

National Conference Report

FINVERSE 2025: National Conference on “The Future of Commerce: FinTech, ESG, AI and Beyond”

About the Conference

The FINVERSE 2025 National Conference was organized to explore the emerging dimensions of commerce shaped by technology, sustainability, and innovation. Hosted by GM University, the event served as a convergence point for academicians, researchers, industry professionals, and students to deliberate on the evolving financial ecosystem. The conference revolved around the themes of FinTech, ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance), Artificial Intelligence, and smart business practices. The sessions focused on how these elements are redefining the commercial landscape. Expert panels and keynote speeches provided deep insights into the future of finance and business ethics. Participants also presented research papers aligned with the core themes. The event encouraged interdisciplinary collaboration. It fostered innovation and real-world relevance in commerce education and practice.

Inaugural Ceremony

Time : 10:00 AM

Venue: G M Halamma Auditorium, GM University.

Dignitaries Present:

- Chief Guest & Keynote Speaker: Dr. P. Paramashivaiah, Dean, Commerce, Tumkur University
- Forum President Address: Prof. Anitha Kumari J, Vice-President, DUTCCM
- Presence: S R Shankapal, Vice-Chancellor, GMU, Dr. C S Ramesh, Research Advisor, GMU
- Conference Convener: Dr. Shwetha H S, Director, School of Commerce, GMU
- Presidential Remarks: Dr. H D Maheshappa, Pro Vice-Chancellor, GMU

Key Events:

- Invocation song by Niranjana D
- Welcome address by Dr. Gangadhar G Hugar
- Lighting of the lamp by dignitaries
- Report reading by Dr. Shwetha H S
- Release of conference proceedings
- Vote of thanks by Dr. Shwetha H S

- Master of Ceremony: Prof. Anurupa Kumari R & Dr. Rupa M V



Technical Sessions Overview

Technical Session – I

Theme: FinTech, Digital Finance, and the Evolution of Financial Systems

Time: 11:40 AM | **Venue:** G M Halamma Auditorium, GMU

- Chair: Dr. Prasad Kulkarni, Jain College of Engineering, Belgaum
- Introduction by: Mr. Sachin M A
- Panelist: Dr. Venkatesh Babu S
- Rapporteur: Dr. K Jagadeshwari
- Paper presenters: 6 Presenters - 1 Faculty member, 1 Independent Research Scholars & 4 PG Students.

This session focused on the transformative impact of *FinTech* on traditional financial systems. Eminent scholars and professionals discussed topics such as blockchain-based transactions, digital payment systems, and AI-driven financial tools. The session emphasized how digital finance is enhancing transparency, reducing costs, and increasing accessibility. The panelists shared real-world case studies highlighting successful FinTech adoption in banking and commerce. Discussions also covered cybersecurity challenges and regulatory frameworks. This session laid the foundation for understanding the digital shift in finance. It encouraged researchers to explore innovative financial technologies. Key takeaways included the importance of tech-driven financial literacy and responsible innovation.



Parallel Technical Session – I

Time: 11:40 AM

Venue: Room No. 43 (C – 224)

- Chair: Dr. Srinivas K T
- Introduction by: Ms. Vidyadhare A R
- Panelist: Dr. Shreeshaila P Vijayapur
- Rapporteur: Dr. Swaroop K
- Paper presenters: 7 Presenters - 1 Research Scholars & 6 PG Students.

The Parallel Technical Sessions provided an excellent platform for research scholars, academicians, and students to present their original work across a wide range of interdisciplinary topics under the FINVERSE 2025 themes. With active participation from presenters representing various institutions, the sessions demonstrated a strong academic rigor. Topics covered included digital taxation, inclusive finance, ESG compliance in SMEs, and AI applications in commerce. Reviewers and session chairs appreciated the depth of analysis and encouraged future research collaborations. The sessions fostered a spirit of academic exchange, offering feedback and critical insights to refine participants' research. It was a successful step in promoting scholarly engagement on emerging commerce trends.



