

## Expressions.....At DISTANCE

Dear friends, SCDL newsletter is a great medium to express our emotions and views with ever individual who is at DISTANCE. Therefore I am grabbing this wonderful opportunity to communicate my feelings.

I vividly remember, the day when I got the opportunity to join SCDL. Obviously I was very happy and excited to be the part of a renowned institution. But till that date, I had been teaching in traditional mode. Therefore, only one thing that I was worried of was teaching through distance. Many questions were flying around in my mind before my first Virtual session...

Who are my students? How will I know about them? Will they enjoy such learning? Will I meet them? Will the students get connected with me, as in conventional teaching?

With all such queries in my mind I began an innovative journey of teaching. Believe me my friends, from the time I began till date these thoughts never surrounded me again. According to me, there are two important reasons. One is the systematic information of advanced delivery medium adopted by SCDL and the other is teacher's knowledge, skill and attitude towards teaching.

It is well said that distance is a physical barrier and not the mental or emotional. I would like to share a wonderful experience about one of my distant learner.

In last month, I had been to Mumbai to participate in an International Conference. On the first day a lady was constantly observing and smiling at me. I thought maybe we have met before but could not recall where. Next day when I was attending an expert session, the same lady came quietly, sat beside me and wished me "Good Morning Ma'am". I was little surprised at her gesture. Immediately the next statement she uttered was, "Did you recognize me? I am your PGDID student – Geeta Thakur."

I was really overwhelmed. At any point of time in life, a teacher is very excited to meet her student. But today's meeting was different because the student recognized the teacher instead of the other way round. She introduced herself and then whole day she spent time with me. Geeta is working as a Lecturer at a B.Ed college in Mumbai. She is very hardworking, loving and caring. She shared her views about PGDID program. She said,

"The content is updated and very useful for anyone who wants to begin his career in this field. SCDL is providing wonderful facilities like eLearning, virtual sessions and online faculty chat. I could recognize my teacher only because of virtual sessions and watching the archived sessions, which are very helpful for studying and giving examinations. Thanks to all at SCDL!"

She dropped me at Dadar station though her destination was at Ulhasnagar without giving a second thought about her waiting family and a long distance to travel back. This is what a teacher wants; nothing else!

That day will always carry a special place in my memories.

Thus I would conclude that a true teacher reaches the student's heart, breaking the barrier of distance.

And I pray almighty to bless my students and my institution for bringing education to those who cannot bring themselves to education.

Let's end with a beautiful quote



*Expressed by:*

*Ms. Pallavi Soman*

*Assistant Professor*

*SCDL Pune*