

Workshop on “*Teaching with Purpose: Embracing Whole Person Education*”, organized by the United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia in collaboration with St. Anthony's College, Shillong, February 5th to 7th, 2025, at Siloam, Umiam.

Report on Faculty Development Programme

The Faculty Development Programme, a collaboration between the United Board and St. Anthony's College, Shillong, brought together educators from various institutions for an enriching three-day workshop at Siloam, Umiam. Designed to foster professional growth and pedagogical innovation, the programme provided participants with a dynamic space to engage in interactive sessions, reflective exercises, and collaborative discussions. The serene setting of Siloam further enhanced the learning experience, allowing faculty members to reflect on their teaching practices and explore new methodologies.

Faculty members from institutions across the region participated, including St. Anthony's College, Shillong; Eastern Christian College; Don Bosco College (Autonomous), Maram, Manipur; Salesian College (Autonomous), Siliguri; Salesian College of Higher Education, Dimapur; Salesian College, Sonada (Autonomous); Holy Cross College, Agartala; Union Christian College; Assam Don Bosco University, Tapesia; Sazolie College; Model Christian College; St. Ann's College, Kokrajhar; Auxilium College, Udalguri; and Saint Claret College (Autonomous), Ziro. The diverse representation contributed to a rich exchange of ideas and perspectives.

The faculty workshop featured key sessions such as “United Board & Whole Person Education” by Dr. Hope Antone, “Teaching as a Vocation & a Calling” by Dr. Maher Spurgeon, and “Digital Technology & Education: Negotiating Technology to Optimize Learning” by Mr. Christian Aung. Dr. Jakarin Srimoon and Dr. Bo Bo Lwin led a session on “Activity-Based Learning – The WPE Way,” while Dr. Anita Tiphagne discussed “Maximizing Teachers' Reach as WPE Facilitators.” The programme also included reflections, discussions, and a Celebration of Cultures featuring a student exhibition of North East India.

The leadership workshop focused on institutional management and strategic planning, with Dr. Pareena G. Lawrence delivering sessions on “Purpose-Driven Leadership” and “Strategic Planning for Christian Higher Education.” Dr. Maher Spurgeon conducted a session on “Building Effective Teams – The Cornerstone of Leadership,” while Dr. Jakarin Srimoon and Dr. Bo Bo Lwin introduced “Leading Yourself and Leading Others in Higher Education.” Dr. Anita Tiphagne addressed “Transformative Leadership,” reinforcing a people-centred approach.

Beyond the formal sessions, the workshop fostered a strong sense of community, aided by the warm hospitality of the Siloam staff, who prepared scrumptious meals for the participants. The well-curated schedule allowed for meaningful interactions, creating a collaborative and supportive learning environment.

Following the workshop, the United Board team extended their stay in Shillong, exploring the city's cultural and historical sites. This visit further strengthened ties between the United Board and St. Anthony's College, reaffirming their shared commitment to faculty development and academic excellence.

The success of the programme was made possible through the dedicated efforts of the coordinators, Dr. Frederick Lamare, Mr. Vancouver Shullai, and Ms. Iohika Dkhar. Their meticulous planning and commitment ensured a seamless and impactful experience for all participants, making the Faculty Development Programme a significant step towards enhancing the quality of higher education.



