

The IMIS NEWSLINE

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From the Editor's Desk...

Role of Soft Skills in Career Growth

In the current competitive and evolving professional landscape, possessing technical expertise alone is insufficient for achieving sustained career success. Soft skills such as effective communication, collaboration, adaptability, leadership, and emotional intelligence are essential in influencing an individual's career development and professional identity.

Effective communication is one of the most crucial soft skills in the professional realm. The ability to articulate ideas clearly, engage in active listening, and convey information with confidence is essential for building strong relationships with colleagues, clients, and superiors. Proficient communication minimizes misunderstandings and fosters collaboration, thereby enhancing overall workplace efficiency.

Collaboration and interpersonal skills are fundamental components of professional success. Many organizations depend on team-oriented projects, and employees who exhibit the ability to work collaboratively, appreciate diverse perspectives, and effectively resolve conflicts are considered invaluable assets. These competencies enhance a positive organizational culture and facilitate the building of trust and recognition among colleagues within the workplace.

Adaptability is a crucial soft skill in today's

professional landscape. Given the rapid advances in technology, especially in AI, and the evolving demands of the business environment, it is imperative that professionals demonstrate flexibility and a willingness to learn. Individuals who can swiftly adapt to new roles, tools, or environments are more likely to remain relevant and advance in their careers.

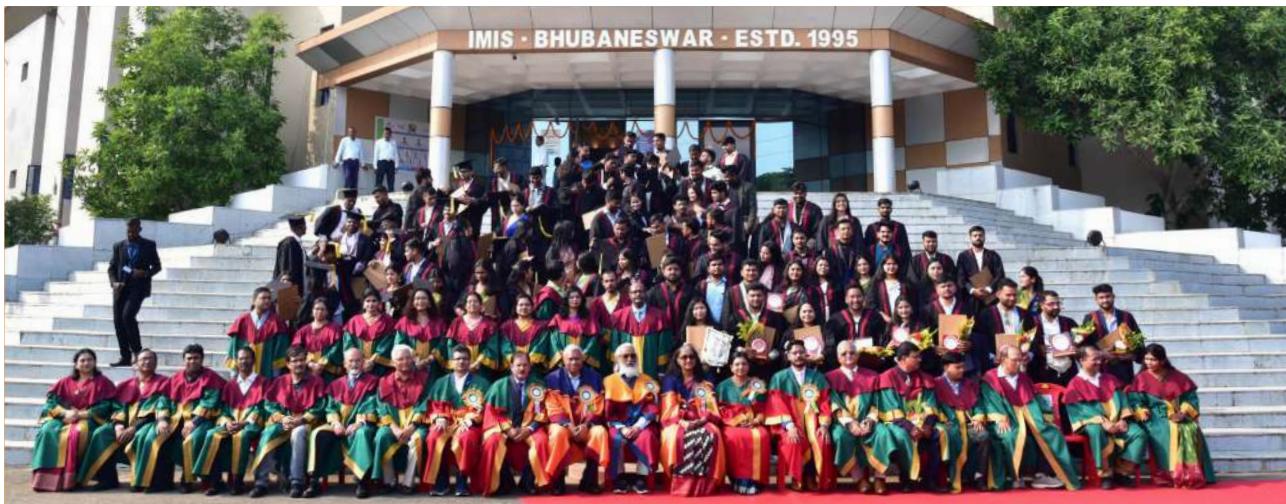
Leadership and decision-making abilities significantly impact career progression. Even individuals in entry-level roles who exhibit initiative, assume responsibility, and provide guidance to colleagues during challenging situations are frequently recognized as potential leaders. Furthermore, emotional intelligence plays a crucial role in effective leadership by equipping individuals to manage stress, understand others' emotions, and sustain professional relationships.

In conclusion, soft skills play a crucial role in enhancing technical expertise and significantly influence career advancement. The continuous development of these competencies improves employability, increases confidence, and facilitates access to leadership opportunities. In a professional environment characterized by collaboration and effective communication, soft skills are not merely optional; they are essential for achieving sustained success in one's career.

Prof. Daisy Irani Patnaik

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29TH CONVOCATION



Prof. Anil D. Sahashrabudhe
Chairman NETF, NBA and NAAC,
Former Chairman, AICTE. (Govt. of India)



Ms. Asha Ramanathan
COO, PwC, Pune



Prof. Dr. S.S. Pattnaik
V.C. Odisha State Open University, Sambalpur
& DD University, Keonjhar

EVENTS . . .



UMANG 2025

EVENTS :



FOOD FESTIVAL 2025

EVENTS ...



