

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE AUTONOMOUS

# MAGAZINE

2016 - 2017



5, Mahapalika Marg,  
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Maharashtra, India



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Staff Seminar - Main  
streaming Inclusive  
Education



Students Engagement with society as part of Social Involvement Programme



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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Principal

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# **EDITORIAL**

## *The Humane Factor*

*The topography of St. Xavier's college is symbolic of the education it offers. The gargoyles, the intricate art work and the precisely-crafted windows are pictorial metaphors of the various delights that Xavier's promises to offer. A quadrangle enveloped by the splendour of Indo-Gothic architecture opens into the sky beckoning each individual to rise towards it. There are two ways of exiting this beautiful edifice: one is through the regular gates and the other is to fly upwards. We encourage you to soar into the sky. St. Xavier's does not believe in glass ceilings therefore sky is the only limit.*

*We at St. Xavier's are a living culture teeming with action that overflows into the universe. The dynamism in college is nurtured within the departmental-recesses. However, the action is not relegated to the college alone. We have criss-crossed space and time since 1869. Our trail-blazing 'autonomous' existence has been a result of creative pedagogy, courageous innovation, and meaningful collaborations. In 2016-2017, we carved our niche through various interventions both in academic and societal spaces.*

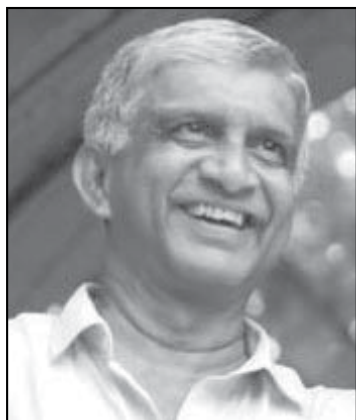
*Our greatest strength is our human resource. We proudly boast of our human resource that has enhanced our visibility in the world. Our humanist approach gives us constant impetus to improvise while engaging with our students and the world outside. The celebration of the human spirit has led us to believe in hope for all humanity. Be it the exchange credits for international students through a treasure-trove full of Indian delights from the world of history, politics, society, media and culture or the giant strides taken by the XRVCV into reforming society or raising a toast to the Whisper from the Universe that was heard at Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory – we have celebrated it all. As the curtain falls on 2016-2017, we can look back with a sense of contentment because we have left an enduring Xavier's imprint for posterity.*

*Rashmi Lee George*

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## From the Principal's desk



*St Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai has always been known to meaningfully FORM individuals. At the core of this achievement is the ability of the College to PERFORM while simultaneously REFORMING and CONFORMING. In order to be abreast with the time, the College has never shied away from changing (either as a pioneer or as an adaptor) and it has done so by embracing the time-tested ethical and humane best practices that have been deeply embedded in its long-standing ethos. The academic year 2016-17 replicated the trajectory described above.*

*On the intangible academic front, the college continued to ensure that all its syllabi were theoretically up-to-date as well as relevant for the greater good of all. All departments added a social dimension to their functioning by offering 5 hours of discipline-centric social work so as to make our students genuine assets in any community and situation. Every department continued to add value to education by structuring courses that went beyond the classroom, through the Honours Programme (which has been rechristened as the 'Quest for Excellence Programme'). Through lecture series, field trips, presentations and library / laboratory time, students were challenged to tread the less trodden paths by thinking tangentially (and yet cogently), articulating and defending their findings (amicably, even in the face of opposition). The research culture instilled in our students continued to goad them to spend their vacations in short-term internships. Fifteen of our Science students were selected by national research institutes like IAS, IISER, JNCASR, IISC, JCCBS across the country and one of them even interned with NASA. In conforming with the needs of the real world, the college introduced a collateral course in Data Science.*

*On the tangible academic front, the college deployed its limited and constrained finances into building or renewing relevant infrastructure and in purchasing state-of-the-art equipment and / or on maintaining its existing equipment. With these assets, the College continued to engage with the outside world through research projects, tie-ups, internships or partnerships. As part of the industry-academia partnership, the Caius Research Laboratory of the College signed an MOU with a company to further the commercial value of sandalwood oil by adopting methods of biotechnology. This laboratory also provided internships to students from neighbouring as well as other institute across the country. The College is among one of the few, who have an Institutional Biosafety Committee (under the DBT, Government of India) which is a regulatory body to assess all the research work involving GMOs in the College. The College signed MoUs with 28 International*

universities and through these tie-ups student exchange programmes have been undertaken. The Social Involvement Programme of the College has partnered with more than 200 NGOs through which all our students offer their voluntary service for the betterment of those at the fringes of society. The yeoman service that the XRCVC offers to the visually challenged in collaboration with student volunteers was lifted up a few notches, with the XRCVC becoming a model that the Government of Maharashtra desires to replicate across the state.

Productively synchronising curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities has been the bedrock of the Jesuit education philosophy. Hence, multi-faceted programmes like Malhar, Paradigm, talks by eminent speakers, Department Conferences, IMG's music bonanza continued to co-exist with academics. Every year, the College announces a theme that it follows – for 2016-17 the theme was 'Optimizing Resources on Campus'.

The positive outcomes of the College through its oxymoronic stance of reforming while conforming has been acknowledged by the larger society. All but one of the science departments of the College have been awarded the Star College Scheme - the Departments of Mathematics as well as of Statistics were added to this illustrious list. The College secured the 40th rank in the NIRF survey among all colleges in India and stood 3rd among the NIRF ranked institutes in the state of Maharashtra. In the All-India College surveys of 'India Today' as well as 'The Week', the college was listed among the top 5 Arts and Science Colleges in the country. The high profile 'Review of Autonomy Committee' that evaluated the performance of the College over its first cycle of autonomy, recommended the continuation of Academic Autonomy since they realised that St Xavier's College, Mumbai is not just a College but a way of life. Given the continuation of autonomy, the College is provoked to fly high but with its feet firmly entrenched in the best traditions of the Ignatian pedagogy.

Dr. Agnelo Menezes.  
Principal

## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRINCIPAL-ACADEMICS

After 32 years of service in the capacity of a teacher and more recently as Vice Principal -Academics it is an unparalleled honour for me to share with you some significant highlights of the past academic year. I am grateful to the Management especially our Rector Dr (Fr) Anthony D'Souza S.J., Principal Dr Agnelo Menezes, Vice Principal (Arts) Ms Madhuri Rajjada and Vice Principal (Science) Dr Rajendra Shinde for the support and guidance that they have given me. I am also grateful to Dr (Fr) Roy Pereira S.J. whose steadfast belief in me continues to motivate and inspire. The responsibilities of the Office would have been near impossible to fulfill without the cooperation of the faculty- both teaching and non-teaching. Here, I would also like to make a special mention of the able staff of the General Office, whose tireless efforts ensures that everything runs seamlessly on the administrative front.

The year has been especially eventful, right through the two semesters. The academic year was filled with academic, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities that kept the faculty as well as students busy and challenged their capacities on many fronts.

The Honours Programme that holds a significant place in our collegiate activities continued to provoke our students to greater heights of achievement. This co-curricular

programme enables students to 'learn beyond the classroom' with an emphasis on developing critical thinking skills and a research over the three years of their Graduation. We received an overwhelming response for enrolment across all classes. Above 200 students of the SY and TY participated in the Honours Programme, of which 80 students successfully completed the Programme and received their Honours Certificate on the day of their Graduation Ceremony .

The Honours Programme for the FY students was adapted to promote Interdisciplinary enrichment by introducing the **Quest For Excellence Programme**. In this programme the students were required to register in a Hub, which is a cluster of various departments and allowed to enroll for activities offered by departments within these Hubs. The Hubs currently include – Lingua Humanities [ all the Arts Departments, Management Studies, Mass Media and Tourism]; Biological Sciences [Botany, Life Science, Microbiology and Zoology] and Physical Sciences [ Chemistry, Geology, Mathematics, Statistics, Physics, IT and Software Development]. The other resources of St. Xavier's College [ eg. DIRS, Heras, IMG ] continued to add value to the programme. The Certification of the Programme would require a student to acquire 7 credits over 6 semesters [5 from the Hub they

are academically involved with for their Graduation and 2 from other sources]. This was explained to the FY students at an Orientation held on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2016. A majority of the students who registered for the Quest For Excellence Programme successfully completed several activities – a sure sign of the programme's unwavering success which is very encouraging.

I am undoubtedly grateful to the Department Coordinators and Faculty who took up this challenge of encouraging our students to reach higher goals of academic excellence. I am confident that this fresh approach to the Programme will enthrall more students in the coming years and contribute in special ways to their holistic growth.

At St. Xavier's College – Autonomous, we give as much importance to faculty development as to student growth. Accordingly, several seminars were organized. Our 'Young Teachers' include faculty of the Senior and Junior College who have been appointed since the last three years. For this group of about 30 teachers Interactive Seminars were organized to help them with settling in their teaching responsibility. On 20<sup>th</sup> July 2017 the Seminar include two sessions, the first was a highly interactive session conducted by Ms Ruby Pavri on *Skills for creating a 'Lean Forward Class'* followed by the second session on *Jesuit Ethos* delivered by Fr. Errol Fernandes S.J. Both sessions were very well received by the group. Fr Terence Quadros S.J. in his unique style enthralled the young teachers with *Strategies for optimizing Survival - with Special Reference to Classroom and Teaching* on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2016. For the entire Senior College Faculty a *Google Drive Workshop* was organized on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2016, in the Knowledge Center and Ms. Vidhi along with Mr. Kevin D'Cruz, Mr. Conrad Cabral and Mr. Subhash Kumar as resource persons explained to the faculty the potential of Google Drive. 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016 saw a half day Seminar on *Take a Break before the Busy-you Breaks* by Fr Charles Rodrigues S.J. wherein Fr



Charles helped us experience the value of a 'break' from our daily schedule by means of reflection, discussions and presentations. A day-long seminar titled *Adapting to Change* was held on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017. This was an enriching, and informative experience that sensitized us to the need for 'Inclusive Education' through three sessions. The first one was jointly conducted by Dr. Sam Taraporevala, Ms Linda Dhakul and Ms Neha Trivedi on *Building Inclusion – The Disability Perspective*, the second one on *Mentoring the Digital Natives* by Dr Jangoo Mistry and the third session on *What the student needs?* was led by staff and students involved with Teach for India. The programme not only kept us engrossed the entire day, but also made us aware of how significant it is to recognize and understand students with special needs. The resource persons for all our endeavors must be duly recognized for their contribution, for having impacted us with several insights and for helping us realize the joy and value in making a difference in our students' lives.

Our attempt at Faculty mentoring and guidance was also furthered with Sit-

In lectures for the new appointees. The TAQ was administered manually to all the new appointees of all faculties and an online version was attempted with the entire Science faculty, all of which was very ably managed by the staff responsible.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016 we had the opportunity of hosting the RUSA Consultation Meeting on Autonomy. Ms. Manisha Verma, IAS Officer, Secretary and Director, SPD RUSA Maharashtra conducted the Consultation meeting wherein 70 participants, Principals and Management representatives of various colleges across Maharashtra were exposed to experiences delivered by resource persons from Autonomous Institutions. We are grateful for being part of this endeavor to encourage other institutions to consider autonomy.

Graduation Ceremonies were organized for the fourth Autonomous batch in June 2017 over the course of three days. The students were enthralled by the exciting new arrangements made in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quadrangle for the very first time. We saw students of Management Studies, Mass Media, Post Graduate

Departments and PhD felicitated on 15<sup>th</sup> June, students of Science and Information Technology felicitated on 16<sup>th</sup> June and students of the Arts faculty on the 17<sup>th</sup> June. On all three days our Chief guests of the evening; Ms Kavitha Iyer – Editor, Indian Express, Prof Sandip Trivedi – Director, TIFR and Dr. Snehlata Deshmukh-Former Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai delivered inspirational speeches and encouraged our young graduates to fully realize their potential. The functions went off seamlessly and successfully, and I am greatly indebted to the entire teaching and non-teaching faculty who made this possible.

As we look back at the many successful activities that unfolded this past year with great pride and joy, we also look forward — with high hopes and determination — to soon completing 150 years of academic excellence. It is my strong conviction that St. Xavier's will continue to give its students the wings to fly, even as the institution itself continues to scale greater heights.

**Dr. Gulshan Shaikh**  
Vice Principal (Academics)

## THE (GRADUATING) FLAVORS OF 2016-2017

Graduation is one of those bittersweet moments in life, when we are torn between the nostalgia for the past and excitement for the future. Should we reminisce about what were quite possibly the greatest three years of our lives- the architecture of the college, the sounds of the foyer, the solitude of the chapel or the activity in the labs? Or should we focus on the next stage in our journey of life?

From rushing to attend the 8 am lectures on time, to struggling to climb to the 40s, or wondering where LR 29 is, the internal conflict between finishing the assignment or journal due tomorrow or spending a little more time in the foyer with friends, relishing Anna's chai and maggi, the fests and the tests, the random interviews for a project for our friends from other streams, the constant calculations to see if our attendance has reached the magical number of

75%, the last minute dash to the Xerox center to get that particular set of notes that we forgot to get, sitting in huddles, trying to do some last minute revision, no two days in the past three years ever seemed alike.

As the days disappeared into the months, and the months into the years, we grew, and learnt not to let external circumstances define us. We may have come from different walks of life, but today, we leave as a collective unit: The Class of 2017.

- **Aditya Chalishazar, TYBSc Chemistry**

"My fellow graduates, this day belongs to not only you but also to our Teachers, Non-teaching staff, Parents and family, and our friends. It is your support, love and encouragement that have brought us to this day. So on behalf of my fellow graduates, I would like to thank them

all and they deserve a huge round of applause!"

"This graduation is the end of our academic journey of Masters and is also the beginning of another bigger journey called 'Life.' In this journey, we will face many obstacles, fears, and potholes—bigger than the ones you see during Mumbai monsoons—and we will also face success, failure, happiness and sorrow. But each one of these experiences will make us a better people. So always love yourself during each step of this journey. Because, the person that you will spend the most with in this journey of Life is yourself."

- **Janhavi Damani – Master of Life Sciences**

Three years ago, when I passed HSC with 80% marks I was under stress and tension. I wondered if I would get admission anywhere. My mother





was anxious. However, I came to St. Xavier's College. The moment I entered this college, I believed this was the place which would help me to fulfill my dream of becoming a graduate. I met Father Errol in his office. He interviewed me for about five minutes and encouraged me to strive hard. His support and motivation has not only encouraged me but all of us. I wish to thank Father Pessa and all our teachers who have supported each one of us to reach this milestone. I am extremely grateful to our teaching staff and the non-teaching staff for all the support that you have extended to all of us.

**-Kavita Uday Shinde TYBCom**

And now here we are. La fin. Graduates from St. Xavier's Mumbai, filled with dreams soon to be achieved and memories to be re-lived from time to time. This evening is the last one that'll see us all together in the very quad where Fate had us meet only a couple of years ago. It's been quite

an interesting journey from our FY Orientation to this Convocation here, literally hopping from one notice board to the other, evolving from mere FYs to what we'll be called henceforth, the Xavier's alumni. So before we say goodbye and part ways, I hope we find it within us to tie up loose ends. Because in all probability, you might never even see the person you're sitting next to right now, the one you've sat behind during every exam or done half your CIA 2 projects with. So why not speak our hearts out and tell one another the things we never really got around to saying? As someone once told me, "Why wait for that awkward meeting in an alien setting years from now when we've got today to talk to each other?" So today, I'd like to wish us all luck. I hope we make something of the life that we are setting out to build for ourselves. And twenty years down the line, when we behold a familiar face on the cover of a bestseller staring at us from the bookstore window at the

opposite end of the street, or when we stumble upon a familiar name in Time magazine while flipping through its pages absentmindedly, or, when we hear a familiar sarcastic laugh on the television talking about how the journey of every successful stand-up comedian always begins from college, we'll probably have a smile on our face as we remember the incorrigible bookworm curled up in the Lending library, or the Eco enthusiast sitting on the foyer table babbling away about those ambitious startup ideas to whoever's listening or even, pretending to listen, or, our beloved class clown making a long lecture so much more tolerable.

And that's when we'll close our eyes just for a moment to come back here, only to realise that the moment's gone.

**Bandhuli C**

TYBA English Literature  
Student of the Year

*"Violence is impractical because it is a descending spiral ending in destruction for all. It is immoral because it seeks to humiliate the opponent rather than win his understanding: it seeks to annihilate rather than convert. Violence is immoral because it thrives on hatred rather than love. It destroys community and makes brotherhood impossible. It leaves society in monologue rather than dialogue. Violence ends up defeating itself. It creates bitterness in the survivors and brutality in the destroyers."*

**~ Martin Luther King**

# COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS 2015 - 2016

Sr. No	SR		Name of the Scholarship	Name of the Awardee
		<b>A</b>	<b>POST FYJC</b>	
1	A	1	the Cursetjee Framjee Wadia, Sir Sassoon J. David, Bai Rattanbai Bomanji Wadia and the Cowasji Jehangir Readymoney Scholarship for highest in FYJC Arts	Chatterjee Ishika Sudeep
2	A	2	the Printer,Lukhansi Nappo, Edwin and Edith Noronha and Munshi Scholarship for highest at the F.Y.J. C. Science	Rodrigues Cindy Raycel
3	A	3	the Mrs. Amba C.P. Wadia Scholarship for a deserving Parsi boy highest at the FYJC examination.	NA
4	A	4	the Pragji Purshottam Bhatia and Vurdhman Jetsey Scholarship for a Hindu student with the highest average in FYJC (Arts or Science).	Johri Tanishka Rakesh
		<b>B</b>	<b>POST SYJC</b>	
5	B	1	the Fr.Dreckman, Rev. Frs. Boese, Usteri, Degan, Walrath, Boswin and Mrs. Hermina Miranda Scholarship for highest at the HSC examination (Science)	Menezes Neil Leon
6	B	2	the Prof. Abbas,Ardeshir Dhunjishaw Lalkaka and Maneckjee Framjee Hormusjee Sethna Scholarship for highest aggregate at the HSC examination and continuing with FYBA.	Rege Valmik Sharadchandra
7	B	3	the P. A. Hormasjee Wadia Scholarship to a Parsi lady student for highest in French at the HSC examination.	Dee Pashmin Manecksha Parinaz
8	B	4	the Meenal Dinkar Rao Mugve Scholarship for highest in Chemistry at the H.S.C. examination.	Jain Eva Ashok
9	B	5	the Fr.Sacasa's, Nadkarny-Kothare, Prof. R.N. Bhagwat Scholarship for highest in Chemistry at the H.S.C. examination.	Jain Eva Ashok
10	B	6	the Parimal K. Shroff Prize for highest marks in Political Science at the HSC examination.	Agarwal Charu Ravi
11	B	7	the Mrs. Cyrilla Juliana D'Souza , Late Joseph Manuel D'Souza and John Damascene D'Almeida Scholarship for a deserving Catholic student in FYBA / BSc.	NA
12	B	8	the Khan Bahadur Burjorjie D. Patel, Sir Dinshaw M. Petit , and Ardeshir Hormasjee Wadia Fund Scholarship for a deserving Parsi student with the best aggregate at HSC examination	Parakh Diya
13	B	9	The Late Anirudha Jayprakash Bhogle Scholarship for a deserving student with the highest marks in Biology at the HSC examination.	Shaikh Uzma Imtiyaz
14	B	10	the Neena Nigam Memorial Scholarship for higher learning	Babita Saroj
		<b>C</b>	<b>POST FYBA/FYBSc</b>	
15	C	1	the Jehangir Bomanji ,Tullakchand Maneckchand Vijbhukhandas Atmaram Mehta and the Caius Scholarship for highest aggregate at the FYBA Examination	Metika Sikka
16				Soham Daruwala
17	C	2	the Prof. C. D. Pinto , and Fr. Hamilton Scholarship for the highest in English Literature at the FYBA examination.	Ramakrishnan Anjana
18				Bernadine Michele Mary
19	C	3	the Hindi Sahitya Mandal Scholarship for highest in Hindi (Ancillary) at the FYBA examination.	Pooja Bhanushali
20	C	4	Meenal Dinkar Rao Mugve Scholarship for highest in Chemistry at the FYBSc examination and continuing with Chemistry in SYBSc.	Bibakhya Saikia
21	C	5	the Fr. Sierp, Prof. S.K. Chhapgar for highest in Chemistry at the FYBSc examination and continuing with Chemistry in SYBSc.	Bibakhya Saikia
22	C	6	the College Scholarship for highest at the F.Y.B.Sc.- IT examination	Apurva Agarwal

23	C	7	the College Scholarship for highest at the F.Y.B.M.M examination	Parmeshwari Milind Bhumkar
24	C	8	the College Scholarship for highest at the F.Y.B.M.S examination	Vishwa Shripal Shah
25	C	9	the Burjor Kaikobad Doctor, Khan Bahadur Hormusji Kharshedji Bhabha, and Dinshaw Shavakshaw Adenwalla Scholarship for a Parsi student highest in FYBA/ FYBSc examination.	Jal Aryaman
26	C	10	the Dr. Lewis Gomes and the Parsi Association, D.K.Kamdin and R.C Chanrai Scholarship for a deserving student in SYBSc/SYBA	Babel Akshi
27	C	11	the Watumull Foundation Scholarship for highest in Accounts at the FYBCom examination.	George Louis
28	C	12	the Armand Francis Sequeira and the Ignatius Loyola Scholarship for highest in Economics at the FYBCom examination.	Attari Tasneem
29	C	13	the Late Squadron Leader O. J. D'Sena and the Late Mansoor Awan Scholarship for highest in Business Communication at the FYBCom examination.	C.R. Akhira Chakrasena
30	C	14	Freddie A Mehta Scholarship for highest in Economics at the FYBA examination.	Soham Daruwala
31	C	15	the A.V. Krishnamurti Scholarship for highest in Physics at FYBSc examination and continuing with Physics	Arjun Ashoka
32	C	16	the Dattatraya and Meera Mugve Scholarship for the highest aggregate at the FYBSc examination	Arjun Ashoka
		<b>D</b>	<b>POST SYBA/SYBSc</b>	
33	D	1	the Sir Currimbhoy Ebrahim, Jamsetji Ardeshir Wadia and Joseph Manuel D'Souza Scholarship for highest at the SYBA examination.	Sadhna Rajeev Naik
34	D	2	the Dr. Shashishekhar Naithani Scholarship for highest in SYBA Hindi (Ancillary).	Priya Jas karan Baid
35	D	3	the Fr. Bochum, Rev. Fr. H. Heras, S.J. and Prof. N. N. Lala History Scholarship for highest in History at FY & SYBA and continuing with History at TYBA (8 papers).	Mehta Afreed Behzad
36	D	4	the Mr. Erasmus F.C. Sequeira and Principal Mafatlal Vadilal Naik Scholarship for Highest in English at SYBA examination and continuing with English at TYBA	Bhagat Raina Vaishnavi
37	D	5	the M. A. Bomanji Dubash and Fr. Gisbert Sociology Academy Scholarship for a student highest in Sociology or Anthropology at the FY & SYBA examination and continuing with Socio/ Socio-Anthro in TYBA.	Sanghavi Angakana Milind
38	D	6	the Late Prof. Anthony Monteiro Scholarship for highest in SYBSc Chemistry and continuing with Chemistry in TYBSc.	Aditya Munir Chalishazar
39	D	7	the Mr. Shahrukh B. Paymaster and Mr. Ashok Sumanlal Patel Memorial Prize for highest in Microbiology at the FY & SY and continuing with Chemistry or Microbiology in TYBSc.	Keertana Venkatesh
40	D	8	the Prof. R. V. Kamat, Mrs. Allan Asphandiar Dadachanji, Miss Sudha Prabhudesai and Janardhan Dayanand Bhatt Prize for highest in Physics at the SYBSc and continuing with Physics in TYBSc	Shalom Phiroze Palkhivala
41	D	9	the Prof. Dara M. Munshi and M. Krishnan Memorial Scholarship for highest in Zoology at SYBSc and continuing with Zoology in TYBSc.	Khyati Patel
42	D	10	the College Scholarship for highest at the S.Y.B.M.S examination	Harshita Hanmandas Rathi
43	D	11	the College Scholarship for highest at the S.Y.B.M.M examination	Rutwij Harshad Nakhwa
44	D	12	the Dr. Lewis Gomes, Parsi Association, D.K.Kamdin, R.C Chanrai and Late Mr. Leslie Rebello Scholarship for a deserving Catholic student in the TYBA / BSc.	Alisha Fernandes
45	D	13	the Watumull Foundation and the Edmund Campion Scholarship for a needy and outstanding student in TYBCom	Maulvi Sajid

46	D	14	the Mrs. Kathleen Pereira, Ignatius Loyola Scholarship for a deserving student with the best attendance in SYBCom.	Aravind Chithirai
47	D	15	the Khushalchand Charity Trust and the Late Aritha Alva Scholarship for a needy and outstanding student in TYBCom.	Justina Pais
48	D	16	the College Scholarship for highest at the S.Y.BSc - IT examination.	Mohit Agarwal
49	D	17	Fredie A. Mehta Scholarship for highest in Economics at FY & SYBA and continuing with Economics at TYBA ( 6 papers)	Karin Milind Shah
		<b>E</b>	<b>POST TYBA/BSc</b>	
50	E	1	the Mr. Hadi C. Tyabjee , J. J. & G. J. Lalwani and Hilloo Scholarship for highest aggregate at the at the BA examinations.	Nimit Parikh
51	E	2	the Joan Dias Memorial Prize for girl student highest in AIC at the BA examinatiois.	Meghna Ria Muralidharan
52	E	3	The Shodhan Prasad Dave Memorial Prize for highest in Economics ( 3 Unit ) at the BA examinations.	Nimit Parikh
53	E	4	the Dewan R.N. Saigal Scholarship for the best Economics Honours Programme student.	NA
54	E	5	the Carmelita and Charles Nazareth Scholarship for highest in English at the BA examinations.	Shauna Irani
55	E	6	the Fr. Edward D'Cruz Political Science Scholarship for highest aggregate in entire Political Science (8 papers) at the BA examinations.	Kasab Shailesh Vora
56	E	7	the Parimal K. Shroff Prize for highest marks in Political Science at the BA examinations	Kasab Shailesh Vora
57	E	8	the Late Mrs. Kaushalya Sethi Scholarship for highest in Psychology (Major) at the BA examinations.	Alisha Anupam Kalidhar
58	E	9	the Joan Dias Memorial Prize for Catholic girl student highest at the BA examinations.	Tojo Tanya
59	E	10	the Mr. Hadi C. Tyabjee and the Pragji Purshottam Bhatia Scholarship for highest at the BSc examinations.	Parmeshwari Chandak
60	E	11	the D.L. Modi Scholarship for highest in Chemistry at the BSc examinations.	Ankita Isor
61	E	13	Dr.M.P. Sujayakumari and the Department of Life Sciences Scholarship for highest in BSc (3 units) Life Science.	Desouza Roshni Ann
62	E	14	the Department of Life Sciences Scholarship for highest in BSc (6 units) Life Science.	Sarma Adithya Srinivasa
63	E	15	the Minoos H. Matbar, Burjor Kaikobad Doctor Memorial, and Sarabhai Dipchand Shah Scholarship for highest in Mathematics at the BSc examinations.	Shikhar Goenka
64	E	16	the Prof. Joseph Selwyn Dias, Malcolm Pereira and Prof. Sam J. Khambatta Scholarship for highest in Physics at the BSc examinations.	Alimohammed Kanchwala
65	E	17	the Almeidas' Botany Scholarship for highest in Botany at the BSc examinations.	Duhita Naware
66	E	18	the Joan Dias Memorial Prize for a girl student highest in Statistics at the BSc examinations	Gauri kamat
67	E	19	the Prof. J.V.Bhat Memorial Scholarship for second highest in Microbiology at the BSc examinations	Mitra Adityesh Abhijit
68	E	20	the Joan Dias Memorial Prize for Catholic girl student highest at the BSc examinations.	Roshni Ann D'Souza
69	E	21	the College Scholarship for Ranking First in B.M.S	Bianca Menezes
70	E	23	the Late Mr. Abdul Hameed Ansari Scholarship for Ranking First in B.M.M (Advertising)	Archita Mitra

71	E	24	the Late Mr. Abdul Hameed Ansari Scholarship for Ranking First in B.M.M (Journalism)	Tanya Malik
72	E	25	the Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S. J. Scholarship to a TYBCom student for highest aggregate at TYBCom examination.	Celeste Pais
73	E	26	the Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S. J. Scholarship to a TYBCom student for highest aggregate in Financial Accounting - Paper I at the TYBCom examination.	Chawre Rajendra
74	E	27	the Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S. J. Scholarship to a TYBCom student for highest aggregate in Financial Accounting - Paper II at the BCom examinations.	Chawre Rajendra
75	E	28	the Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S. J. Scholarship to a TYBCom student for highest aggregate in Financial Accounting - Paper III at the BCom examinations.	Gowda Hemant
76	E	29	the Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S. J. Scholarship to a TYBCom student for highest attendance in the BCom.	Upadhyay Prashant
77	E	30	the Pedro Arrupe, the Late Mr. Alphonsus Stanislaus Saldanha & Late Fr. Charles Saldanha, S.J. Scholarship for a student with all round performance at the BCom.	Rutika Gawde
78	E	31	the Dr. Mohamed Bazlur Rehman Scholarship for Catholic student highest in English (6 papers) and pursuing post graduation studies	Shauna Irani
79	E	32	the Khan Bahadur Hormasji Kharshedji Bhabha and Rev. Fr. Heras, S. J. Scholarship for highest in History at BA examinations and continuing with MA in History.	Ann Peters
80	E	33	the Sociology Academy Scholarship for highest in Sociology at the BA examinations excellence in other activities of College and continuing with Post Graduation	Simone Gandhi
81	E	34	the Dr. N.A. Irani Memorial Scholarship for best aggregate in Botany at the BSc and continuing with MSc. In Plant Taxonomy	Varsha Giri
82	E	35	the Late Noshirwan H. Sethna Geology Scholarship for highest in Geology at the BSc examinations and continuing with Geology .	Meghomita Das
83	E	36	the Sheila M. Joseph Memorial Fund Scholarship for highest in Zoology at the BSc and continuing with MSc in Zoology.	Ryan Rodrigues Gerard
84	E	37	the Sir Dinshaw M. Petit Post Graduate Scholarship and the Ardeshir Hormasjee Wadia Fund for Parsi student of BSc continuing with post graduation studies.	NA
85	E	38	the Prof. Saroj Hazari Scholarship for highest marks in 19th Century English Literature at the BA examinations.	Nair Kanya Rajeev
86	E	39	Fredie A. Mehta Scholarship for best aggregate in Economics of the BA exams and continuing with post graduation studies in Economics.	Rutuja Joshi
87	E	40	the Dr. R.K.Hazari Memorial Prize for second highest marks in Economics at the BA examinations.	Iyer Anjali
88	E	41	Fredie A. Mehta Scholarship for deserving student with best aggregate in Economics of the BA examination and continuing with post graduation studies in Economics.	Na
89	E	42	the College scholarship for Ranking First in B.Sc.IT.	Singh Gauri
90	E	43	Mrs. Kalpana Hansraj Chaudhuri Scholarship for deserving girl student continuing post graduate in Science	Farah Ansari
91	E	44	Mukul Singhal Scholarship for highest aggregate at the highest aggregate at the BSC examinations n Physics	Ali Mohammed Kanchwala
92	E	45	Mukul Singhal Scholarship for highest aggregate at the highest aggregate at the BSC examinations	To be Announced
93	E	46	the Late Prof. Cavas J. Shroff Scholarship for highest marks in Statistics at the BSc examinations.	Gauri Kamat
94	E	47	the Ms. Baktawar Sam Sethna Scholarship for female student securing highest in Geology at the BSC examinations	Meghomita Das
		F	SENIOR MA & MSc	

95	F	1	the Dr. Ratan Nadirshaw Sukeshwala and Dr. Dayanand Dattatraya Yellur Scholarship for highest in Geology at MSc Part I.	Karl Pereira
96	F	2	the Dr. Ratan Nadirshaw Sukeshwala and Dr. Dayanand Dattatraya Yellur Scholarship for highest in Geology at MSc Part II.	Anushka Aegidius Lobo
97	F	3	the College scholarship for highest in Biotechnology at the M.Sc. Examination	Oindrila Debashish De
98	F	4	the Late Shri R.R. Subramanian Scholarship for a student ranking first in the MA autonomous course in Ancient Indian History Culture & Archaeology	Urmi Viren Vaz
		<b>G</b>	<b>GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP</b>	
99	G	1	Prof. Exward Mendonca and Ashok Kamte Memorial Award for the Student of the Year	Yash Mimani
100	G	2	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the F.Y.B.A. examination.	Metika Sikka
101				Soham Daruwala
102	G	3	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the F.Y.B.Sc. examination.	Arjun Ashoka
103	G	4	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the F.Y.B.Com. examination.	C.R. Akhira Chakrasena
104	G	5	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the S.Y.B.A. examination.	Sadhna Rajeev Naik
105	G	6	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the S.Y.B.Sc.examination.	Parshv Pankil Shah
106	G	7	the Mahindra Search for Talent Scholarship for the best academic performance at the S.Y.B.Com. examination.	Singh Sharmishtha
107	G	8	Lions Club of East Bombay Scholarship for the most promising student of the Xavier's Resource Centre for Visually Challenged (XRCVC)	Shekhar Manjulkar
108	G	9	the St. Xavier's College Association Golden Jubilee Scholarship for excellence in academics, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.	Bandhuli Chattopadhyay
109	G	10	the St. Xavier's College Association Fr.Balaguer Scholarship for a Senior College student who is outstanding in social work .	Aldrin Castelino
110	G	12	the Fr. M.M. Balaguer, S.J. Scholarship for hardworking Senior College Catholic student.	Ivy Rodrigues
111	G	13	the Sabate-Freitas Memorial Fund, Shri & Smt. P. B. Fernandes-Veloz and the Ardeshir Rustomji Thanawala Scholarship for a student who is outstanding in Social Work.	Anish Rajan
112	G	14	the Sabate-Freitas Memorial Fund, Shri & Smt. P. B. Fernandes-Veloz and the Ardeshir Rustomji Thanawala Scholarship for a student who is outstanding in Social Work.	Aditi Dalal
113	G	15	the Fenelon Bossuet Godinho Hindi Paritoshik and the Kamla Hindi Paritoshik	Ashutosh
114	G	16	the Prof. Khalil Dehdashti Memorial Persian Scholarship for highest in Islamic Culture Studies.	NA
115	G	17	the Hostelite Welfare and Shastri Scholarship for a deserving hostelite.	Selius Warjri
116	G	18	the Hostelite Welfare and Shastri Scholarship for a Meritorious hostelite.	Hemanga Bhattacharya
117	G	19	the Vinod Mehra Scholarship for the best cultural talent.	Janvi Pandya
118	G	20	the Late Gurcharan Kaur, Amrik Singh, Surender Jeet Singh & Varalakshimi P.Singh Scholarship for a deserving student.	Parui Kaushik
119	G	21	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Sanika Kshirsagar
120	G	22	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Rubina Khan
121	G	23	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Ishwar Bhusal
122	G	24	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Jennifer Barboza

