A talk with Mr. Mark Trevor Fernandez, a LIBA Alumnus of the 2003-2005 F3 Batch, was pleasantly inspiring. With over 8 years of experience, he is currently a Senior Consultant in the Organization’s People and Change Practice, with PricewaterhouseCoopers, PwC, Mumbai. As we interacted with Mr. Fernandez during the recently held HR Conclave at LIBA, he spoke of the nostalgia he experienced and said he felt humbled to be back at his Alma Mater, this time as a Resource Person. He said LIBA’s growth was evident from the visible changes in infrastructure. He was also pleased that the eclectic mix of students from all over India was being maintained, as during his time.

Mr. Fernandez spoke on the importance of adapting to change and leading it from the front. He mentioned that the times were such that managers were comfortable with a little amount of ambiguity. He stressed on the importance of breaking the shackles of self-created barriers and inhibitions and to take the initiative to go an extra mile at work. If one does this, surely he would garner respect from his/her organization. Speaking about the essential skills of a manager, he stressed on the importance of humility with a willingness to take a plunge, while staying firmly grounded all along.

Mr. Fernandez attributed his success to the LIBA faculty who had guided him and inspired him to become what he is today. His career journey is indeed a diverse one. Having graduated as a journalist, life was presenting him a new angle when he chose to specialize in HR. He recounts how he was all set to make a career in Marketing, when the faculty at LIBA identified streaks of HRM in him. This was just the stimulus that helped the journo-turned-HR find out what he was best suited for.

Mr. Fernandez advised the current students of LIBA to make best use of all the opportunities that come their way and to give their best efforts at each one of them. This was once again an interaction that left us enriched and it is a matter of pride for us that it was by a person who has been one of our own!