

Creative Conversation over Coffee on Continuous Professional Development

MATRIX, the Mathematics Education Society of Cluster Innovation Centre, hosted an enriching session of its flagship event, C³ – Creative Conversation over Coffee, on October 17, 2023. The session featured **Mr. Rohit Upadhyaya**, an alumnus of Batch 1 of the MSc. Mathematics Education program at CIC. Currently, he holds the position of Mentor Teacher in the **Directorate of Education, Government of NCT**. This interactive and insightful session was filled with valuable conversations and knowledge sharing on the crucial topic of ‘Continuous Professional Development’.



KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SESSION

The session commenced with Mr. Rohit interacting with the program students and encouraging them to share their goals and expectations from the course. This icebreaker set the foundation for a candid conversation.

The key highlights of the session included the following :

- **GETTING CANDID ABOUT HIS LIFE AT CIC**

Mr. Rohit reminisced about his days at CIC, back when he was a program student. The current students took a lot of valuable lessons and information from his journey and how they can optimise the resources and guidance at CIC to perform their best, not only during the course but also after its successful completion.



• **USEFUL RESOURCES AND COURSES**

Mr. Rohit also shared a plethora of resources and courses available online as well as offline, that can be significantly used to contribute to the continuous professional development of each student. The recommendation he made included Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) from various platforms – government-based as well as non-government platforms. SWAYAM was one of the first names he mentioned when discussing MOOCs, then moved on to other platforms such as Creative Open Online Learning Courses offered by Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), AI for All course, and certification courses that are frequently held by CIET, NCERT.

• **MAKING A DIGITAL PORTFOLIO**

The guest speaker also emphasised the importance of making a digital portfolio and how it can help one stand out from the crowd. One can enhance it by enrolling in various courses as mentioned above. Another way to do this is to get involved in the working of various NGOs working in the field of education – no matter at what level. NGOs like Aavishkar, Saanjha, Teach for India, Smile Foundation, Agastya Foundation, etc. all are making significant changes in education, some of them in the field of Mathematics Education. Getting associated with these NGOs exposes students to the grassroot reality of education.

SPECIAL GUEST : MR. ANURAG SAINI AND DR. SHOBHA BAGAI

As the session went smoothly, the conversation was joined by **Mr. Anurag Saini**, another distinguished alumnus of MME CIC, who currently is an integral part of the faculty at CIC.

Mr. Anurag's presence added a layer of depth to the ongoing conversation, as he shared some nuggets of his wisdom with the students too.

A little while later, the **Director of CIC, Dr. Shobha Bagai**, also joined the conversation for a while, giving her valuable insights and perspectives on various things. The students were truly privileged to have such personalities in this session.



CONCLUSION :

The C^3 session with Mr. Rohit Upadhyaya was an inspiring event that left us all with a lasting impact. The exchange of ideas, thoughts, experiences, resources, and more was truly something that every participant was glad of. After the end of the session, our guest speaker and special guests clicked with the participants of the conversation. We look forward to more such engaging sessions.