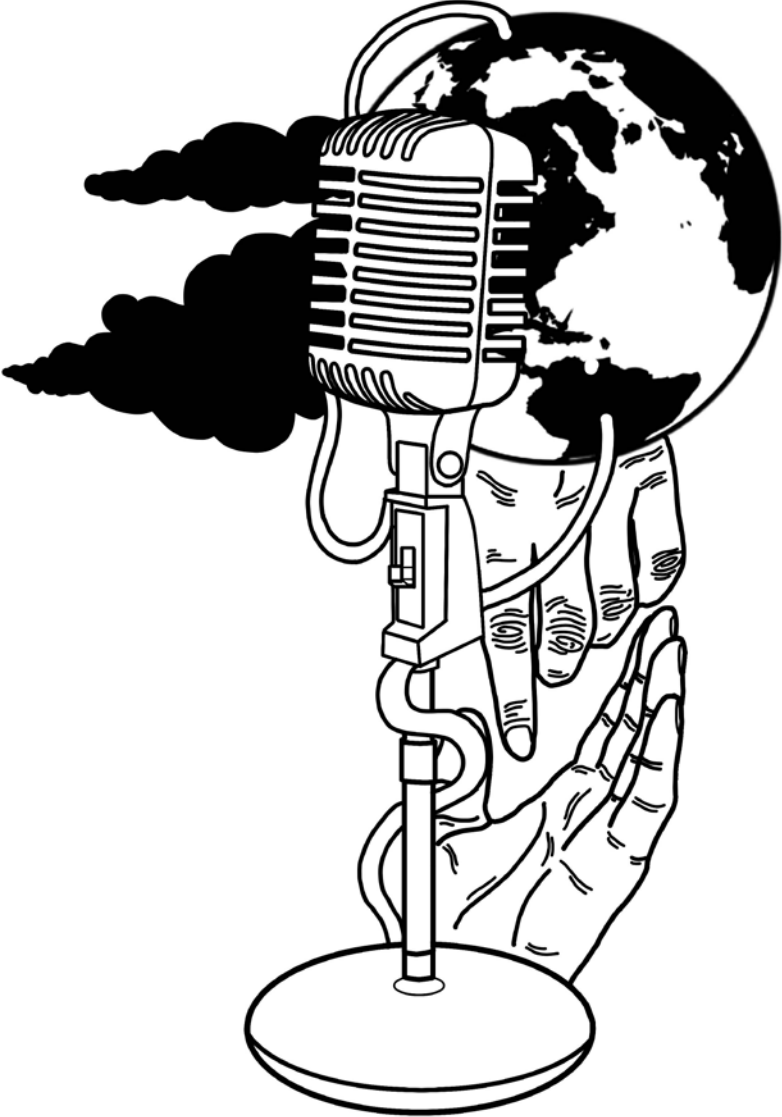
123	G	25	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Priyanka Pitlekar
124	G	26	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Kalyani Shinde
125	G	27	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Neeta Pagi
126	G	28	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Kamal Vangad
127	G	29	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Rajdeep Gajare
128	G	30	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Anuradha Pawar
129	G	31	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Ravi Kiran
130	G	32	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Swagat Siby
131	G	33	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Shubham Gupta
132	G	34	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Shahul Bhujbal
133	G	35	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Jayesh Panchal
134	G	36	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Sanjay Gupta
135	G	37	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Sagar Shinde
136	G	38	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Rahul Shelke
137	G	39	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Deepak Kumar Jaiswal
138	G	40	S.N. Iyer Q.C & Dr. Irene Charity Trust Scholarship for a deserving student.	Tushar Parab
139	G	41	the Gurudas Bailur Scholarship for a deserving student.	Rahul Gajjal
140	G	42	Scholarship for a deserving Catholic Student.	Mathew Jacob
141	G	43	Mrs.Livie Viegas Scholarship for a deserving Catholic Student.	Lawrence Noronha
142	G	44	Mrs.Livie Viegas Scholarship for a deserving Catholic Student.	Pushpak Martin
143	G	45	Mrs.Livie Viegas Scholarship for a deserving Catholic Student.	Tanuvi Joe
144	G	46	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for an outstanding student of the college.	Adityesh Mitra
145	G	47	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for the . most helpful student of the college	Renisha Mall
146	G	49	the Prema Arya Memorial Scholarship to a deserving student of Microbiology	Sanjana Phillip
147	G	50	Sheila & Ben Jacob Memorial Arts Prize for a deserving girl student.	Sharon Robert
148	G	51	Dr.Edgar DaSilva Memorial prize for the highest in Microbiology at the T.Y.B.Sc. Examination	Chadha Yagya Sanjay
149	G	52	Dr.Edgar DaSilva Memorial prize for the highest aggregate at the T.Y.B.A Exam.	Nimit Parikh
150	G	53	Chandrakant Gupta Scholarship for a deserving girl student	Prerna Uttankar
151	G	54	O.A. Mathen Memorial Scholarship for a deserving girl student	Blossom D'souza
152	G	55	Vibha & Bhalchandra Dave Trust Fund Scholarship for a deserving post graduate student of Microbiology	Dominic Noronha
153				Shivani Nandha
154				Priyanka Jadhav
155	G	57	Late. Smt Kaushalya Nayar and Late Shri. Kahan Chand Nayar Scholarship for a deserving girl student	Aishwarya Mane
156				Rupali Koshti
157				Soumya Shrivastava
158	G	58	the Dr. Yvonne Mae Freitas Scholarship for highest in Microbiology at the M.Sc. Examination	Ria Manoj Kumar Odakayi
159				Anushree Rajiv Sawant
160	G	59	the Late Prof. Cavas J. Shroff Scholarship for a deserving girl student pursuing B,Sc	Cianna D'Souza
161				Sheelu Gupta
162				Ketaki Jawade

163	G	60	the Shreevrat Goenka Scholarship for a meritorious Post graduate student of Life Science	Keya Pankaj Kulkarni
164	G	61	the Anjaneer Jon Scholarship for deserving student to pursue the master's programme in Biotechnology	Jimcy Chacko
165	G	62	the Late Mr. Manu Vasudeva and Mrs. Prabha Vasudeva "Nishtha" Scholarship for a deserving girl student in B.A.	Safiya Siddiqui
166	G	63	the Late Mr. Manu Vasudeva and Mrs. Prabha Vasudeva "Nishtha" Scholarship for a deserving girl student in B.Sc.	Chandrika kadam
167	G	64	Dr. M.A. Eswaran Scholarship for a deserving student of M.Sc. Life Science	Srushti Chafekar
168		65	Dr. M.A. Eswaran Scholarship for a deserving student of M.Sc. Life Science	Granstel Robert
		<b>H</b>	<b>SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS</b>	
169	H	1	the Valerian F.X. Pais Scholarship for excelling in academics and representing College in various sports events.	Yagya Chadha
170	H	2	the Late John C. Pinto Scholarship for an outstanding sportsman (preferably in Hockey / Football).	Adline Fernandes
171	H	3	the Mr. Hadi C. Tyabjee , Prof. Godfrey G. D'Souza Scholarship for a student with the best record at inter-collegiate or inter-university events.	Kavinaya
172	H	4	the Mrs. Meherbai Dorabji Hilloo Desai , Joseph Manuel and Prof. Godfrey D'Souza Scholarship for the best male athlete.	Bhagyesh Anvekar
173	H	5	the Joseph Manuel ,Prof. Godfrey D'Souza, Jehangir Rustomji Dhabher, Mrs. M. R. de Souza ,Sir Ness N. Wadia Scholarship and Willie Fernandes scholarship for excellence in Football.	Tarun Kalathil
174	H	6	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for excellence in Basket Ball	Arjun Midha
175	H	7	the Ashok Kamte Memorial Scholarship for Best female athlete.	Chantelle Mascarenhas
176	H	8	the Ashok Kamte Memorial scholarship for a student who has distinguished himself in an individual sport.	Amruta Veer
177	H	9	the Ashok Kamte Memorial scholarship for excellence in Academics and representing college in various sports events (Senior College)	Aashumi Mehta
178	H	10	the Ashok Kamte Memorial scholarship for outstanding sportsman in Hockey (Junior College)	Lynette Lobo
179	H	11	the Ashok Kamte Memorial scholarship for outstanding sportsman in Football (Junior College)	Calvin Barreto
		<b>I.</b>	<b>SUBJECT TOPPERS</b>	
180	I.	1	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in A.I.C. (F.Y.B.A.)	Irene Lobo
181	I.	2	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Economics (F.Y.B.A.)	Soham Daruwala
182	I.	3	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in English (F.Y.B.A.)	Ramakrishnan Anjana
183	I.	4	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Commerce (F.Y.B.A.)	Ujjayee Lunkar
184	I.	5	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in History (F.Y.B.A.)	Ramakrishnan Anjana
185	I.	6	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Political Science (F.Y.B.A.)	Bernadine Michele Mary
186	I.	7	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Psychology (F.Y.B.A.)	Gouri Bhuyan
187	I.	8	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Sociology (F.Y.B.A.)	Mary Johnson Raychel
188	I.	9	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Botany (F.Y.B.Sc.)	Blossom Dsouza
189	I.	10	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Chemistry (F.Y.B.Sc.)	Bibakhya Saikia
190	I.	11	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Economics (F.Y.B.Sc.)	Tejas Mehta
191	I.	12	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Geology (F.Y.B.Sc.)	Som Banerjee



192	I.	13	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Life Science (F.Y.B.Sc.)	Jinali Mody
193	I.	14	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Mathematics (F.Y.B.Sc.)	Arjun Ashoka
194	I.	15	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Microbiology (F.Y.B.Sc.)	Neha Banwani
195	I.	16	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Physics (F.Y.B.A.)	Arjun Ashoka
196	I.	17	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Statistics (F.Y.B.Sc.)	Claudia Fernandes
197	I.	18	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Zoology (F.Y.B.Sc.)	Bibakhya Saikia
198	I.	19	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in A.I.C (S.Y.B.A)	Antriksh Radheshyam Aade
199	I.	20	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Anthropology (S.Y.B.A.)	Kriti Karan Mahajan
200	I.	21	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Economics (S.Y.B.A.)	Sadhna Rajeev Naik
201	I.	22	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in English (S.Y.B.A.)	Angkana Milind Sanghavi
202	I.	23	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Commerce (S.Y.B.A.)	Sadhna Rajeev Naik
203	I.	24	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in French (S.Y.B.A.)	Bandhuli Abhijit Chattopadhyay
204	I.	25	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Hindi (S.Y.B.A.)	Priya Jaskaran Baid
205	I.	26	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in History (S.Y.B.A.)	Maitreyee Shilpa Kishor
206	I.	27	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Political Science (S.Y.B.A.)	Reuben Sushil Kurian
207	I.	28	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Psychology (S.Y.B.A.)	Bandhuli Abhijit Chattopadhyay
208	I.	29	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Sociology (S.Y.B.A.)	Natasha Amarnath Bhide
209	I.	30	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Botany (S.Y.B.Sc.)	Harshit Narendra Singh
210	I.	31	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Chemistry (S.Y.B.Sc.)	Aditya Munir Chalishazar
211	I.	32	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Geology (S.Y.B.Sc.)	Arnav Hrishikesh Samant
212	I.	33	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Life Science (S.Y.B.Sc.)	Mallika Vivek Talwar
213	I.	34	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Mathematics (S.Y.B.Sc.)	Parshv Pankil Shah
214	I.	35	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Microbiology (S.Y.B.Sc.)	Venkatesh Keertana
215	I.	36	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Physics (S.Y.B.Sc.)	Aditya Munir Chalishazar
216	I.	37	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Statistics (S.Y.B.Sc.)	Parshv Pankil Shah
217	I.	38	the Certificate of Appreciation for being the subject topper in Zoology (S.Y.B.Sc.)	Khyati Mahendra Patel

# CONVERSATION WITH GLOBALISATION



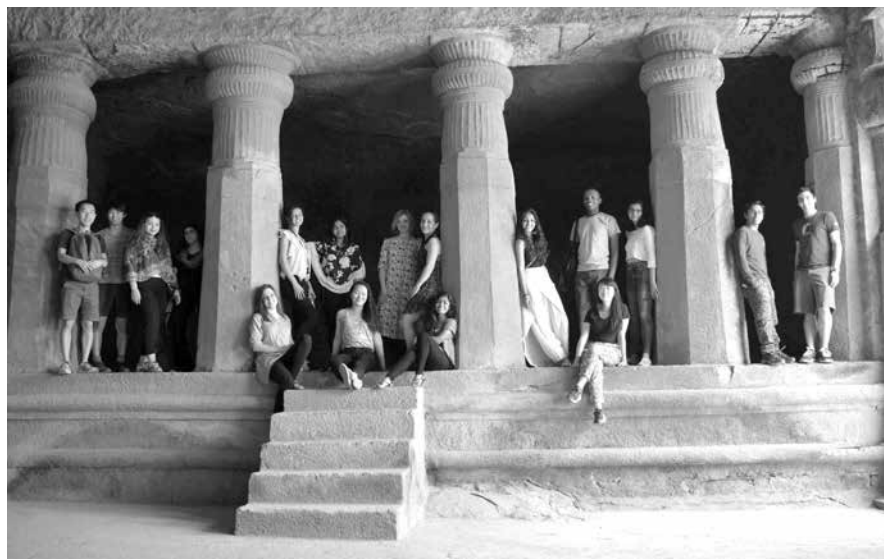
# COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES

St. Augustine once said, “The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page.” This is especially true regarding the association between travel and education. If education stimulates one’s mind to solve a problem using logic, travel offers the opportunity to learn different ways to solve the same problem using logic derived from diverse cultures. St. Xavier’s College strongly supports this premise. Through the Council for International Programmes (CIP), the college is instrumental in providing such opportunities to its students.

The CIP offers its students various short-term/summer programmes or one semester to one year programmes at partner universities/colleges worldwide, thereby providing a mentally enriching academic experience of having studied abroad. In the academic year 2016-2017, students of St. Xavier’s College participated in various international programmes in partner universities in United Kingdom, France, Spain, Germany, United States, Canada, S. Africa and S. Korea; furthermore, in reciprocation, we hosted a diverse group of international students at St. Xavier’s.

## International Programmes for Outgoing Students

In the academic year, forty-three students from St. Xavier’s participated in study programmes at universities abroad.



**University of California, Berkeley:** Mr. Aaditya Mittal, SYBMS student enrolled in the summer programme offered by the University of California, Berkeley, USA, May to June 2017. In reciprocity, 18 students of UC Berkeley visited St. Xavier’s for two months from June to August 2016 for a 3-credit course on “*India in a Globalized World: Post Colonialism, Neo-Classicism & Beyond*”.

**Comillas Pontifical University:** TYBA students Antony Anna Pauly and Ms. Shruti Sheopurkar were selected to study for a year at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration with a full tuition waiver at Comillas Pontifical University, Madrid, Spain. In reciprocity, two students of Comillas visited St. Xavier’s for one semester/one year from June 2016 – April 2017 for Arts and Management Studies.

**IESEG School of Management:** SYBA student Ms. Shreya Mane and TYBA student Ms. Sampurna Mitra were selected to study for a year with a full tuition waiver at the IESEG School of Management, Lille, France. In reciprocity, four students from IESEG, Lille, visited St. Xavier’s for a year to study courses in Management Studies.

**Sciences Po:** TYBA students, Ms. Deann Almeida, Mr. Sachaet Pandey, Ms. Shreya Mathur, and Ms. Sakina Mamuwala were selected to study for a year at Sciences Po, Paris, with a full tuition waiver. Shreya and Sachaet were

also awarded the prestigious Erasmus Scholarship. In reciprocity, three students from Sciences Po visited St. Xavier’s to study courses in SYBA.

**Harvard University:** The ‘Harvard College in Asia Programme’ (HCAP) is one of the most competitive and sought after programmes for students of St. Xavier’s. This year, eight students were selected to participate in a nine-day conference themed “Mind, Body, and Society: Global Health Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” at Harvard University, USA from 15<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2017. In reciprocity, 12 students from Harvard University came to St. Xavier’s College for ten days in March 2017.

**University of Stuttgart, St. Louis University, Stellenbosch University and St. Xavier’s College Department of English Collaborative Programme:** “In Conversation with Globalization” and 7 Xavier’s students attended a conference in Stellenbosch in January 2017 -- the theme was “The Menu of Globalization” with a focus on various aspects of food - politics, economics, agriculture, supply and sustainability, public health, and of course, cuisines.

**St. Louis University:** Ms. Ananya Agnihotri, SYBSc student was selected to study for a year at St. Louis University, USA. As stated in the MOU between St. Louis and St. Xavier’s, she received a full tuition waiver.

**Daegu Haany University:** SYBSc student Ms. Mallica Pandya was selected to study for a year with a full tuition waiver at Daegu Haany Univ. This was the first time that a Xavier’s student went to South Korea as an exchange student.

**Universities in Ontario:** Mr. Shravan Ram, a TYBSc student was selected to study at Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada, for a year, with a full tuition waiver, as part of the Ontario-Maharashtra-Goa (OMG) programme.

**Yale University:** Ms. Anandita Bhalerao and Ms. Danielle Pereira SYBA students chose to spend their summer at Yale University, USA, for 6 weeks taking several courses for credits.

**St. Catherine's College, University of Oxford:** Mr. Mathew Jacobs and Mr. Swagat Siby, SYBA students were selected to study at St. Catherine's College, University of Oxford, UK, for their Trinity term, for a period of two months. They were awarded the prestigious Betty and Donald Keating scholarship.

**St. John's College, Cambridge University, UK:** Two of the students Ms Rhea D'Costa and Ms Natasha Bhide were selected to study for 2 weeks at the college as part of an exchange programme between St. John's and Xavier's during the October vacation.

**SOAS University, London, United Kingdom:** Six students from Xavier's, one from each of the following departments: Economics, Sociology, BMS, BMM, History, and Political Science, were selected on the basis of merit for a one-semester exchange between January and May 2017 to SOAS University, London, United Kingdom. They all received the Erasmus scholarship for the semester study. For the first time foreign university credits will be transferred to Xavier's credit system. This is the first programme of its kind to be initiated by CIP!

### **St. Xavier's Programmes For Incoming International Students**

These programmes extend from one week to two months and even upto two semesters. During the year we hosted on our campus 105 foreign students from countries such as USA, UK, Australia, Japan, Spain, and France.

**English Language Course:** For the third consecutive year we had 15 students from Soka University, Japan, participating in a specialized, intensive short-term English language course. The students accompanied by their professor were on our campus from 6<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>-February 2017. At the end of the course, the students performed short skits as part of their evaluation. A certificate of participation was given.

**India Studies Programme:** Eight students from University of Notre Dame, USA and five students from Western Sydney University, Australia visited St.

Xavier's for a short programme on art, history and culture of India under the "India Studies Programme" between 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2017.

**Xavier's - Berkeley Summer Programme:** For the fourth consecutive year, we organized a programme for students from the University of California, Berkeley, USA. This three-credit course 'India in a Globalized World: Post Colonialism, Neo-Classicism & Beyond' was fully developed and conducted at St. Xavier's College. The course was held every Friday, for 2 months in June-July 2016. The credits of the Berkeley students were transferred to their University. Eighteen students from the University of California, Berkeley, participated in this course.

**History of India course:** A specially designed course on the history of India through the ages was conducted for twenty visiting students of the University of Sydney, Australia. The course was designed and taught by Dr. Fleur D'souza and Ms. Kaizeen Jehangir. It was a three week, 2-credit course, where the students were taken on a field visit and for a visit to the museum. Evaluation was based on written assignments.

**Economics Programme:** Nine American students from various universities in California, USA (The Regents of the University of California) along with the faculty Prof. Ketki Sheth visited Xavier's for the Economics course. The course was conducted by both, faculty from USA and from Xavier's. The students were on the campus for 3 weeks in September 2016.

**Bachelor of Arts courses:** Two students from St. John's College, Cambridge University, UK came to St. Xavier's college on 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2016 as guest students for two weeks and attended several lectures in BA and participated in Malhar.

**HCAP Programme:** Twelve students from Harvard University, USA were on campus for a 10 day program on Global Health in the second week of March 2017.

**Semester/One-year Programmes:** Five

students from Soka University, Japan, and one student from USA enrolled in SYBA. Four French students from IESEG (Lille) and three from Science Po (Paris) along with two Spanish students from Comillas University, Spain availed of the exchange programme and took varied courses in SYBMS and SYBA.

### **Memoranda of Understanding Signed In The Academic Year 2016 – 2017**

Memoranda of Understanding were signed with seven universities to encourage the development of visits and informal exchanges among faculty, students, and administrators in education, research and outreach, to organize joint conferences, to develop joint research programs and exchange of students during the academic year or summer terms. These institutes include: HMKW, Germany; The Regents of the University of California, USA; UC Berkeley Summer Session Agreement, USA; Sophia University, Japan; SOAS-Erasmus Agreement, UK; Sciences Po-Erasmus Agreement, France; and Harvard College in Asia Programme Agreement, USA. Currently Xavier's has 28 MOUs signed with universities spanning all five continents.

### **New Initiatives of the CIP**

The academic year 2016 – 2017 brought forward some new beginnings. The Erasmus scholarships to study for a semester at SOAS, UK for a full transfer of semester credits is the first of its kind in the college. Other new endeavours initiated by the CIP were: (1) a new memorandum of understanding with St. John's College, University of Cambridge, UK to initiate a 2 week short-term exchange programme between the two institutes on a full scholarship, (2) a new memorandum of understanding was signed with the University of Sydney to initiate the Sydney Offshore Programme entailing various aspects of the history of India organized by St. Xavier's College for Australian students, and (3) a new memorandum of understanding was signed with The Regents of the University of California in order to allow exchange of information via lectures conducted by the members

of faculty of both, the University of California as well as St. Xavier's College.

### Visits by International Institutes In 2016 – 2017

Numerous representatives and members of faculty from reputed foreign universities visited St. Xavier's College in the academic year 2016 – 2017. These were John Carroll

Univ., Pace Univ., The Regents of the University of California, St. Martin's Univ., Le Moyne College and Univ. of Notre Dame, USA; Univ. of Warwick, Univ of Bath, SOAS Univ., and Bishop Grosseteste Univ., UK; Stenden Univ., Netherlands and Univ. of Sydney, Australia.

CIP director takes the opportunity to thank Xavier's and visiting faculty, and

the admin staff of Exam Control office, General Office, Treasurer's Office, and the Knowledge Center for outstanding help throughout the year. The success of the international programme depends on the cooperative effort of all. Thank you.

**Dr Radiya Pacha-Gupta**  
Director

## INSIGHT : STUDENT - REFLECTIONS HCAP IN MUMBAI

It was a warm reunion between the Harvard and Mumbai delegates who arrived early morning on the 11th of March. Most of the day was spent trying to recover from jet lag, post which the Mumbai delegates led Harvard students on a South Bombay tour which started at St. Xavier's College, proceeded to Fort and ended at Colaba. In the evening, everyone attended a kathak recital performed by one of the Mumbai delegates and her dance company (Beej) at the Chembur Fine Arts Society. Everyone slept in early that night, it was a tiring end to a long day.

The next day proved to be more tiring. It was an early start to the day, as there was an excursion to Elephanta Caves. The beautiful architecture of the Gateway and Taj, left the Harvard students in awe. The ferry ride was extremely pleasant and it was great weather for a day out. The morning was spent well, exploring the caves and learning more about Indian tradition. For lunch, they got a taste of authentic Maharashtrian cuisine. Post lunch, we walked around the island itself, sat by

the sea and explored the massive cliffs. Everyone was exhausted by the time we got back on the last ferry ride home, but managed to get a bit of shopping done in causeway regardless. After dinner at Y.W.C.A, everyone attended Holika (the bonfire) at T.I.F.R and caught up with each other.

The next day was one much looked forward to. It was Holi! Everyone was immaculately dressed in white, and made their way by local train which turned out to be an exhilarating experience for the Harvard students to Bandra. We had a lot of fun, playing with organic colours and water on one of the Mumbai students terrace, after which we devoured the delicious biryani that her mother had made for all of us. In the evening we watched the movie Bajirao Mastani (with english subtitles) which was greatly appreciated by the students.

14th marked the beginning of the conference. After the inauguration by the principal Sir Agnelo Menezes and a few words spoken by the President of the HCAP programme, Kathryn

Gunderson, the first talk commenced. It was given by Dr. Sunil Keswani, President of the Nation Burns Centre of India, who spoke about the dangers and facts regarding burns when viewed from a developing country's perspective. He also gave us an idea about the treatments in India and abroad. The lecture was followed by a talk given by Mr. Chintan Modi who is the founder of Aao Dosti Karein, an Initiative founded to foster peace and education between India and Pakistan. He spoke mainly on the Kashmir issue and some of the mental health problems faced by the local residents, the presence of the army, the consequences on their psyche. There was a discussion round amongst the students from harvard and xavier's on the influence of religion and whether it is possible to live in a religionless society and whether that would be ideal. It left everyone with a lot of questions as it was a mix of different backgrounds, so the perspectives brought in were very varied.

There was a Kallaripayattu workshop (an ancient indian martial arts technique from Kerala) organized in the afternoon by Mr. Arpit Singh. It was intensive and had everyone on their feet. After dinner that day, we went on a 'sweet run' where we walked around town, having sweets from different cuisines.

The next day had three talks- the first one by Dr. Kalpana Apte, the secretary of Family Planning Association of India. She spoke about rural health and reproductive rights in rural villages. It proved to be a very informative session. Dr. Anaita Hegde, a neuro pediatrician was next and she gave a very interesting



talk on some neurodegenerative disorders faced by children, the treatment and the health challenges it poses to society. She made it personal by talking extensively on the children she has worked with herself, and that made it very special.

Post lunch we had the director of Majlis ( a women's rights legal organisation)-Miss. Audrey D'Mello, who gave a very honest and upright talk on the rights of women in our country, what is being done to change that and the mental health issues and physical challenges faced by women in our country. It shocked a lot of people, even the Mumbai students as a lot of issues were exposed which we were previously unaware of.

After the intense conference session, we went to Chowpatty beach to play football. It helped everyone cool off and relax and sunset by the sea was spectacular.

16th marked the end of the conference.

The day began with a yoga and meditative session led by Father Prashant Olalekar, who set the day off to a great and peaceful start. The final talk was by Mr. Awanish Kumar who concluded the conference with a talk on the rural health rights of the indigenous people in India. In the afternoon there was a sari tying workshop, where the students learnt how to drape their own sari and then a couple of hours was spent in taking pictures and enjoying the feel of the sari. In the evening, we had a tour on all the temples in Mumbai and the Harvard students were amazed at the plethora of gods worshipped in our country and the contrasting feel of the temples to the church.

The next day was a tour to Dharavi. The noise, the crowd, the congestion was something that even most Mumbai students were unfamiliar with. The fact that this huge slum existed in conjugation with the high rises was something that didn't go unnoticed. We visited the leather shops and indulged

in a bit of shopping. The rest of the day was spent at one of the students homes, putting henna and eating homemade food.

The week was drawing to an end and emotions were running high. On the last day in Mumbai, there were a lot of things to do. Some students played football at T.I.F.R and broke down raw mangoes from trees and ate them and the rest of them went to a country club for lunch. Everybody met for one last time in the evening on Marine Drive and for dinner at Koyla, an Arabian theme restaurant and spent the last few hours, nostalgic about the memories and experiences they we had shared the past week and in Boston. It was a fitting end to a wonderful week and everyone was sad to part with each other. One quote that we kept in our minds was 'Don't cry because it is over, smile because it happened,' and smile we did.

## ONLINE COURSE: IN CONVERSATION WITH GLOBALIZATION

The Online Course "In Conversation with Globalization 2016/17" was a collaboration between Saint Xavier's and universities in Germany, the US, South Korea and South Africa. It comprised of online discussions, forums and assignments in which political, economic and literary aspects of globalization were discussed. The nature of questions was such that we could include our own perspectives and interests. Like this, everyone could add new perspectives to the discussions which made the course enriching and personal.

The programme then culminated in a one week conference which all the students and professors attended in Stellenbosch, South Africa. It included both, academic and non-academic activities. In various lectures and interactive sessions we gained a better understanding of varied cultures from across the globe by discussing and comparing our and others' experiences as 'global citizens'. At the end of the academic discourse we delivered group-presentations which were



challenging and rewarding at the same time. What made the academic work so unique was the coming together of people and perspectives from cultures all over the world.

We also took part in tours and activities around Stellenbosch and Cape Town. They made us gain a better understanding of the history and culture of the country and its connections international connections. The excursions included trips to a

former slave farm, a South African theatre, Robben Island, the Cape of Good Hope, and many more. It was especially during these excursions that we bonded with each other. Apart from all the cultural differences we realized the similarities that unite us. So that, by the end of the week we parted as friends.

**Sophie Krabbe**  
SYBA

## YALE REVIEW

This summer I had the opportunity to attend the Summer Session at Yale University. The Summer Session is a five-week long session over which Yale offers around three hundred courses to choose from. Along with international students, there are an equal number of Yale students who wish to earn credits, often to make up for a semester away. Although most courses are taken by Yale professors, the Summer Session also hosts a number of visiting faculty. I took two courses—Men, Manhood, and Masculinity; and the Making of Political News. Nothing could have prepared me for the experience I had. Since they were courses usually taught over the length of an entire semester, the five-week period made them extremely intensive. The method of teaching and

testing being new to me added to the challenge. However, I couldn't have chosen a more pleasant place to study. With its numerous libraries—as vast as they were awe-inspiring aesthetically—there was never a dull moment where I felt bored by my surroundings. Further, my professors were always available for the smallest doubts to be answered, and more. They would often have lunch with us in our dining hall after class, where we would discuss everything from the Kardashian family's fame to naming traditions in different cultures and their possible significance. The delicious food at the dining hall (it had a wood-fired oven for pizzas!) ensured that we stayed there for hours at a stretch. Sometimes, we were joined by our Counsellors, who were Yale students we were

assigned to contact for anything we may need. Counsellors also had the fun job of taking us on study breaks once a week. My counsellor went above and beyond what was required of him, even driving us to the aquarium once when the official Yale trip was cancelled! The Senior Counsellors planned an activity for us every day, and on the weekends, these would become exciting trips—a Broadway show and a baseball game were some of them (and all for highly subsidised prices)! Yale forced me to step out of my comfort zone, both academically and otherwise. For that, I couldn't be more grateful.

**Anandita Bhalerao**  
SYBA



*Talk by Mr Alehandro Mayer, Acting Counsel  
General of Argentina*

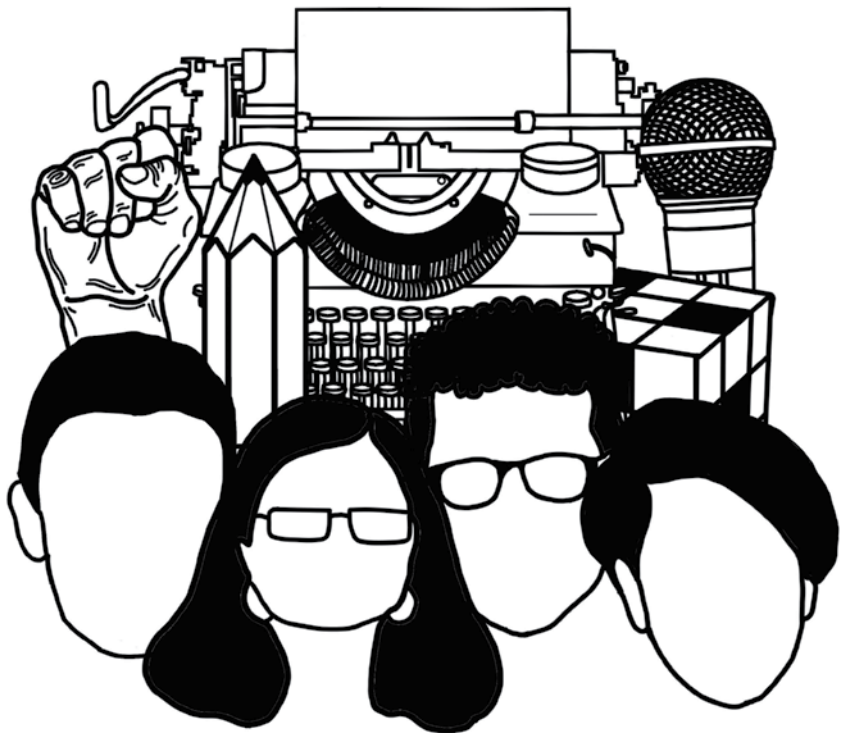


*LeMoyné College Representative*



*Botany students with Dr Kanchi Gandhi, Nomenclature Registrar, Harvard Herbaria,  
Harvard University, US, 1 March 2017; after lecture on plant nomenclature*

# CAMPUS DYNAMISM





# INTERNATIONAL FRENCH CONGRESS

The Indian Association of Teachers of French held its third International Congress and its 36th National Conference from 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at St Xavier's College, Mumbai. The Theme was **“Learning French: Choices for Tomorrow”**. This conference was held in collaboration with the Embassy of France in India, The Institut Français, the network of Alliances Françaises in India, and other educational institutions. The programme was attended by over 250 participants from 35 different cities in 13 states of India, participants from Kabul, as well as a large number of resource persons from France.

