

MLI NEWS



MYANMAR
LEADERSHIP
INSTITUTE

April 2020

Learn to Lead – Lead to Serve



Welcome to the first edition of MLI News, our regular newsletter for students, friends and alumni.

We want to stay connected with our growing MLI community and we'd love to hear from you with your personal updates and news.

Please tell us your stories of servant leadership from wherever you are, and we'll feature them in the next edition.

Contact us at:
mli.info@gmail.com

Message from the Director, Dr M.S. Joseph Antony Jacob SJ

We are all inundated with Covid-19 emails - yes - but in these challenging times, I am happy to send you our first issue of *MLI News*, produced by our MLI Marketing and Communication team. A hearty welcome to all our readers. Through this newsletter, we will regularly inform you of the ongoing MLI story, and update our partners, stakeholders, students and alumni of all the exciting things our faculty members, staff, students and alumni are doing in Myanmar and around the world.

We at MLI are excited and happy about our steadily growing activities. MLI recognizes that Myanmar has grown to be a rich repository of young talents and minds that will create a better future for its own communities. MLI, as a true Jesuit initiative is strongly committed to education to develop the whole person - physically, socio-emotionally, intellectually and spiritually.

It is an honour for me to congratulate and express my gratitude to the Marketing and Communication team, Gillian, Michael Do Lian and Margaret Sut Ja for successfully producing this first issue. I am sure our news will be interesting and enlightening to all our readers.

A Year in the Life of MLI

Take a look at some of the highlights of 2019. As you can see, it was a busy and fun-filled year!



February

Sr Sisca attended the Facilitating Adult Learning (FAL) at Ateneo CORD, Manila strengthening the bonds of partnership between MLI and Ateneo.

March

Celebrating our cultural diversity, on Nations Day 2019!



April

Sharing the hopes and dreams of the young people of Myanmar and experiencing companionship and service at the MAGIS program in Taunggyi.

May

Certificates of Merit were presented to eight PSIE teachers PSIE who completed The first Certificate Programme in Leadership and Professional Development.





June

On 14 June, students attended scholarship information sessions with Clarissa Mijares from the Asian Peacebuilders Scholarship Program, a joint initiative of the Nippon Foundation, the University for Peace in Costa Rica, and Ateneo de Manila University.

The program offers scholarships to students from ASEAN countries and Japan.

July



Forty-two participants attended a 5 day leadership development program led by MLI faculty members at the Catholic Religious Conference of Myanmar (CRCM).



The MLI team grew in July with the arrival of Cecilia Seng Pan as marketing assistant, Margaret Sut Ja Noi as administrative assistant, and Alisha Rebelo, volunteer from Goa, India.

September

An enthusiastic group of students embarked on the six-month JWL Online Course in Peace Leadership, meeting twice weekly at MLI. The course was a great success, and will run again from September 2020.



In October 2019, MLI was delighted to welcome to the team two new faculty members, Sr. Margaret Maung RNDM and Ms Thi Thi Thein, as well as new MLI Registrar U Michael Do Lian.

October

The First Graduating Class of Myanmar Leadership Institute (MLI)



The first graduation ceremony of the Myanmar Leadership Institute (MLI) was a the realization of a long-cherished dream of Myanmar Jesuit Mission and Cardinal Charles Bo whose vision was to form leaders for the transformation of Myanmar in line with values of justice, solidarity and option for the poor.

At the memorable occasion in Yangon on 20th December 2019, seventeen graduates were presented with their diplomas in Leadership.

For the graduates who chose MLI as their place to “learn to lead and lead to serve”, the graduation marked the end of a year of intense study. Their professors commented that the first batch of students brought to MLI a spirit of generosity, commitment, and integrity. They now return to their communities across Myanmar to continue their journeys as servant leaders.

Cardinal Bo, who presented graduates with their diplomas, congratulated them and said that his dream was for them to be ‘leaders for Myanmar who will guide us to the light’, reminding them;

“...as you step out into the world, listen to each other, especially to the poor. Listen to women, listen to children and the young.

The world is yours. It belongs to you.

Make it a finer world where all can live in harmony. For this to happen, Myanmar needs leaders who search for and speak the truth, who face up to the justice that truth demands, who live out that justice in their lives and who seek to reconcile those who are estranged. ”



Cardinal Charles Bo to MLI Graduates, December 2019



'Now I know I have to lead myself before I can lead others. When I finish at MLI I want to share my experience of leadership with others.'

