## "LEARNING by SERVICE"

## Photography Exhibition organized by Department of Social work and Sociology, Christ University and FSL India, Bengaluru.

## 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2017

Department of Social work and Sociology, Christ University and FSL India jointly organized a photography exhibition on "Learning by Experience" on 29 June 2017. This was a platform for



social work students to learn from the Welwaerts volunteering program of FSL India on their involvement in diverse projects of FSL India. The photographs depicted the volunteers' journey from their orientation to the project end. Their challenges in adapting to a new culture away from their families, learnings which helped in the development of best

practices, better models of facilitation and most importantly, the impact of the activities conducted in rural areas aiming to benefit the local communities are additional areas of focus.

Programme was started with invocation song. Mr.Rakesh S Soans, President of FSL gave the welcome address of the program. He said, the first world war, thousands of young people have traveled around the world, spreading peace, mutual respect, and understanding among local communities. At present there are programs, in many developed countries allowing young people from their countries to have these alternative learning experiences and at the same time to make new connects new friends and a chance to serve to built a better world to come back to their own community to become social leaders and true global citizens.

Mr. GotzOrtmann, Cultural Officer, German Consulate General, Bangalore in his inaugural address, he opined the importance of creating learning experience aboard. Appreciated the volunteers on their efforts in completing service learning year in India. He was glad to see the collaboration of Christ University and Welwaerts Volunteers of FSL India working together for the better understanding the Indian community.

A book titled "Learning by Service" based on the yearlong field experience of the Welwaerts Volunteers was released by the dignitaries of the program.

Dr. Anil Joseph Pinto, Registrar, Christ University, in his presidential address, he appreciated



each volunteers in bringing out their experience as stories to tell others and the importance of making memories for lifetime.

Dr. Victor Paul, Head of the Department of Sociology and Social Work appreciated the efforts of German volunteers and suggested MSW students to interact

with the volunteers for gaining deeper insights.

The exhibition was opened for all students of Christ University and the Weltwaerts volunteers

explained the stories behind each photos to the participants. A group discussion was organized for the MSW CCP students and Welwaerts Volunteers on Indian and German education, Indian teaching and German teaching, Indian culture and Germen Culture.It was an opportunity to know the education method of Germany



from the German volunteers and to share the education methods of India. The major sharing from the Germen volunteers from their learning from past one year about the education system was they don't like teachers beating the children's in the schools while teaching. They were happy to stay in different local houses and in learning the customs traditions and culture of India. It was expressed by the germen volunteers that they could learn a lot in one year about Indians and India.