Founded in 1953 by Rev. Fr. Joseph Duhr, a Jesuit and professor at St. Xavier's College Mumbai, the Indian Association of Teachers of French brings together teachers of French from universities, colleges, schools, Alliances Françaises, and private institutions in India. The purpose of the IATF is to contribute to international debates on teaching of the French language, promote French and French teachers, modernize teaching methods, and organize training programs and conferences for the benefit of its members.

The Inaugural Function was held in the heritage Convocation Hall of the University of Mumbai in the presence of the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Sanjay Deshmukh. Other dignitaries present at the function included the Consul Général of France in Mumbai, Mr. Yves Perrin, Ms. Marie Doublier, Attaché for cooperation in Education, French Embassy, francophone Commissioner of Police, Dr. Datta Padsalgikar, Deputy Director of CIEP (Centre International des Études Pédagogiques) in France, Mr. Stéphane Foin, and the keynote speaker, the late Dr. Dileep Padgaonkar, an eminent francophone journalist of international repute.



The congress provided a host of opportunities for teachers and professionals of the French language vis-a-vis discovery, training and networking. About 30 research papers and 10 workshops on a wide range of themes such as pedagogic innovation, technical and multimedia enhancement in learning, intercultural issues and mediation in the world of language, translation as an agent of global exchange and interaction etc., were presented by delegates from India and France. Four panel discussions featured eminent personalities from the world of Literature and the Arts, Principals and experts of schools from various Boards, as well as a plethora of executives from French language related sectors such as tourism.

A video conference session on French in professional domains was organized with CCIP (Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie, Paris). Well known publishers such as CLE, Didier, Goyal and Langers exhibited their products, while Radio France International held pedagogical sessions to introduce its new platforms pertinent to the teaching of French worldwide. Other companies propagating the teaching of French such as TV5 Monde and Hachette sent materials and representatives to highlight their presence. Tourism agencies 'Atout France', 'Thomas Cook', as well as NGOs such as 'Toybank', 'Pehchan', and 'Heritage India' were present.

The congress provided a platform to teachers and scholars working in the field of French teaching to deliberate on the challenges they face in a world that is constantly evolving. Moreover, it was a forum to discuss the motivations and needs for learning French as a foreign language in a country that is not “francophone” in the political sense, and where Francophonie is essentially the result of the efforts of French teachers. The professional world being ever present, teachers are constantly using more specific tools and innovative strategies to meet these requirements.

It aimed at meeting one primary objective: reflecting on the importance, teaching and impact of French in India in a contemporary, multilingual and multicultural context.

Along with an array of academic tools and methods, the delegates were treated to the French experience with an evening of wine and cheese tasting at a well-known SoBo landmark... Another evening lit up the grounds of the CSM-VS-The Museum with an Indo-French cultural show.

Many sponsors came forward to support for this effort such as HDFC, TCS, and Kirloskars to name a few.

A special mention to a team of thirty-five student volunteers, Prof Alpana of department of French, the technical staff, computer lab assistants, administrative staff, Xavier's Institute of Management, canteen caterers, peons, and last but not least, Dr. Agnelo Menezes for his full hearted support to this hugely successful Congress.

**Anjali Lokur**

President, Indian Association of  
Teachers of French  
Visiting faculty, BVoc



## ‘A WHISPER FROM THE UNIVERSE’

The recent detection of gravitational waves at the Laser Interferometer Gravitational - Wave Observatory (LIGO) has sent ripples through the scientific community across the world. Poetically referred to as a ‘whisper from the universe’, GW150914 detected on 11<sup>th</sup> of February 2016 gave scientists new insights into the fundamental nature of one of the most commonly experienced forces that of gravity.

In light of this fantastic discovery, the Department of Physics at St. Xavier’s College in collaboration with the Indian Association of Physics Teachers (IAPT) held a daylong seminar on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February 2016 on the topic ‘LIGO and Gravitational Wave Detection’ for interested students and teachers. This was in an attempt to throw light on the marvellous engineering of the LIGO setup, the physics of gravitational waves and how they arise, the significance and impact of this discovery on the world of Physics and finally an insight into the beautiful and powerful world of optical interferometry.

The seminar was structured into four parts, each hosted by an expert in a related field, so as to give the attendees a holistic insight into this discovery and its significance. The first session was by Prof. Tarun Sauradeep, who

is a faculty at IUCAA, Pune and has built and leads a cosmology subgroup on Cosmic Microwave background studies, which is studying the remains of the early universe. He reviewed this momentous discovery, the potential of gravitational-wave astronomy and the promise of a LIGO-India collaboration. Prof. Sauradeep also briefly went over the sophisticated engineering techniques used to make the LIGO a success, which includes the most advanced vibrational isolation systems among many other innovations.

Prof. A. Gopakumar, who is a faculty member of Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics at TIFR, Mumbai conducted two sessions. Over these sessions he discussed the physical and astrophysical implications of GW150914 and the near future of gravitational wave astronomy. Prof. Gopakumar also spoke about the kind of numerical simulations that have been done to understand the nature of black hole collisions, which resulted in this rare detection event. He also discussed the manifestation of a perturbation in the fabric of space-time in real, observable space as well as polarised gravitational waves.

The fourth and final session was conducted by Dr. J. B. Mistry the Former

Head of the Department of Physics, St. Xavier’s College and an expert on lasers and optical interferometry. Dr. Mistry discussed how the use of ultra-high sensitivity laser interferometry has been critical to the detection of gravitational waves. He expounded on the modifications that are made to various components typically used in the lab scale interferometry in order to be adapted for the purpose of gravitational wave detection. He performed an experimental section where he set up our college lab interferometer and demonstrated its working. Further he showed how a change in the optical path can warp and distort the shape of the rings normally observed, testifying to the high sensitivity of this technique. He proved this by introducing into the optical path something as small as a simple flame, which changes the air density.

The groundwork on the basics of the LIGO’s gravitational wave detection event was laid through the productive discussions during the seminar. This was an important seminar because the implications of this event are yet to be comprehensively understood by the scientific community.

**Arjun Ashoka,**  
TYBSc- Physics

## MUMBAI – ARASAVANANKADU EXCHANGE PROGRAM

“An immersion program to allow the freedom to learn, think and do whatever a student wants to do that will help them build on their ingenuity.”

The Mass Media department collaborated with ‘Shikshyatan’, a novel and innovative school in Arasavanankadu, a village in Tiruvarur district, Tamilnadu to offer a student exchange program.

The exchange program saw the students of Shikshyatan visit Mumbai and explore opportunities of higher education. The students experienced the melting cultures of the city that included workshops at Nehru Science Centre, kitchen tour of a McDonalds outlet, history lessons at the Museum, culture lessons at Elephanta

caves and Kotachiwadi – an East Indian village. Following interactions with the marketing department of a pharmaceutical company, they visited the BSE’s trading floor and took a private tour of a seven star hotel. The 10 day Mumbai Immersion program hosted 12 rural students from January 5th to January 11th 2017 in the college campus.

Shikshyatan hosted 15 BMM students for ten days at Arasavanankadu during the summer of April’17. The residential program gave the students opportunity to unlearn and re-learn educational philosophies along with lessons in sustainable community living. They had hands-on training in task-based learning methodology. Importantly,

they were impressed upon the need for development based technology.

Shikshyatan provides free education for 200 plus children, all of them from poor and Dalit families in the villages. The school follows Dr. Glenn Doman’s methods in early childhood education. The curriculum design draws inspiration from the Indian thinkers, Rabindranath Tagore, Dayananda Saraswathi and Aurobindo Ghose. Computers are provided in every class. Flash cards are extensively used in place of learning by rote. Art, music and drama are also taught.

**Perrie Subramaniam**  
BMM Department

## “SMILES DESPITE EVERYTHING” PHOTO EXHIBITION



*Joseph Aloysious*

“Smiles despite everything” - A Photo exhibition was held at Piramal Centre, NCPA 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

According to social documentary photographer, Joubert Loots, documentary photography has a huge role in society – the power to preserve

and compile some form of visual evidence. Creating work that accurately represents another person’s livelihood, culture or country takes a significant level of responsibility on part of photographers.

Keeping Loots’ idea as focal point, first year students of Mass Media organized a photo exhibition as part of their end semester major project. They documented the life of Thalassemia and Leukemia patients. By deepening the understanding and emotional connection to such stories, the project attempted to capture the public attention, educate the viewer and mobilize empathy towards such patients. The pictures captured the determination, joy and passion each person displayed in not allowing their

condition to limit their pursuits. The guests including Thalassemia patients appreciated the students for their sensitive visual portrayals.

The exhibition was held in collaboration with Parth Thakur a MSc Biotechnology department student, who also runs an NGO called ‘The Wishing Factory’.

**- Mr. Joseph Aloysious**



*Visitors at the exhibition*

## AIHCA COLLABORATIONS



*Dept of AIHCA, MSM and BLHSS Visit to Fredrick Stevens grave and CST with his great-great-grand daughter Diana Robertson.*

The Department of AIHCA held various special activities in the year 2016-17 of international as well as inter-institutional significance. Two of the

many were the commemoration of the Holocaust through a talk called “The Children of the Holocaust” by Dr. Joan Roland, Former Chair and Professor of History at Pace University, New York City on 2nd February at XIMR. Along with the lecture an exhibition of photographs and letters associated with the Holocaust were displayed. Additionally the renowned ‘The Diary of Anne Frank’ was sold at a discounted rate.

The department paid homage at

Mr. Fredrick Stevens’ (architect of CST station) grave at Sewri followed by a heritage walk around CST and the Railway Museum along with his great-great granddaughter Mrs. Diana Robertson. This was organized by Dr. Anita Rane-Kothare for the Ancient Indian Culture department in collaboration with the Museum Society of Mumbai, Bombay Local History Society and Central Railway.

**Dr. Anita Rane - Kothare**  
Head of Department AIC

## CULTURAL COMMITTEE REPORT

The cultural scene in the college was as vibrant as ever in 2016 - 17

### ECC hours distribution and collation

The system of distribution of ECC hours underwent a change this year in terms of the maximum number of hours a student can be awarded in a year. Students were required to complete 60 ECC hours by the 1<sup>st</sup> of March, of their Third year. The cap placed on the number of hours that could be allotted to the First Year students was 30 hours, 20 hours for Second Year students and 10 hours for Third Year students. The motive behind this was to ensure that

students are constantly taking part in extra curricular activities all through the graduation period, in order to achieve an all-round participation on the student’s part.

The system of submission of hours was also refined in order to avoid delays in updating of hours. All organisations (fest workforces, departmental fest workforces etc) were expected to submit a hard copy, as well as a soft

copy of the workforce within 7 days of the last day of the concerned event. The prototype for this data entry was forwarded to them well in advance.

The refined system was effective in making the process of collation of hours smoother. The hours were constantly being updated through the year, as and when the fests took place. Listed below are a few suggestions to make the process efficient:

- Laying emphasis on the deadline of 7 days for hours submission
- Providing visual space for a portal on the college website which would allow students to directly view the Google drive on which hours are updated. This would allow them to check their hours and rectify any mistakes in collation.
- Involvement of Staff Committee in collation of hours since the workload is too much for a single student and staff member to handle

### **Indian Performing Arts Forum**

The IPA forum actively organised a number of workshops this year such as Sangeetika (an Indian classical music workshop), Mythology and Philosophy through dance (conducted by Dr Radha Kumar), Folk Dance etc. The workshops awarded its participants with 2 ECC hours. The response for the same was in large numbers.

The forum also hosted the third edition of Nrityangan for the Cultural Committee Carnival which had 8 performers and a large audience.

The forum witnessed a membership of over 40 dancers and singers who contributed all through the year by helping in organising and planning events. They also took part in various inter collegiate fests such as Quintessence by TISS, Kaleidoscope by Sophia College and Kshitij by Mithibai College.

### **Western Performing Arts Forum**

The WPA forum branched out to form the Western Dance Club and Western Music Club, each with a membership of over 40 students, who were constantly kept in the loop regarding workshops and events. The forum hosted a Hip Hop workshop, a Jazz dance workshop, a Song-writing workshop etc. The workshops had impressive turnouts and each of them awarded ECC hours to the attendees.

The forum hosted a Western Dance competition as well as an Open Mic session for the Cultural Committee Carnival. The former had 6 teams participating, while over 20 students



performed at the Open Mic.

The structure of the forum also witnessed change this year, as one head each for the WDC and WMC worked under the Forum coordinator. This new structure was effective since it allowed larger scope for brainstorming and better distribution of work.

### **Fine Arts Forum**

The FA forum hosted a number of workshops such as Tie-and-Dye workshop, best out of waste and Dreamcatcher-making workshop. These had a turnout of more than 15 attendees per workshop and gained great popularity. The members of the forum also took part in the Fashion show event organised by Indian Business School, Powai. The members also assisted in making props for theatre events for inter collegiate festivals.

As a part of the Carnival, a foyer stall was put up with fun games and contests, keeping up with the spirit of 'Carnival'.

### **The Debating and Quizzing Society**

The Debating society expanded to form a branch for Quizzing, which was received very well by the students and also had good number of students attending their events and taking part actively.

Events held by the Debating and Quizzing Society included the Student Faculty Debate, To Quiz Or Not To Quiz which consisted of (1)The Literature and Entertainment Quiz, (2)Primordium i.e. The Science and Technology Quiz and (3) The General Quiz, Quiz or Bust and the McKinsey Talk.

An Intra College Parliamentary Debate

was held in September. During the ECC Carnival, a Quiz and Parliamentary Debate were held which were at an Inter-Collegiate Level for the first time.

The Debating and Quizzing Society throughout the academic year via the organization of their various events has tried to inculcate a quizzing culture in college as a trial run and these efforts have borne fruit with the positive and large turn outs at the events by the students.

### **The Playhouse- The English Theatre Society**

The English Theatre Society hosted a number of workshops and performances more or less based around poetry and writing.

They started off with (1) Session1-Improv Theatre which was a workshop and a pre-audition for Ithaka, (2) a Theatre Workshop with Quasar Thakore Padamsee, (3) a screening of Grease Live, (4) a Poetry Workshop conducted by Anu Elizabeth Roche, (5) an event of monologue theatre with socially relevant themes, (6) A Collaboration with Fitoor and The XFLS for an afternoon of slam poetry and (7) Dramatis Personnae.

ETS had 2 plays at the ECC Carnival, which were a modern retelling of Cinderella and The Pillowman.

ETS also sent participants to represent College in Kani at Jai Hind College and Kaleidoscope.

### **Xavier's Film and Literature Society**

The XFLS had screenings all through the year and was a mix of theme based movies like SCI-FI and that of regional cinema. XFLS also facilitated film

centric discussions with Fr. Alloysius and also ran a trial run for a book club. The XFLS also tried to organise events related to literature, which were conducted by Fr. Arun. For the ECC Carnival there was a screening of Inside Out in LR 71.

### **Fitoor-Hindi Theatre Society**

The Hindi Theatre Society throughout the year had workshops of various kinds and many events too ranging from script writing to a lyrics writing workshop by Shelly. The Hindi Theatre Society also had a comedy month where they had comedy workshops and a

## **PARADIGM**

Paradigm is an initiative first embarked upon in 2012, which has evolved to be the all-inclusive pan-departmental science festival of St. Xavier's College. Paradigm 2017 was the fourth edition of the ever-growing and ever-evolving fest. Through its previous editions, Paradigm has tried to alter the way people perceive science; thereby being reminiscent of a "Paradigm shift". This festival portrays science through diverse perspectives, thereby creating a platform where a holistic interaction is possible among student peers, and between student peers and subject experts. In a world, where interdisciplinary education is coming to the forefront, Paradigm encourages the participation of students from all fields. Paradigm strives to challenge people's thinking and to inculcate a scientific temper within them. Through discussions, deliberations and dialogues offered by the Professor X Lecture series, we offer a platform for curious minds to appreciate the ever-increasing achievements of science by interacting with our esteemed and accomplished guest lectures.

Paradigm 2017 was privileged to have as our esteemed guest lecturers: Dr. Abhas Mitra (BARC), Dr. Priya Kishnani (Duke University), Mrs. Prajna Chowta (Aane Mane Foundation), Dr. Leelavati Narlikar (NCL), Dr. Mithun Mitra (IIT-B) and Mr. F. C. Kohli (former CEO, TCS). Paradigm has a niche and a plethora of opportunities for everyone.

comedy gig. HTS had sent contingents for inter-collegiate events and had 2 plays at the ECC carnival i.e. Sanvadiya and Niyati.

### **Inter-Collegiate Participation**

The amount of participation in inter college fests was definitely greater than previous years. However, it is evident that the college is unable to present its best performers at a competitive level. This can be attributed to the fact that most of the performers were taking part as organisers for the several fests in college, due to which the College failed to maintain a standing in the

intercollegiate scenario.

However, participants performed exceptionally well at the aforementioned fests, placing in numerous events :

- Jhankaar, St Andrews College
- Ole, Wilson College
- Kaleidoscope, Sophias College
- Quintessence, TISS
- Kshitij, Mithibai College
- Rotofest, NM College
- Kani, Jai Hind College
- Yuva Hashtag, SVKM
- Nandi, HR College

**Dr. Ashma Aggarwal**

Each year, an exhibition, showcasing the principles of science in the simplest and most elegant way is organized. For people who are not very inclined towards the sciences or well-versed in them, we celebrate the glory of science through our exhibits, which are designed to make science palatable to the masses, and to demonstrate the phenomena occurring around us. The Paradigm 2017 Exhibition displayed various exhibits demonstrating the various ways by which science has impacted the lives of the common minds by way of presenting working models, posters, videos on concepts such as Aeroponics, Hydroponics, Freud's Theory of Denial, Poop Transplant, Fourier Optics, Chemical Clock, Doppler Effect, the Non-Newtonian Fluid along with simulations on Conway's Game of Life, and CERN's Higgs Boson data, to name a few. Every Science department of the college was represented by way of a departmental exhibit. The Exhibitions this year were extended to the entire college, and collaborated with the Departments of Zoology, Botany and Geology to give the visitors of the Exhibition an overall view of Science. Paradigm 2017 collaborated with The Xavier's Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged to set up an exhibit "Accessible Math and Science for the Visually Challenged.", and also with Teach for India; students from which set up an exhibit based upon a research work that their students had conducted.

Our festival organizes inter and intra collegiate events that aim at ideating and innovating, through events such as Crime Building event, a Harry Potter based MUN, and various workshops, where we break the fourth wall, and allow the audience to engage in the science that occurs all around us. Seven events were organized as part of Paradigm 2017: 1. Paradigm Wants to Know (Debate Event) 2. The Primordium (General Quiz) 3. Dr. Curie-us (All round skills and talent event) 4. Optimus Crime (Crime Investigation and Building Event) 5. Whose Vine is it Anyway? (Short Video Making Event) 6. A-comic Bomb (Comic Strip Design Event) 7. String the Theory (Treasure Hunt Event). This 4th edition of Paradigm 2017 took place on the 7th and 8th February 2017, Tuesday and Wednesday respectively on the college premises. To publicize the concept of Paradigm, and to introduce the members of the college to the three different facets of Paradigm, Pre-Paradigm Events were organized: A pre-Paradigm talk on the



“Internet of Things” by Mr. Gopan P. Joshi (Reliance Jio) on the 18th January 2017, as well as a Pre-Paradigm Day: ParaFUNalia on the 24th January 2017. The ParaFUNalia dealt with creative and innovative board games based on Nutrition, Scrabble, Snakes and Ladders, Pictionary, devised by the Events department, visual Exhibits such as a representation of Variable Density of Materials, A friction based Tug of War, Harry Potter based audio

exhibit and Boo-Bubbles from the Exhibitions department and a general overview of Public Lectures from the Public Lectures department.

This was also the perfect opportunity to organize a social cause and give back to the society. Paradigm 2017 collaborated with Down to Earth, an NGO, and invited some of their students to the campus to interact with the workforce, to understand the various concepts of Science presented on the ParaFUNalia

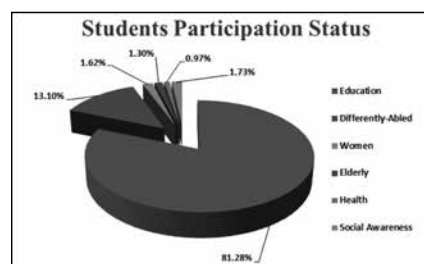
day. 20 students and their supervisor visited college on the day, and were provided with notebooks. The Social Cause was extended as Paradigm tried to publicize the sciences in school children, and collaborated with Teach for India to have various school students come over to the campus and be part of Paradigm, and a group of 7 students also presented some of their work in the form of an exhibit.

**Dr. Gulshan Shaikh**

## SOCIAL INVOLVEMENT PROGRAMME

St. Xavier’s College- Autonomous Mumbai, has always endeavored to change the paradigms of education. Since 1996, the Social Involvement Programme (SIP) has been providing students with opportunities to take learning beyond the classroom and campus. This programme fundamentally aspires towards a holistic education by focusing on:

The creation of social awareness and sensitization, both among students and citizens at large.



The motivation of students to explore and engage with India’s socio-economic realities so as to raise vital questions and make meaningful interventions.

In the academic year 2016-17, 824 students of First year, 46 students of Second year and 54 students of third year participated in the regular obligatory component and 10 participated in the voluntary Honors Programme component of the S.I.P. The pie-chart shows the percentage configuration of the students’ participation in the social activities:

In this academic year certain changes were incorporated wherein the minimum eligibility requirement for the S.I.P credits was made 45 hours

of field activity from its original 60 hours and the Discipline-centric S.I.P. component was introduced. In this new component students offer 5 hours of social work based on their discipline.

With the regular activities in the field of Education, Differently-Abled, Health, Women, Elderly and Social Awareness the S.I.P department also initiated the following activities:

- ❖ **Swacha Bharat Abhiyan:** Cleanliness Drive was organised at Balak Vrinda High School- Tardeo on 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2016. 64 students participated in the cleanliness drive and motivated school children to keep the School campus clean.
- ❖ **Azad Maidan Police Station Workshop:** 59 students visited Azad Maidan Police Station on 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 in order to gain knowledge about the functioning of Mumbai police and to establish rapport between the students and police authorities.
- ❖ **The Wishing Factory:** The S.I.P. Department mobilized students to work with patients suffering from life threatening diseases. Students had to prepare a street play/ create posters/ slogans in order to raise awareness. They had to visit a patient and deliver his/her wish and they also had to conduct art craft sessions.
- ❖ The S.I.P. Department introduced one optional credit course for the Quest for Excellence Programme.
- ❖ Through the SIP programme,

volunteers supported visually challenged students from college or outside to help them in writing their exams and/or with their studies.

- ❖ Study material was collected in the SIP Department and sent to the tribal and underprivileged children.

The S.I.P. has empowered students to engage with social, economic, political and psychological realities. In addition to these opportunities, it has helped students to develop the following skills:

**Active listening:** Students have developed a skill to listen more and speak less. They have also learned to understand another person’s point of view.

**Social Perceptiveness:** Students have developed empathy towards the concerns and situations of others.

**Speaking:** Students have imbibed the skill of communicating with others so as to convey information effectively.

**Critical Thinking:** Students now cogently and logically identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions or approaches to problems.

**Effective Writing:** Students have grown in the skill of effective writing and engage the reader meaningfully and fruitfully.

**SIP Team**

## SOCIAL SERVICE LEAGUE

“That there’s some good in this world, Mr. Frodo... and it’s worth fighting for.”  
– Sam, *Lord of The Rings*

This year started with a successful alumni event brimming with laughter and nostalgia. In this year, we saw quite a few changes for the SSL that helped keep its momentum up. It saw the addition of two new projects: Care for Animals and Care for the Old and the discontinuation of one (Bloomerang). Several new members became regular faces at the office and the year ended with all of us having learnt important lessons in crisis management, organization, coordination and bureaucracy.

Project Care for Kids (in association with Reap) started its visits early in the month of June, armed with a host of new ideas and teaching techniques. A persistent effort was made at improving their Mathematics, exposing them to General Knowledge and reading the newspaper with them. At every visit, a different topic was picked up, including but not limited to the Solar System, Hygiene, Body Parts etc. Project Care culminated with a two day ‘mela’ at the Xavier’s High School grounds that included a visit to the Museum. This was an emotional moment for several graduating students as they have known these children for as long as they have known college.

The annual two day ‘Team Building’ camp at the Xavier’s Villa headed by Fr. Terry was conducted in August this time, allowing FYJCs to come in large numbers and get introduced to the spirit of the SSL in an environment of games, activities and bad singing. The months of August and January

saw a plastering of blood drops and ‘Eat Healthy’ charts all over college. A constant murmur of ‘thalassaemia’ and ‘haemoglobin’ could be heard in the office. All efforts paid off as the Blood Drive in January surpassed its own record with a donor count of 450!

Project Care for Animals was an instant hit with animal lovers and saw a large number of volunteers at every visit to the Welfare for Stray Dogs centre in Mahalakshmi. Rescued dogs and cats were bathed, walked, played with and loved; while volunteers went back home feeling lighter and happier. Project Care for the Old on the other hand, met quite a few roadblocks and didn’t quite see the journey we hoped it would. It did however give us a few visits full of playing Housie and listening to stories. Project Paint, the once-a-month-paint-a-school project shifted to more informative and message-based artwork and attracted both artists and non-artists. It expanded to schools and NGOs in the suburbs this year.

Our souvenirs team made a large number of diaries, bookmarks, earphone pouches, bag tags etc using recycled material- all profits of which went into the funding of our other projects. The SSL Exhibition, themed ‘Visibilizing the Invisible’ was a heartfelt approach to addressing ignored issues and groups of people such as the scripts of various Indian languages, the non-teaching staff of college and various other groups. Rural Camp, the annual 10 day manual labour camp saw a completely new site with a range of opportunities. There was picking, shoveling, gammy-ing, de-weeding, check-dam building, regular village visits and two ‘melas’ for the children



*Calvin and Hobbes painted in an Aanganwadi*

in the village; and in the process, all campers discovered new muscles, learnt Marathi, shed their inhibitions and at the risk of sounding clichéd-became at one with nature.

NGO ‘Mela’ saw eight NGOs (Goonj, After Taste, WSD, Creative Handicrafts to name a few) come and sell their wares in the Woods. Their handmade, niche and discounted goods drew huge crowds and helped these NGOs reach out to a large number of people. Bake Sale, a fundraiser where bakers from college set up stalls was an instant hit and a successful experiment for the SSL.

As the year came to a close and several of us said our goodbyes to the SSL, a feeling of contentment layered with an ache filled my heart. All of this is probably not even a drop in the ocean in the world of social service and I could never ascertain how much of a difference it made. But it changed something in me, it lit something in our hearts, and if that’s not the first step, what is?

**Kavya Ravindranath**  
General Secretary

## RESEARCH SCHOLARS’ MEET - CHEMISTRY

A two-day 29<sup>TH</sup> Research Scholars’ Meet – 2017 (RSM-2017) in Chemistry was organized by the Department of Chemistry in association with the Indian Chemical Society (Mumbai Branch) on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2017, being hosted at St. Xavier’s

College for the first time.

Eminent researchers from BARC, TIFR, IIT- Mumbai, ICT, University of Mumbai and various other institutions and approximately 150 research scholars attended the RSM-2017. 25 research papers were presented during

six sessions over two days.

World renowned and Padma Vibhushan recipient Professor M. M. Sharma delivered the Inaugural speech. He addressed the congregation on the subject matter of ‘Chemistry and Allied Sciences.’ Professor Sandip Trivedi,

renowned Physicist and Director, TIFR was the honorable Chief Guest for the Valedictory function.

The RSM-2017 focused on bringing

to the forefront, the current situation, trends and development in the field of Chemistry. It will provide a good platform for an exchange of ideas that

will help shape the future of Chemistry.

**Prof. Freddy H. Havaldar**

Head, Department of Chemistry

## SAFAR TEES VARSHON KA TRACING THE JOURNEY OF 30 YEARS

The “Hindi Sahitya, Sangeet tatha Natya Academy” was established by Dr. Asha Naithani Dayama in 1986. The academy was an amalgamation of three associations, namely “Sahitya Mandal” (est. 1946), “Natya Mandal” (est. 1960) and “Sangeet Mandal” (est 1941).

The year 2016, marked the 30th anniversary of the Academy. The Hindi department decided to celebrate its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with great aplomb during Antas, the annual festival of the department. “Safar Tees Varshon Ka or a journey of 30 years was the theme.” (29th November to 1st December, 2016.)

Besides other activities, one of the novel programmes was to remind the alumni who were former members of the department during their college days. The invitation was not only

restricted to attending the event but was also open to participation in the events. This allowed the staging of the play “Cupcake” which was written and directed by an alumnus, Snehal Khanderkar. It also featured many alumni as actors. The other plays included “Andha Yug” by Shivani Patekar, “Parindey” by Visheshika Baheti and “Aakhri Daastan” by Shivam Arora.

On the 1st of December (Day 3), Bollywood Orchestra- the flagship event of ANTAS was organized in the first quadrangle. This was an innovation too! For the first time, more than 30 singers performed on the stage simultaneously. It was truly a “Safar Tees Varshon Ka” in every sense as singers from various batches 1986 to 2016 were seen performing on the stage with songs varying from “Lag Ja

Gale” to ‘Ik Kudi’. It was a testimony to the vitality of the cultural ethos that St. Xavier’s harbours.

It was attended by an overwhelming and diverse audience comprising students, professors, parents and widely recognized alumni. Some of these alumni graced the audience with their sterling performances. Among the performers were Ms. Vidya Ganpati, Ustad Taufiq Qureshi, Sraboni Chaudhuri, Utkarsh Naithani, Anshuman Jha, Namit Das, Mannan Shah, Anuraag Dhoundiyal, Punit Pathak, and many others. The festival was concluded by a dinner, which was attended by all the participants, the alumni with their families and the 14-member core committee along with around 100 volunteers.

**Dr. Asha Naithani - Dayama**

## THE STIRRING SUFIS AND SOCIAL INVOLVEMENT

The Social Involvement Programme has been one of the prime cores of the college. In an effort to expand the reach of this programme, Dr. Agnelo Menezes, Principal of St. Xavier’s College encouraged all the departments within the college to organize activities centering on the same. Keeping in line with the new initiative, the Department of Political science decided to take up a social issue every year in order to sensitize the students.

The academic year 2016-17 witnessed a move in this direction. The Department of Political science organized a fund raiser event in collaboration with the Reconstructive Surgery Foundation, which provides free reconstructive surgeries to the acid attack victims.

The event was put up with the help of a team consisting of seventy students

from various streams, two staff members and Dr. Asha Naithani Dayama, Head of Hindi Department, St. Xavier’s College. The musical theater show —“Sounds of the Sufis: Messages from the Mystics” was performed by the members of Looking Glass Company, a performing art group co-founded by Anuraag Dhoundeyal, an alumnus of St. Xavier’s College. Ms. Lalita Ben, an acid attack survivor, one of many victims undergoing treatment with the foundation was called upon as the Chief Guest.

The initiative was rewarded with great success, diverse attendance and appreciation from all. Moreover, the funds that were collected by means



of the concert were donated to the Reconstructive Surgery Foundation.

The event wouldn’t have reached its goal without the engaging performance of the artists, hard work put into it by the students and the unconditional support from Dr. Agnelo. Having garnered a constructive response, the department looks forward to further organize such events for a cause in the coming years.

**Dr. Pratiba Naitthani**  
Head, Political Science



# LIBRARY REPORT

## Highlights of the year:

We started display of new book covers on the Digital Notice Board from July 2016. This enabled us to reach out to students on campus-wide basis, especially in the Canteen area and beyond.

The Review of Autonomy Committee visited the Library and found our services satisfactory and the ambience of the Reference Library awesome.

A Library Facebook Page was launched in May 2017.

## Working Hours

Library was kept open for extended hours from 9.00a.m. – 9.00p.m. with the cooperation of the Commerce Library attendants.

## Acquisitions and Gift Books

The general budget of the Library is supplemented by UGC Grants for various specific subjects. This year we continued spending UGC-PG grants for purchase of books in the Post-Graduate Depts. of Botany, Geology, Life-Sciences and Biochemistry, and Microbiology.

Books purchased	983
Gift Books	570
Journals subscribed	90
(Indian 76, Foreign 14)	
Gift Journals	30
Magazines Subscribed	06

New Journals subscribed from this year: Heritage India, Indian Journal of Biotechnology, Indian Journal of Computer Science, Indian Journal of Natural Products and Resources, Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge, Islam and the Modern Age, Smart Photography, The Sci-tech Journal.

## Library Collection

The total no. of records in the SLIM database exceeds 1,08,842 including the records for Blatter Herbarium and Heras Institute Library books.

Books 97161, Bound volumes of Journals, 8572. CDs, DVDs VCDs 600

## Gift Books:

570 Gift books were received in this year, Major donors were Central Hindi Directorate and Xavier's Research Centre for the Visually Challenged. Father Arun De Souza, S.J. gifted his entire book collection to the Library when he left the College in December 2016. We added many standard books in sociology and some uncommon books in water management to the Library.

