



IILM UNIVERSITY

GURUGRAM

CAMPUS CHRONICLES

AUGUST 2026

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AUGUST AT IILM



August at IILM Gurugram began with the SLASS Orientation, welcoming the new undergraduate cohort. This was followed by sessions on legal practice, creativity and self-expression, along with a Photo Hunt.

The month also brought international opportunities through the AIESEC partnership and US Career Fair, while Appathon 2026 encouraged innovation & technology-driven solutions.

The month concluded with Tyohaar-e-Junoon, celebrating Onam, Teej, Janmashtami and Eid, bringing together learning, creativity, innovation and culture across the campus.





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SLASS Orientation 2026: Welcoming the New Undergraduate Cohort

The School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (SLASS) welcomed its new undergraduate batch of 2026 through a two-day orientation programme held on 3 and 4 August 2026 at IILM University, Gurugram. The programme brought together formal introductions, interactive activities and opportunities for students to connect with their new academic community.

The orientation began with student registration, followed by a programme in the auditorium featuring addresses by Ms. Manika Raikwar, COO, IILM University, Mr. Ravi Kumar Jain, Vice Chancellor, IILM University, and the Deans of SLASS. The addresses welcomed the incoming cohort and introduced students to the school, its academic environment and the opportunities available to them.

Moving beyond the formal proceedings, the orientation included fun games, interactive activities and workshops designed to encourage participation and help students get acquainted with their peers and campus life. The programme also introduced students to the wider university community through presentations by various student clubs, giving the new cohort an insight into the extracurricular spaces and communities they could explore at IILM. Adding an energetic dimension to the programme was the Talent Hunt and Open Stage, which gave students a platform to step forward and showcase their individual talents and performances.

With a mix of institutional interaction, creative activities, workshops and student-led engagement, the SLASS orientation offered the new undergraduate cohort an engaging introduction to academic and campus life at IILM.



– Jahanvi Khurana
BJMC, 2nd year

Thinking Like a Lawyer: School of Law Hosts Practice-Oriented Session



The School of Law organised a session titled “Thinking Like a Lawyer” on 12 August 2026. The session was conducted by Adv. Hariraj Madhavan Rajendran, Designated Senior Advocate, High Court of Kerala, and Lawyer, Supreme Court of India, and was attended by 87 students from the first and ninth semesters of BA LLB (Hons) and BBA LLB (Hons).

The session focused on developing the analytical mindset essential to legal practice, encouraging students to move beyond rote learning and understand how lawyers think, question and reason on behalf of their clients. Key areas included purposive reasoning, rigorous fact-finding, distinguishing a client’s narrative from provable facts, structuring dispute resolution and anticipating counter-arguments.

Adv. Rajendran began by explaining purposive thinking, emphasising that legal reasoning must always serve a clear purpose for the client, whether to prevent a dispute through careful drafting and advice or to resolve an existing one. He highlighted the importance of distinguishing between what a client wants and what they actually need.

The discussion then focused on fact-finding and evidence. Students were encouraged to gather facts at the earliest opportunity and question every fact, including those seemingly favourable to their case. The speaker stressed the need to test a client’s account against verifiable facts and evidence rather than accepting a narrative without scrutiny.

The session further explored a structured approach to dispute resolution: defining the dispute, understanding its origins, identifying possible paths to resolution and determining the client’s best realistic alternative. Adv. Rajendran also emphasised understanding people, analysing their actions rather than simply judging them, and the importance of arguing against one’s own case by identifying weaknesses before the opposing side does.

The programme concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, where students posed questions and hypotheticals that were addressed through practical examples from the Bar. The session connected classroom learning with the realities of legal practice and reinforced the importance of purpose, factual discipline and self-critical rigour in legal education.

- Abhikarsa Sarkar
BACC, 2nd year

Photo Hunt: Capturing Campus Perspectives Through the Lens



The Department of Communication, through club Nazariya, organised Photo Hunt, an on-the-spot photography competition for students across the university. The event provided participants with an opportunity to explore their creativity, observation skills, and visual storytelling abilities through photography.

