

Loyola College (Autonomous)

Chennai – 600 034.

National Workshop on “Mobile Learning: Communicating, Connecting and Collaborating”

A two day National Workshop on “Mobile Learning: Communicating, Connecting and Collaborating” is organized by Dept. of English, Loyola College in collaboration with English Language Teachers’ Association of India (ELTAI) on February 27 & 28, 2016 at Loyola College. It was an initiative of Executive Committee members of ELTAI as there is a felt need for educators to become familiar with, and capable of, using technology particularly the use of mobile devices in teaching and learning. Hence, Dr. K. S. Antonyamy, Director, WEPRO & E C Member, ELTAI convened the workshop. He explained that the workshop was organized to create an awareness of changing dynamics of teaching and learning environments, train teachers to integrate the use of mobile devices and related apps in their teaching practices, develop a mobile learning pedagogy, establish a personal mobile learning strategy and offer hands-on experience on the use of apps available in mobile devices.



Welcome address by Dr. Joseph Chandra, Professor and Head,
Department of English, Loyola College



Inaugural address by Mr. Ganapathi Ramachandran,
Chairman & Executive Director, Trigyn Technologies Ltd

Mr. Ganapathi Ramachandran, Chairman & Executive Director, Trigyn Technologies Ltd was the chief guest who in his inaugural address insisted that every student of 21 century must be a digital citizen – a person who is responsible for how he /she utilizes technology to interact with the world around them. As an illustration, he gave the example how Goggle has become a key word in everyday conversation both in academia as well as in the world in general. Tracing back to the origin of technology in human history, he pointed out “Man’s quest for dominance of the natural world has resulted in the creation of technology”. ICT is the beneficial technology resulting in innovations like smart phones and social media with various apps. On the other hand, destructive technology like the invention like dynamite by Alfred Nobel has reduced the world many a time to innumerable deaths, destructions and painful sufferings. Today in the domain of computer sciences, convergence is the buzz word and personal mobile computing in the form of palm-held devices are way forward. He finally said that in this area “disruption alone leads to invention in technology which in turn creates a transformation in society”. Academic institutions could tap into the power of information technology by utilizing virtual learning through cloud computing thereby creating a massive impact on the minds of the digital generation of students.



Mr. M. Saravan Krishna, Founder, Managing Director & CEO, Nuggets Media Pvt. Ltd, addresses the participants and students

Mr. M. Saravan Krishna, Founder, Managing Director & CEO, Nuggets Media Pvt. Ltd was the guest of honour who said that mobile learning has emerged as a powerful learning tool in 21 Century and it is time that students and teachers adapt themselves to this transition from reliance on printed books to reading e-books on a mobile which is accessible and cheaper. For teachers teaching through mobile platforms increases their impact and access to a wealth of information beneath their fingertips unthinkable a few decades ago. He commended the convener, Dr. K.S. Antonyamy, Director, Web Enhancement and Public Relation Office for organizing a relevant workshop in an age of internet.

Dr K. Elango, formerly Professor of English, Anna University, Chennai and Secretary, ELTAI, Dr. Revathi Viswanathan, Head of the Department of English, B. S. Abdur Rahman University, Vandalur, Dr. Albert P'Rayan, KCG College of Technology, English, Faculty Member, English for Engineering & Technology, an English Language Teaching (ELT) resource person and Dr. Xavier Pradeep Singh, Department of English, V.O.C. College of Arts and Science, Thoothukudi, (TN) were the resource persons.



Prof. Pencier, Vice Principal, Loyola College felicitates Dr. Xavier Pradeep Singh, Department of English, V.O.C. College of Arts and Science, Thoothukudi, (TN)



Rev. Dr. G. Joseph Antony Samy, S.J., Principal, Loyola College felicitates Dr K. Elango, formerly Professor of English, Anna University, Chennai and Secretary, ELTAI

Dr. Joseph Chandra, Professor and Head, Department of English, Loyola College in his welcome address pointed out that mobile learning is not a matter of choice any more as digital devices help students and teachers access information sources faster than traditional search in a library. Felicitating the organizers and the participants, Rev. Dr. G. Joseph Antony Samy, S.J., Principal, Loyola College emphasized that in Loyola College, there is no gap between policy and execution on the ground. E-governance is widely practiced in the form of taking attendance and processing the evaluation of students through ERP. Prof. G. Ramamurthy, Deputy Principal, Loyola College in his speech remarked that earlier generation teachers could not even imagine how today's students are using and mastering new technology just like they do the spoken language. Therefore, educational institutions cannot ban smart phones any more but encourage them use them for learning purposes. Prof. Pencier, Vice Principal, Loyola College reiterated the use of mobile apps in his concluding remarks.

The workshop offered hands-on experience on social publishing platforms like face book and Adobe connect, collaborating devices like Google drive, mobile apps like voice thread, creating whatsapp groups as means of language teaching and learning and exploring various social medias like hootsuite and social media app for language learning purpose. The experience was limited to only about 40 registered participants from all over India.



Participants of National Workshop on
“Mobile Learning: Communicating, Connecting and Collaborating”