## Library Displays

Displays of new books in the Honours Room are held for a week or a fortnight adjusted to the students' studies, exams and vacation schedules, the total no. this year was 24. A list of additions is mailed to the teachers and displayed on the notice-board. The covers are scanned and displayed on the digital notice board. Dust jackets are displayed on the notice board.

**Library Binding.** We found a binder after 2 years, this is a trade on the threshold of extinction! 127 Journal volumes were bound.

## Library Automation and Digitisation

12 New state-of the art computers replaced our old computers, all the monitors were replaced with flat-screen in February 2017.

The **Digitisation** of old books continued with two student volunteers, all the College Magazines and old syllabi are now available in pdf format. A two day workshop on Webgenic software was organized by the vendors in the Heras Institute, on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2016. All the Library clerical and professional staff attended. A second workshop on cataloguing in Webgenic was conducted in the Library, only for the core group of Digitisation in the College Library, Ms. Sonali Paradkar organized this and attended the same. Mr. Darshan Maharana of Webgenic conducted both. We have answered approx. 10 requests for old college magazines, providing pdf copies.

The webOPAC on Mirror server available on the College website was revived in March 2017, broke down

after April 2017, was repaired in June 2017. Finally the Library catalogue is available online through a link on the College website.

## Library Statistics

### Library Membership

Arts:- Sr. College :-	604
Junior College:-	146
Science :-	
Sr. College :-	485
Junior College:-	20
M.A:-	52
Ph.D.(Sc.):-	00
Ph.D.(Arts) :-	02
B.Voc (Software Development):-	06
B.Voc (Tourism) :-	32
Paperback Section :-	21

### Self Financing Courses :

BMS:-	55,
BMM :-	120,
B.Sc (IT):	92,
Forensic Science:	19,
M.Sc:-	98,
M.Sc. (Biotech):-	35,
M.A (Public Policy) :-	40

### Staff:-

Teaching	105
Non Teaching	18;
Visitors :	12

Total :- 1943 users were issued Library Cards.

Letters issued for Library Visit to other institutional , University Libraries:-13

Total No of Books referred in the Library :- 19575

No of Books issued from Lending Library :- 12555

No of Books issued from Reference Library :- 2986

No of Books issued from Honours Library :- 4034

Total No of CD/DVDs issued from Multimedia Library :- 18

Total No of CDs issued from Lending Library :- 15

**Library Committee:** The Library Committee was headed by Dr. Freddie Havaladar. The Library Committee

followed up gifting away old Urdu collection in the Library to Jama Masjid Library, they were taken away in April 2017. Library Committee took the initiative of reviving Library Orientation tours.

### **Library Education, Orientation, Library tours**

With the initiative from Dept. of statistics, we conducted Library tours for four batches of students with Statistics, entire or in combination. One Library tour each was conducted for M.Sc.Botany, F.Y.BMS and F.Y. BSc. IT.

Department of Chemistry invited us for a library orientation lecture under the Science Communication course, for S.Y.B.Sc. Students. The Librarian Ms. Medha Taskar delivered the lecture followed by Library tour for the students.

Ms. Supriya Rane, MLISc. student of the University Dept. of Library and Information Science completed her one

month internship in Librarianship with us in Dec.2016-Jan. 2017.

Ms. Sonali Paradkar continued teaching a course in Library Science for F.Y.B.A. students with learning disability. (Six students) She conducted lectures, practicals, set papers and evaluated the same.

### **Staff Activities/ Achievements**

The Librarian, Ms. Medha Taskar was appointed on the Library Committee after a long gap of ten years. She and Ms. Sonali Paradkar continued on the ERP/ Enterprise Resource Planning Committee.

Ms. Medha Taskar was editor of Marathi section of College magazine.

Ms. Medha Taskar gave a presentation on Best practices in St. Xavier's Library on a panel discussion in the plenary session at National Seminar on " Academic Libraries of the future: Opportunities and challenges" in Guru

Nanak College, on 10 Dec. 2016. This seminar was jointly organized by the University of Mumbai, Dept. of Library and Information Science and Guru Nanak College of Arts, Science and Commerce.

Ms.Sonali Paradkar attended four lectures in the annual Padmashree Dr.S.R.Ranganthan lecture series to pay a tribute to late Padmashree Dr.S.R.Ranganthan, Father of library science on his 124<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary organized by National Institute of Fashion Technology(NIFT) and Bombay Special Library Association (BOSLA) on 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2016.

Jay Thorat, Library Asstt. Passed PGDLIM (Post Graduate Diploma in Digital Library and Information Management ) with 7.8 GPA, from Tata Institute of Social Sciences(TISS),

Mumbai.

**Medha B. Taskar**  
Librarian

## **LANGUAGE LAB**

The Language Lab is a facility to help students polish their language skills and improve their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

The lab is an air-conditioned space with twenty-five computers that promote self-learning, using various language learning software. Instructional guidance is provided, the intensity of which depends on the need of the learner. The lab also aims to aid students in building their confidence.

The sessions focus on different activities that can help students develop both language and confidence skills. This includes group reading sessions where students choose any reading material: newspapers, classic texts and reference books from the college library or their own write ups. This is combined with speech, reading and pronunciation activities as well as an understanding of grammar.

In February, a group of students and a professor from Soka Univeristy, Japan spent 15 days in the lab, participating



*Class in progress for the girls from Nandurbar.*

in the 'Intensive English Language Programme.' This was the fourth year of this programme. The course modules included lectures, role plays, group activities and individual power-point presentations by the participants. Interactive audio-visual lectures were held in the Language Lab and certificates were awarded at the end on the successful completion of the programme.

In May, an English language and confidence building program was held

in the Language Lab for the students of Jeevan Vidya Trust and Jan Seva Mandal, Nandurbar from 14<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> May 2017. Twenty enthusiastic young girls from the Bhil tribe participated in this workshop. The girls were accompanied to Mumbai by Fr. Adolf. They were hosted at the XIMR on campus.

We are looking forward to more activities and a year just as exciting as 2016-2017.

**Ms. Rashmi Mehta**  
Instructor - Language Lab

# ECO-LIT CONFERENCE, 2017

The Eco-lit Conference was a collaboration between the Department of Economics and English Literature, St. Xavier's College on February 09, 2017. Economics and Literature have ignited each other from time-immemorial through their undeniable interconnection. Economics has always been a visible symbol of changing society and culture, literature has always mirrored those changes. Hence it was inevitable for the economics and literature departments to collaborate in this conference. Many celebrated speakers graced the occasion with their erudition and expertise. The conference commenced with a pre-note session by Mr. Gurucharan Das, an author, commentator and former CEO of Procter and Gamble on February 07, 2017.

Prof. Prabhat Patnaik, a leading economist and political commentator,

from New Delhi was the keynote speaker of the conference. The Panel discussion on 'Demonstration of Rightists vs. Leftist ideologies through Policies and Literature' was effectively moderated by Prof. Neeraj Hatekar, Director, Mumbai School of Economics and Public Policies. The vivacious panelists were Mr. Vivek Dehajia, Resident Senior Fellow, IDFC Institute, Mr. Rajrishi Singhal, Consultant and Former Editor of Economics Times, Dr. Shefali Balsari Shah, Former Head, Department of English, St. Xavier's College, Dr. R Ramakumar, Dean, School of Development Studies, TISS.

The session on Indian Cinema was addressed by Prof. Rachel Dwyer, Indian Cultures and Cinema at SOAS, London.

Artists Mr. Avinash Kadam and Group led a folk singing session. It was



*Dr. Ritu Dewan at the conference*

followed by a very energetic speech by Dr. Ritu Dewan, Gender Economist, IAWS, Department of Economics, Univeristy of Mumbai.

The eco-lit conference was a fruitful culmination of diverse ideologies and worldviews.

**Dr. Aditi Sawant**  
Head, Department of Economics

## MALHAR

Malhar 2016 chose to bring out the latent beauty of a junction. It beckoned to everyone to take a moment off from their busy schedules in order to witness the vibrancy of a junction that is nothing but an amalgamation of cultures, a mélange of traditions and of lives, and cross-roads filled with dreams and aspirations.

Thus, the year 2016-17 witnessed St. Xavier's College, Mumbai hosting **Malhar 2016: The Junction, Raastekayi, manzil yahi!**

The three-day event in August was the culmination of four months of incessant mental and physical toil put in by the zealous Malhar workforce of 1200 students and the overarching supervision of the Principal and the Malhar Staff Convenor, Dr. Radha Kumar. We are grateful to them for their constant support and encouragement vis à vis the numerous revamps the festival underwent this year in all its aspects- Events, Management and Conclave.

There was a repertoire of novel events

and workshops at Malhar 2016 that was spiritedly embraced by the participants. The events, infused with creative fervour and diversity, included the Bottle painting event, the Fusion Instrumental music event, the Beat boxing event, the Urban Hindi Pop dance event, the Performance poetry event and the Caricature event among many others. The Malhar MUN also introduced this year was met with overwhelming participation.

The digitalisation of Malhar was yet another significant modification in the functioning of the fest.

**Conclave 2016: A Confluence** was graced with the insightful words of dignitaries like Mr. Suresh Prabhu, Dr. A. S. Kiran Kumar, Mr. Naseeruddin Shah, Dr. Anu Aga, Mr. Amish Tripathi, Mrs. Sharmila Tagore and many others.

In terms of the social footprint and in sync with the college's Jesuit philosophy, Malhar 2016 organised four social service events- the Food Junction and the Food Donation Drive (in collaboration with the NGO-

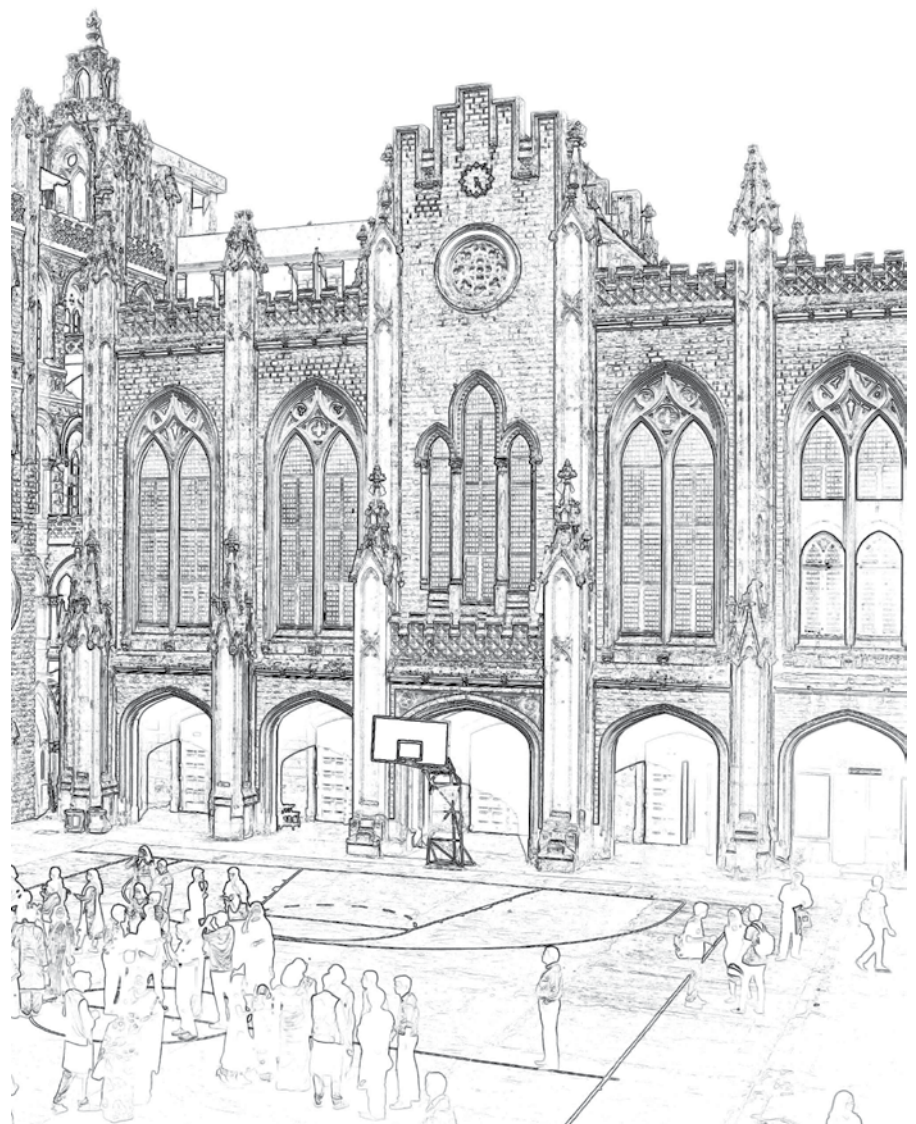
Pehchaan), the wall painting initiative (opp Marine Lines railway station) and two yardsales (at St. Peter's Church, Bandra and Our Lady of Lourdes, Orlem, Malad).

Thus, one may conclude that the overall performance of Malhar 2016 was something that the entire workforce was proud of. From Malhar Conclave breaking records of the previous year to witnessing a hike in local as well as outstation participation, Malhar definitely increased its reach in 2016 as it succeeded in drawing colleges from the fringes of the city in addition to its regular South Bombay undergraduate crowd.

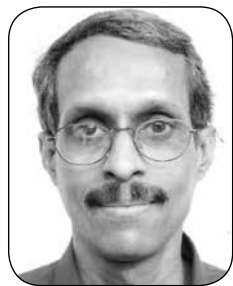
However, the greatest achievement of Malhar 2016 lies in having been able to redefine the essence of the fest in its entirety, for Malhar is and will always be, in every sense, a junction where not only ideas intersect, but so do lives.

**Malhar**  
(The Junction: Raastekayi,  
manzil yahi!)"  
- Quartet, Malhar 2016

# LEST WE FORGET



## ARRIVEDERCI JAYANT, FARE THEE WELL!



'Jayant'- if you've ever pronounced the name in an anglicized fashion, you will understand how close the etymology of 'giant' and 'jayant' are. In fact, that is what Jayant Prabhu is, a giant of a man and a colossus of a teacher.

The word 'chemistry' in English has two meanings, the branch of science concerned with the substances of which matter is composed, the investigation of their properties and reactions, and the use of such reactions to form new substances and the complex emotional or psychological interaction between people. Jayant epitomized both the meanings...his love for chemistry as a subject made him bond seamlessly with

syllabus and student. In doing so, he became a catalyst for the tremendous emotional and psychological bonding that his students shared with him. Coming from a department which saw many 'greats' in its chequered history, Jayant was a man of few words but an immense doer. When he joined, he would spend long hours working with the management and other thespians for the upliftment of the slow learners even before the term 'learning disability' came into being. He set no limits to 'reaching out'. His writing was calligraphy at its best...whether it was chalk talk or an attendance sheet. He meticulously set aside time for all those who sought advice or suggestions to their numerous problems. Gifted with rare acumen and a generous spirit, his lessons in chemistry extended beyond the classroom. As some of our senior teachers whose children were

as spellbound as they were, would say, 'he was truly a Prabhu!' Humble and unassuming, he was never late to class, had his students seeking him out even beyond class hours and his influence made stars like Terence Lewis the dance choreographer assert that 'Jayant sir, was and is inimitable!' With Jayant around, everyone from management to helpers were assured of things being in place and the universe righting itself. His retirement makes one want to quote what is often whispered but seldom understood:

Being the best is great, you're the number one. Being unique is greater, you're the only one.

God be with you Jayant and may the spark that empowered many of us at Xavier's continue to light up many a night sky!

- Verona Vaz

## AUF WIEDERSEHEN, DEAR ARUNA



Twenty years ago when I joined the English Department of St. Xavier's Junior College, I was googly-eyed for two simple reasons. Being an alumna of Ruia College and having taught English only at high school level, I thought I would never make it big at Xavier's, when I saw the airy, well-ventilated, large classrooms and the 'zest' of the then junior college students that gave me a complex. So awe-struck was I, that when I was introduced to my two senior colleagues, Mrs. Suzie Mascarenhas and Mrs. Aruna Gulanikar, I must have seemed like some gawky newbie. Both Suzie and Aruna made me feel at home and restored faith in my teaching making all the rest seem like history! Mrs. Aruna would often spend time to introduce the finer nuances of Language teaching and testing in the Junior College. When I look back in time, there are quite a few things that stand out very clearly about

the bygone days and in the absence of both Suzie and Aruna, who chose voluntary retirement in February 2017, some of these reminisces bring a lump to my throat.

Aruna was always clad in beautiful sarees. Despite her petite frame, she always manifested an inner resilience that saw her through life's many ups and downs. A doting wife and an ever available mother to her two sweet daughters, she not only saw them through their academic life but also happily donned the mantle of mother-in-law and grandmother later on in life, as if it was the most natural thing to do. Always punctual for a lecture, holding forth in the classroom with elan, she was able to light up many lives with her able teaching of language and literature for 23 beautiful years. From her, I learned that raising your voice may not be necessary when dealing with young people, but telling them how they ought to behave without being provoked, was something that they would always remember. She loved Indian classical music and read

voraciously. Being adept at language, she was made convener of many magazine committees and wore that mantle gracefully for several years. She had a good rapport with most seniors and juniors and would always take time to make small talk with those around her in the staffroom.

Very meticulous in her evaluations and duty bound at all times, it came as no surprise that she was selected by the Management to be Vice Principal of the Junior College during the last three years of Fr. Fraser Mascarenhas' tenure as Principal. She initiated several new schemes and programmes for the benefit of students and teachers alike. She broke protocol on several occasions by managing lectures, oral exams, corrections and official work without much ado. As faculty in charge of the IMG for several years along with Dr. Asha Naithani, she would readily lend her services and allowed herself to be regaled with the mellifluous strains of the sarangi, sitar and tabla every year in January. As Vice-Principal, she always relied on the advice given by

senior teachers and stalwarts like Jayant Prabhu, Amrita Nadkarni, Bernadette Dease and other like-minded people. She preferred quietude and was gentle in everything she did.

When she stepped down from the post of Vice Principal after a three year stint, she was very matter of fact about getting back to teaching and assessing student prowess. She was always full

of ideas on how the department of English at the Junior College could use its leverage vis-à-vis other activities such as engaging student participation at speech and drama classes and so on. Her decision to retire from service came as a surprise but going by what the implication of the word 'aruna' is, in Sanskrit, it makes me believe and affirm with certainty that Aruna which stands for the dawn/ sunrise will continue to

illumine dark skies and gloomy hearts in all that she does.

In the words of the Bard of Avon :

“Farewell, my sister, fare thee well.

The elements be kind to thee, and make

Thy spirits all of comfort: fare thee well.”

- Verona Vaz

## PROFESSOR DR. VIVIEN AMONKAR



Professor Dr. Vivien Amonkar has been closely associated with St. Xavier's College, Mumbai since June 1973, when

she joined the first year of Inter-Science as Vivien D'Mello. She graduated with a degree in Microbiology in 1976 and pursued an MSc in Microbiology in research under the guidance of the then Principal Dr. Lancelot Pereira S.J. and obtained a part-time job as a Demonstrator during this period. As a student Vivien involved herself in several college activities like the SSL and the COSIP programmes of the college. After completing her Master's in 1979 she was immediately taken on as Faculty in the Department of Microbiology and I was fortunate to be in the first FYBSc batch of the Senior College she officially taught. In the April of 1980 she married her college sweetheart, Nihar Amonkar.

Vivien is an excellent teacher and guide and her forte is Biochemistry. She has ensured that all her students understood the concepts and were involved. There never was a dull moment during her lectures. She evolved into a great teacher and educator and was sought after by the Microbiology faculty of other colleges for her expertise in the subject and her innovative methods of teaching.

The period 1988-1990 were both momentous and difficult years for Vivien when she became a mother for the

second time, obtained her PhD under the guidance of Dr. Lancelot Pereira S.J., and assumed the post of the Head of the Department of Microbiology in 1989. As Head of Department, Dr. Vivien Amonkar introduced several good practices to enhance student learning. The Annual Exhibition which encouraged peer learning and bonding between junior and senior students, internships, project work, programmes that encouraged Social Responsibility among students, collaborations with other Microbiology Departments in India and abroad and with industry were all her brain-child. This helped our students to get quality education and many were accepted at top-notch institutes and Universities in India and abroad. She used her expertise to help the several college committees she was part of, during her tenure.

Vivien helped start the Postgraduate Department of Biotechnology in 2007 and assumed headship thereafter. Here too, the department flourished under her headship and the best students enrolled for their Master's in Biotechnology.

She was invited several times to take up the post of Vice Principal of the college which she finally accepted in 2005. She assumed the post of Vice Principal - Science and later was made Vice Principal for Academic Improvement. Along with the then Principal Dr. Frazer Mascarenhas S.J. and a very able committee she ventured into the realm of Autonomy practices for our College. Vivien spearheaded the change, gathering relevant information and attending seminars all over India and

abroad so that the best practices could be put together to enable the college to become Autonomous. She was indeed the Architect of Autonomy in our college and the University of Mumbai. Her expertise has become an invaluable resource for so many colleges who are on the brink of Autonomy. She was invited to join the IQAC committees of several colleges and to share the resources that she had gathered.

During her tenure as Vice Principal she was fortunate to welcome several dignitaries: President Obama and his wife Michelle, Senator Hillary Clinton and His Holiness, the Dalai Lama amongst others.

During and after serving for six years as Vice Principal she continued as Head of Microbiology and Biotechnology and introduced several programmes for the benefit of the students and staff: Palindrome, a Biotechnology fest, an International Conference to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> and 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Microbiology Department, a Staff Educational tour to University of Bath, UK, Alumni dinners to bring the past and present students together, seminars on Entrepreneurship, Food Microbiology, Pharmaceutical Microbiology, Consortium and Green Voice on Environment and Policy. She roped in Alumni with her charm and ability to remain connected and collected over a crore of rupees for the Microbiology Department. Thus, with the Principal's consent she renovated both the Microbiology and Biotechnology laboratories into very modern and well-equipped ones; perhaps, the best under Mumbai

University.

Vivien's dynamism, her ability to multitask, make quick and correct decisions, her dependable, friendly and compassionate nature, her ability to be sensitive to the needs of both teaching and nonteaching staff, her positive outlook to any problem, her good interpersonal relations and her loyalty

to the college stood her in good stead as she played the several roles she was entrusted with to take the college to the greatest of heights.

We, in the Department miss Vivien's vivacious, smiling face, her unbiased decisions, her eye for detail and the smallest mistake in our question papers, and the Superwoman she is. We

pray that God blesses her in the years of her retirement and may she keep herself healthy and busy with what she likes doing most, enriching young minds.

**Miriam Stewart**

HOD, Microbiology,  
Alumnus 1979 - 1984

## DR. FLEUR D'SOUZA



History is a subject most students cannot or perhaps intentionally do not stomach very easily. Too many dates to remember, it's

all about mugging up and what is the point of even studying that subject are some of the commonly heard complaints of students when it comes to history. In St. Xavier's College, history became a subject which a number of students were forced to take due to their inability to get statistics and would gladly drop when Third year began. In such circumstances, a history teacher really has her work cut out for her. Making a history class relevant to the students, taking it beyond dates and facts and creating an interest about it all is a huge burden which falls on the shoulders of a history teacher. Dr. Fleur shouldered this responsibility with ease and made batch after batch of students, first in St. Xavier's High School and then in St. Xavier's College, fall in love with the subject of History.

In Fleur Ma'am's first interaction with our batch in our First Year, she likened our History lectures to a time machine. She said using these lectures we could go back to any given period in history and analyze it through many lenses. She then gave us a framework of what all we would be studying throughout the year and prompted us all to use our time machines to the best of our ability. Such an imaginative analogy helped to create in my mind a zeal to pursue the subject and respect for the teacher who possessed such an outlook towards history as a subject. The admiration for

her remained constant throughout- from that very first lecture up till the day of my convocation.

Fleur Ma'am's lectures could be best described as engaging and enriching. She took us beyond the classroom- be it for the Maritime History lectures in Navy Nagar or signing us up as interns in the Prince of Wales Museum for an exhibition on the history of Egypt. In third year, many of our lectures were outside the classroom first in museums and later on in various places of historic significance near college. All of this took us beyond our course books and gave the subject a very lively nature. Without a doubt, one of the most cherished memories of any History Major in college was the History Seminar which Fleur Ma'am took the Third Years for in Lonavala every year. It was compulsory for each of us to present an individual paper at the seminar which compelled us to engage with research methodology and academic paper presentation. Ma'am single handedly ensured that each student had a well-researched paper to present; also post the presentations there would be karaoke sessions and outdoor excursions to balance out the mood.

One idea that Ma'am constantly tried to hammer into her students from First year to Third year was the ability to critique. In each of the topics she dealt with, we would be encouraged to look at it multi dimensionally and not simply take it at face value. Topics were concluded with a short critique on them in which the class contributed in the form of a discussion. Themes in history would be linked to current affairs of the country and around the

globe making it more relevant to us. History was thus no longer a mere narration of events and dates; it became a reliving of sorts with multiple lens which helped students to understand existing scenarios better.

Among students across streams, Ma'am was much loved for her affectionate nature. Her wide smile and warm greetings were handed out to all students regardless of their subjects. A visit to her room in the Heras Library would entail a conversation on one's well-being coupled with chocolates or biscuits depending on what she had at the time. For me personally, she took great interest in my individual growth and constantly pushed me to work harder and excel.

Fleur Ma'am has been so much more than just a teacher for so many of us at St Xavier's College. Mother, mentor, friend, guide - She played all these roles for students, teaching staff and non-teaching staff in her time spent in the college. To pursue whole-heartedly what one loves, to ensure other people see the beauty of it too and to thoroughly enjoy oneself while doing it is the example Fleur Ma'am set before us.

Thank you, Ma'am. For Everything. We wish you All the Best for your future endeavors. We hope you continue spreading the magic of history wherever you go.

Lots of Love,

**Sagar Abraham-Gonsalves**

Economics & History,  
Batch of 2014-15

## ADIOS AND GOD SPEED VIDYA



The Sanskrit word, **Vidya**, figures prominently in all texts pertaining to Indian philosophy - to mean science, learning, knowledge and scholarship; most importantly, it refers to valid knowledge which cannot be contradicted and true knowledge which is the knowledge of the Self intuitively gained.

One of the most pleasant faces on the campus during my tenure at Xavier's has been that of Mrs. Vidya Hegde from the Department of Economics, Junior College. Pleasant natured, with a ready smile on a pleasant face, it made

many of us seek her out at staffroom interactions. Her lectures were always very stimulating and past students will affirm that she not only breathed Economics, she made it a point to let her students see that a passion for one's subject can transform any ordinary lecture into an unforgettable one. Staffroom talk was always peppered with interesting anecdotes from a wide range of acquaintances that she had, given the fact that she was also part of the censor board for quite a while. Being the wife of a physician was also an added attraction as the medical field would also veer itself into our conversations. She had a distinct preference for the 'loner' and the 'last bencher' since they offered scope to

reach out- a rare quality today. Draped occasionally in beautiful sarees, she delighted in being herself-simple yet gracious in all that she said and did. The Department of Economics in the Junior College will never be the same without her.

As an Economics teacher she exemplified in her tenure at Xavier's the norm, that

'The Goal is not to be successful, the Goal is to be valuable. Once you're valuable, instead of chasing success it will attract itself to you'. Adieu dearest Vidya, Xavier's salutes you.

-Verona Vaz

## AU REVOIR BERNIE!



*"Optimism is a strategy for making a better future. Because unless you believe that the future can be better, you are unlikely to step up and take responsibility for making it so."*

- Noam Chomsky

Bernadette Dease, better known as 'Bernie' by her colleagues and students knew what optimism coupled with Physics could do for the future! She

was tall and her pleasant features made many a student warm to the subject. Bernie taught for thirty two years and preferred to keep a low profile. In a department where the ratio of male teachers to the female teachers was higher, Bernie held her own. She made several efforts to get to know her students better and was concerned about them. Many found her motherly concern very appealing and would make it a point to attend her lectures so that they were steady with the fundamentals. She mentored several younger colleagues and was able to enable students to reach a comfort level with a subject that is not always among the top favorites. She was

among the first few stalwarts who took extra lectures twice a week, in addition to their usual workload to reach out to the less bright students. Her soft spoken mannerisms and pretty smile made a difference to several lives. Her stint at Xavier's is a testimony to the words of Ian Stewart, the mathematician, "You can appreciate the beauty and importance of equations without knowing how to solve them..... The intention is to locate them in their cultural and human context, and pull back the veil on their hidden effects on history". God be with you in all your endeavours!

-Verona Vaz & Harsh Verma

## VINITA, YOU GAVE US ROOTS AND WINGS



*You gave us roots and wings: from a teacher to a colleague ~ Vinita Bhatia*

The year 1998, a teacher walked into the LR 33. The lecture scheduled on the timetable was Sociological theory. We were clueless

of what was in store for us when we were to learn 'theory'. The mere uttering of that word has always made students uncomfortable, irritable and instantly reach a state of boredom. But the teacher who walked into the class had a comforting smile on her face. I think half of our worries vanished out of the window. Vinita Bhatia. An unforgettable name to those she taught; whether Special course, Cross faculty, Anthropology or Sociology. If

you ask anybody who has been taught by her, they have one thing to say for sure, "there is never a No to any question posed to her"

Fifteen years later, I teach the paper she taught, in the same department. Vinita dispelled all our fears about theory and made us realize the relevance of it. Theorists were no longer mere names, with complex narrations of their perspectives which we were to mug



up. One of her remarkable skills was to make us understand the theorist in the format of a story of his life. And for most of us, it fitted in like neat jigsaw puzzles pieces. Theory was no more boring and daunting; it was after all a tale of the events of a person's life.

Vinita, like her name, was always imparting knowledge of any and every sort to us. A conversation with her over a cup of hot steaming coffee or a chilled iced tea, could range from elections in some part of the country or globe to human rights to gender for sure. She was our torch bearer of gender rights and anthropology in the department. She was one among many people, who I have seen, being able to truly practice what they preach. June 2013. It had been over a semester I had been part of the department to teach two papers. I was now officially part of the team of teachers at the Department, and Vinita being one of them. One fine day, over a coffee break, we got talking about how different universities demonstrate differing power dynamics between senior and junior students. We were recalling our days in Delhi, but clearly from different time periods and were laughing at how it was mandatory to refer to your senior in the next batch as Sir or Ma'am. And Vinita, looked at me and said, "I had been meaning to tell you this, just call me Vinita we are colleagues now." I was a little taken

aback, but then I smiled to myself and said, this is Vinita...who just so easily made the line that divides between a student and now a colleague so invisible. Equality was a simple message that was passed onto me in the form of this warm and respectful gesture.

When one thought Gender, or had a query around it, it was always Vinita who was our reference point. This is a very personal event or episode from her life, and I take the liberty to narrate it here. It was the time of her daughter's wedding and I kept thinking that as academicians perhaps we have to keep changing our 'hats' when we are at the home front and work front. She challenged and blew off that demarcation. I also was wondering, somebody like her would not truly get caught up in the fanfare of dressing up for the occasion. I was clearly making an assumption. She challenged the age old practice of the kanyadaan, and had categorically instructed the pandit that she would not practice the ritual. At the same time when we met her, she had dressed up in pink, red and gold. My super retro Vinita was in front of us. She had debunked one idea but upheld the gender argument.

I'd like to end this article by sharing another experience. It is about a beautiful bond of information, academics and ideas between Vinita and Medha (our Librarian). You walk

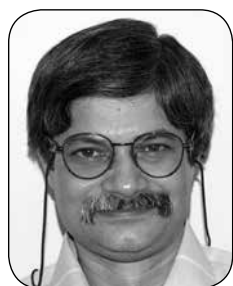
into the aisles of the Socio section of the Lending library and you would wonder how these new and interesting books were making their way into these racks. It was because silently, these two women were in action over long conversations, discussing books and more books and there sat Vinita approving the books that Medha had 'hand'picked and scouted for us with her immense hard work. Hats off to these two women, who make reading and learning more challenging but also more accessible!

She always encouraged us to speak our mind, to be creatively, critically and consciously engaging with the discipline. Vinita gave us roots – to our thinking, our ideology and our discipline training – by telling us the trajectories of ideas and how they had progressed over the years. But she gave us wings by provoking us soar by being simple, but to question and clarify our doubts and thus get closer to having holistic knowledge. Thanks to Vinita, it made me realize for once, my view mattered!

A salute to my teacher, friend, philosopher, guide and a very dear and much missed colleague at the Department.

~ Dr. Pranoti Chirmuley  
Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology

## DR. (FR) ARUN DE SOUZA S.J.



Although I haven't been gone all that long, when I look back at my days in Xavier's the Department of Sociology and Anthropology

stands out in my memory, and it always will. In particular, I will always remember the multitudinous ways in which Fr. Arun shook up everything I understood about the world.

Coming from a comparatively tame first year, Fr. Arun turned Anthropology on its head in our second year. All

my normative understandings and social conventions were challenged and questioned. He made Sociology and Anthropology fascinating, making us use our sociological imaginations for the most unusual things. From fierce discussions about the anthropology of sex, to watching Nicki Minaj's *Anaconda* in class, Fr. Arun pushed us beyond our academic limits. He encouraged us to think beyond convention, be strongly critical of what we come across and most importantly, have fun with it! I was keen to attend lectures because there was no knowing what mind-numbing theory we were going to encounter, or what strange video we were going to watch, which would have

the most unexpected of sociological relevance.

I grew to admire Fr. Arun's passion for his teaching, and the ability he had to engage students both in and outside class. He was always respectful of his students' opinions and encouraged them to be voiced - especially to the extent that they challenged his own views. I can't say this about many teachers I have had, but I will very fondly remember all the intense arguments I have had with him which were instrumental in fuelling my passion for the subject and making me articulate myself in a well-thought out way. I'm almost sure that every student who has studied

under him comes out with a clear understanding of his three “C’s”- anything you write should be critical, creative and credible. Well into my Masters now, I still find myself checking everything I write for these three elements.