Designed as a team-based competition, students registered in teams and were presented with five on-the-spot themes. Participants were required to interpret each theme independently and capture photographs that best represented their understanding and creative perspective. The activity encouraged students to look at their surroundings differently while making thoughtful use of composition, subject, perspective, and visual expression.

The competition received multiple entries from students across different programmes and years, reflecting strong participation and enthusiasm for photography. The event also created an interactive environment where students could collaborate with their teammates while engaging in a creative challenge.

The winning teams were Cheryl Dutta and Manasvi, both from FYUP First Year, and Sumbal Luthra and Ekjyot Kaur, both from MAMC First Year. Their entries stood out for their creative interpretation of the given themes and effective visual presentation.

Photo Hunt served as a platform for students to showcase their photographic abilities while fostering creativity, teamwork, and visual communication. Organised by Nazariya, the event further strengthened the culture of student-led creative engagement within the Department of Communication.

- **Gorisha Bagga**
BJMC, 2nd year



IILM University Partners with AIESEC to Expand Student Experiences



IILM University Gurugram has taken another step towards enhancing student experiences through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with AIESEC in Delhi University, AIESEC New Delhi.

The collaboration aims to provide students with opportunities for international experiences, youth leadership, cross-cultural learning and networking. Through this partnership, students will be able to explore experiences beyond the traditional classroom and engage with people and communities from different parts of the world.

AIESEC is a globally recognised youth-led organisation that focuses on developing leadership among young people through international experiences and cultural exchange. One of the major highlights of the collaboration is the potential for international internship opportunities, allowing students to gain professional experience while understanding new cultures and perspectives.

The MoU will support development of practical skills, confidence and a broader understanding of diverse professional environments.

The partnership was also highlighted through an interaction involving representatives and students, where discussions focused on the importance of cross-cultural learning and how such experiences can contribute to personal and professional growth.

The initiative aligns with IILM University's continued emphasis on experiential learning and student development. By collaborating with AIESEC, the university aims to encourage students to step outside their comfort zones, build meaningful connections and prepare themselves for an increasingly interconnected workplace.

For students, the collaboration offers a platform to develop leadership skills, adapt to diverse environments and gain experiences that could contribute to their future careers.

With this partnership, IILM University Gurugram continues its efforts to create well-rounded and professionally prepared graduates while opening new avenues for students to learn, lead and grow beyond the boundaries of the classroom.

– Rohan Sharma
BJMC, 2nd year



The Inner Self: Exploring Creativity Through Theatre

The School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, IILM University, Gurugram, organised a workshop titled “The Inner Self” on 26 August 2026 at the university auditorium. Conducted as part of the creativity and innovation course for FYUP students, the workshop was led by Prof. Santanu Bose, Dean of Academic Affairs and Professor, World Drama, National School of Drama (NSD), New Delhi. The session focused on exploring self-expression and the inner self through movement, voice and speech improvisation, and monologue.

The workshop adopted an active-participation approach, allowing students to learn through performance, observation, experimentation and direct engagement with theatre practices. It created an energetic and reflective environment in which students explored how the body, voice, emotions and imagination contribute to effective expression.

The session began with voice and speech exercises, introducing students to the importance of sound, modulation, clarity and dialogue delivery. Through theatre-based activities, participants explored fundamental elements of theatre, including plot, setting, character and sound. Students actively responded to situations, created short performances and experimented with different approaches to communicating a scene.

Students also explored acting through emotions and expressions, learning how feelings can be communicated through facial expressions, body language, voice and overall presence. The monologue component further provided an opportunity to practise dialogue delivery, emotional expression and individual performance.

A key aspect of the workshop was its emphasis on improvisation and collaborative learning. Students were encouraged to respond spontaneously and work with their peers while developing an understanding of how voice, movement, emotion and expression work together to create effective theatrical performances. The activities also highlighted the role of confidence, presence and emotional awareness in communication.

Overall, “The Inner Self” offered students a dynamic introduction to theatre as a medium of creativity, communication and self-exploration. By combining theatre games, movement, sound, improvisation, acting, dialogue delivery and monologue, the workshop provided an engaging, experiential and reflective learning experience.