Elizabeth



'It was a very precious year of studying at MLI. I wanted to learn new ways that can change my way of thinking. This is what I expected and got even more than my expectations.'

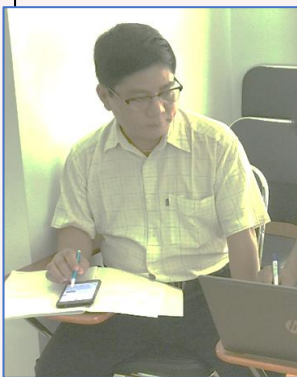
Rachel



'My opinions have been enriched and I now see how important it is to have courage to confront difficulties and conflicts, so that they become stepping-stones.'

I've learned that by becoming a servant-leader I can be a valuable asset for my community.'

Michael



'In MLI I learned to listen. Some problems can only be solved by listening first.'

I want to be a good witness and leader in my community and hope that people can approach and trust me.'

Sr Mary Nancy





MLI Debating Competition

At this inspiring event, nineteen brave and confident young debaters argued passionately about topics such as employment for Myanmar youth and risks for migrant labours in Asia. The three judges (Mission Superior Fr Mark Raper SJ, Jackie Pollard (Chief Adviser ILO, Myanmar) and Vicki Bowman (Director, Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business) had the almost impossible task of selecting the deserving winner, Su Mon (pictured, left). They congratulated all the contestants on preparing engaging and creative speeches, and having the courage to deliver them so well in English, their second, or third language!



Peace Leaders in Training

In March 2020 a very special group of MLI students concluded their studies in Peace Leadership. The course, designed and managed by Jesuit Worldwide Learning (JWL) allowed students to study in a global online classroom, monitored by expert tutors based in USA and Africa. Six industrious students completed the certificate course, an intensive six-month online introduction to the role and practices of a Peace Leader, with three core themes of 'Self-awareness and Cultural awareness', 'Conflict resolution and reconciliation' and Servant-leadership'. Sr Sisca Setiati FCJ, and Gillian Donoghue, the course coordinators met the students weekly and are truly proud of the commitment and determination of their class. Despite demands of full time jobs, over the last six months students have devoted evenings and weekends to complete research and tasks, including theory and practical assignments such as shadowing and interviewing local community leaders. The online learning involved regular interaction with tutors in a virtual classroom, together with students from Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Ethiopia. The final task of the students was to give a final presentation which was assessed online by their tutors who connected via Zoom from across the globe. Our students were a credit to MLI and impressed the tutors, who agreed that they should all be awarded the Peace Leader Certificate.



We are happy to congratulate our wonderful 'Peace Leaders In Training'!



Learn to Lead, Lead to Serve



Leadership and Companionship



International Collaboration

Since its foundation, MLI has developed strong links with international Universities. In June 2019, an important milestone was reached when a Memorandum of Understanding for the joint Diploma in Leadership between MLI and Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines (AdMU) was jointly signed by Fr MS Jacob SJ and Fr Jose Villarín SJ, President of Ateneo.



MLI also collaborates with Geneva-based Jesuit Worldwide Learning (JWL) to offer the online Peace Leadership course. During 2020 - 2021, links will be developed further with a view to offering future courses with Georgetown University, Washington DC, USA for Management Development Programmes, Sophia University Tokyo, Japan for service learning, faculty and students exchanges and with Loyola College Chennai for a Certificate in Professional Social Work.

These partnerships allow us to host a range of expert visiting professors at MLI. During the 2019 - 2020 academic year our students have enjoyed workshops on topics such as Critical and Creative Skills, Organizational Development, Leadership in Multi-sociocultural Contexts and Psychological Support and Self Care.



MLI thanks our visiting faculty members!



MLI Alumni: Where are they now?

Since graduating last year from MLI, Joseph Tun Khui Shing has worked at Yangon's American Center. He says,

'I was a fulltime student at MLI from 2018 - 2019 in the Leadership Diploma course. I found MLI to be a good place to reflect on my purpose in life.

I gained knowledge in managerial, organizational and psychological aspects of leadership which will help a great deal in my career and my future.

Currently, I am a Program Assistant of Institute for Political and Civic Engagement (iPACE). '



Jeffry Seng writes from Ateneo de Manila where he is studying in a Masters Program:

'I studied at MLI in 2019, in both the part time diploma course and the JWL online Peace Leader certificate. Earlier this year I was accepted to join the Master of Social Science Program in Ateneo De Manila University.

The program provides advanced training for careers in peace and development work, conflict resolution, research institutions, international organizations and government. I am currently undertaking the course on English Communication Across Disciplines which is a mandatory pre-university course run by the Asian Peacebuilders Scholarship Programme.