It’s hard to pen down the extent to which this department and Fr. Arun revolutionised the way I think. I can confidently say that much of the person I am today and the skills I’ve developed

are a direct result of the kind of professor he was. He always encouraged students to try out new things, and provided numerous opportunities within the department for students who wished to engage more deeply with the subject. My love for Sociology and Anthropology grew immensely under him, and consequently, I decided to pursue a Masters in the field, and possibly a career deeply intertwined with it.

It’s a funny feeling to imagine walking back into college, turning left to head toward the Sociology Department, and not seeing his smile. Fr. Arun has spoilt countless students because of the liveliness he brought to the classroom and the stellar teaching he provided- and we will be ever grateful for it.

**Kavya Menon**  
Batch of 2015-16

## PROFESSOR DR. MANGALA GURJAR



Teachers are like candles. They continuously work and give light to students. One such teacher is Dr. Mangala Gurjar. There is

a famous quote which goes as follows: “The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher

demonstrates. The great teacher inspires.” Dr. Gurjar was truly a great teacher who inspired thousands of students. She was also a very kind and helpful person one could have ever met. Her love and passion for the subject enabled her students to reach great heights. She used to create interest for the subject in her classes was remarkable way. She always ignited young minds in her lectures and being one of her students I can personally

attest to that fact. She always extended her cooperation, be it to colleagues or students. I have been fortunate to be her colleague as well. She was a person who was selfless and devoted to the subject during her entire tenure. A true genius, she definitely was a very competent head of the department. Undoubtedly she was a great asset to the mathematics dept of St. Xavier’s College.

**Mr. Aditya Garg**  
Asst. Prof. Dept of Maths

## PROFESSOR DR. UJWALA BAPAT



*‘The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today’*

**H. Jackson Brown, Jr.**

It is indeed an honour to pen a few lines on Prof. Dr. Ujwala Bapat, Head, Department of Botany, a teacher and mentor who retired from active service on April 30, 2016. Prof. Bapat has been an institutional thinker, a stalwart who has given it all, in her stint at Xavier’s.

Over the past thirty years, she excelled at everything she did - teaching,

evaluation or conducting seminars. In addition to her impeccable teaching and her competence in Botany, she served the college in various capacities. She was an active member on several of the Faculty Committees, including Unfair Means Committee, TAQ Committee, U.G.C. Committee and the Research Committee. She was instrumental in sustaining various activities on campus and this in turn motivated those under her care to strive onward.

Time management was her forte. Despite the struggle involved in balancing teaching, research activity and guiding students, she did it all, with an open heart and loving intent. She has been a guide at both M.Sc and

Ph.D levels.

With excellence being a driving force, she spearheaded a major UGC project and a few minor projects.

Our prayers and good wishes accompany her for a happy and productive life after formal retirement. Xavier’s will always remember the dedication and commitment she offered in her years here. Adieu Dr. Bapat and may the road rise to greet you!

**Ms. Smita Gaurea**  
(Pursuing Ph.D in Botany under the supervision of Prof. Bapat)  
Department of Biology

*“For it can never be that war shall preserve life, and peace destroy it.”*

**-Thomas Hobbes**

## ADEUS, SARADADEVI



*The essence of mathematics is not to make simple things complicated, but to make complicated things simple.*

~S. Gudder

Effervescence and enthusiasm were some of the sterling qualities that marked the tenure of Sarada devi from the Department of Mathematics in the Junior college for 22 years. Hailing from an ambience where research mattered, Sarada as she was affectionately called, had a mischievous streak. She put the

Socrates method of 'questioning' to great effect and made her students feel that Mathematics could take you places or leave you stranded for life! She scripted a play The Journey Through Maths- "Crest of the Peacock" based on her favorite topic History of Indian Maths, which was much appreciated. She was happy to offer her expertise in metaphysics and yoga, as a disciple of Sri Sri Ravi Shankar in the Art of Living Programme and gladly offered her services to the Honours Program and the Scientific Communication Skills Course at Senior college. She has post retirement set herself the task of writing a text book on the History of Indian Mathematics. We wish her

well on her journey through life and salute her in making the most tricky of equations the easiest of tasks. We wish her well in all her future endeavours knowing that Mathematics as is taught and learnt will no longer be the same at Xavier's. In the words of Ivars Peterson, "To most outsiders, modern mathematics is unknown territory. Its borders are protected by dense thickets of technical terms; its landscapes are a mass of indecipherable equations and incomprehensible concepts. Few realize that the world of modern mathematics is rich with vivid images and provocative ideas". May the quest for numbers and its magic lead you on!

**Ms. Sandhya Gupte & Ms. Verona Vaz**

## ANANT CHOWGULE



Mr. Anant Chowgule employed as a Laboratory Attendant in the Department of Chemistry retired on superannuation

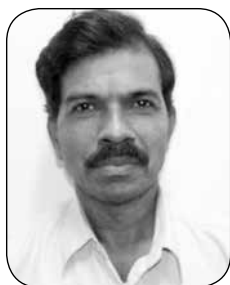
with effect from 31st May 2016. He spent 41 years of his life in serving

the college with dedication and sincerity. His loyalty to the college and the department was well-known. Mr. Chowgule was known for his leadership qualities and calm disposition. He was always willing to go the extra mile to help others. On numerous occasions he has provided first aid to students who have fallen ill. His peaceful disposition acted as a balm to ones who were ailing. His assistance

in carrying out the various laboratory duties was appreciated by all HODs. He always showed great initiative in his work and has been ready to take up any responsibility. We wish him good health and a peaceful retired life.

**Mr. Marazban Kotwal**

## ATMARAM SHINDE



Mr. Atmaram Shinde worked as a Laboratory Attendant in the Department of Geology for over 35 years. He was known in the department for his loyalty and helpfulness. The

Geology department was his second home. His insistence on cleanliness was legendary. His deep engagement with the Geology department was reflected in his skill of creating thin sections of rocks. He was renowned for his beautiful handwriting. It will not be an exaggeration to add that he was among the last of the old school, which followed and believed in discipline

at the work place. They revered their work. Mr. Shinde's dedication to the college was embedded in his genes because his father was also a committed employee of the college. Now his son lends a helping hand in the college.

**Dr. Hrishikesh Samant  
and Dr. Pravin Henriques**

*"Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding."*

~ **Albert Einstein**

## HARI RAMBADE



Mr. Hari Rambade retired as Laboratory Attendant from the Department of Life Science after a fruitful inning of more than 36 years of dedicated service. He was popularly addressed as Haribhau. The Life Science department considers itself

very fortunate that Haribhau was never transferred from the department. Being a gentleman he not only carried out his tasks assiduously, he even chipped in to help his colleagues. 'Work is worship' was his motto and therefore he never wasted his time. Industrious as he was, he impressed everyone with the sincerity of his work whether it was cleaning glass equipment or anything else. His congenial nature endeared him to all and therefore as a mark of

love and respect, the department of Life Science entrusted him with the privilege of ribbon-cutting at the inauguration of the renovated laboratory. He guided his peers and occasionally even reprimanded them. He was loved by all because of his amiable temperament. He was on duty till the last day of his service.

**Dr. Radiya Pacha-Gupta  
and Mr. Prashant Ratnaparkhi**

## KRISHNA AGRE



Krishna Agre began his stint at St. Xavier's College at the age of 18 as a peon. He moved on to become a laboratory attendant, worked in Caius and later in the Life Sciences Department for several years. Towards the last three years of his career he was a laboratory attendant with the Psychology Department.

As a laboratory attendant Agre was meticulous and careful with the equipment and furniture. He was perceptive of the changes required or problems that one would encounter. Despite being an attendant, he was always willing to do different kinds of work and provide assistance in any case.

As a person, Krishna was affectionately known as "Dada" by all his fellow colleagues. They had a tremendous amount of respect for him, and consulted him on various issues both personal and professional. He maintained his stand despite the changing circumstances and challenges with the new directives of the Kamghaar Union.

He held high respect for the Jesuits. He even had a deep sense of gratitude towards them for having allowed him and others to stay for years on the campus itself. He believed the Jesuits contributed greatly to the field of education, more significantly to the upliftment of the needy. He was helped by the past Principals in dealing with the loss of his wife and later his son who was challenged. He was indebted to several staff particularly the Life Science dept and Fr. Lancy whom he had worked with for several years.

Krishna was a versatile individual, who was capable of thinking on his feet.

He was very skilful with his hands. He had a natural ability for fixing electronic equipment. This further made him a go to person for all. Cleaning, fixing, fetching, painting, guiding, caring, observing, stepping in....you name it and it's certain Krishna had done it in his quiet, efficient way. In fact, his approach to his work was 'don't dither, just get the job done'.

He was an old school soul and will be sorely missed as a lab staff, a role model for new recruits and as an individual who chose to follow his heart and stand up for what he believed in, rather than follow the crowd. He served the college for 42 years as efficiently as he began at the age of 18. We wish him good luck on his next journey in life

**Ms. Linda. Dhakul**  
With inputs from Life Science dept

*"Sit down before fact as a little child, be prepared to give up every preconceived notion, follow humbly wherever and to whatever abysses nature leads, or you shall learn nothing. I have only begun to learn content and peace of mind since I have resolved at all risks to do this."*

**- Thomas Henry Huxley**

# OUR ALUMNI



# JAMES J. PEREIRA,



James J. Pereira

James J. Pereira, President & CEO of Paradigm Telesales Inc., is located in Canada. He is an alumnus who earned his Bachelor's Degree in Zoology and Biochemistry in 1990.

**Q. When you take a trip down the memory lane of St. Xavier's? What do you recall most?**

My time at the Department of Zoology brings back many fond memories. I spent about ten years at Xavier's. I was a student and later a teacher at Xavier's upon completing my Master's Degree in Biochemistry from The Haffkine Institute. Memories of my association with the Zoology department are still fresh. Dr. Vaman Rao was the Head of the Department. We had many Zoology field trips. We would visit the Borivali National Park over the weekends, go bird watching, etc. We also visited other wildlife sanctuaries like Ranthambore, Bharatpur, Sariska, etc. I was also part of the Honours programme and worked with Dr. Vaman Rao on the restoration of zoological specimens as well as other projects involving interactive toxicology research. I worked on the camel, tiger and dolphin skeletons which are still in the department. We shared a warm relationship with our department. We made some enduring friendships especially during our fieldtrips. Xavier's left a lasting impression on all of us. I left India in 1995 and I have visited about 4 times since leaving. On all these visits, I have come to the college and the Zoology Department.

In my third year, I was part of the Students' Council. I was also a volunteer (Security) for Malhar and

participated as a volunteer for the IMG right through my years at Xavier's. The all night music festival was amazing. I met Pandit Ravi Shankar, Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, Zakir Hussain backstage during the IMG festivals. My friends and I would hang out in the Woods. There was a vada pav stall outside the college gate. I had friends in the hostel so I spent a lot of time with them in the hostel. I still have copies of my papers/ assignments. I even have t-shirts from the Department of Zoology and one that says: "Xavier's, not just a college...a way of life!"

I was very excited that President Obama visited Xavier's. It was a very proud moment for me. I shared the pictures of President Obama's visit with my friends and pointed out the chapel and the quadrangle where we played basketball.

**Q. To what extent has your stint at St. Xavier's influenced your life and work ethics?**

My time in the Department of Zoology changed me as a person. Dr. Vaman Rao was very influential. His guidance and motivation instilled a very positive work ethic in me. I share it with my kids and staff too. At the end of the day, you should be able to look into the mirror and say that you have been true to yourself. If you want something in a certain way, you must do it yourself. Zoology field trips were very effective in teaching us life skills. We roughed it on those trips at least by North American standards - taking trains, buses, staying on farms. We were very protective of our field trip-group. We had to think on our feet and we came back with life experiences. I cherish those experiences and lessons learned.

Dr. Sheila Joseph, Head of the Department of Zoology (her portrait is in the Zoology lab) also had a huge impact on my life. She instilled in us that Xavier's is 'not just a college but a way of life' - not as a cliché, but as a true life-lesson. Her indomitable spirit, through her 10-year battle with breast cancer, was an inspiration to both faculty and students. She left a

void in many students' lives. Through the decades, there have been many, many professors at Xavier's who have had a profound impact on students. I have been fortunate to have known some of the finest, in the Department of Zoology. I am very glad that the tradition continues under the great tutelage of Dr. Smita Krishnan, Dr. Pushpa Prabhu-Sinkar and Dr. Leon Pereira.

**Q. How far has your core subject in college influenced your current profession?**

I migrated to Canada in 1995 and I took a part time job. Eleven years ago I started my own company. We work with performing arts organizations like ballet companies, symphony orchestras, and theatres doing ticket-sales and fund-raising for these organizations.

I learnt a lot in my research and my study of Biochemistry and Physiology. My teaching days were fulfilling too. Teaching and research enabled me to think. I utilize the skills learned in college while running my company. I like the whole people management and teaching aspect of my work.

**Q. What are some of the life-altering lessons that you have learnt from your chosen vocation?**

I have worked in Canada and the US for the last 22 years. One of the most important lessons that I have learned is to treat people fairly and ethically.

**Q. What is your message to the upcoming generation?**

Don't follow a bandwagon. Don't do anything half-heartedly. Believe in what you are doing and take pride in it.

# ROHAN ARTHUR



Rohan Arthur

Rohan Arthur, alumnus of the Department of Zoology is a senior scientist and founding trustee of the Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF) in Karnataka, India. He heads NCF's Oceans and Coasts program, an interdisciplinary group that works on a range of issues, including understanding human-wildlife interactions in aquatic environments.

**Q. What are some of the fondest memories of your time in St. Xavier's?**

It is honestly difficult to choose a single set of memories of my time in Xavier's. Xavier's shaped me in more ways than I can remember. If you want disconnected fragments, I have several. I belonged to the proud set of uncool outcasts that did not dominate the quadrangles and the woods but lurked around their corners. We played Dungeons and Dragons, much to our parents' horror and concern – a game whose separate reality sometimes slipped dangerously into our 'normal' lives. We formed clubs dedicated to trans-disciplinary exploration, which often descended into noisy and quite artless slanging matches. We wrote bad, post-modern 'collaborative' poetry for the cyclostyled copies of "Raga" that were produced on the fly during Malhar. I discovered a forgotten attic space above the Zoology department, and I was sure it held undiscovered scientific treasures – it did: it contained a disassembled set of bones of a large mammal that I was convinced was a dugong – I am still not certain what it was. When the monsoon poured down at its heaviest, we would bully Smita to stop her class mid-way so we could rush out, buy some hot *bhajias* and tea

and continue the class in warm, cosy bliss. A sudden spring-cleaning drive set me on a task to change the formalin in the beautifully preserved specimens in the Zoology cabinets – one of the containers was reluctant to slide open because the wax had become brittle and hard – easy solution, I thought – let's heat it for a while on an electric heater – which I did – and forgot about it – small explosion – broken glass – formalin everywhere – minor workplace disaster.

These memories mean nothing and they mean everything. I am not sure how they have formed me, but I know they have been critical. Perhaps more critical than any of the learning I did among these hallowed walls.

**Q. To what extent has your stint at St. Xavier's influenced your life and work ethics?**

I think being in Xavier's is a privilege that many of us took for granted, even if we wore it like an unseen chip on our shoulders. It is not as though the college gave us exposure to a wide cross-section of India – far from it. We lived in a fairly protected environment, culturally and intellectually, away from the noisy, messy debates happening as the country lurched on an uncomfortable path to progress. So in that respect, I am not sure the institution did me many favours in preparing me to understand the full complexity of living and working in India. However, what it did do was something much more critical. It fostered in me a curiosity for learning that many years of high-school education had done its best to kill. And it gave me the freedom to explore as audaciously as I dared. For once, I was limited by my own imagination, not by a set of rote answers I had to memorize. My very first independent collaborative research project was done in Xavier's – a gruesome piece of work on how alcohol and insecticide affects male rats (short answer – pretty badly). This was invaluable in shaping my further research career – teaching me elements of research design, analysis and critical reading and writing that have held me in good stead until today. As for a work

ethic, well, I have a very sloppy work ethic and I wish I could blame Xavier's for that – it would make me feel so much better to know that it wasn't just me, as my father always insisted.

**Q. How far has your core subject in college influenced your current profession?**

The three years I spent in the Zoology Department were life-changing – I say that without any trace of hyperbole. Between Sheila Joseph and Smita Krishnan after her, I owe a large part of what I do to this quietly inspirational department. It is not what the department teaches. In my day, we went by the curriculum, and it was pretty darn stark and dry as dust. But our wonderful faculty was able to bring even this dull, even outdated material to startling life with their sheer enthusiasm and joy for their subjects. They made every lecture a voyage of shared discovery. When I came to Xavier's I honestly did not really know what I wanted to do – by the time I left, I was pretty sure that studying ecology was all I wanted to do. And the seed of that passion was sown – and then nurtured— by the Zoology Department. I study coral reefs, and the first coral reef I visited was on one of those wonderful crazy trips that Smita took us on to the Gulf of Kutch. Our boat caught fire and we were abandoned for a few days on a deserted island (this is a true story, I promise). Here, I saw my first reef. And I have never left.

**Q. Besides a regular salary and perks, what gives you a sense of fulfillment in your current vocation/profession?**

I get a lousy salary but I get plenty of perks. I live a charmed life, working for four months every year shuttling between the Lakshadweep Islands and the Andaman and Nicobar, while, for the rest, conducting research along with my wife at a more sedate pace in the Mediterranean. It's the life of a 19<sup>th</sup> century explorer – and if I complain it is only because I don't count my blessings enough.

**Q. What are some of the life-altering lessons that you have learnt from your**

### ***chosen vocation?***

I am generally wary of life-altering lessons. Transformations, when they happen, come gradually, and it is only in hindsight do I see them as lessons learnt or transformations made. I don't think I am yet up to the challenge to glean grand life-changing lessons from a rather chaotic living of a life. Ask

anyone in the Zoology Department who knew me back then – I'm a rather slow learner!

### **Q: What is your message to the upcoming generation?**

If I have one message to give it would be to take advice from people from my generation with a liberal pinch

of salt. Our imaginations are limited by the ages in which we grew. Our certainties are just as certainly going to be overturned in the generation to come. This has always been true, but it has never been truer than in these tumultuous times. The absence of certainties has its rewards – since our futures are so obscure, the best we can do is whatever we really want.

## **PRATAP SINGH RAO**



*Pratap Singh Rao*

Pratap Singh Rao is an established painter. He graduated in 2011 in Political Science. Named the best seller of 2016 by Saatchi Art, Pratap Singh has made headway into the world of painting abstract art.

### **Q. What are some of the fondest memories of your time in St. Xavier's?**

There are many memories but the fondest are the times with friends with whom I could engage in enriching and intellectually stimulating academic discussions on a wide range of disciplines ranging from philosophy to literature, politics and cinema. I am a voracious reader and I enjoyed being in the reference section of the library. It was in the third year that I made up my mind to pursue art. I am indebted to St Xavier's in every respect, right from the choices I made with regard to my vocation as well as the way I think and the very life I lead. St. Xavier's also has a considerable influence on my socio - political thinking consisting of solid commitment for secularism and humanitarianism as well as the strong ethical values in my personal and professional sphere.

### **Q. How far has your core subject in college influenced your current**

### ***profession?***

I specialized in Political Science but since all academic disciplines are multidisciplinary in nature, it is needless to say that the core subject in college strongly influenced my current profession that is visual arts. Due to my training in Political Science, I have understood human existence and society in a nuanced manner which gets reflected in my art work.

### **Q. What inspired you take up painting?**

It is good to have inspiration but one also needs to have a fire in one's belly to achieve something. One must show a lot of courage. In case of a painter the challenge is to translate the image in your mind onto the canvas. Hardwork is an indispensable element. It is essential to stay focused and to be very kind to the people you are working with. When I was younger I wanted to make movies. I did not want to become a painter. I needed the money and I thought that I could make money with my work. I am getting a lot of offers these days because people say that I paint very well. I believe you can find honesty in my work.

### **Q. What is your preferred style of painting?**

I am an abstract painter and abstract paintings have a good market especially in Europe. My paintings are minimalist and impressionist in their aesthetics. I don't overwork on my canvas. I like simplicity in my work. People should feel what I had felt while painting. Nobody can analyze a painting fully, it's a visual poem. Whether it's figurative or abstract, whether it is a M.F. Hussain or Akbar Padamsee, many feelings are

awakened within you. When you see the painting of Mother Teresa by M. F. Hussain, you can interpret it in many ways. That's how I had studied in JNU and that's what my professors taught me - "find yourself when it comes to Art." You can think out of the box but then again you have to come back into the box too.... It is very easy to go out of the box. I think the world is beautiful. You have to find a way of living. I'm very optimistic about society and the people I meet. My paintings are not about pessimism or negativity they are more about the positive things of life: sunset/sunrise, love, heaven.

### **Q. This is a digitally obsessed generation. You are someone who works live with a paintbrush. Is there a difference?**

I know that people do 3D paintings. I think only with colours and brush. I'm old school. I know that digital techniques are good for various kinds of dimension paintings and if someday in the future time demands that of me, I too will enter the field of digital paintings. I have a language issue. I try to portray my feelings through my painting. My paintings are poetic. I try to find poetry through my work whether you see the blue light or the sunrise, these are paintings influenced by Indian classical music. There is music in nature – in the sunset, sunrise. The sun is music and that can enable you to create art.

### **Q. How did you network with people to establish yourself in the market?**

Some of my professors at JNU helped me. I got some buyers from Saatchi Art. They selected me for other Art fairs



which were held in London, Bristol and NYC. I am the premium artist of Saatchi art and the best seller of 2016. I hail from Udaipur which has many five star hotels. They demand good paintings. There are some art galleries in Udaipur. Although the market in India is not very conducive to young artistes, I have survived because I made an impact in European cities. I get invitations to join their art galleries. So now is the beginning.

**Q. Did you find any difficulties in the profession that you have chosen?**

Difficulties are in every profession but for me the most difficult thing was to make a living out of the painting. It is very easy to paint but very difficult to

sell in the market. I think the toughest time of my life was when my father was ill around 2014-2015. That was the beginning of my painting career. These days I'm connecting with a lot of people so it is very easy to work. Things change. I started with Camel Colours which are the cheapest in the world. Now I use the most expensive colours in the world. Things could go wrong from here and I am very objective about that. It's not that I will always be the best seller and people will buy my work or be waiting in line for my work. I'm prepared for that.

**Q. What is the message you have for the upcoming generation?**

Though message is quite a loaded

expression, on the basis of my personal empirical experience I would just like to say that we must chase our dreams keeping aside the practical oriented common sense and materialistic logic. In the beginning dreams may sound impractical and undoable, but if we nurture and nourish them with the best of intentions, they can be actualized. We must never stop improvising on any of the creative work. Alongside, we must never give up. Some of our failed creative products also have something great in them. Therefore instead of outright rejecting them we need to recognize worthy and creative aspects in them which can be applied in other creative works.

## RITWICK SAWARKAR



Ritwick Sawarkar

Ritwick Sawarkar graduated from St. Xavier's in 2001 with a B.Sc in Microbiology. Thereafter, he moved to Bangalore for integrated PhD. Currently, he works at the Max Planck Institute of Immunobiology and Epigenetics in Freiburg, Germany. He works as a group leader with his own PhD students and postdoctoral associates in a lab.

**Q. What are some of the fondest memories of your time in St. Xavier's?**

I spent three years in St. Xavier's as part of my undergraduate course in the Bachelors in Microbiology. The most memorable experience in Xavier's is related to working in the Caius Laboratory. Caius was being resurrected while I was there. I helped in setting up the lab. Besides that, I enjoyed the IMG Fest. I am an avid listener of classical music and therefore it was

fulfilling to listen to those musicians. We were also sent for various inter-collegiate competitions where we met many students from other colleges and networked with them. Some of us are still in touch with each other.

**Q. To what extent has your stint at St. Xavier's influenced your life?**

Life would have continued had I not been in Xavier's but the experience in college has enriched me. The teaching and practicals were rigorous but those were the best days of my life. I tell my students that life is more comfortable now. We used to reek of bacteria.

The teachers at Xavier's have had a great influence on me. The focus was more on understanding the concepts rather than memorizing them. Their teaching helped me change my perception about Biology, Science and Research. The Honors certification programme allowed us to think out of the box. It gave us the independence to conduct various studies. Caius Lab was a big turning point. The work at Caius was voluntary. It was a great learning experience, and both pleasure and fun! I have no degree or document to show that I worked for three years in the Caius. It taught me to be independent and it helped me to identify my passion.

Currently, I work on Molecular Biology

of cancer and not Microbiology, but basic tenets of microbiology and biochemistry taught at Xavier's definitely provided the basis of what we do today. There was a lot more rigour and hardwork involved in Xavier's than other places that I have been to. I had many friends in Xavier's and I am still in touch with many of them including my teachers at Xavier's.

**Q. St. Xavier's has gained Autonomy. Would you like to offer any comments on that?**

Autonomy should influence policy. Xavier's already has a high level of excellence and I think that the policy should be to keep this level maintained, or even improve it further. The bar must be raised higher and mediocrity should not be tolerated. If you have a pool of hardworking people, only then will better people join. There is a lot of competition from institutions such as the Indian Institute of Science, Education and Research (IISER) and Indian Institute of Science. Therefore, Xavier's should maintain its standards of excellence.

**Q. Besides a regular salary and perks, what gives you a sense of fulfillment in your current vocation/profession?**

We have complete freedom to conduct research in the area of our interest. We

don't know if our research will lead to a cure for cancer or Parkinson's disease,. We carry out our research mainly using public funds. There is a sense of contentment to look for something unknown just because you think there is something interesting behind it. It is as if we get paid to pursue our hobby. It is more of a passion that we pursue. The downside is that we end up doing a lot of extra work but there is so much pleasure that is derived in just working. It would be akin to asking a novelist, "why do you spend all your time writing or reading?"

**Q. What are some of the lessons that you have learnt from your chosen vocation?**

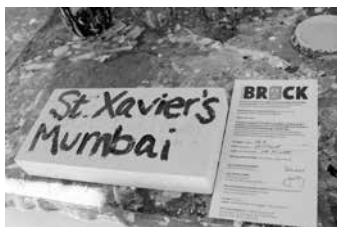
Do not to let your humble beginnings overshadow your ambitions. Many people think you reach some position because you have Godfathers, middle men or good contacts. I'm sitting here in this prestigious institute in a prominent position which is very rare for someone who has struggled his way through in Mumbai. I had not imagined that I would be leading a group of researchers at one of the world's premiere research institutes. Just because you have humble

beginnings, doesn't mean that you can't reach the rainbow.

**Q. What is your message to the upcoming generation?**

It is important to strike a good work – life balance. When we were students, we worked hard and we partied hard. If you are passionate about something, everything else will fall into place. If passion is your driving force then you will have the energy to do things that you care about. One should be honest with oneself. You have to ask yourself, if you really want to do what you are doing!

## ST. XAVIER'S MUMBAI, CLASS OF 1966 (MATHEMATICS)



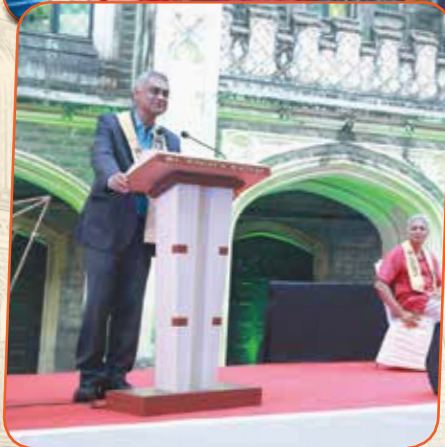
Thanks to social networking media the class of 1966, Mathematics has been able to reconnect with their friends:

Sam Dalal, Minneapolis, USA  
Chittaranjan Gauba, Vancouver, Canada  
Hasan Kazi, Chicago, USA  
Sameer Ahmed Khan, Bangalore, India  
Vijay Khanna, Prague, Czech Republic  
Rajoo Khetan, Mumbai, India  
Les Lobo, Houston, USA  
Rasik Machchhar, Edison, NJ, USA  
Noel Pinto, San Francisco, USA  
Jay Sondhi, Los Angeles, USA  
Yasmin Tata, Houston, USA

Many of the above alumni have stayed in touch with each other and recently initiated an annual alumni club get together. The first such event was held in Chicago in 2014. Since then the club has met in New York in 2015 and in Prague in 2016. This year the club is planning to meet during an 8 day-Mexico Cruise out of Los Angeles in October.



Graduation Ceremony 2016



Prof. Sandeep Trivedi, Director TIFR



Ms. Kavitha Iyer, Sub Editor - Indian Express



Dr. Snehalata Deshmukh, Former VC, University of Mumbai



Review of Autonomy Team at XRCVC and Library



Scholarship Presentation by Shri Khalid Kesar, IPS



College Day - Celebration in Solidarity



Workshop on Academic Autonomy under the aegis of RUSA. Chaired by the Minister of Higher & Technical Education Shri Vinod Tawde. Also present were Shri S.J Kunte, Principal Secretary Higher & Technical Education, Ms.Manisha Verma, Rusa State Project Director Ms.Manisha Verma



Capacity building for university teachers in Maharashtra by XRCVC on behalf of RUSA Maharashtra



CIP Meeting with University from Spain



Honouring Shri. Ashok Kamte, ACP on Police Day



Hon. Minister Shri. Prakash Javadekar releasing the ABC of Inclusive Publishing during the launch of Sugamya Pustakalaya in Delhi



Commerce Section - Graduation Ceremony



29th Research Scholars' Meet - Dept. of Chemistry



IMG Celebration



Staff Seminar



Principal felicitates Dr. Dossal



Antas



Vividha 2017 Bahuli Dolls across the Globe



Hon. Minister Shri Suresh Prabhu at Malhar Conclave



Naseeruddin Shah at Malhar Conclave



Band Event at Malhar



IPA at Malhar



Sufi Concert - Fund Raising event for Acid Attack Victims



Naval band performance at St. Xavier's



Dr. (Mr.) M.R. Almeida, Eminent Botanist and Alumni of the college, being felicitated.



Niti Samvad - Public Policy Conference

# REFLECTIONS



# WHAT CRICKET REALLY IS

Cricket is just a game, it's just a sport, for many people. But is this notion about cricket really true? Is it just a meaningless game without any external outcomes? Especially in a country such as India, I refuse to believe that this is the case. Cricket has some sort of meaning for almost everyone. At two talks that I presented in class on the topic of cricket, when I asked by show of hands how many people follow cricket regularly, in one lecture barely three hands were raised among more than hundred present and in the other classroom, not a single hand went up. These are extremely surprising and unexpected results to be found in one of the most cricket oriented nations in the world, and unfortunately I did not conduct a study on how such startling results were observed and thus I cannot comment on the matter. Nevertheless, I did follow up my initial question with another, this time having a slight twist. "How many of you keep yourselves updated on India Vs Pakistan matches whenever they do occur?" There was a drastic change in results. I didn't observe a single hand in the audience in either of the classrooms not to be raised, and this was not surprising. Even though I did not expect such a drought in raised hands for my first question, I expected no less than 100% of the hands raised for the question that followed. What does this say about Cricket? I would like to give a brief on some of aspects of this competitive sport.

Cricket is popularly referred to as "The Gentleman's game". Many believe that the sport is honoured with this title only because at the time of its establishment, only the rich, elitist class of males would play it, and these people were also the 'gentlemen' of society. I have a slightly different outlook on the keyword 'Gentleman'. The word today has a very subjective approach. It is not handed over to one on the basis of his socio economic background, but it is earned by one on the basis of his morals and behaviour. Thus, I believe that rather than cricket being the Game that only Gentlemen play, it is the game in which you have to

be a Gentleman to play it, or at least to succeed (the meaning of gentlemen being my latter explanation). If we think about it, all the legends of the game, the greatest players to engage with bat and ball, all had their morals in place. They were composed, humble, mature in their approach to matters, both on and off the field. I believe, and most fanatics and critics of the sport will agree with me when I say that one's morals off the field, are reflective on the field. Sachin Tendulkar, Rahul Dravid, Ricky Ponting, Jacques Kallis, Don Bradman, Anil Kumble, Shane Warne, Viv Richards, Kapil Dev, Sunny Gavaskar, and many more in this list of Cricket greats were all thorough "gentlemen", or at least gentlemen enough to make sure the media wasn't able to portray anything to oppose the belief. Likewise the politics outside has the power to tarnish the beautiful game of cricket.

An example I would like to point out is that of the current captain of the Indian Cricket team, the one and only Virat Kohli. Today many believe that he could go on to become the greatest performers to ever hold a cricket bat. When he came into the cricket scene, he was reputed as a stubborn kid who thought he was better than everyone. I was 12 when I first heard about Virat Kohli and the incident of him flashing his middle finger to the crowd. I instantly fell in love with him. Today, as a 19 year old who loves to thoroughly analyse the game, I realise how immature my outlook was. Virat was a player in the Senior Indian Cricket team, representing the nation overseas, and for someone with that status, his action definitely was not the most mature. This incident was only one of the many immature acts by Virat, however at the same time, he was scoring runs at an incredible rate, thus earning him the nickname "The Run Machine". Despite, the attitude that he had, he was still the hardest worker on the team, and thus was quite successful with his game. However, many a time that he got out, he demonstrated his lack of maturity and experience, both in the manner

in which he was dismissed and his behaviour after the dismissal. More importantly, he did not have a very successful stint in Test cricket, which many believe is the true picture of a player's skill in the original format of the game.