Technical Session – II

Theme: ESG, Sustainable Commerce & Ethical Business Models

Time: 1:45 PM | **Venue:** G M Halamma Auditorium, GMU

- Chair: Dr. Srinivas K T
- Introduction by: Ms. Vidyadhare A R
- Panelist: Dr. Sunitha K B
- Rapporteur: Dr. Gangadhar G Hugar
- Paper presenters - 5 Presenters, 2 Faculty member, 3 Research Scholars & 1 PG Students.

This session revolved around the growing importance of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) criteria in business decisions. Experts highlighted how sustainability is becoming central to financial and strategic planning. Topics included green finance, ethical investing, social responsibility in supply chains, and corporate governance reforms. Presenters demonstrated how aligning with ESG goals can improve brand trust and investor confidence. The session stressed the role of businesses in combating climate change and promoting social equity. It also explored how policies and data analytics are helping measure ESG performance. Participants were encouraged to embed sustainability into business education and practices.



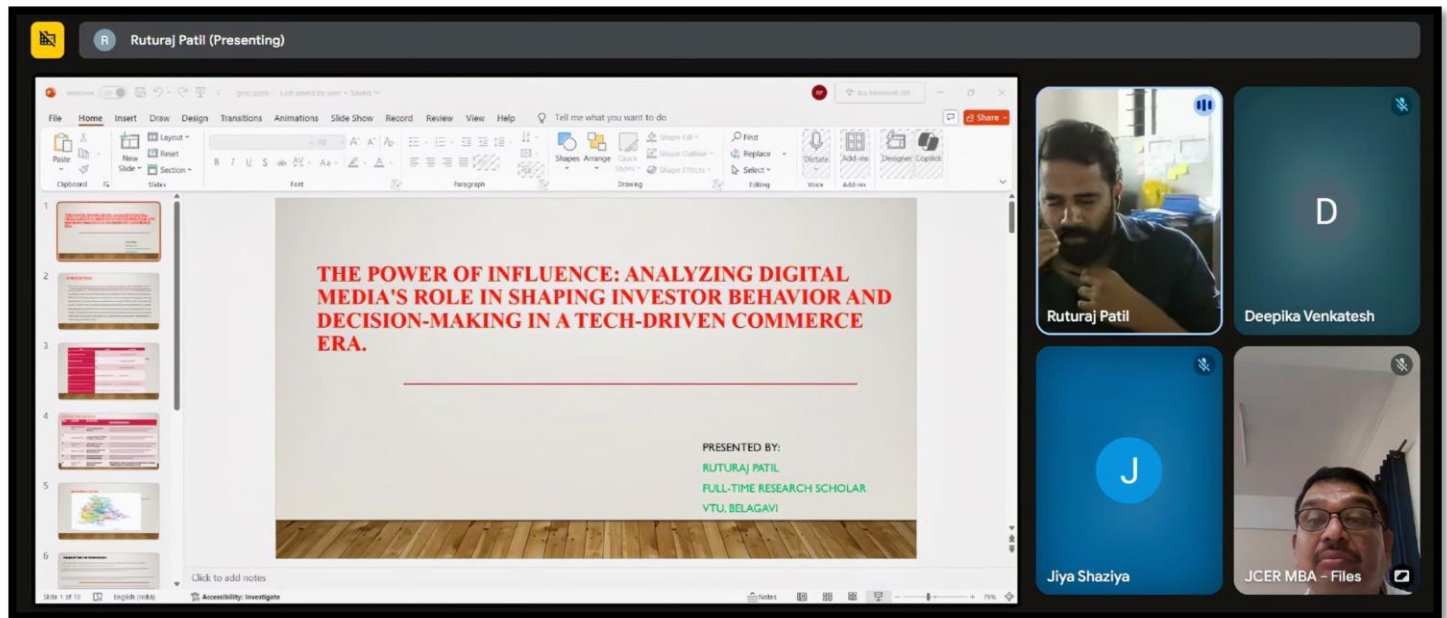
Online Track Session

Time: 1:45 PM

Venue: Room No. 43 (C – 224)

- Chair: Dr. Prasad Kulkarni
- Introduction by: Mr. Sachin M A
- Panelist: Dr. Venkatesh Babu S
- Rapporteur: Dr. K Jagadeshwari
- Paper presenters: 4 Presenters - 4 Faculty member.

