

CHRIST (Deemed to be University)  
University Student Council  
**Leadership Training Camp**  
*Bangalore Kengeri Campus - 12th and 13th August*

The leadership training camp for the University Student Council representatives of all three Bangalore campuses was held on the 12th and 13th of August in the Kengeri campus. The programme was undertaken with the objective of preparing all the council members for the various tasks and responsibilities that they will have to undertake in their tenure. The programme activities were coordinated by Dr. Suja John, Council coordinator from the Bannerghatta campus, and Mr. Jaikumar Chandrashekar, an experienced facilitator of leadership and management development programs across Asia and Africa.

The two-day camp began with the bus starting from the Bangalore Central campus on the morning of 12th August, picking up the representatives from the BGR campus en route to the Kengeri campus. The group of representatives, relatively unknown to each other, participated in a myriad of icebreaker activities where they interacted with not only their fellow council members, but the faculty coordinators and council director Dr. Johnny Joseph as well. The representatives took part in decision making activities, team building exercises, and even on-stage presentations. Apart from being divided into teams, all 60+ council members had to work together to beat a challenging puzzle that tested their coordination, communication, time management, creativity, and crisis management skills. After a session of reflection on the learnings so far and a scrumptious dinner, the representatives also watched a movie - Call of the Wild (2020) - to cool down after an intense day and to see what aspects of the protagonist we could imbibe as council members.

The second day kicked off with an important exercise that taught the council members about the importance of punctuality and fair decision making. Following this, the members were split into smaller groups of 6 to speak about their own Rivers of Life, i.e., key moments in their life that have changed the course of their lives. This session really allowed the students to connect with their peers on a deeper level, a vital prerequisite to a good team. The formal council activities kicked off soon after this discussion, after the faculty coordinators reiterated the roles and responsibilities of a USC representative. Finalizing a Council Calendar for the year 2022-23, deciding on innovative and impactful ways of connecting with the new first year students on campus, and a plan of what other activities the council can organize throughout the year were discussed and mapped out. Before ending the official programme, all the council

representatives were presented with their golden University Student Council badge, a sign of pride and a reminder of their responsibilities.

The leadership training camp thus ended with the return of the council members to their respective campuses, taking away valuable lessons and skills from these two days. The two days were a perfect mixture of fun and learning that the council members will cherish for a long time to come.