The generation of my parents and generations prior to them were a mass of anti-Kohli supporters because of his arrogant attitude complemented with his lack of success in Test cricket. When MS Dhoni, the former captain of the Indian team decided to retire from Test cricket, the responsibility was handed over to Kohli. His reputation was in sharp contrast to a 'Captain Cool'- Dhoni's image. Dhoni left the Test team when it was poor in form. Perhaps, that is why it was decided to hand over captaincy to Kohli and change the approach to the game. Once Kohli was made captain, either he slapped himself on the face or someone else did the honours, and told him that his attitude needs to change, he needs to mature, because the whole team would be looking up to him. Being the Captain of the Indian Cricket team also means that he is the face of the nation. Anyone who has followed cricket over the past 5 years would not have easily recognized the change in Virat's attitude through his comments in the media or post and pre match conferences and interviews, or even in the way he batted.

Kohli took over captaincy in the end of 2015 and 2016 was without doubt the best year in his career. He was breaking a record and reaching a milestone in almost every match that he played, and not just any records, records held by greats such as Sachin himself. He scored a double century in 4 consecutive Test series, becoming one of the highest scorers in a single Test season of all time. He jumped from 16th place in ICC Test batsmen's rankings to 2nd, today he is 1st in both limited over Rankings( One Day Internationals and T20 Internationals), and in the top 5 in Test rankings and under his captaincy India has become the top ranked Test playing nation in



the whole world. He even played a phenomenal IPL series becoming the first to score 900+ runs in a single IPL season and 4 centuries in one season. He broke away from the notion that you have to be a senseless power hitter to succeed in the IPL and showed that a mature approach to even IPL will put one on top of the game. Most of Virat's critics have become fans over the past two years.

Thus, just like one's life off the field tremendously affects performance on the field, even events occurring on the field have its drawback off the field, in society and in politics. The famous or rather infamous 'Bodyline' Series of 1932-1933 between England and Australia is a clear example of this. Australia was the home of Sir Donald Bradman, arguably the greatest batsmen of all time, even today. He had just come off a tour of England where he embarrassed the Englishmen in their own yard, scoring over 900 runs alone in the series, averaging above 120. Hence, the English were back for revenge, and they realised the only way they could succeed was to remove Don Bradman from the picture. Some players even reported that Douglas Jardine, the English captain, instructed his players to hate the Australians in order to defeat them and also ordered them to refer to Bradman as "the little bastard". After his efforts in studying Bradman's style of play and weaknesses, Jardine devised a delivery that he called 'fast leg theory', but the Australians later infamously coined it as the Bodyline delivery.

Bodyline delivery was an indirect approach to the injure the batsmen or rather victims of this destructive form of bowling. This had tremendous aftershocks outside the pitch, in

politics and international relations, in society. There were protests, riots and more as people believed that the method was unsportsmanlike by the British, it was a form of assault as at the time, any form of gear or protection was also just a fantasy. The early 1930's being in between the two world wars, was obviously a period of extreme tension across the world, and sport was adopted mainly to divert this tension and act as a measure of peace and goodwill among nations. The



Bodyline Series, due to the unethical tactics adopted by the English who were on a quest to prove themselves superior in all fronts, did the exact opposite as the English mindset was such that they felt it was necessary to establish dominance in cricket as well to achieve their goals.

CLR James in his book 'Beyond A Boundary', considered by many the greatest book in the history of cricket literature touches upon the Bodyline Series. The events occurring within the boundary line of a cricket pitch has it consequences 'beyond the

boundary' too. He also speaks about many instances in his homeland, the West Indies where the English would not accept defeat due to their anxiety of losing to their own slaves. I'm sure Mr. James in his book has given a far superior argument than mine in favour of the fact the cricket is more than just a game. Even today, as observed in the two classrooms that I spoke in, people who don't follow cricket regularly follow a contest between India and Pakistan because of the sort of relations that are held between the two nations politically and socially. This reflects that for even these non-enthusiasts of cricket, the sport has a bigger place in their lives than just being a meaningless game.

For me, cricket is even bigger than society and politics. At a personal level, it forms a significant part of my existence. International cricket is a form of patriotism. It brings tears of joy, tears of sadness. People risks their jobs, just to watch a World Cup final. People faint when they are within 50 feet of Sachin Tendulkar, who is considered 'God' only because of his achievements with the bat. Cricket isn't just a sport, cricket is for many, a religion, where the greatest players are the deities, and the fans are the believers. Even for those who don't follow cricket like a religion, it definitely has a place in their mind and soul as something that is more than just a game. What cricket really is can be viewed through many lenses. Its meaning differs from person to person but what cricket really isn't, is just a game!

**Bikramjit Basu**  
FYBA

*"There are times to stay put, and what you want will come to you, and there are times to go out into the world and find such a thing for yourself."*

**- Lemony Snicket,**

## BEARERS OF LIGHT

Bearers of Light

Fractured through unquiet waters,  
Through cracked window panes  
And broken fences in memories,  
Speared the dark,  
warmed broken hearts.  
The mountains,  
the dew on a grassblade,  
Oh, What marvellous art!  
It could've burned from the start,  
Glowed gently instead,  
The dawn to start.  
Scattered through prisms of minds,  
Illuminated trails,  
vision to the blind!  
Tangible and divine,  
unadulterated sunlight,  
Painted skies, tangerine sights!  
Touched, felt, measured in height.  
Oblivious to the wavering charms,  
One if lost, anchors in it's arms.  
Stretched canvas cornflower blue,  
Under the saffron  
splashed lilac hue.  
Shone, a thousand spheres!  
The purest stones of the luxurious,  
None this bright.  
Hung delicately on this balance,  
Sparked ray of hope, spilled light.  
Set the trees heartrendingly asparkle  
Drove those with no flight,  
no unblundering dash,  
outside the dark, demons to fight.

Jessica Rapose  
SYBA

## OLD MEN

old men settle  
like the last ashes  
of a strongly worded editorial  
in a newspaper -  
burnt,  
crumbling,  
but carrying reminders  
of words once powerful.

old men huddle  
in centres  
that have long since lost  
their magnetism.  
centres that once drew  
the most powerful thoughts -  
now host  
shuffling cards,  
shuffling gaits,  
shuffling shoulders.

old men whisper -  
wars can be won  
and fortunes can be lost  
with all that they have to tell you  
if only you  
listen  
observe  
absorb.

old men gather like continents  
much like the mass of land  
holds everything above it  
rooted  
stable  
sure.

Shivani Lalan  
FYBA



## POETRY



Poetry carries the weight of  
ten thoughts,  
nine feelings,  
eight emotions,  
seven sins,  
six thoughts,  
five complaints,  
four heartaches,  
three joys,  
two heavy eyes,  
one pouring soul.

Poetry fights her way  
through layers  
and layers of jargon,  
through depths  
of useless words just floating,  
skimming the surface of \*nothing.\*  
she claws her way  
through overgrown shambles  
and tangles  
of unnecessary parts of speech.

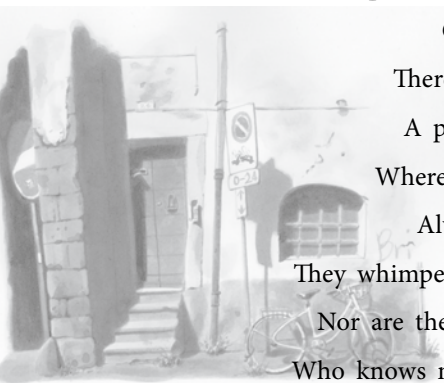
Poetry slashes her way  
through tumbling creepers  
falling from broken terraces.  
she drives away unimportant  
thoughts from fertile fields of  
words.

I see Poetry survive against all odds  
against joy-that sweet, sweet burden.  
against rationale-a double edged  
sword  
against doubt - a ghoulish green  
monster I see Poetry survive.  
No, \*rejuvenate.\*

And then I know  
why poetry takes a feminine  
pronoun.

Shivani Lalan  
FYBA

# OF QUIET AND QUAIN



Of Quiet and Quaint

There's a place the city keeps,  
A place of quiet and quaint  
Where leaves that fall from trees

Always reach the ground,  
They whimper not along aimless window panes,  
Nor are they crushed in the palms of man  
Who knows not that a fallen leaf isn't dead yet

Here, in this kept place,  
Leaves grace the ground  
And return back to the earth

Here, the rains swoon over tranquil pastures,  
They collect not in pools over tarnish terraces  
Nor do they return falsely to the sky when the sun comes out

Here, in this kept place,  
Every raindrop soothes a grain of soil  
Sending whiffs of wet mud bouncing off the earth

Here, even crows sing in colours of serenades,  
They are inspired not by the noise of city horns  
But by the witty whistling of rain-washed bamboos

Here, they sing in rhythms of the flute,  
The quiet is graced with mellowing melodies,  
All of the quaint is sprinkled across the earth

This is a place the city keeps,  
It is not in possession of the present,  
But that of the past  
Buried under concrete tar,  
No shovel or spade can unearth  
A place withered into its own soil  
By those who ventured into the heart of this city  
And turned every quiet and quaint  
Into fossils of everlasting bounty

**Andrea Rodrigues**


SYBA


# FACES


In the world of  
saints and demons,  
I have travelled  
far enough to know  
that there are only few humans.


I have come that far,  
to that point  
Through that way  
This has left me helpless now  
To fix the broken pieces  
which were previously joint.


I tried looking for people with  
passion and grace,  
I searched for their Strengths  
I appreciated their weaknesses


 But what the mirror showed me  
were only fake faces.


 Do's and Don'ts,  
I continued to search  
The good, the bad,  
the dark, the bright's

 Only in the end to know that  
Forgiveness is not  
important than grudge.

 I wondered and I wandered,  
The attitudes and the egos, the  
laughs and the cries

 I had patience and gave chances  
But the world  
seemed least bothered.

 My emotions fluttered,  
they were mixed  
Should I be worried?  
Or be at ease?

 An answer tapped my brain;  
Why do I need to please?

**Jesslyn Gomes**

SYBA

# Les Mots Français

## Je Te Trouverai

C'était la frontière d'Armageddon. Tous les soldats se reposaient dans la grotte. Ils essayaient d'oublier l'horreur de la guerre. Gillard demanda à Jacques de l'accompagner pour une promenade. Jacques refusa, donc Gillard décida de se promener seul. Alors qu'il parcourait l'horizon, il remarqua un objet brillant sur le sol. Il se pencha et le ramassa. C'était une image d'une femme dans une robe blanche. Derrière cette image, quelqu'un avait écrit le numéro «4» et les mots «Alsace'14». Soudainement, un fort son de tonnerre secoua le sol. Gillard se tourna vers la grotte mais la grotte était en ruines. Gillard était gravement blessé. Tous les soldats qui se trouvaient dans la grotte étaient morts, même Jacques, son meilleur ami. Il a appelé QRT pour envoyer du secours. Une heure plus tard, l'équipe médical arriva et emmena Gillard. Il était le seul survivant. Quand il se couchait sur le lit de l'hôpital, il se rendit compte que c'était grâce à cette image de la femme, qu'il avait survécu de

cette explosion de bombe. Alors, il décida de chercher cette fille. Après une semaine, il fut autorisé de rentrer chez lui. Le lendemain, il prépara ses valises et partit pour Alsace. En trois heures, il était en Alsace. Il conduisit partout, mais il ne la trouva pas. Il décida de faire une pause et il entra dans une boulangerie. En y entrant, il vit cette femme. Elle passa tout droit devant lui. Il décida de la suivre. Enfin, il attira son attention. Elle s'arrêta et écouta tout ce que Gillard lui dit. «Puis-je voir cette photo?» lui demanda-t-elle. Elle regarda l'image en état de choc. «Voulez-vous venir chez moi pour prendre un verre? Je vais vous en raconter tout.» Donc, Gillard l'accompagna. « Que préfères-tu? Rouge? Ou Blanc? » Elle lui demanda. «Blanc, c'est parfait!», répondit-il. « Vous ne savez pas quelle chance d'avoir trouvé cette image. Vous avez sauvé ma vie! » dit Gillard. La femme se dirigea vers un comptoir et prit un cadre photo et le montra à Gillard. «Oh, mon Dieu, vous êtes la femme de Jacques!», Il s'écria: « Je

suis tellement désolé, il était mon meilleur ami. Mais il ne m'a jamais parlé de vous. Je pensais qu'il était célibataire! » La femme expliqua, « Je m'appelle Laura. Nous nous sommes mariés il y a 8 ans. Mais il n'a jamais été fidèle. Je lui ai donné cette photo de moi, comme un charme de bonne chance. Je lui donnais toujours cette photo avant qu'il aille à la frontière, avec l'espoir qu'il revienne chez moi. Cette photo était pour lui! Pas toi! Il est mort et tu es vivant! Ça c'est de ta faute! A cause de toi, il est mort! » « Cette image, je l'ai trouvée sur le sol, je ne l'ai jamais volée ! Pourquoi le volerai-je? Je ne vous connais pas! », Gillard essaya d'expliquer, mais Laura devint plus furieuse. Elle courut au comptoir et sortit un pistolet. Elle tira le pistolet et Gillard tomba. Puis elle prit l'image. Elle se transforma ensuite en fumée et entra dans la photo. Le numéro à l'arrière de l'image fut '5'

**David Francisco**  
FYBA

## L'avenir de la langue française

La langue française, aujourd'hui ne même apparait pas sur la liste des dix langues les plus parlées dans le monde. Il y a 220 million de gens dans le monde entier qui parlent le français. Forbes intitule cette langue comme la troisième langue la plus utile dans un monde qui devient peu à peu complètement capitaliste. La langue française est très utilisée dans les affaires et le commerce. C'est aussi la quatrième langue la plus utilisée sur Internet. La banque du monde, l'Union Européenne et même l'Organisation des Nations Unies utilisent le français. Mais le futur de la langue semble un peu morne. Alors, quel est l'avenir de cette langue ?

Les analystes estiment que l'influence du français diminuera dans les décennies qui suivront, surtout en Europe. C'est à cause d'une augmentation dans l'immigration en Europe. C'est plus possible que les immigrants retiennent leur langue propre et qu'ils n'apprennent pas la langue du pays où ils s'installent. On croit qu'il y aura très peu de gens en France qui vont choisir d'apprendre le français. Les jeunes en France préfèrent apprendre l'anglais parce que l'anglais offre plus des opportunités dans le monde, surtout dans le monde de commerce. Même leurs SMS et la langue utilisée par eux sur Internet, c'est l'anglais parce que l'anglais contient les mots plus courts et

moins compliqués que le français. En plus, il ne reste qu'au moins dix pays en Europe qui enseignent le français à leurs citoyens, comme une langue étrangère. Mais même en ces pays-ci, ce n'est pas obligatoire de continuer le français quand on fait des hautes-études. Le seul pays où c'était une exception, c'est l'Angleterre, mais même en Angleterre cette règle est annulée maintenant.

Mais quand-même, il y a une résurgence dans le nombre de gens qui parlent le français dehors l'Europe. Malgré la domination de l'anglais, le nombre de francophones a augmenté au cours des dernières années. En 2014, on

comptait 274 millions de locuteurs de la langue - une augmentation de 25% depuis 2010 - selon un rapport de l'Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF). De ce nombre, 212 millions ont parlé la langue au quotidien, soit une augmentation de 7% en quatre ans. Notamment, les pays d'Afrique sous saharienne ont connu une hausse de 15 % des francophones, grâce à la croissance démographique et à la hiérarchisation du français dans

le système éducatif.

Il convient de penser que ces pays en croissance - la plupart du temps, des anciennes colonies de la France et de la Belgique en Afrique - vont continuer l'emploi de cette langue. Il y a même les analystes qui envisagent qu'il y aura presque 750 millions de gens dans le monde qui vont parler le français en 2050. Le français peut être la langue la plus parlée en 2050, même plus que l'anglais, l'espagnol ou le chinois.

Mais on suppose que la croissance de la population dans les pays africains va augmenter les francophones dans le monde. Mais ce n'est pas sûr, surtout en vue de la possibilité que la Chine intervienne en Afrique. Il reste de voir si les pays africains vont retenir la langue de leurs impérialistes ou s'ils vont adopter le chinois.

**Anant Venkatesh**  
FYBA

## La France

La France, une beauté captée dans un hexagone. Avec un drapeau bleu, blanc et rouge signifiant la révolution, le patriotisme et même la solidarité. On parle toujours de la langue française!

On va parler des francophones, mais qui sont ces gens ? C'est quoi la francophonie? Parle-t-on vraiment en français dehors de la France ?

L'utilisation de la langue française pourrait être pour la communication entre des gens, ou même pour les communications administratives et également en tant que le médium d'instruction dans le domaine d'enseignement. Quand il s'agit de représenter des personnes qui l'emploient pour la communication, c'est la francophonie. D'ailleurs, les gouvernements utilisent la langue pour les échanges et le travail, cela fait partie de la Francophonie. (Remarquez la majuscule et la minuscule) Donc, c'est une façon de s'exprimer!. Plusieurs francophones sont fiers d'être une partie de la Francophonie. Pour eux, parler le français c'est comme une partie de leur identité, de se sentir bien dans la peau, comme une richesse culturelle. Carrément, en le parlant, on ne partage pas seulement un

sentiment similaire, mais aussi des valeurs et des civilisations communes. Au Canada à Québec, en Belgique et en Suisse, c'est une langue co-officielle tandis qu'en Algérie, au Malgache, le français est une langue véhiculaire. Plus de moitié des Africains l'utilisent.

Le 20 mars, c'est la journée internationale de la Francophonie où il y a des concours <dis-moi dix mots >, la Franco fête, même les célébrations d'OIF à Paris. OIF c'est l'Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie où il y a 57 membres aujourd'hui, et le seul lien entre eux c'est la langue française! Dont le slogan est <égalité, complémentarité, solidarité >.

Lorsqu'on parle de l'égalité, il y a des Français qui estiment qu'ils sont maltraités vis à vis des immigrés en France! Immigration? En France? Le français n'est seulement pas parlé autour du monde avec les accents différents, mais dans le pays même. Un immigré est quelqu'un né à l'étranger mais résident en France. La France est marquée par la vague migratoire, qui augmenta de 4 millions à 5,4 millions en 2011. Il y avait une grande croissance dans l'agriculture française, l'activité

économique, l'industrie automobile grâce à l'immigration des gens. 2,3 millions d'immigrés viennent de l'Afrique surtout du Maroc et de l'Algérie et aussi de la Turquie, de l'Allemagne, de la Belgique et même de l'Asie. <Un immigré un jour, immigré pour toujours! >

Tout ne se passe pas bien! D'une part, des immigrés font face à plusieurs défis à propos de leur accent, de leur mode de vie, du travail, de leurs voisins! C'est plutôt comme une crise! Ils passent toute la vie en essayant de s'intégrer dans la société française. La Cité nationale de l'histoire de l'immigration est un musée qui représente l'histoire des immigrés, depuis 2007 et qui a été officiellement inaugurée en 2014.

En même temps, les Français émigrent aux États Unis et en Angleterre où ils décrivent comment Paris, le métro, le vin et la baguette leur manquent. Et surtout la langue française leur manque. Et vous? Parlez-vous français? Bienvenue à la Francophonie! «L'image la plus exacte de l'esprit français est la langue française elle-même ! »

**Urmi Shethia**  
FYBA

## Mes souvenirs de la France

La France est un pays qui comprend un mélange de charme du vieux monde et de la haute-couture. Une visite en France est un voyage dans

un pays à la fois profondément ancré dans l'histoire, ainsi que dans la mode et la technologie. Une visite en France a toujours

été un de mes grands rêves, et en 2015 avec 20 de mes amis, j'ai eu la chance de la visiter. En sortant de l'aéroport, le soleil était dans le ciel

pourpre, suspendu au-dessus de l'horizon et je me suis assise dans la voiture avec les fenêtres fermées et j'ai regardé le feuillage vert autour de moi. Quand je suis entrée dans la maison de mon correspondant, je suis entrée dans un duplex appartement, avec un petit jardin très joli et des fenêtres qui donnent sur la rue calme. C'était un beau moment pour moi parce que j'ai toujours vécu dans l'agitation et le bruit de Mumbai.

Pendant plus de deux semaines, avec l'aide de nos correspondants, nous avons eu, l'aventure d'une vie. Le voyage à Paris, manger des glaces dans le jardin et la visite aux vieux bâtiments couverts de lierre, pour des séances de photos, la France n'a jamais manqué son charme.

Nous avons visité l'Alsace et les villes voisines. Notre bus était envahi des chansons et des récits d'autre part le ciel bleu et la rue pittoresques que nous avons traversée. Nous

sommes arrivés à notre destination, Strasbourg, vers l'après-midi et on a passé le temps paresseusement dans les bars autour de la ville, en sirotant du thé glacé, devant la cathédrale de Strasbourg et un carrousel. C'était presque comme un conte de fée. Pour ajouter à notre émerveillement, nous avons passé notre nuit dans une petite auberge où nous avons mangé des pizzas où on a joué des jeux- un retour à notre époque comme les petits enfants. Le jour suivant était pratiquement le même, nous avons visité l'Alsace, Nantes, Amiens et on a goûté des spécialités locales comme des bretzels, des macarons et des glaces. Nous avons pris des photos et nous avons pratiqué notre français avec des marchands de souvenirs dans notre essai d'acheter des souvenirs ; peintures et figurines.

Lorsque nous sommes retournés aux maisons de nos correspondants, mon aventure était encore incomplète. J'ai visité des lieux

historiques comme le Château de Compiègne, Versailles et même la tour Eiffel. Je suis allée à Paris, la ville avec ses cuisines variées et j'ai mangé à la française. Quand j'ai rencontré mes camarades, nous avons visité Paris et on a voyagé par le métro afin d'arriver aux Champs Elysées, à la Notre Dame et au Sacré Cour. Chaque visite était comme une bouffée de l'air frais. Pour terminer notre voyage de Paris, on a visité les ponts célèbres, et on a pris un tour en bateau-mouche sur la Seine. On s'est promené dans les rues riches de l'histoire.

Le voyage s'est terminé, comme toutes les aventures, avec beaucoup de tristesse et de larmes, surtout de ma part. Quand nous avons pris notre avion, après avoir dit au revoir à nos nouveaux amis, je me suis rendu compte que ce voyage persistera toujours dans mon cœur, et me remplira du désir de retour.

**Nicole Mehta**  
FYBA

## **LA DIGITALISATION : UNE BONNE NOUVELLE OU UNE ALARME ?**

Tout le monde est influencé par la digitalisation. Cela a changé la façon de vivre des gens et a affecté la façon de travailler dans presque tous les domaines de la vie. On peut dire que c'est grâce à la digitalisation qu'aujourd'hui il y a le progrès dans tous les secteurs. Aujourd'hui la littérature sans papier est disponible et cela a changé des habitudes des gens.

Le mot qui était seulement dans le livre est partout. Les élèves ont dit au revoir aux sacs lourds,

maintenant, l'éducation est sur les doigts des individus. Alors, cela est une joncture cruciale car les valeurs de travail ont changé. Si, on parle à propos des éditeurs, leur rôle essentiel, c'est celui de dénicher des vrais talents parmi des prétendants car dans cette époque chacun est un écrivain. De plus, la numérisation feint le journalisme même que la mondialisation affecte les classes moyennes. Le journalisme cette profession est en mutation.

L'information est disponible

rapidement alors on a besoin des journalistes qui apporteront une valeur de plus avec une véritable expertise et une grande qualité d'écriture car il y a un agrandissement dans la masse d'information.

Alors, dans cette époque la question devant nous est est-ce que la digitalisation est une bonne nouvelle ou une alarme ?

**Prabhmeet Kaur**  
FYBA

### **Vers une « lingua franca »**

Dans les manchettes de la société mondialisée de nos jours, il semble qu'on concourt pour le titre du « citoyen mondial ». Est-ce que ce sont les immigrants, autour de qui se trouvent la xénophobie, le terrorisme, la « dé-mondialisation », et tous les

problèmes contemporains sont essentiellement les leurs? Est-ce que ce sont les écrivains et les poètes, qui s'épuisent dans une âme universelle pour s'exprimer devant une audience anonyme et à la fois, globale? Ou est-ce que ce sont les hommes et les femmes

d'affaires, qui, ayant embarqués sur un tel nombre des vols qu'ils s'apprennent à jamais ressentir l'état horrible de « jet lag »? Est-ce que je suis une citoyenne mondiale? Je me demande chaque jour.

Pour moi, le terme «citoyen

mondial» implique une certaine ouverture d'esprit. La citoyenneté mondiale s'enracine dans les livres qu'on lit, les gens avec qui on engage, et les histoires que vous créez ensemble – ce n'est qu'un esprit fécond qui est capable des adaptations culturelles nécessitées par le monde globalisé qu'on habite.

La langue natale, c'est l'identité. C'est la langue dans laquelle on jure, dans laquelle on déclare, « Je t'aime », c'est la langue qui verbalise les désirs et les pensées les plus profonds. Le passeport global du multilinguisme, est fondamentalement un pas vers une langue universelle, la langue de l'humanité. Dans la littérature, c'est un pré requis de nos jours – on arrive à la souffrance de l'écrivain « Dalit », à l'angoisse de la Négritude, au réalisme de Gorky – en les lisant en

marathi, en français et en russe. Le langage est saturé des expériences concrètes de l'histoire, discute une critique littéraire connue. Pendant que Mikhaïl Bakhtine parle dans un contexte structuraliste, ces idées forment un véritable argument pour la compréhension de la langue, et par extension, le multilinguisme. Si c'est possible d'encapsuler une telle histoire dans quelques lignes de texte, le pouvoir du mot écrit s'augmente exponentiellement.

On retourne, enfin, à la problématique de la citoyenneté mondiale. Ayant été grandie dans un environnement multilinguistique, c'était toujours la capacité de s'adapter à la langue – linguistique, académique, et sociale -- pour moi. En réalité, je perçois cette capacité comme un état d'être apatride. C'est le potentiel de ne pas être cloué à la ville native et ses traditions associées

– de fleurir, et plus important, de vouloir fleurir dans n'importe quel contexte culturel. Étant sans état, n'égale pas à l'oubli des racines – au contraire, c'est l'art de les apporter sur sa personne et de les utiliser comme un soutien, une colonne de fortitude; d'être capable de voir la société mondialisée pas seulement de la perspective du présent, mais aussi du passé et de l'avenir.

Donc, mon ambition est de devenir le flâneur (la flâneuse) de Baudelaire, et d'être défini pas seulement d'où je viens, mais avec quelle culture je m'identifie le plus intimement. Et pour moi, malgré que je n'aie pas même mon licence en main, malgré que je sois étudiante pour l'avenir prévisible, j'ai bien appris que ce n'est jamais une réponse nette.

**Raina Bhagat**  
TYBA

## L'anniversaire

Quand j'ai commencé d'apprendre la langue française, je me fascinai grâce à ses caractéristiques éminentes. J'ai rêvé d'aller en France, de parler couramment en français, d'errer dans les rues de Paris et de boire le vin rouge peut être avec mon amour. Cette idée m'a semblé magnifique et très romantique. J'ai rêvé toujours de ce voyage. Un jour, mon instituteur a demandé de mettre les verbes entre les parenthèses aux temps convenables. Je me suis excitée parce que le paragraphe parlait de l'amour à la première vue. Quand

j'ai commencé à lire, j'étais déçue parce que dans le texte la fille tombe amoureuse d'un fils qui arrête sa chute quand elle est en train de tomber dans la rue. On dit dans le texte que ce jour c'est son anniversaire et elle va chez son amie pour fêter son anniversaire. J'ai pensé de cette fille comme une femme infidèle qui abandonne sa famille pour avoir un amant. Elle abandonne sa famille, son mari et ses enfants. Qui consolera les pauvres enfants? Son mari sera seul et personne ne le soulagera. Elle détruit son mariage de 25 ans pour

être avec un jeune amant. Qu'est-ce qu'elle fait ? Cette décision n'a ni sens ni logique." Pendant que je m'occupais de ces pensées, mon instituteur a commencé à expliquer le paragraphe. Et à ce moment je me suis rendu compte que j'ai mal compris le mot 'l'anniversaire' comme l'anniversaire de mariage. Je me suis grandement trompé. J'ai accusé un personnage fictif de la tricherie. C'est vraiment impardonnable.

**Mrunmayee Pathare**  
FYBA

## Indila: un hindustani

Indila est comme n'importe quel chanteur français avec des paroles exquises et de la musique funky sauf qu'elle est de l'origine indienne et elle dépeint des thèmes indiens. Dans beaucoup de vidéo de ses chansons, elle apparaît ornée des sarees et des bijoux indiens : les chansons 'Criminel' et 'Dil dil ja'. Elle absorbe le style de Bollywood dans les thèmes et aussi dans la

musique. Selon le musicien Ravi Shankar, elle mélange parfaitement la musique classique et moderne mais il est étonnant que dans ses chansons, les voix ne se perdent pas dans les raps. C'est une mélodie parfaite. La musique indienne est principalement basée sur la mélodie et le rythme, elle n'est pas basée sur l'harmonie ou les accords". Les sons orientaux dans les chansons d'Indila

mettent l'accent sur la mélodie et le rythme. Elle représente la danse de Bollywood avec les articulations, les gesticulations et les autres caractéristiques stylistiques, les postures parfaites, les thèmes profonds et sa voix melliflue qui intensifie cet effet magique.

**Tresha D'Souza**  
FYBA

## Le Quiz : Vive la France

- 1) En France le 14 juillet représente
  - a. La fête nationale
  - b. La date des élections présidentielles
  - c. Le début du Carnaval
- 2) Comment s'appelle l'hymne nationale française ?
  - a. La Parisienne
  - b. La Marseillaise
  - c. La Lyonnaise
- 3) Qui est le Président français ?
  - a. Jacques Chirac
  - b. Nicolas Sarkozy
  - c. Emmanuel Macron
- 4) Combien d'habitants y a-t-il en France ?
  - a. 20 millions
  - b. 66 millions
  - c. 100 millions
- 5) La France et l'Angleterre sont séparées par
  - a. La Manche
  - b. Les Vosges
  - c. L'Océan Atlantique
- 6) Qui a construit La Tour Eiffel ?
  - a. Gustave Eiffel
  - b. Lionel Eiffel
  - c. Charlie Eiffel
- 7) Quelle est la peinture la plus célèbre au Louvre ?
  - a. L'Origine du monde
  - b. L'Absinthe
  - c. La Joconde
- 8) Quelle est la forme de la France ?
  - a. L'octogone
  - b. L'hexagone
  - c. Le pentagone
- 9) Quelle est la boisson la plus célèbre dans la région de Normandie ?
  - a. Le cidre
  - b. L'absinthe
  - c. La bière
- 10) Quelles sont les couleurs du drapeau français ?
  - a. Blanc et rouge
  - b. Bleu, rouge et vert
  - c. Bleu, blanc et rouge

**Darshi Shah**  
FYBA

## Vers un monde uni- le rôle et l'importance du multilinguisme

Aujourd'hui, je me trouve au bord d'un spectacle global. Au lieu d'esprit d'assimilation, la discrimination basée sur la race, la religion, la classe ou un autre aspect de la vie humaine est le nouveau normal. C'est comme tout ce que ce monde a accompli après la mondialisation s'écroule.

Et voilà moi, une indienne qui écrit en français pour expliquer pourquoi elle croit que l'apprentissage des langues étrangères renforce la beauté d'une nationalité qui n'est pas limitée par les frontières géographiques ou la vision étroite de quelques chefs du gouvernement. En fait, elle s'engage des intérêts et de modes de vie diverses.

Cependant, la citoyenneté globale est plus que le mouvement facile entre les pays. C'est une façon de vivre qui voit notre monde comme un réseau de connections encouragé par notre interdépendance économique et maintenant, sociopolitique. La citoyenneté globale reconnaît que nos actions peuvent affecter le peuple local, national ou international. Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, un

philosophe allemand a propagé une philosophie similaire. Critiqué d'être un idéaliste, il expliquait néanmoins que le monde est comme un corps humain où les membres sont contrôlés par la cervelle. De la même façon, ce monde a une seule réalité et c'est l'esprit universel -le plus puissant, le plus rationnel. Peut-être, Hegel était le premier citoyen global parce qu'il croyait que le pas final dans le processus de la formation des états ; l'individu, la famille, la communauté et l'état ; serait l'amalgamation de tous les états pour créer un gouvernement mondial.

Selon moi, ce processus de l'intégration est impossible sans la communication. C'est seulement le partage des langues et en effet, la culture, qui peut lier l'un à l'autre : les factions opposées. Le multilinguisme possède la capacité de surmonter les différences géographiques, politiques et sociales ; en nous unifiant à un point commun linguistique. Le multilinguisme crée la possibilité d'établir les relations personnelles avec les gens à travers le globe et donc, quand il y a une perte

d'humanité, cela me semble une perte d'opportunité de nous intégrer comme une seule unité. Les langues nous attachent dans une dynamique- de l'amour et du respect mutuel. Dans un âge du fondamentalisme et le conservatisme croissant, c'est le multilinguisme qui garde le libéralisme.