The Online Track allowed for remote participation, ensuring inclusivity and broader reach for FINVERSE 2025. Participants from outside the host region were able to present papers and attend keynote sessions virtually, removing geographical barriers. The online platform functioned smoothly, with presentations covering innovative themes like digital wallets, virtual banking, AI in supply chain management, and ESG-driven marketing. The virtual sessions were interactive, with live Q\&A and peer discussions facilitated effectively. This track highlighted the potential of hybrid academic events in the post-pandemic era. It contributed meaningfully to the overall success of the conference, setting a model for future blended formats.



Technical Session – III

Theme: AI, Business Intelligence, and the Smart Enterprise

Time: 3:30 PM | **Venue:** G M Halamma Auditorium, GMU

- Chair: Mr. H. N. Basavaraj, MD, PSK Pharma Pvt. Ltd.
- Introduction by: Mrs. Anurupa Kumari R
- Panelist: Dr. Parthasarathi A. L
- Rapporteur: Dr. Shivakumar S
- Paper presenters: 3 Presenters, 1 Faculty member & 2 PG Students.

In this forward-looking session, speakers addressed how Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Business Intelligence (BI) are reshaping modern enterprises. Key themes included predictive analytics, AI in customer experience, and intelligent automation in operations. Discussions showcased how data-driven decisions are boosting efficiency and innovation in various sectors. Industry expert Mr. H. N. Basavaraj emphasized real-world implications of AI in pharmaceuticals and manufacturing. Case studies demonstrated how smart systems are enabling cost savings and agile responses to market trends. The session also touched upon the ethical use of AI and the need for reskilling. It concluded by highlighting the balance between human insight and machine intelligence.



Closing Activities:

- Felicitation to the Chair by Dignitaries
- Announcement of Best Paper Award
- Certificate Distribution

Highlights and Key Takeaways

- More than 6 sessions (including parallel and online tracks) offered multidisciplinary perspectives.
- The keynote address by Dr. P. Paramashivaiah highlighted the integration of FinTech and ESG in education and commerce.
- Paper presentations provided research insights into real-world challenges and future solutions in finance, sustainability, and AI.
- Recognition through Best Paper Award fostered academic motivation.
- The involvement of industry experts (e.g., Mr. H. N. Basavaraj) provided valuable practical perspectives.

Advisory Committee

- Dr. Bharath K N (Dean, Research, GMU)
- Dr. Sanjay Pande M B (Dean, FCM, GMU)
- Dr. Shweta Marigoudar (Dean, FCIT, GMU)
- Dr. Shivakumar S (Director, School of Management, GMU)
- Ms. Anitha Kumari J (VP, DUTCCM, Davanagere)
- Dr. Parthasarathi A. L (Secretary, DUTCCM, Davanagere)

Best Paper Award

Students

- Kavana K R
- Anjali M & Gayatri D V

Faculty

- Tejashwini K C
- Kiran Kumar G K



Conclusion

FINVERSE 2025 concluded with a strong message of integrating innovation, sustainability, and ethics into the fabric of modern commerce. The event successfully brought together thought leaders and learners to discuss real-world challenges and futuristic solutions. Through panel discussions, technical sessions, and paper presentations, it emphasized the importance of responsible technology use in business. The conference also highlighted the need for academia to align with industry trends. Recognition through the Best Paper Award added value to the academic efforts. Networking among institutions and professionals was a notable outcome. The presence of industry experts enriched the dialogue. FINVERSE 2025 positioned GM University as a hub of forward-thinking discourse. It reinforced the university's vision of inclusive and global learning.