- Abhikarsa Sarkar
BACC, 2nd year



Appathon 2026 – Build Intelligent Mobile Apps

On 20 August 2026, the School of Computer Science and Engineering organised Appathon 2026 – Build Intelligent Mobile Apps in the university auditorium. Held from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, the event brought together B.Tech students with the aim of encouraging them to turn their ideas into meaningful, technology-driven solutions.

Appathon 2026 was organised as an India-Japan innovation initiative, giving students an opportunity to identify real-world problems and work towards solving them through mobile application development. The event focused on creativity, collaboration, problem-solving and entrepreneurial thinking, encouraging students to use technology to create solutions with real-world relevance. The event was convened by Dr. Aarti Chugh and Dr. Pooja Batra Nagpal.

When asked about what Appathon 2026 represents for students, Dr. Aarti Chugh shared, "Appathon 2026 is more than a competition, it is a platform where ideas meet technology, creativity meets purpose, and students become innovators. Let's build mobile solutions today that create impact tomorrow."

The event also gave students valuable international exposure through interactions with Mr. Noriaki Ikai and Mr. Tushar from WeLive Inc., Tokyo, Japan, who judged the solutions presented by the participants. The guests also spoke about the growing technological opportunities in Japan, giving students a glimpse into the possibilities that lie beyond the classroom and across borders.

**- Saba Taherypour
BJMC, 3rd year**



America is Coming to IILM: Connecting Students with Global Opportunities



IILM University, Gurugram hosted "America is Coming to IILM – A US Career Fair" on 21 August 2026. Organised by the Office of International Affairs, IILM University, the event brought together representatives from leading universities across the United States, university leadership, faculty members, and students. It provided students with a valuable platform to explore higher-education opportunities, international programmes, admissions, recruitment, and potential career pathways in the United States.

The programme commenced with a specialised Psychology masterclass, "The Craving You Can't Feel: Serotonin, and the Hidden Gap Between Brain and Self-Report," conducted by Prof. Jagan Srinivasan, Professor and Program Director for Neuroscience at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), USA. This was followed by a university presentation featuring representatives from seven prominent U.S. institutions, including WPI, San Diego State University, Valparaiso University, the University of Massachusetts Lowell, the University at Albany, Ball State University, and Indiana University Indianapolis.

A major highlight was the University Interaction Fair, where students participated in one-on-one interactions with university delegates, gaining insights tailored to their academic interests and aspirations. The event concluded with a Leadership Interaction Meeting and Working High Tea, providing an opportunity to explore avenues for future academic and institutional collaboration.

The fair reinforced IILM University's commitment to internationalisation, global academic exposure, and preparing students for opportunities beyond national boundaries.

**- Gorisha Bagga
BJMC, 2nd year**

Tyohaar-e-Junoon — Fusion of Festivities



IILM University, Gurugram, organized Tyohaar-e-Junoon — Fusion of Festivities on 31 August 2026. The cultural celebration was organized by Junoon — Cultural & Theatre Club under the guidance of faculty conveners Aymun Kaleem and Anubhav P.S., with coordination by the Junoon Core Team.

The event was based on the theme “Unity in Diversity” and brought together the traditions of Onam, Teej, Janmashtami and Eid.

The celebration aimed to create awareness of different festival traditions while promoting inclusivity, mutual respect and togetherness among students from diverse cultural backgrounds.

The programme began with a formal opening and an address by the Registrar of IILM University, who highlighted the importance of unity in diversity. This was followed by an introduction to the four festivals and a range of cultural performances. Students participated in solo, duo and group dance performances, along with music and monologue segments. The event also featured stalls throughout the day, an Ethnic Fashion Walk, a Fashion Show Competition and tug-of-war challenges, encouraging active student participation.

The Fashion Show Competition added an engaging element to the celebration, with students showcasing their traditional and

ethnic outfits. Participants were judged on their overall presentation, styling and how confidently they carried their chosen attire, highlighting individual style and cultural expression. The performances provided students with an opportunity to showcase their creativity and talent while celebrating India’s cultural diversity.