Alors, il faut développer la qualité d'entendre et d'être entendu dans le chaos. Cela ne s'agit pas à travers les fusils ou les armes nucléaires mais à travers la mélodie et la rassurance de partager une langue avec un étranger qui peut avoir une idéologie opposée. Bien sûr, le pouvoir politique sera toujours le rôle moteur dans les relations internationales mais peut-être c'est seulement le multilinguisme qui restera une force aussi capable et indispensable que la rapacité du pouvoir. Il doit devenir la réaction à la nouvelle tendance de concentrer l'énergie vers l'intérieur. Le monde humain, notre race humaine ne peut pas permettre la redéfinition des frontières rigides ou la construction des murs entre les pays parce que l'immigrant, le



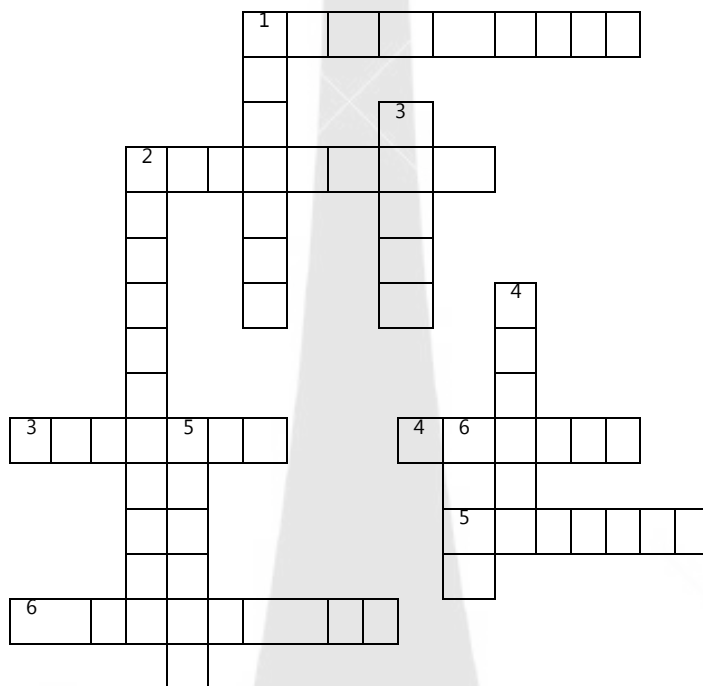
refugié et tous les autres victimes des circonstances sont les citoyens globaux même s'ils ne sont pas les citoyens de notre pays d'origine. La philosophie de Gautama Buddha explique qu'on n'est pas une entité mais tout simplement un processus. Ensemble, nous partageons une

seule planète qu'on va laisser en héritage à nos descendants et notre héritage ne peut pas être un monde divisé. Donc, au risque d'être appelé une idéaliste qui parle de sa propre expérience (réelle et tangible), je déclare fièrement ma croyance que le multilinguisme peut nous faire

devenir plus responsables; luttant contre l'injustice dans n'importe quelle région de ce monde et respectant la diversité de notre âge - les signes d'être un vrai citoyen global.

**Asmita Kuvalekar**  
TYBA

## MOTS CROISÉS



### HORIZONTAL

1. Un poète romantique
2. Un plat célèbre en Provence
3. On s'arrête pour regarder une \_\_\_\_\_
4. Une marque très connue
5. Une personne qui apprécie et comprend la cuisine
6. Je sépare l'Espagne et La France

### VERTICAL

1. Je suis un port, et rime avec pauvre
2. La vie en Rose
3. Un sculpteur impressionniste
4. Vous ne pouvez pas commencer votre jour sans moi
5. Un plat de la Bretagne
6. Le père de la littérature française

### Les Réponses (Les Mots-Croisés)

#### HORIZONTAL

1. Lamartine
2. Escargot
3. Affiche
4. Chanel
5. Gourmet
6. Pyrénées

#### VERTICAL

1. Le Havre
2. Edith Piaf
3. Rodin
4. Figaro
5. Crêpes
6. Hugo

### Les Réponses (Quiz)

1-a 2-b 3-c 4-b 5-a 6-a 7-c 8-b 9-a 10-c

(AyeshaMendonca, UrmiShethia, Samantha Vaz, FYBA)

## L'essence de la France

Paris n'est pas seulement une ville en France.  
C'est un monde.

Lié par l'art, la musique,  
la cuisine, la culture et la mode.

La Ville des Lumières,

Mais tout comme le ciel devient sombre et orageux,  
Nous recherchons quelque chose.

Parce que Paris apporte la renommée instantanée.

Avec les yeux fixés sur les pensées,  
Et ignorant tout autour de moi, sans entendre un bruit,  
Je vois la lueur dorée de la soirée  
tombante contre la Tour Eiffel.

Alors, qu'on revient à la Seine

Juste pour regarder Paris au crépuscule,  
Au fur et à mesure que le ciel du soir se ferme  
lentement sur ce dernier brin de lumière du jour,

En silence, comme un soupir.

Avec le soleil qui a disparu et l'étincelle morte,  
A Paris la nuit est triste et étrangère.

Est-ce que vous en avez pensé?

Ensuite, vous vous trompez sûrement.

À travers l'écran infini des étoiles éternelles,  
S'écoule la pluie.

La Ville de romance et de vibrance qui réside dans la  
lutte et les conflits de la Ville.

Avez-vous regardé sa grandeur ? Où elle se tenait ?  
Où elle se trouvait?

Décorant les terres et la douce mélodie qui parcourt  
les rues?

La Ville intrinsèquement tissée par les doux sons de la  
musique, à travers ses Rues.

Avec un mélange mystérieux de mélodie,  
de mots et de musique.

Calme la fatigue du sommeil

comme une douce caresse,

Et fond le cœur glacé.

À côté d'un restaurant, un piano joue une ritournelle,  
Pendant que la pluie coule sur ma fenêtre,

Je regarde les dômes et les tours,

Le bruit des minutes, des quarts, et des heures

Salut! Comment ça va ? Mon cher! Mon vieil homme!

La foule dans les rues on salue et on passe,

À travers les chemins lissés de la France.

Et la cuisine!

Célèbre pour sa finesse et sa saveur,

Avec sa longue et mince tranche de pain croustillant:

La baguette!

Café noir au croissant,

Un croissant beurré et floconneux!

Pain perdu!

Les crêpes!

Soupe à l'oignon avec les  
croutons et le fromage fondu!

Ratatouille!

Poulet farci!

Mousse au chocolat!

La Galette des Rois!

Une liste immense de délicieuses cuisines.

Un magasin de fromage au coin de la rue,  
Avec du fromage célèbre garni derrière les vitres du  
magasin!

Camembert de Normandie!

Roquefort!

Comté!

Chevrotin!

Et beaucoup plus!!!!

Des plats délicieux accompagnés de vin blanc ou  
rouge....

Riesling!

Chardonnay!

Syrah!

Merlot!

Que peut-on dire qu'une ode à un vin ancien?

Pure et unique avec une qualité mystique,

Avec ses saveurs aussi délicates que la poésie.

Avec ses innombrables textures, saveurs et recettes!

La France est un paradis pour les amateurs de  
nourriture.

Peintures de rue,

Avec des couleurs vives,

Poésie française,

Riche de beauté,

Des beaux cimes d'amour,

Au fond de la mélancolie et du désespoir.

Évoque beaucoup d'émotions,

Par ses mots,

Capture de différentes pensées

et des moments fugaces,

De la belle campagne,

C'est un peuple amical,

Couronne de l'hémisphère nord,

La Tour Eiffel, un motif de dentelle complexe en acier.

Fier de ses architectures de:

Notre Dame!

Arc de Triomphe!

Louvre!

Bien que la «langue française»  
soit enfoncée ensemble pour créer des mélodies  
lyriques, et la France réelle.

Vue dans les travaux de grands maîtres:

Victor Hugo!

Charles Baudelaire!

Alphonse de Lamartine!

Paul Verlaine!

Effectivement,

Paris, la Ville brille sous le soleil reculant.

Alors, coule tranquillement la Seine,

On ne remarque guère sa présence,

Toujours là, calme et discret,

Brillant sous le soleil brillant.

Comme le rire de son cœur est

entendu dans chaque café de rue,

Comme un murmure de chaque feuille,

Chanson de chaque rivière et l'étincelle de chaque ciel.

**Alisha Dsouza**

TYBA

## Ma voix

C'est quoi ce que j'écris?  
Pourquoi est-ce que j'aime écrire ?  
Est-ce que tout ira bien ?  
Où il y en aura des rébellions?

Comment est-ce que mes œuvres  
seront reconnus?  
Si ceux resteront inconnus!  
J'aimerais bien si tout le monde fait  
la lecture  
De n'importe quelle littérature

Si je dois, j'écrirai dans ta langue  
Pourvu que tu me comprennes  
Non, on ne voulait rien voler  
C'est toi qui m'as contrôlé

Je suis un immigré  
Et un jour un immigré toujours un  
immigré  
J'essayais de me perdre  
Dans cette société

J'aime cette langue et même les  
couleurs  
Où il n'y a guère de douleurs  
Qui représente la révolution  
Mais , y a t-il des autres sensations?

**Urmi Shethia**

FYBA

## Une Ballade

Les feuilles qui tombent  
sur la rue quand on ballade  
Je me souviens d'un temps où tu  
étais avec moi -  
tout allait bien, rien n'était morne.  
Tes mains ne me consolent plus,  
je parle, mais tu ne rigoles pas.  
Je suis avec toi tout le temps -  
tu me regardes,  
mais tu ne me vois pas.

**Shivani Lalan**

FYBA

## La langue française

La langue française  
que j'apprends,  
Est-ce que c'est un  
voyage simple? Non!  
Quand la grammaire j'étudie,  
Le vocabulaire j'oublie !  
Quand je pense que je  
peux parler couramment,  
Je regarde les films français-  
quel bouleversement !  
Les phrases semblent  
parfaites dans ma tête,  
Mais quand je parle,  
ce ne sont que les bêtes!  
Quant on parle de l'accent, le son de 'r',  
Pour moi, c'est toujours  
un grand mystère!

Les 'faux amis', par lesquels  
mon français est envahi,  
Je prends 'blesser' pour 'bénir'  
et 'supporter' pour 'soutenir'!  
Après tous les efforts quand  
je pense que je sais tout,  
Il y a la littérature française  
pour éclater ma bulle!  
Les phrases, les mots innombrables  
avec le même sens,  
Puis le passé simple pour  
embrouiller la situation!

Même si l'apprentissage est  
difficile et crée une confusion,  
Je ne vais pas l'abandonner,  
les fautes sont aussi importantes!  
Chaque fois je me sens proche  
de la langue, de la culture,  
J'aime, je respecte,  
je critique cette aventure.  
Entouré de mes erreurs  
j'apprends un aspect intéressant,  
En continuant à explorer avec  
les découvertes incessantes.  
Je me trouve toujours  
dans la rue infinie,  
'Le voyage est plus important  
que la destination,' on dit!

**Simran Vijan**

FYBA

## Je Pense à la France

Quand je pense à la France  
Je pense aux monuments.  
Que je voudrais visiter en France  
Et d'acheter les nouveaux vêtements.

Je pourrais visiter le Louvre  
Et aussi la Tour Eiffel.  
Regarder les chefs d'œuvre  
Et peut-être un arc-en-ciel.

Goûter la cuisine française  
Et boire le vin.  
Voir tout ce que je n'ai jamais imaginé  
Et m'amuser enfin.

**Ayesha Mendonca**  
FYBA

## La Langue Française

La langue française descend  
des étoiles  
Elle se promène  
dans les nuages gris  
qui sont allumés  
par la lune.

La langue française  
fait une ballade  
dans vos bouches  
comme une belle fille  
qui danse dans la rue.  
Sa douceur  
est comme une amoureuse,  
vibrante, vivante, volante.

La langue française  
vit dans un rêve musical.

**Shivani Lalan**  
FYBA)

## La France, mon rêve

Hier, à l'aube, je suis partie pour la France  
Et quand j'ai volé sur la France, j'ai jeté un coup d'œil de ma fenêtre

Quel paysage ! Quelle beauté ! Et j'avais une transe

Et pour moi, c'est une magie peut être

Premièrement, La Tour Eiffel, au cœur de Paris

Grande, haute, magnifique comme un paradis

L'Arc de triomphe, c'est immortel avec le Tombeau du soldat inconnu

Et aux Champs Élysées, j'ai chanté et dansé sur l'avenue

Notre Dame c'est une place de paix que je n'oublierai jamais

Le Musée du Louvre m'a plu avec ses peintures,

Et j'admire toujours la beauté de la Joconde.

Mais je n'ai que visité Paris, y a-t-il quelque chose que j'ai oublié?

Oui, il y a beaucoup d'endroits intéressants pour visiter

La Normandie, m'a charmé avec le Mont Saint Michel

Le paysage comme dans les tableaux de Monet, exceptionnel,

Le camembert et le cidre? N'oubliez pas, s'il vous plaît.

Chenonceau, Blois, Chambord, les châteaux beaux et enchantants

Le Val de Loire, c'est incomplet sans vous.

Alsace-Lorraine, où est votre quiche lorraine ?

Vous mettez l'eau à ma bouche

La mer bleue de Côté d'Azur m'accueille avec ses belles plages

Tout était comme les tableaux de Cézanne

Je me souviens des soirées théâtrales en Avignon....

Sans oublier le festival du Cinéma à Cannes, c'était spectaculaire

J'étais contente, j'étais joyeuse

Soudain, j'ai entendu une crie, une voix familière,

C'était ma mère qui crie, « Lève-toi, lève-toi »....

Et je me suis levée, c'était un rêve, un rêve inoubliable

Enfin, j'ai dit «La France, mon rêve, j'arrive!»

**Melita Chettiar**  
FYBA

## बंजारापन

लाएबरी के उस छोटे, अकेले से कोने में छुपी-छुपी सी मेरी मुँदी आँखें ये लिखने पर मजबूर हैं। वरना सीने में उबलता तूफान कभी-भी फूट जाएगा और उसकी तपन मुझे भस्म कर देगी। उन नज़रों से खुद को बचा रही हूँ। लोगों का आना - जाना चल रहा है। कुछ देख कर मुसकुरा रहे हैं। मैं उनकी तरफ अपना सिर हिला रही हूँ। एक खयाल बार - बार मेरे ज़हन में मँडरा रहा है। ये लोग क्या सोच रहे हैं? ज़रूर मुझ पर हँस रहे हैं। मैं इन खयालों को दफनाने की कोशिश कर रही हूँ।

खुद पर चिढ़ आ रही है। ज़हन की कश्मकश ने रास्ता धुँधला कर रखा है कि सही राह अब सूझ ही नहीं रही। खो दिया खुदको इन अंजान रास्तों पर। लेकिन ताज्जुब की बात तो यह है कि मुझे गुमशुदा होने का अफसोस भी नहीं हो रहा। मानो खुद को समझा दिया है कि यही मेरी किस्मत है। जिस दर्द में मैं हूँ, मैं उसके ही लायक हूँ।

समंदर को देखती हूँ। लहरें आती - जाती रहती हैं। ये लहरें मेरी नई दोस्त हैं। चले जाने पर लौट आने

का वादा दे जाती हैं। इन्सान तो अब नदारद से हो गए हैं। जब मेरी कश्ती डूब रही थी, मैंने साहिल से अपनों को दूर जाते देखा है।

सच कहती हूँ, मैंने बहुत कोशिश की, खुदको सुधारने, पसंदीदा बनाने की। ताकि लोग मुझ से प्यार कर सकें-मुझे अपना सकें। जितना मुझ से बन पड़ा है, मैंने दूसरों की भलाई के लिए काम किया है फिर मेरे साथ यह नाइंसाफी क्यों? अच्छाई का ज़माना नहीं रहा, यह सुना था पर अब विश्वास होने लगा है। सोचती हूँ कि क्या मैं वाकई अच्छी हूँ? क्योंकि आज मैं जिस मुकाम पर खड़ी हूँ यह मेरी करतूतों के कारण ही होगा। अब यह हाल है कि सब की भलाई चाहने के चक्कर में मैंने खुद को इस हद तक गिरा दिया है कि अब लोग कुचल कर निकल जाते हैं और उफ तक नहीं करते!

आज एक दोस्त, जो मेरे दिल के बेहद करीब था, आ कर मुझसे कहता है कि उसे मुझसे कोई वास्ता नहीं रखना। कारण पूछने पर बताया कि वजह तो नहीं है कोई। मेरा दिल बेचैन हो गया है। क्या सभी

लोग ऐसे ही आकर मुझसे नाते तोड़ते जाएँगे? बेवजह, बिना मुझे समझाए कि आखिर मेरी गलती क्या है? रोज़ आइने में देख कर खुद से कहती हूँ कि आज एक ज़िंदगी सँवारनी है, आज किसी की तकलीफ दूर करनी है। पर यहाँ तो मेरी खुदकी रूह तड़प रही है और मुझे मदद के लिए पुकार रही है। और मैंने उसे ही अनदेखा, अनसुना कर दिया है। इस जमाने का हिस्सा बनने के चक्कर में मैंने खुद से रिश्ते तोड़ दिए हैं। अब तो खुद पर विश्वास भी नहीं बचा।

सुना था कि कभी खुदको इतना न गिराओ कि फिर खड़े होने के लिए किसी और की सहायता का मोहताज होना पड़े। पर मैंने सब चीजों और ताकीदों की तरह इसे भी नज़रअंदाज कर दिया। अब तो इतनी नीचे गिर चुकी हूँ कि अब कोई उठाने वाला भी मौजूद हो तो भी मैं उठ नहीं पाऊँगी वह इंसान खुद गिर जाएगा और मैं किसी की तकलीफ की वजह हरगिज़ नहीं बनना चाहती।

आफ्रीन हैदर

## आशा मैं के लिए

दूर चले हम बस यूँ ही अपने कल से  
अब चलते-चलते एक नई दुनिया बनानी है  
थोड़े दिन आँखों में गम का साया आएगा  
जो तुम्हें, तुम्हारे कल से बहादुरी से मिलवाएगा।  
एक फैसला, फैसला बदलता ज़िंदगी  
आपको हज़ारों खुशियाँ दिलवाएगा,  
न घबराना अपने इस फैसले से  
यह आगे, ज़िंदगी खूबसूरत बनाएगा।  
सबके साथ बाँटी यादें, सताएँगी ज़रूर  
आपके बिना कॉलेज अधूरा रहेगा ज़रूर  
लेकिन यह आपको मज़बूत बनाएगा।  
हर कदम में तू खुद के साथ है  
ऐसी अनोखी बस तुझमें ही बात है  
सर उठा और आगे बढ़  
अपने इस फैसले की खुशी से भरपूर लड़।

स्नोलिका

SYBA

## दस्तक

काश कभी कोई तो दस्तक दे जाता  
अंधेरी, अकेली इस रात में  
चाँद का टुकड़ा ले आता  
अनसुनी, अनकही इन आँखों की  
नमी दूर कर जाता ।

काश कभी कोई तो दस्तक दे जाता  
दरवाजे की चौखट पर  
मिलने कोई पहुँच जाता  
छोटी सी हँसी क्या बाँट ली  
पूरी रात हसीन कर जाता।

काश कभी कोई तो दस्तक दे जाता  
इतने हैं दोस्त, फिर मजबूरी कैसी ?  
कोई तो उम्मीद पर खरा उतर जाता  
एक पल की तो ख्वाहिश है  
इस ज़िद पर कोई अमल कर जाता।

काश कभी कोई तो दस्तक दे जाता  
कायनात को छोड़ परे  
नज़रों में कैद हो जाता  
जाने की ज़िद किए बग़ैर  
यहीं उम्र भर ठहर जाता।

काश कभी कोई ऐसी भी दस्तक दे जाता  
काश कभी कोई तो दस्तक दे जाता।।

नेत्रा मेनन

SYBA

## इंसान

उन पंछियों से कभी पूछा है  
कहाँ को उड़ते है यह दिन-रात  
यह भी हमारी आपकी तरह  
दुनिया से भागते हुए लगते हैं  
अपनी अलग दुनिया बनाने को उड़ते हैं  
कितने नादान होते हैं ना ! हम लोग भी  
इन पंछियों की तरह नज़रें झुकाए चलते हैं  
दुनिया से भागते हुए आगे बढ़ते हैं।

स्नोलिका प्रियदर्शी

एस. वाय. बी. ए.

## क्या खूब तराशा है

खुदा ने कुदरत को बड़ा हसीन बनाया है,  
चिड़ियों की चहचहाहट से सुबह होती है,  
गिरगिट जैसे रंग बदलता है आसमान,  
सोने का हो जाता है अंबर,  
सुनहरे रंग में रंगता है जहान ।

फिर नीले रंग में बदलता है अभ्र,  
दिन का एक और पहलू सामने आ जाता है,  
पेड़ों की मटर-गश्ती देख  
मन मग्न हो जाता है,  
हर जीव में जैसे एक  
नई जान भर आती है।

धूप सिर पर जैसे नाच  
दिखाने चढ़ आती है,  
फूलों की महक से महकती है धरा,  
कदमों के शोर से जग जाता है सड़क सारा,  
मुख्तसर कुछ पलों के  
लिए सन्नाटा प्रतीत होता है।

शाम आए बादल छा जाते है,  
धूप आँख मिचौली खेले है हमसे,  
फूल और पेड़ अंगड़ाइयाँ ले,  
आँखें मूंद रहे है,

बच्चों की किलकारियों से जाग उठता है  
संसार सारा।

रात की काली चादर आ जाती है,  
हलका सा नशा छाए, पलकों को झुकाता है,  
चाँद की रोशनी में गुजरती है बाकी रात  
सारी,  
मदहोश जादू का असर न जाने कब खत्म  
हो जाता है।

सच क्या खूब तराशा है खुदा ने  
इस जहान को हमारे लिए  
कुदरत कब की है हमने  
जो मिला है हमें यह  
सब बिना कोई कीमत दिए।

रिया नायर

SYBA

## खयाल

आते हैं उड़ कर, दौड़ कर, रेंग कर  
दिल में, पलकों पे, जुबान पर  
दर्द, खुशी, आँसू का नज़राना लिए  
नींद, सुकून, वक्त साथ में ले जाने के लिए  
कैद करते हैं

रिहा करते हैं  
बचना चाहूँ तो झुंड में हमला करते हैं।  
ज़िद्दी इतने कि छिपना चाहूँ तो,  
गोशा-ऐ-पाताल से भी खोज निकालें..  
शातिर इतने कि मैं खोजने  
जाऊँ तो हैं गुमनाम,  
बड़े हैं बेईमान।

पकड़ लूँ तो समझ में नहीं आते,  
समझलूँ तो लफ़्ज़ों में नहीं समाते।  
बस इसी खींचा-तानी में कागज़  
रह जाता है कोरा

जिस दिन जुगलबंदी करना सीखलूँ  
इन खयालों के संग  
उस दिन बात बन जाएगी  
इनको ठिकाना मिल जाएगा

नम्रता संघानी

SYBA

## तलाश

सूने पड़े उन कच्चे रास्तों पर  
अचानक दो बच्चों को देखा  
उनमें खुद को देखना चाहा  
आँखे बंद कीं और

खुद को अंदर से खोखला पाया  
लगा कि कहाँ खो गया था बचपन मेरा  
कि उन बच्चों में मैंने अपनी परछाई  
को भी नहीं पाया ।

स्नोलिका प्रियदर्शी

एस. वाय. बी. ए.

## कश्मकश

एक शीतल संध्या के डूबते सूरज की भांति,  
मेरा मन भी विचारों के  
एक अनोखे समुद्र में डूबने लगा  
हर टकराती लहर मेरे इन विचारों  
को एक नयी दिशा देती,  
और मैं उस उमड़ते तूफान में फँसे  
नाविक की तरह भयभीत होने लगा।

कभी कोई विख्यात संत  
धन त्याग देने की सलाह देता,  
तो दूसरी ओर शुभचिन्तक  
हमें दुनियादारी का पाठ पढ़ाता।

मोह माया छोड़ दो वह कहता,  
और ये मोह माया को ही जीवन बुलाते।

कभी लगता की माता-पिता  
का ऋण चुकाऊँ,  
उनकी आकांक्षाओं को  
स्वर्ण थाल में सजाऊँ।

पर फिर क्या उन्हीं हाथों से  
अपनी इच्छाओं का जनाज़ा उठाऊँ ?  
क्या उनकी खुशी के लिए मैं  
गम का सागर पी जाऊँ ?

लोग मन की संतुष्टि को सर्वश्रेष्ठ दर्जा देते,  
एक दूसरे से तुलना करना  
उन्हें व्यर्थ मालूम पड़ता।

पर फिर क्यों वह हमें गाँधी  
और विवेकानंद के उदाहरण सुनाते ?  
हमें अपना मार्ग चुनने की आज़ादी देकर,  
उस आज़ादी पर स्वयं ही  
लक्ष्मण रेखा क्यों बनाते ?

इन विचारों के सहारे मैं बह रहा हूँ,  
डर यह है कि कहीं डूब न जाऊँ।  
दोनों किनारों से लोग आवाज़ दे रहे हैं,

डर यह है कि कहीं मैं अपनी  
ही आवाज़ सुन न पाऊँ ।

विश्वा पटेल

TYBA

## हम.....

पीठ पर सिल्वर्टों में छिपे,  
रास्तों के नक्शे

ऊँची बिल्डिंगों के उस पार से,  
झाँकता आसमान

पहेलियों से तैरते, बादलों के झुंड

शून्य को एक-टक ताकती,  
गति

आँखों में चुपचाप तैरते,  
सवाल

उधार की सड़क पे,  
लाल-पीली बत्तियों के  
इस पार भी उस पार भी,  
ठहरते-भागते,  
हम...

दर्शिल शाह

भाषा

मेरी परेशानी कुछ दिनों से,  
कट्टी हो गई है भाषा मुझ से,  
जाने क्यों  
एक भी शब्द, बात नहीं सुनती मेरी,  
अलिफ़, बे, पे,  
सब के सब...  
ऐसे पेश आते हैं मुझसे,  
गोया, मुझे जानते ही न हों...  
अजीब कश्मकश में फँस गया हूँ  
बोल नहीं पाता किसी से, वैसा...  
जैसा बोलना चाहता हूँ ...  
कहना कुछ चाहता हूँ...  
बयान कुछ और ही कर देती है भाषा,  
बोल भी नहीं पाता, खुल कर, किसी से,  
कि झगड़ा चल रहा है मेरा,  
अपनी ही भाषा के साथ,  
कई बार कोशिश की,  
भाषा के साथ बातचीत की,

कोशिश की, किसी समझौते  
तक पहुँचने की,  
जमीर को भी बीच में डाला,  
कुछ दे-दुआने तक भी तैयार था मैं,  
पर भाषा ने, मिलाया ही नहीं मुझ से हाथ  
मैंने पूछा जमीर से,  
चक्कर क्या है ?  
प्रॉब्लम क्या है ?

मेरी भाषा की मुझसे, तो...  
पहले तो... जमीर टालता रहा मेरा सवाल,  
फिर बड़ी मान मुनव्वल के बाद बोला,  
यार....

यकीन उठ गया है उसका तुमसे।  
बेईमान समझ रही हैं वो तुमको।

क्या किया जा सकता है ?  
मैं हैरान... परेशान...

मतलब मेरी... अपनी... भाषा...

मुझे ही बेईमान समझे...

मुझसे ही कट्टी करले...

मतलब...

ये.. क्या बात हुई ?

किसी को बताई भी नहीं जा सकती ये बात,  
काम कैसे चलेगा मेरा ?

जमीर कुछ देर खामोश रहा,

फिर एक गहरी साँस ले कर बोला,  
काम तो... ख़ैर.... चलते रहते हैं...

सबके...

मुझे बेचते वक्त भी तुम इतने ही परेशान थे,

पर... चला लिया न मेरे बिना काम....

रूठी भाषा के साथ भी चलाओगे...

टेलेंट तो है.. तुम में...

और चला गया सर झुका के...

बिक गया...

मेरा जमीर...

चुप-चाप...

और तब से,

परेशान-औ-पशेमान हूँ मैं,

न जमीर साथ है..

न भाषा साथ दे रही है...

इतनी.. क़ीमत... चुकानी पड़ती है जीने  
की ?

दर्शिल शाह

SYBA

## मराठी विभाग

### ... तस्मै श्री गुरुवे नमः

"अन्विक्म भुवनाम, यस्या वाचिकम  
सर्व वाङ्मय, आहार्याम, चान्द्रातारादिम,  
तम नुम सात्तिकम् शिवम्."

म्हणजेच ज्याचे शरीर आकाश व पृथ्वी एवढे विराट आहे, ज्याच्या वाचेमध्ये सर्व भाषांच्या वाङ्मयाचे माधुर्य आहे, ज्याचे अलंकार जणू चंद्र-तारेच, अशा नटेश्वरासमोर मी सदैव नमिते.

नृत्यकलेच्या शिक्षणाचा आरंभ, सर्वप्रथम या नटेश्वराच्या प्रार्थनेने होतो. कलेच्या आराध्यदेवताला व ती कला शिकविणाऱ्या गुरुला वंदन करून मगच कलेच्या साधनेला सुरुवात होते. यांचे महत्त्व अशा प्रकारे त्या शिष्याच्या मनावर बिंबवले. कारण, शिक्षण ग्रहण करता येते; पण कला? कला शिकायला गुरुच लागतो. विषयाचा अभ्यास होतो, मात्र कलेचा संस्कार होतो.

आजकाल नृत्य शिक्षणाची संकल्पना म्हणजे सोम-मंगळ-बुध, संध्याकाळी ७-९ डान्स क्लास इथवर येऊन थांबली आहे. कलेतील बारकावे, त्याचा विस्तार आणि त्यातून मिळणारा आनंद कुठेतरी हरवल्यासारखा वाटतो. मी लहान असताना मला युरोपिअन नृत्य बॅले शिकायचे होते. जवळपास कोणतेही मार्गदर्शक नसल्याने, माझा एकूण उत्साह पाहून आईने शेवटी मला भरतनाट्यम् शिकायला पाठवले. मी पहिलीत असताना माझ्या या विलक्षण प्रवासाला सुरुवात झाली, आणि चार आठवड्यात तो थांबला! सवय नसल्याने माझे पाय दुखत, पुढे आणखी दोन वेळा मी हेच रडगाणं गायलं. अखेर चौथीत असताना माझ्या नृत्यशिक्षणाचा प्रारंभ

झाला. एकाग्रता, शारीरिक लवचिकता ही वाढतेच, पण मृदुंगाच्या ठेक्यावर जेव्हा आपले पाय आपोआप ताल धरतात, त्यातून मिळणाऱ्या दिव्यतेला उपमा देणं कठीण आहे. रंगमंचावर, पडद्यामागे, नांदीच्या सुरांसहित; आधी नटेश्वराला मग गुरूंना आणि मग रसिक प्रेक्षकांना नमस्कार केला की एक वेगळे विश्व आपल्यासमोर उलगडते. तेव्हा आपण कधी राधा असतो तर कधी कौसल्या. आईच्या मायेचा की कालीच्या रौद्रतेचा आभिनय तुम्हाला दिसत असला, तरी अनुभव आम्हालाच येतो. मला कुणी विचारलं, तुझा आवडता छंद कोणता? तर त्या यादीत नृत्याचा समावेश कधीच नसतो. आश्चर्य वाटतं ना? अहो, उपासनेला कसली अशी क्षीण उपमा?

अरंगेत्रम - नर्तकीच्या आयुष्यातील अविस्मरणीय क्षण! गुरूंकडून मिळालेली एक प्राथमिक निवृत्ती. एक खात्री की आपला शिष्य नृत्याचे मुलभूत घटक शिकून, ते अचूक सादर करू शकतो, आणि इतरांना मार्गदर्शन देखील करू शकतो. याची खात्री पटल्यास स्वतः गुरुच या कार्यक्रमाचं आयोजन करतात. आणि बरं का, अरंगेत्रमचा समारंभ म्हणजे लग्नाचा थाट जणू! एक मोठा हॉल, त्यात जेवणाची सोय आणि तुमच्या जवळचे नातेवाईक.... एक उत्साही मैफिल जमते अगदी! मात्र या आनंदाला शोभेल असं नृत्य सादर करण्याचा भार आमच्या खांद्यांवर असतो. अगदी तीन-चार महिन्यांपासून, सूर धरून, ताल पकडून याच्या सरावाला जोमाने सुरुवात होते. आमच्या अरंगेत्रमच्या सरावा दरम्यान माझ्या गुरूंनी, केरळ वरून त्यांच्या गुरूंना बोलावलं

होतं. या बातमीने तीनताड उडाले! त्यांनी तब्बल ४५ वर्षांहून अधिक या कलेची उपासना केली आहे. कशा असतील त्या? कडक असतील का? त्यांनी पाहण्या इतपत तरी चांगलं असेल का आमचं नृत्य? असे अनेक प्रश्न आमच्या डोक्यात फिरू लागले. त्या आल्या आणि आपल्या मृदू स्वभावाने त्यांनी सर्वांचं मन जिंकलं. इतकी वर्षं नृत्य केल्याने त्यांच्या हातापायाची बोटं कुरळी झाली होती, अशी त्यांची या कलेशी बांधिलकी त्या नृत्याबरोबर बरंच काही शिकवून गेल्या. त्यांच्या थोडक्या उपस्थितीतील एक विलक्षण अनुभव सांगते. त्या केरळ मधील एका लहान गावात राहत असल्याने त्यांना फारसं हिंदी, इंग्लिश येत नसे. पण इंग्लिशमध्ये म्हणतात ना, Art is the universal language हे आम्हाला त्या वेळी खऱ्या अर्थाने पटले. आमच्या चुका, आमचं कौतुक, त्या अभिनयातून... नृत्यातून व्यक्त करून दाखवत. त्यांचा हस्तमुद्रा, डोळ्यांच्या हालचाली, पदन्यास या सर्वांतच एक विलक्षण नजाकत होती. त्यांच्या सादरीकरणात, एक उर्जा होती. नटेश्वराच्या मुद्रेतून तीच उर्जा बाहेर प्रवाहित केली, की एका कार्यक्रमानंतर टाळ्यांचा कडकडाट नाही; हो, नुकतीच शांतता!

आयुष्यात कोणतीही गोष्ट एवढ्या बांधिलकीने साधता आली, तर आयुष्याचं सार्थक झाल असं म्हणता येईल. नृत्य ही नेहमीच एक वाट होती, पुढेही असेल. ती कुठे नेऊन पोचवेल याची सुतराम कल्पना नाही.... पण तालाला ताल धरत, सुराला सूर जुळवत... त्याच्या नादात वाहत जाताना नृत्यावरचा जीव व श्रद्धा कायम चिरतरुण राहिल!

