presented with information, we take in 55% of it from visuals, 38% from spoken words and 7% from printed words. So,

just like the old adage, “a picture paints a thousand words”, try to use visual aids whenever possible. This is why lawyers use exhibits in documents and in court to help them prove points.

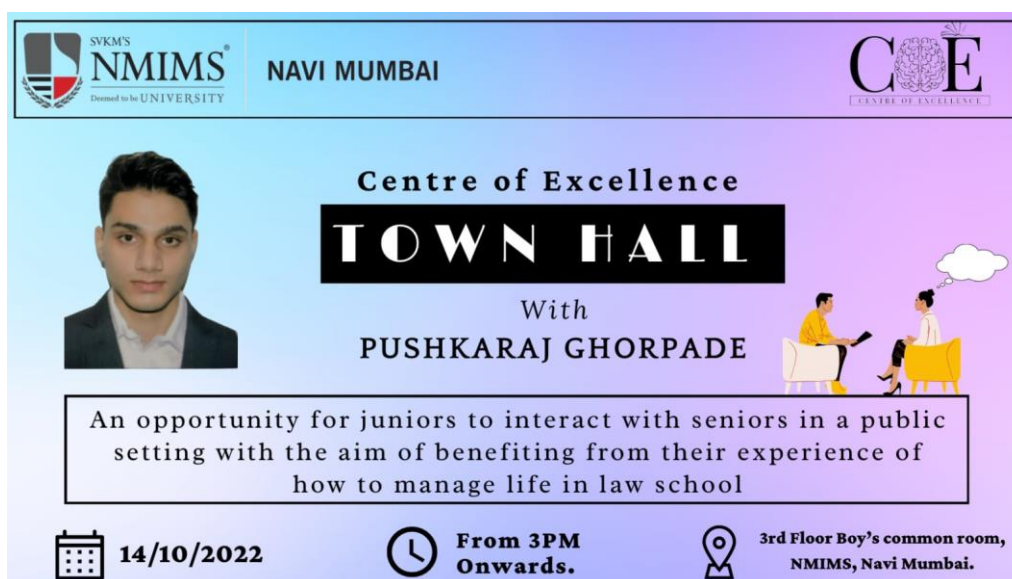
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NEWSLETTER

1. **Name of the event:** “Townhall”
2. **Date of the event:** 14th October 2022
3. **Location:** Offline
4. **Type of event:** Speaker Series
5. **Name of the Speaker:** Pushkaraj Ghorpade
6. **Number of Attendees:**
7. **Description:**

‘Townhall’ is an event organized by the Centre of Excellence where junior students are presented with an opportunity to interact with and learn from the experiences of their seniors. The event was conducted on 14th October 2022 from 3:00 PM onwards in classroom 213 with the host speaker being Pushkaraj Ghorpade, a fifth year law student. The event was attended by students across all years, with first year students forming the majority. The session was conducted in an interview format. He shared his own law school journey, and struggles they faced being the first graduating batch of N.M.I.M.S Navi Mumbai. He shared his insights on the broad skills one must possess as a law student and like how to write a research paper or how to secure an internship. He also brushed upon narrower aspects including topics like value of soft skills and professional appearance. Post the interview, the host speaker graciously addressed all the burning questions in the minds of the junior law students following which, the session was concluded.



The poster features the SVKM'S NMIMS Navi Mumbai logo on the left and the Centre of Excellence logo on the right. The central text reads 'Centre of Excellence TOWN HALL With PUSHKARAJ GHORPADE'. A portrait of Pushkaraj Ghorpade is on the left, and an illustration of two people in conversation is on the right. A text box at the bottom states: 'An opportunity for juniors to interact with seniors in a public setting with the aim of benefiting from their experience of how to manage life in law school'. The footer includes the date '14/10/2022', the time 'From 3PM Onwards.', and the location '3rd Floor Boy's common room, NMIMS, Navi Mumbai.'

SVKM'S NMIMS Navi Mumbai

Centre of Excellence

TOWN HALL

With
PUSHKARAJ GHORPADE

An opportunity for juniors to interact with seniors in a public setting with the aim of benefiting from their experience of how to manage life in law school

14/10/2022

From 3PM Onwards.

3rd Floor Boy's common room, NMIMS, Navi Mumbai.