The event concluded with a closing note and a group photograph.

Overall, Tyohaar-e-Junoon strengthened appreciation for India’s diverse traditions and created a greater sense of unity, inclusivity and community on campus.

– Radhika Verma
BJMC, 2nd year



Personality Transformation Lab: Building Beyond Knowledge



Garima Dhamija, Co-Founder, Lead Like Her, with 28 years of experience, and Richa Wahi, 3x TEDx Speaker and Founder, Tales Dat Spin, brought diverse professional perspectives to the discussion.

The Personality Transformation Lab (PTL), conceived and built by Professors Sonali Negi and Chetna Sharma, is a year-long developmental programme for a selected cohort of 60 MBA students. The first programme of its kind at IILM, PTL focuses on the gap between academic performance and professional impact, with an emphasis on self-awareness, beliefs, emotional patterns and professional presence.

The launch event began with a reflective activity where students introduced themselves and completed a sentence. This was followed by a panel discussion on the theme, "Being Smart Got You Here. What Gets You Further?"

Moderated by Prof. Sonali Negi, the panel featured Gagan Bajwa, CHRO, World Resources Institute; Garima Dhamija, Co-Founder, SDF Consulting and Executive Coach; Richa Wahi, Storytelling Strategist and Executive Presence Coach; and Harleen Kaur, Organisational Psychologist, Hello Excellence Consulting. The discussion explored what hiring managers look for, why talented professionals may plateau, the role of self-awareness and what enables genuine personal change.

The PTL is structured around five layers: Self-Story, Beliefs, Emotional Patterns, Professional Presence and Habits. Each layer is grounded in peer-reviewed research and addressed through dedicated workshops. Students are selected through written reflection and a live conversation rather than



Students participated in the event by asking questions.

academic performance, and receive a personalised interpretation based on the Big Five personality framework.

As Prof. Sonali Negi shared, "We are not building better candidates. We are building people who know who they are when the pressure is on." The programme aims to help students develop deeper self-awareness and a clearer understanding of themselves as they prepare for professional life.

**- Parisa Mudgal
BJMC, 3rd year**

Aishneet



Vani Taneja



HANDS

Hands create, connect, comfort and carry stories. They shape what we make, express what words cannot, and hold traces of where we come from. From art and craft to music, work and care, every pair of hands tells a different story.



Sonali Sinha



Navya



Vani Taneja



Kashvi Rai

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Interested students can submit their articles, poems, photographs, artwork, or any other creative content by emailing us at campuschroniclesggn@gmail.com

SUBMISSION TIMELINE: 1st to 10th of every month

Accepted File Formats for submission:

Text-based submission: Word/Google Doc (.doc/.docx)

Visual Content: High-quality .jpg or .png

What to submit:

Poems, essays, thought pieces, photographs, artwork, book reviews, movie reviews

Who are welcome to submit: Faculty and students both

Remember:

- Submit using your ILM student ID only.
- Include your name in full as it would be used for publication credits.
- Submit original content that has not been published anywhere else before.
- Plagiarised/AI-generated content won't be accepted for publication.
- Looking forward to sharing your perspective with our diverse audiences by publishing relevant content!

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Black and White



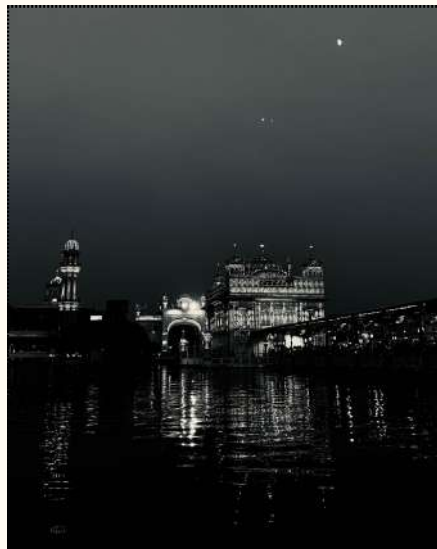
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