BADMINTON TOURNAMENT





Mr. Pritam Das

Genpact Enterprise Risk Consulting
Bangalore
Manager-Agile BA
(Batch - PGDM 2012-14)

1) TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

I'm an alumnus of IMIS from the PGDM Batch of 2012-14. Over the last 12+ years, my career has slowly taken shape in the Financial Crime space within the banking and financial services world. It hasn't been a straight line—there were different roles, organizations, and plenty of learning along the way. What's always driven me is a simple curiosity about how financial systems actually work and how risks are managed behind the scenes. When I look back now, I can clearly see how the foundation I got at IMIS helped guide many of those choices.

2) ABOUT YOUR SPOUSE (IF ANY) AND OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS

My wife, Joyita, is also an IMIS alum from the same 2012-14 batch and works in the same industry. She's currently with EY, and having similar professional journeys has helped us understand and support each other through different career phases and challenges. We also have a son, Aabir, who's added a whole new meaning to balance, responsibility, and joy in our lives.

3) SOME OF YOUR BEST ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE YEARS AFTER YOU PASSED OUT FROM IMIS

For me, achievement has never been about holding titles or positions, but about the ability to learn, adapt, and grow with responsibility. One of my key achievements has been building a steady career in a specialized domain by continuously learning on the job and evolving with changing expectations. Over time, this learning translated into leadership—taking ownership of work, guiding teams, and contributing to decisions that go beyond individual tasks. Moving into a project management role further strengthened this perspective, allowing me to focus on collaboration, planning, and delivery. These experiences have shaped my understanding of leadership as consistency, accountability, and growth rather than designation.

4) YOUR VIEWS ON CAREER GROWTH IN YOUR PARTICULAR SECTOR

Career growth in the Financial Crime domain is steady and rewarding for those who are willing to invest time in learning and developing depth. The sector

values experience, judgment, and consistency. Over time, professionals naturally move from execution to roles involving coordination, decision-making, and leadership. Long-term growth comes from understanding the bigger picture and being open to change.

5) YOUR COMPANY'S RECRUITMENT PROCESS AND YOUR REMARKS ON IT

The recruitment process at Genpact focuses on understanding a candidate's domain exposure, attitude toward learning, and ability to work in teams. Rather than only evaluating academic credentials, the process looks at practical experience and how candidates approach real-world challenges. This helps ensure a good fit for both the individual and the organization.

6) YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR JUNIORS

If you're considering a career in the Financial Crime domain, don't feel pressured to have everything figured out at the start. Focus on the basics, stay curious, and be patient—this is a field where understanding deepens with experience. As the industry evolves, being comfortable with technology and AI will help you adapt faster. You don't need to be highly technical; a basic awareness of concepts like data patterns, automation, and decision support is enough to build confidence and grow.

Most importantly, work with integrity and a sense of ownership, as trust is the foundation of this domain. Use the many free resources available online to learn at your own pace, but also remember to enjoy this phase of your life. Campus days pass quickly, life will take many turns, and one day you will look back and truly miss this time. Make memories, keep learning, and trust the journey ahead.

7) FOR YOUR ALMA MATER

IMIS will always feel like home to me. When I think back, it's not the classrooms that come to mind first, but the late nights, endless Counter-Strike sessions, the buzz around events, and all the little moments in between. Back then, it felt like pure fun and a bit of chaos, but without realizing it, we were learning how to work together, think on our feet, deal with wins and losses, and be there for each other. Those moments quietly shaped how we handle people, pressure, and priorities today. I'm grateful to IMIS for the memories, the friendships, and the lessons that stayed with us long after campus life ended.

IS SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTING US- OR QUIETLY DIVIDING US?

Social media has become so ingrained in our daily lives that we often overlook its influence. Many individuals check their smartphones upon awakening, engage with content during brief intervals throughout the day, and respond to messages late into the night. Platforms such as Instagram, WhatsApp, and X facilitate communication with people regardless of their geographical locations. Old acquaintances remain only a message away, and shared experiences can be disseminated instantaneously. This phenomenon can evoke a sense of comfort and reassurance. Nevertheless, amid this pervasive connectivity, a critical inquiry arises: Are we genuinely closer to one another, or are we merely more present in the digital realm?

At first, social media appears warm and familiar. Users engage by liking posts, sending swift replies, and monitoring the developments in one another's lives. However, a significant portion of these interactions is often brief and superficial. A heart emoji frequently supplants substantive conversations, and the term "seen" replaces more considered responses. There was a precedent of friends convening to discuss matters for extended periods. In contrast, it is now commonplace for groups to gather while remaining absorbed in their individual screens, each person isolated despite the shared physical space. I vividly remember a gathering with my friends after several weeks of hectic schedules kept us apart. We had all been looking forward to reconnecting, but when the moment arrived, I was taken aback by how much of our time we spent. Instead of engaging in meaningful conversations, we found ourselves glued to our phones, endlessly scrolling through social media feeds. One of my friends appeared particularly withdrawn that evening. Usually the life of the party, they barely contributed to the chatter, and there was a noticeable change in their demeanour—something felt off. Later that night, I noticed they posted a cryptic story on Instagram, with a sombre background and words that hinted at their struggles. The message was vague, but it resonated deeply; everyone saw it flash across their screens. A few friends reacted with sympathetic emojis, but in the flurry of notifications, no one took the time to reach out directly to ask how they were truly feeling. It struck me then that while we were physically together, the emotional connection seemed to fade. We were present in body but absent in spirit, and the genuine care that should have been central to our reunion was somehow lost amid the digital distractions. It left me pondering how often we miss out on authentic connections in a world that is so consumed by social media.