It was a privilege for me to attend MLI before this program. MLI provided me with a new way of understanding myself and enlightened me on the direction of my lifelong journey. It's hard to say which module was the best, because all the components of the MLI course deal with integral parts of our leadership journey.'



Dear MLI Alumni,

We'd love to hear from all our alumni to share your stories with fellow students of MLI. Please send us your news and photos, so that we can feature them in the next edition of MLI News.

If you would like to add any names to our mailing list, please

contact us at: mli.info@gmail.com

Upcoming Courses at MLI



Myanmar Leadership Institute in collaboration with
Jesuit Worldwide Learning (JWL) offers:



Peace Leader Professional Certificate Course

The Peace Leader Certificate is a six-month online introduction to the role and practices of a Peace Leader, integrating best practices from peace studies and leadership studies. Students will examine and practice personal and communal skills and values that are fundamental in nurturing a 'culture of peace'. The course is designed around three core themes: **Self-awareness and Cultural awareness; Conflict resolution and reconciliation; Servant-leadership**

Each theme is presented with theory and applied exercises designed to enhance the student's awareness, skill, and familiarity with methods and practices for Peace Leader development. The program culminates with a final project in which students apply Peace Leader principles and practices to address a collective concern within a local community.

Course Outcomes

- Assess and identify the cultural context of a conflict
- Articulate the values of a Peace Leader
- Develop skills for self-awareness, mediation and conflict resolution
- Evaluate issues in conflicts and determine possible resolutions
- Use conflict analysis tools and identify resources needed
- Provide guidance and strategic planning in conflict

Course Delivery

Classroom-based and online, covering:

- Introduction to Peace Leaders in Training
- Self-care and conflict resolution
- You as a Peace Leader in Training

Participants Profile

An undergraduate degree or pursuing UDE • Intermediate level of English • 18+ with demonstrated maturity

Certificate awarded by:
Hekima Institute of Peace
Studies & International
Relations (HIPSIR), Kenya

Application and Recruitment: **May - July 2020**
Cambridge Linguaskill Test: **August 2020**
Period of Study: **September 2020 - March 2021**

Fee:
Ks 125,000

**For more
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*"It isn't enough
to talk about
peace. One must
believe in it. And
it isn't enough
to believe in it.
One must work
at it."*

Eleanor
Roosevelt



Myanmar Leadership Institute

Leadership at the Crossroads

Summer Quarter Series 2

Instructors: MLI Faculty and International Resource Persons

Dates: May 4 - 29, 2020

Class hours: 9.00 AM to 4.30 PM, All days except Sundays

Overview

Today's challenges for leaders of all stripes are monumental and the need for effective leadership is huge. In the Leadership at the Crossroads workshop, the trainers come from a wide variety of fields including management, economics, social sciences, spirituality, philosophy, psychology and literature and explore the many facets of leadership.

Class Modules

Module 1: Psychological Perspectives on Leadership - May 4 – 9

Self-esteem, Self-Awareness and Protection of minors and vulnerable adults and Culture of Safeguarding, Self-care, Interpersonal Communication Skills and Active Listening, Personality for leadership

Module 2: Managerial Perspectives on Leadership – May 11- 16

Organization Leadership and Development, Organization systems, Managerial Perspectives on Leadership in terms of planning, prioritizing, decision-making, teamworking and implementing, A learning Organization, 21st century skills, coaching and mentoring, operations of organizations

Module 3: Sociological Perspectives on Leadership – May 18 - 23

Community Education, Social Work tools for empowerment, Community Building, Participatory Rural Appraisal, Participatory Action Research, Participation in Peace building

Module 4: Methods and Organization Perspectives – May 25 - 29

Exploring the Organization's vision, mission and core values, format of Concept Paper, Proposals, Project writing, Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm, Practical work for all participants through case studies, Presentation by group, Reflection and takeaways for the training workshop

Goal

To make the students understand the various perspectives and numerous challenges of leadership through theories, concepts, exercises, case studies and in-depth classroom facilitative discussions, group work and individual guidance.

Participant's Profile

College Students (18 years and above) with intermediate English level
Working Professionals from NGOs, CSOs, Religious bodies, and Companies
Project Directors in NGOs and Government, and private sectors
Faculty members, School teachers and Consultants

Fees

250,000 MMK for the full workshop inclusive of study materials. Scholarships are available.

Certification

Each Participant will receive a certificate in Leadership at the end of the workshop.

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