

Tête-à-tête #10



Ms. Supriya Rao
Senior Country Advisor – Glasgow Caledonian University

1. What does a typical day in office look like for you?

Answer: Each day in the office is interesting. We are all aware of the Bangalore traffic, so after a really challenging drive from home to work, my day begins with a hot cup of



This is followed by planning activities for the day. Emails are sorted as I enjoy the tea and then start my skype calls with my colleagues in UK, agents, partners and students, and preparation of travel schedule (if there is any lined up). A perfect blend of productive work and a few minutes of much needed break at regular intervals.

2. Your job entails a lot of travel and juggling different goals. What do you do to cope with all the challenges?

Answer: Time Management is the answer. A job like mine requires me to handle quite a few tasks at the same time and in most cases, keeping deadline in mind. This can be achieved only if I plan in advance and plan right. I ensure that I have my travel plans approved in advance, bookings sorted and this also helps me set aside time for my family. There are times when it is exhausting, but meditation, walking, exploring the city while I travel keep me fully charged ☺

I have always loved travelling, and this job helps me get some time for myself, which is vital ☺

3. What is your biggest challenge while dealing with the Indian student?

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Answer: Indian students and parents (not to forget) are very demanding. But I have been in this industry for 14 years and this does not upset me. I try my best to answer calls and reply to emails in a timely manner. I ensure that there is no delay in their admissions.

4. **What is the best part about your job?**

Answer: Travelling and meeting students from different regions with different course interests and qualifications, and also parents who are more ambitious than the student themselves. In this job I have made some great friends from the industry who are very dear to me.

5. **What are the aspects of your job that you like less?**

Answer: Early morning flights ☺.... and worse than that are, flight delays. Completely messes up the schedule.

6. **What do you consider your greatest achievement? You can quote from outside your work too.**

Answer: At work, I was the recipient of the "first" Best Employee Award from SS4 and this has motivated me to excel each year. Personally, after having a baby, my greatest achievement has been of maintaining balance between an extremely demanding job role and spending quality time with my family. I am giving my 100% to both the roles.

7. **Highlight one thing about your university that you cherish the most.**

Answer: My Team.....we are a family. They give me complete support and ensure that I am updated on all developments on campus. We are family because they have been there for me during my personal highs and lows. Again....touchwood!!

8. **What is/are the skills absolutely necessary for your job?**

Answer: Time management, great communication skills, zeal to learn, and self motivation..

What is the one skill you would most want to acquire?

Answer: I want to gain knowledge in Digital Marketing

9. **What are your hobbies?**

Answer: Singing, listening to old Hindi movie songs, cooking and holidaying with my family.

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