Social media significantly influences our understanding of the world. In contemporary society, many people get their news from social media feeds. While this approach is expedient, it may also lead to the dissemination of misleading information. Sensational headlines, edited videos, and emotionally charged posts often circulate more rapidly than factual content. People frequently share information without verifying its accuracy. In critical situations, such as public health emergencies, this can result in confusion and unnecessary panic, even among those with the best intentions.



There's also the quiet pressure of comparison. Scrolling through perfectly framed photos and achievements can make anyone feel like they're falling behind. Even close friends can start to feel distant when life online looks happier than real life feels. Slowly, this can lead to self-doubt, loneliness, and a sense of disconnection—even while constantly online.

Despite its drawbacks, social media presents several advantages as well. It facilitates connections between individuals across distances, enables the reconnection with former acquaintances, and fosters communities where individuals experience a sense of understanding. For many, these online environments provide essential support, comfort, and a feeling of belonging that may be challenging to find in other settings. Such connections are significant and hold legitimate value in their own right.

Ultimately, social media is just a tool, a digital channel that mirrors our intentions. Its true power lies in how we employ it. When it adopts authentic conversations and nurtures genuine connections, it bridges distances and draws us closer together. Yet, when it substitutes honesty, presence, and the warmth of attention, a vital essence is lost. No glowing screen can replicate the richness of a heartfelt exchange, the joy of shared laughter, or the profound sense of truly being there for someone we care about. Perhaps the solution isn't simply to disconnect, but rather to consciously lift our eyes from the screen and engage with the world and people around us.

By: Ms. Abhilipsa Mandal
PGDM 2025-27

IMIS DS MEMORIAL QUIZ COMPETITION



STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES . . .

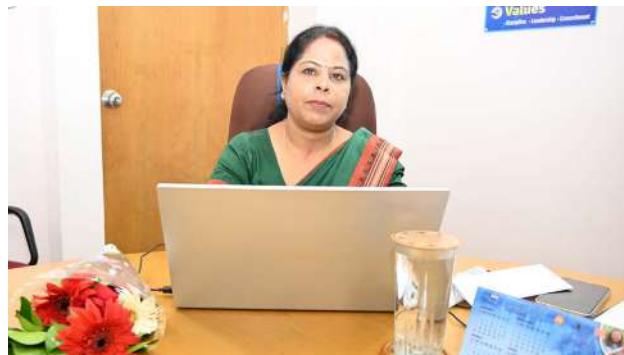
CONSTITUTION DAY



CORPORATE TALK



HR SEMINAR



FITNESS SESSION



IN CAMPUS ...

HR CONCLAVE 2025



ACHIEVEMENTS..



Dr. Prakash Chandra Dash
Associate Professor (Marketing)

Co-Authored an article titled “Activity-based swanky glamping experience by young couples: the moderating role of involvement”, published in the Journal of Ecotourism, A Taylor & Francis Journal. (2025)



Prof. Ananya Pratihar
Asst. Professor (GMS)

1. Authored a review article titled Patrizia Caraveo. Space ecology: From Earth to Moon and Mars. in the Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences (Springer Nature) (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13412-025-01072-x> (scopus indexed)
2. Presented a talk on Decolonizing Environmental Humanities at GIAN Conference, organised by HSS Department of IIT Kharagpur on 10 December 2025
3. Invited to teach a two-week Seminar Course titled “Embodying the non-human: the local & marginal in Indian Literature” at the English department at Göttingen University, Germany, in November 2025.



Dr. Snigdhamayee Choudhury
Associate Professor (HR)

Dr. Snigdhamayee Chowdhury along with her students Ms. Farheen Haider and Ms. S. Ayusha Krishna Murty presented a paper titled Smart HR for Inclusive Innovation in 27 National Conference on HR 4.0: Redefining Human Resource Management in the Digital Age held on 21 - 22 Nov. 2025, organised by Srusti Academy of Management and Technology.



31ST NIGHT CELEBRATION



31st Night Celebration

Dear Reader,

Please enrich **IMIS Newsline** with your constructive suggestions to **Prof. Daisy Irani Patnaik**, Editor (Asst. Professor) E-mail: daisypatnaik@imis.ac.in

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