## बाप्पाच्या आठवणी

गणपतीला मोदक आवडतात हीच गोष्ट मला लहानपणी खूप आवडायची. मोदकाचा नैवेद्य गणपतीला दाखवला जायचा खरा, पण शेवटी तो आमच्याच पोटात जायचा! एकदा असेच स्वादिष्ट उकडीचे मोदक खात असताना माता पार्वतीने गणपतीची निर्मिती कशी केली ते आईने सांगितल्यावर खूप आश्चर्य वाटले. माझ्या आईनेही मला असेच तयार केले असेल का असेही वाटून गेल्याचं आठवंतं.

मला घरच्या गणपतीपेक्षा घराजवळच असणाऱ्या हनुमान मंदिरातील सार्वजनिक गणपती जास्त



आवडायचा. विस्तृत पटांगणातील हे हनुमान मंदिर म्हणजे आम्हा लहान मुलांचा आवडता अड्डा होता. दुसऱ्या गल्लीत राहणाऱ्या आमच्या मित्रांना खेळायला अशी जागाच मिळायची नाही. या गोष्टीवरून आम्ही खूप भाव खायचो. कोणताही खेळ खेळताना त्या खेळाचा डाव आमच्या त्या मित्रांवर येण्यात त्याची परिणती व्हायची! मंदिराच्या भिंतीलगत सलग गोट्या खेळून आम्ही भले मोठे खड्डे पाडले होते. क्रिकेट खेळताना त्या भिंतींनाच आम्ही स्टम्प बनवायचो. त्यामुळे पावसाळ्यात त्या मंदिराच्या शक्य तेवढ्या भगव्या भिंती आम्ही



चिखलाने माखलेल्या बॉल ने खेळून अगदी गडद चॉ कलेटी पोलका डॉट्स ने रंगविल्या होत्या.

या अगदीच गरीब मंदिराची रया खऱ्या अर्थाने गणेशोत्सवात परत यायची. पापुद्रे पडलेल्या त्याच्या भिंती नवीन रंगाने रंगविल्या जात. उंच शिखरावर विद्युत रोषणाई करण्यात येई. त्यावेळी त्या शिखरावर चढण्याची संधी ज्या मुलाला मिळेल त्याचा आम्हाला फार हेवा वाटायचा आपल्याला त्या उंच शिखरावर केव्हा चढायला मिळेल असं वाटायचं. पण नंतर जेव्हा आम्ही वर्गणी गोळा करण्यासाठी मोठ्या मुलांसोबत जायचो आणि कोणी फक्त अकरा रूपये देऊ करायचा तेव्हा हे.. गोंधळ घालताना आम्ही सगळं विसरायचो सुध्दा.

चतुर्थीच्या दिवशी वाजत गाजत गणपतीची स्थापना व्हायची. पुजाऱ्याच्या हातात असणाऱ्या त्या छोट्या काळ्या यंत्राबद्दल आम्हाला कोण आश्चर्य वाटे! आम्हाला नंतर कळलं की त्या यंत्राचे नाव माईक असे आहे ते! माईक मध्ये बोलण्यासाठी आमच्यात काय चढाओढ लागायची! पुजाऱ्याने कितीही खेकसले तरीही आम्ही तिथून जराही हलायचो नाही. आरतीच्या शेवटी गणपती बाप्पा मोरया असे इतक्या जोराने ओरडायचो की तो पुजारी कानच बंद करायचा! नंतर ज्या भाविकांनी प्रसाद आणला आहे

ते त्या प्रसादाचं वाटप करायचे. आमच्या इवल्याशा हातात प्रसाद रहायचाच नाही. आम्ही लगेचच प्रसाद खायचो आणि पुढच्या माणसाकडे प्रसाद घ्यायला जायचो! नंतर नंतर प्रसाद घेण्यासाठी आम्ही घरून कागद न्यायला लागलो.

गणपती विसर्जनाचा दिवस म्हणजे आमच्या आनंदाचा कळस असायचा. त्या दिवशी मंदिरात तोबा गर्दी असायची. त्या गर्दीतून इकडून तिकडे धावताना खूप मज्जा यायची. नंतर ढोल-ताश्यांच्या गजरात गणपतीला गाडीत चढविण्यात येई. एरवीची ती भिक्कार गाडी सजविल्यानंतर एवढी बदले की एकदम ओळखूच यायची नाही. गावाजवळच्या ओढ्यावर विसर्जनासाठी पोहचायला मिरवणुकीला खूप वेळ लागायचा पण आम्ही मात्र गाण्यांच्या तालावर नाचायला उत्सुकच असायचो. शेवटी ओढ्याच्या पाण्यात, गणेशाची विधिवत पूजा करून, मूर्तीला विसर्जित करण्यात येई. नंतर आम्ही घोळक्याने गप्पा मारत परत यायचो. मोठ्या आनंदाने सुरु झालेला हा दिवस बाप्पाच्या आठवणींनी सुना सुना वाटू लागायचा.

सगळं लिहीत असताना बालपण एखाद्या सिनेमासारखं डोळ्यापुढून सरकतंय. पण वर्तमानाचे काय? आता गणेशोत्सव साजरा करावासा वाटतो

का?... तर आपसूकच नाही असं उत्तर येतं. गणेशाबद्दल मनात खूप आदर असला तरीही आताच्या गणेश मंडळांकडे पाय फिरत पाय फिरत नाहीत. जसजशी जाण यायला लागली तसं तसं सगळं फिकं होत गेल. संगीत लाऊड झालं असलं तरी अलीकडे त्याचा आवाज क्षीण होत गेला. वर्गणीच्या पैशांचा होणारा अपहार खुपायला लागला. भरमसाठ पैसे खर्च करून उभारलेला तो भव्य सुंदर देखावा हळूहळू पारदर्शक होत जातो आणि त्यामागे चालणारे धंदे दिसताच मन खायला लागतं. त्या प्लास्टर ऑफ पॅरिसच्या मूर्तीत पूर्वीचे तेज दिसत नाही. दर दहा फुटांवर जरी बाप्पा असले तरी पूर्वीचा आनंद मिळत नाही. खरचं इतके नकोसे झाले आहेत का बाप्पा? खरचं बदललंय का सगळं?... नाही काहीच बदललेलं नाहीये. जर काही बदललेलं असेलच तर ते आहेत आपण स्वतः! निखळ आनंद मिळविण्याचा प्रयत्न करणारी मुलं समंजस प्रौढांत रूपांतरित झाली, अनेक अर्थ नव्याने उमगायला लागले आणि काही चांगल्या आठवणी ह्या फक्त आठवणीच राहणार याची प्रकर्षाने जाणीव झाली!

**पियुष संजय बारटक्के**

एफ.वाय.बी.ए.

## माझी माय

प्रेमाने भरलेले ते हृदय	तलवारीशी झुंज देणाऱ्या ढाली
दुडूदुडू धावणारे ते पाय	हिरव्यागार झाडांची सावली
वासरासाठी हंबरणारी गाय	कांदा अन् भाकरीची थाळी
यामध्ये दिसते माझी माय !	यामध्ये दिसते माझी माऊली !!!

झऱ्यातील वाहणारे गोड पाणी	गोष्ट सांगणारी जिजाबाई
लहान बाळाची बोबडी वाणी	पांढऱ्या दुधावरची साई
पिलांना दाणे भरवणारी चिमणी	रणांगणातील ती लक्ष्मीबाई
यामध्ये दिसते माझी जननी !!	यामध्ये दिसते माझी आई !!!!!

**महादेव सोनुले**

(जनरल ऑफिस)

# CHRONICLES



# ANCIENT INDIAN HISTORY CULTURE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

The year 2016 was truly vibrant due to the number of activities that the department proudly conducted in its varying nature. The department organized educational activities that gave many opportunities for internship to both the under-graduate and post graduate students. The internships were largely in collaboration with the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (formerly known as the Prince of Wales Museum). Our field activities as well as in-house endeavours explored various facets of our cultural heritage. These activities further examined the impact of our cultural heritage through its endorsements in tourism, museology, conservation and archaeology. These activities would not have been possible without the collaboration of the Museum Society of Mumbai (MSM), formerly the Museum Society of Bombay, the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (CSMVS), the Consulate General and Promotion Centre of the Argentine Republic in Mumbai and of course our very own College

In June 2016 Dr. Kothare took 60 students of IIT, Mumbai along with their professors Dr. Kavi Arya and Prof Dr. Sudhanshu Rai for a field visit to Kanheri Caves. Subsequently she was invited to deliver a lecture to a batch of 30 foreign students from Copenhagen Business school and 30 students of IIT, Mumbai along with their professors on "Indian Art and Culture" at Chetna art Gallery, Mumbai. This was followed by a heritage walk around South- Mumbai.

Dr. Radha Kumar was invited to conduct a session on "Understanding Indian culture –A Sociological, Philosophical Perspective" as a part of the Sydney Off shore programme for the students of University of Sydney, Australia in the College on 27th June. Along with this she was also invited to deliver a lecture on the "Essence of Indian Philosophy" at the International Symposium "Globalization: its colonial Roots and Neo Imaginaries, to the students of UC Berkeley Summer School on 1st July. On the occasion of Nag Panchami Dr. Kothare was invited

by the Museum Society of Bombay and CSMVS to deliver a lecture "Nagas in Indian Culture" on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 2016 at the Visitors Centre Auditorium, CSMVS, Mumbai. The lecture was preceded by an interactive session on snakes by Dr. Leon Pereira. The department organized Paramparik Karigar Workshops on Leather Puppets and Papier Mache for the students. These workshops were conducted by National award winner Karigars (Craftsmen) in the Seminar Room on 25th & 26th August 2016.

On 10<sup>th</sup> of August 2016 by Dr. Kothare organized a lecture by Mr. Pablo Ramirez Arnol, an Argentine Artist on "History of Argentine Art" in collaboration with the CSMVS and the Museum Society of Bombay the Visitors Centre Auditorium, CSMVS, Mumbai. Dr. Kothare was invited to participate and deliver a lecture at the Ajanta Site Seminar 2016 conducted by art historian Em. Prof. Dr. Walter Spink and Dr. Shreekant Jadhav. A group of select under-graduate and post-graduate students along with Mr. Jason Johns were sent to participate in this seminar. The students visited Ajanta and Ellora Caves.

An eco- friendly Clay Ganesha was organized on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September for 50 students of Salam Balak Trust in collaboration with the Museum Society of Bombay and the Consulate General and Promotion Centre for the Argentine Republic in Mumbai at the Seminar Room, CSMVS, Mumbai. Dr. Kothare conducted this workshop along with Mr. Pablo Ramirez Arnol and the Deputy Consul General of Argentina, she was assisted by Mr. Jason Johns and a group of undergraduate and post- graduate students volunteers. Visits to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (National Level Museum), BhauDaji Lad Museum (State Museum), The Railway Museum, CST (Specialized Museum) and Heras Institute (University Museum) as part of CIA for S.Y.B.A students studying Museology were organized by Dr. Kothare and assisted by Mr. Jason.

Dr. Kumar conducted a workshop

titled " Mythology and Philosophy through Dance." under the IPA forum of the College on 24th September 2016. Special lectures cum practical training in conservation of antiquities were organized by Dr. Kothare with Mr. Anupam Sah, Chief Conservator, CSMVS at the Heras Institute for the T.Y. B.A. students from the months of July to October 2016. Mr. Jason Johns along with Ms. Rashmi Subramanian (T.Y.B.A) were invited by Prof. Naqvi, History-Junior College to guide the S.Y.J.C and F.Y.J.C students on their fieldtrip to Gujarat and Pune respectively. The students made documentaries based on the cultural-heritage sites explored by them. Mr. Jason Johns along with few post-graduate students were sent for an international seminar held by the Consulate General and Promotion Centre of the Argentine Republic in Mumbai and Somaiya Trust and Somaiya Vidyavihar & Faculty of the K. J. Somaiya Bharatiya Sanskriti Peetham on "The Teachings of Pope Francis on Ecology and the Care for Nature with its Parallels in Hinduism" on October 17, 2016, SIMSR Building Somaiya Vidyavihar Campus, Vidyavihar (E).

The post-graduate students led by Dr. Kothare went on one-day field trip on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2016 to Pandav Leni Caves and Gargoti Rock Museum Sinnar, Nashik. A walk- through was organized by Dr. Kothare in the P.R. Gallery exhibition at CSMVS in the month of October, for few T.Y.B.A. and M.A Part I students. A lecture was given by Mr. Anupam Sah, the Chief Conservator and Curator of the exhibition, CSMVS. Moreover, Dr. Kothare conducted Heritage walks at the Archives and a lecture walk Bhangwadi to Ramwadi for Bombay Local history Society on the 1st and 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2016.

The department organized a study tour to Telangana and Andhra Pradesh for students of U.G. and P.G. from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016. The group led by Dr. Kothare visited Alampur temples, Undavalli & Akkana-Maddana Caves, etc. She further organized an interdepartmental activity with

Department of English - a lecture by Carlos Gamarez, Argentine author in collaboration with the Consulate General of Argentine Republic on 27 November 2016 in MMR for U.G and P.G students of the college. The TYBA along with the M.A students visited the Godrej mangroves and attended a workshop organized, where in Dr. Kothare and Dr. Kumar presented papers at part of the international seminar. A fieldtrip to sites like Rani-Ki-Vav, Modhera Sun Temple, Lothal in Gujarat was organized by the department for the undergraduate and post-graduate students, Dr. Kothare, Dr. Kumar and Mr. Jason Johns accompanied the group.

In the new year 2017, a visit to Elephanta Caves and a Befriending Museum activity in the Sculpture and Pre-Proto- History Galleries of the CSMVS was conducted in collaboration with the Museum Society of Mumbai by Dr. Anita Rane- Kothare and Mr. Jason Johns for a group of students and teachers of Shikshayatan school on 8th January 2017. The department in collaboration with Museum Society of Mumbai, organized the annual departmental festival Vividha 2017: *Bahuli: Dolls across the Globe* in the "Woods", St. Xavier's College(Autonomous), Mumbai on 11th and 12th January 2017,. The departmental magazine RCA on the theme Bahuli was released by the chief guest Dr. Pheroza J. Godrej, Chairperson, Museum Society of Mumbai in the presence of staff and students.

On the occasion of Makar Sankranti, 14<sup>th</sup> January 2107, the Museum Society of Mumbai organized an interactive session 'Haldi Kumkum' at the Society's Office. Dr. Anita Rane- Kothare conducted a short interactive lecture followed by Haldi - Kumkum and a treat of Tilgul with a few members who attended the event. The department organized a visit in collaboration with Museum Society of Mumbai to the Archdiocesan Heritage Museum St. Pius Seminary, Goregaon on 28th January, 2017. Fr. Warner Dsouza, Director took the group of members and students of the Dept. of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, St. Xavier's

College (Autonomous), Mumbai along with Dr. Anita Rane Kothare assisted by Mr. Jason Johns. The department in collaboration with the Museum Society of Mumbai and the Bombay Local History Society organized a lecture by Dr. Jesse Palsetia, Associate Professor, History, College of Arts, University of Guelph on "Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy of Bombay: Opportunities and Challenges of Indian Engagement in Empire" at the Assembly Hall, XIMR, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai on 30th January 2017.

An interesting lecture on "Children of the Holocaust" by Dr. Joan Roland on 2nd February at XIMR .Along with the lecture a small exhibition on Holocaust was displayed and the Diary of Anne Frank was put on sale. Keeping in mind the need for conservation and heritage management, the department in collaboration with the Museum Society of Mumbai organized a lecture by Mr. Debashish Nayak, Director, Centre for Heritage Management, Ahmedabad University on " Getting The City Back To Its People :The Case of Ahmedabad" at the Seminar Room , St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai on 10th February 2017. The department paid homage to Mr. Fredrick Stevens (architect of CST station) at his grave in Sewri followed by a heritage walk around CST and the Railway Museum along with his great-great granddaughter Mrs. Diana Robertson. This was organized by Dr. Kothare for the department in collaboration with the Museum Society of Mumbai, Bombay Local History Society and Central Railway. Dr. Kothare conducted a Befriending Museum Workshop for Adivasi Students of Nandurbar on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

### **Staff engagement and Publication:-**

Dr. Anita Rane- Kothare

- o Research Paper titled "Recent Discoveries: Archaeological Evidence in South-Western Maharashtra" published in the CSMVS Research Journal 2016 ISBN 978-81-908323-7-3.
- o Research article titled "Bhau Laxman Ajinkya - The Architect of

Bhaucha Dhakka" and "Mamletdar wadi" in The Bombay Explorer No.55 , Bombay Local History Society ISSN :2278-117X.A selected number of projects on surface exploration and research methodology conducted by the post-graduate students has also been published.

- o Was selected to present a paper at the International Conference on Asian Elephants in Nature and Culture 2016 at University of Kelaniya Sri Lanka. Her paper was titled "Unusual Representations of Ganesha the Elephant Headed God". Along with her Mr. Jason Johns was also selected, who presented a paper titled "Asian Elephants in Christianity ".
- o Was invited to deliver a lecture on "Antiquarian Laws" on 15th October 2016 at the P.G.Diploma Museology and Conservation Course at CSMVS.
- o She was also invited to deliver guest lectures at Somaiya College on Buddhist art, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya on Heritage Laws and Antiquarian Acts, H.R College on Indian Culture and Art and a lecture on Museology at S.N.D.T College Matunga and J.J. School of Art for a lecture on Temple Architecture.
- o Recipient of the Heras Tata Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship- Study of the Ancient Board Game Graffiti in caves and temples in Deccan. Presented a paper on the same at Tata international Seminar.
- o She conducted heritage walks for Hindustan Times and was covered by the press.
- o Research paper titled "Symbolism of Scorpion in Indian Art and Culture" at the "International Conference of Symbolism", Deccan College of Archaeology, Pune 1st-3rd December, 2016. Along with her Mr. Jason Johns was also selected to present his paper titled "Ornamentations around the symbol of the Cross". Publications are in print.

- o Research paper with George, Saju, Dept. of Statistics “A survey on Menace in Ladies Compartment of Locals in Western Railway, Mumbai” in Xplore - The Xavier’s Research Journal. Vol. 7, Issue 1 , (Humanities & Social Sciences Edition) December 2016 ,ISBN -2249- 1878.
  - o Research paper titled “Evidences of early cartography in the western region in the state of Maharashtra, India” in Terra, Dept. of Geology in print.
  - o She released a book on 10<sup>th</sup> Standard question papers and solution for BMC school children at Malad, December 2016
  - o Dr. Anita Rane- Kothare delivered a talk on “History of Mumbai” during the Bombay Stock Exchange Literary Festival 2017 on 10th March 2017
- Dr. Radha Kumar:-
- o Was invited for a lecture / Demonstration on constructing the essence of Krishna as a socio, historical and political figure. At the Somaiya Centre for Lifelong Learning. The title of the nresentation was “Hey Gopala.” 24th August 2016
  - o Was invited to deliver a lecture for Classes from grade 8th to 12th on the Role of Mythology to construct History and Culture at Smt. Sulochanadevi Singhania School on the 20th of September,2016
- o Research Article was published in the Research Journal “BODHI” Recent Studies in Pali Buddhism. ISBN : 978-98-80550-38-1. Published by Maha Bodhi Society of India. The title of the article was “Application of Attha for Gahapatis – A study of the Practical Approach of the Buddha.
  - o Recipient of the Heras Tata Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship- To study the Nava Tattvas of the temples of Alampur. Presented a paper on the same at Tata international Seminar.

**Dr. Anita Rane- Kothare**  
Head, Department of AIC

## BIOTECHNOLOGY

We, at the Department of Biotechnology have endeavoured all year round to help the young minds in our department discover their passion for Biotechnology through various activities.

### Department activities:

- ‘Green Voice’, an extempore intercollegiate poster competition event was held in collaboration with the Department of Microbiology, St Xavier’s College and Novozymes Inc., Bangalore for UG and PG Biosciences students on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2016.

The aim was to enlighten young minds about the integral role of Microbial Biotechnology in Environment policymaking. To this end, a panel discussion with eminent panelists from associated fields was conducted. Students were expected to create theme-based posters utilizing the information from the panel discussion in addition to prior research. Around forty teams participated in the event. The following panelists were present at the event:

- o Prof. Mukesh Pandya: Consultant Microbiologist

- o Mr. Vishal Jajodia: CEO, Swati Spentose Pvt.Ltd.
- o Ms. Jyoti Mhapsekar: Activist, Stree Mukti Sanghatana
- o Dr. Agnelo Menezes: Economist & Principal, St. Xavier’s College, Mumbai

### • Voice for BT

- In organizing this national level intercollegiate debate competition for UG students of Biotechnology in Western India, we collaborated with Novozyme South Asia Pvt Ltd, Bangalore, a leading biotechnology company. The event was held in August, 2016 and attracted participants from around twenty colleges from Mumbai, Pune and Gujarat. Two days prior to the event, the participants were given three topics related to the societal impact of biotechnology.

Just prior to the contest, participants were randomly assigned one of the three topics and were expected to speak for five minutes on the same.

The event was evaluated by a four-member jury which comprised Dr. Asha Khembavi, Dr. Aditya Basu and Mr. G. S Krishnan, from

Novozymes and Mr. Narayanan Suresh, COO of ABLE. Ms. Nabihah Sadique, a BSc Biotech student from Mata Gujri College of Professional Studies, Indore, Madhya Pradesh emerged as the winner. The first runner up in the keenly contested event was Ms. Mariya Mansoor Alam Ansari from R. D. National in Central Mumbai. Ms. Mathura Pravin More, from G. N. Khalsa College Mumbai was the second runner up.

- A Demonstration Workshop was conducted on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 to help IB students from Garodia International Learning Centre to familiarize themselves with concepts of Biotechnology through wet laboratory experimentation. All the department faculty members contributed in the role of resource persons in this workshop.

### • Palindrome 2016-17

Palindrome, the annual intercollegiate festival, held by Post Graduate Department of Biotechnology is an event ‘by the students, for the students’. The festival was held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016. Since its inception in 2009, this fest has sought

to foster the amalgamation of a scientific temper, erudition and entertainment. The Chief Guest of the event was Dr. Niteen Joshi, Head - Medical Writing & Knowledge Management with Clinical Research Unit, Lupin Ltd. With Lupin Ltd. as the chief sponsor, the event attracted participation from around twenty colleges from Mumbai, Navi Mumbai and Thane.

#### a) Workshops

- Workshop on Basic Bioinformatics conducted by Ms. Norine D'Souza for UG and PG Biotechnology students from various colleges in Mumbai.
- Workshop on Forensic science, The Forensic Factor, conducted by Ms. Riva Pocha, Partner, FACTS for UG and PG Biotechnology students from various colleges in Mumbai.

#### b) Events:

- The Brainiac – Quiz
- Trending Science - a science news channel based on bioscience topics.
- Candid Comics- a painting event.

The students associated with Sparsh Charitable trust, an NGO working for the development of integrated Society by making a difference in the lives of underprivileged children, women & communities to accomplish their motto 'Holding hands to help'. Team Palindrome contributed by engaging with and teaching the students from local government schools for three weekends about various concepts in science, hygiene and basics of banking procedures.

#### • Palindrome Magazine:

The 6<sup>th</sup> issue of the annual magazine, *Palindrome*, themed 'Biotechnology and Society' was released in November 2016. MSc (Semester IV) students edited and created content for the same.

#### Research Activities:

##### • Recognition at National Level:

BEST 2016 is a competition for biotech student entrepreneurship,

organized jointly by ABLE and DBT, Govt. of India. An entrepreneurial idea related to waste management, developed under the guidance of Ms. Norine D'Souza, was presented in the Competition. The project was selected among the Best Top 20 Entrepreneurial Projects at the National level. The student members of the group, Jay Doshi, Niral D' Silva, Percival D'Gama, Minoshka Jones, and Namrata Kanojia (MSc-II 2016-17) were given the opportunity to participate in a mentoring workshop held in February, 2017 at Delhi and compete with teams selected across the country, with the majority of them hailing from well-established research institutes and bio incubators.

##### • Grants:

###### UGC- Minor Research Grant:

Ms. Norine D'Souza is continuing the minor project "*Role of chloride ion channels in glioma and their exploitation in therapy*" sanctioned by UGC for Rs. 2, 70,000/-

##### • Publication:

- Dr. Biswa Prasun Chatterji\*, Dr. Ms. Vivien Amonkar, Asha Jose, Dency Almeida, Karan Acharya, Needa Nasir, Oindrila De, Rachel Agera and Ria Darne. (2016) Utility of Xanthan Gum Produced from Agro Food Waste. Proceedings of the India International Science Festival – Young Scientists' Meet; Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India-Dec 4-8, 2015. *Paper code : waste 23*

##### • Poster Presentation

- Minoshka Jones, Niral D' Silva, Percival D'Gama, Jay Doshi, Yash Kamble, Namrata Kanojia, Cindy Khiangte and Norine Dsouza\*, "The use of pectin from bio-waste for the microbial growth & production of Polyhydroxybutyrate (PHB)." National level conference, conducted at Vaze College, Mulund, Jan 2017.
- Alison Vaz, Jyoti Vishwakarma, Prachiti Prabhu, Ankita Rane, Amogh Mhatre, Akeeth

Pinto Dipali Shah and Norine Dsouza\*, "Comparative study of Polyhydroxybutyrate (PHB) production by different bacterial strains." National level Konark research poster competition organized by VES College, Chembur, January 18<sup>th</sup> 2017.

- Jay Doshi, Percival D'Gama, Yash Kamble, Minoshka Jones, Niral D' Silva, Namrata Kanojia, Cindy Khiangte and Norine Dsouza\*, "Evaluation of synthetic dye binding ability of pectin obtained from household biowaste." National conference at National Seminar on 'Advances in Sustainable Biotechnology' organised by the Department of Biotechnology, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa – Goa on 27 - 28 January 2017.
- Ketaki Bachal, Kimaya Meher and Norine Dsouza\* "Sequence to Structure: In Silico approach for 'Ano5' protein structure prediction, National conference" at National Seminar on 'Advances in Sustainable Biotechnology' organised by the Department of Biotechnology, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa – Goa on 27 - 28 January 2017.
- Alison Vaz, Amogh Mhatre, Akeeth Pinto, Prachiti Prabhu, Ankita Rane, Dipali Shah, Jyoti Vishwakarma and Norine Dsouza\*, "Production of Polyhydroxybutyrate (PHB) by utilization of Waste Biopolymers as a carbon source", National conference" at National Seminar on 'Advances in Sustainable Biotechnology' organised by Department of Biotechnology St. Xavier's College Mapusa – Goa on 27 - 28 January 2017.
- Ketaki Bachal, Kimaya Meher, Alison Vaz, Junita Desouza and Norine Dsouza\*, "In Silico Approach For 'Ano3' Protein Structure Prediction" at the Jigyasa Science Honors Program conducted under DBT star activity, held at KC college, Mumbai – Placed second in the 'Best Poster' category.
- Ketaki Bachal, Snehal Bamane,

Riddhi Bhavsar, Sherlyn Caldeira, Chinna Susan Philip, Akshay L. D'Mello, Junita Desouza, Dr. Biswa Prasun Chatterji\*, 'Bioconversion of food waste to Xanthan gum and its potential application in agarose gel electrophoresis' at the Sajjan Gupta Konark Memorial award 2017 held at VES College Chembur, Mumbai.

- Joel John, Urvazi Kotwal, Jueeli Lad, Aiman Lakdawala, Ketki Magar, Kimaya Meher, Mayuresh Mestry, Dr. Biswaprasun Chatterji\*, 'Xanthan gum production from food wastes and its recovery using salt solutions and sea water' at the Sajjan Gupta Konark Memorial award 2017 held at VES College Chembur, Mumbai.

### Student Research Projects:

- In the third semester, students completed in house group projects on various aspects of biotechnology guided by the faculty. Listed below are a few project topics:
  - Bioconversion of food waste to xanthan and its potential application in agarose gel electrophoresis.
  - Study of the potential applications of pectin extracted from fruit waste.
  - Xanthan Gum production from food wastes and its recovery using salt solution and sea water.
  - Comparative study of biosynthesis of PHB from Bacillus strains, using commercial and natural carbon sources and biowaste.
  - Cytotoxicity study of *Trigonella foenum-graecum* seed extract on LN18 and HEK 293 cell lines.
  - Comparative cytotoxicity analysis of Pectin and Heat modified Pectin on LN 18 and HEK 293.
  - *In vitro* cytotoxic effects of Aloe vera on LN 18 and HEK 293 cell lines.
  - Evaluation of toxicity of *Momordica charantia* (Bitter gourd) extract on mammalian cell lines.
- Semester IV students completed

external projects over five months at IIT, ACTREC, TIFR, BARC, CIFE and DAE-CBS.

### • Students participated in the Paradigm 2017 Science Exhibition and presented two exhibits :

- ✓ Misfolded Malady: Presented by: Kris Silveira, Abhilash Babu, Minal Nenwani, Amrita Suresh and Norine D'Souza\*.

- ✓ ORS and untold story of Dilip Mahalanabis: Presented by: Sanhita Ghuge, Michelle Dias and B P Chatterji\*.

### • Student participation in seminars/workshops/conferences:

- An interactive session on Advanced Microbial Technology for Environmental Remediation with experts from Organica Biotech Ltd., a leading Environment Biotechnology organization was facilitated by the students of the Department for all post-graduate Biosciences within the college on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

- Talk on HPTLC and its applications conducted by experts from Anchrome Ltd. in March 2017.

- Talk by Delegates from the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore, Dr. S.T. Dheen and Dr. Prakash Hande on "Careers and PhD in Singapore" organised by the PG Dept. of Biotechnology, on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017.

- Biocon-Sponsored Indo-US Nobel Laureate Workshop for Students. Guest Nobel Laureate: Dr. Kurt Wuthrich 'My life as a scientist: Experience in academic & industry' on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

- The Public Lecture Series within 'Paradigm 2017' held at St. Xavier's College on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2017.

- Lecture on "X-ray Crystallography - Photography at an atomic level" by Ruchi Anand, Department of Chemistry, IIT Bombay at St. Xavier's College on 13<sup>th</sup> January,

2017.

- Nobel Dialogue as a part of Nobel Prize Series-Vibrant Gujarat Summit, India 2017 held at St. Xavier's College (MMR) on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

- BIOWAVES 2017, a seminar organized by the Department of Life Science & Biochemistry at St. Xavier's College on 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2017.

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sumitra Maharana Memorial Lecture on Molecular Biology and Biotechnology "Epigenetics- Life beyond your genes. Implications in Behavior and Health" by Prof. Tapas K. Kundu conducted at TIFR, Mumbai on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017.

- State Level Seminar on Bioenergy, biodiversity and sustainable agriculture organized by Dept. of Biotechnology, Pillai College on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

- International Symposium on Microbial Ecology and Systematics by Microbial Culture Collection, Pune, India on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at NCL, Pune.

- All students from the department participated in a lecture on the 'Definitive Elucidation of Virulence Mechanisms: Lessons from Campylobacter for understanding why bacteria cause disease', by Dr. S Chen, from National University of Singapore organized by the Department of Microbiology, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai in December 2016.

### Faculty Activities:

- All faculty members attended the Faculty seminar organized by IQAC in October 2016 and the seminar on 'Adapting to Change' in March 2017.

- Dr. Shiney Peter and Ms. Norine D'Souza participated in a two day workshop on "Operationalizing eLearning platform for offering courses on coastal and marine biodiversity for the Science and Media students", conducted by CMPA, GIZ in the XIMR on 26<sup>th</sup>

-27<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

- Dr. Shiney Peter and Ms. Norine D'Souza participated in Advanced Training on methods and techniques of managing an e-learning course on Coastal and Marine Biodiversity organized by CMPA, GIZ, India and AIZ, GIZ Germany in Bangkok in December 2016.
- Dr. Shiney Peter participated in a three-day workshop on Science Journalism as a part of the *Women in Science* Series of workshops at IISER Pune from 4<sup>th</sup> March to 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017.
- Dr. Shiney Peter participated in a hands-on workshop on "Statistics for Biologists" organized by the Department of Life Sciences, K C College, Mumbai in November 2016.
- Ms. Norine D'souza collaborated with the Post-graduate students of the Department of Geology

and guided them in a part of their dissertation in the field of water chemistry analysis.

- Ms. Norine D'Souza was the resource person for the Bioinformatics workshop conducted by the Department of Biotechnology in *Palindrome* 2016 -17.
- Ms. Norine D'Souza and Dr. B. P. Chatterji were invited as resource persons for the workshop on "Credit Based Semester and Grading System for MSc Biotechnology" on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2017, conducted at the University department of Biotechnology, Mumbai University.
- Ms. Norine D'Souza conducted lectures on bioinformatics for MSc-Semester IV students at SIES College and the University Department of Biotechnology, University of Mumbai in March-April 2017.

- Dr. B. P.Chatterji conducted lectures on IPR for MSc-Semester II students at SIES College, V.G. Vaze College and University Department of Biotechnology, University of Mumbai between January and March 2017.
- Dr. Biswa Prasun Chatterji conducted lectures for the postgraduate students of the Department of Life Sciences and Microbiology in the field of IPR management at St. Xavier's College.
- Dr. Vivien Amonkar, H.O.D (Biotechnology) retired in August 2016 after a fruitful and inspiring decade, leading the department right from its inception in 2007. We as a team hope to continue in the same spirit and accomplish the vision of igniting young minds to be assets in the field of Biotechnology.

**Dr. Shiney Peter**  
PGDBT

## BOTANY

The academic year 2016-17 provided a series of opportunities and achievements for the Botany department.

### Ph. D. Degree Awarded:

Under the guidance of Dr. Rajendra Shinde, two doctoral students were awarded a PhD by the University of Mumbai in the year 2016-17. Ms. Sweedle Cerejo, on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2016 was awarded a Ph.D degree for her doctoral thesis titled 'Taxonomic and Ecological Adaptations of Orchids in Mumbai Metropolis and Thane District', and Mr. Rajdeo Singh, was awarded a Ph.D degree on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2017 for 'Monographic studies on Asteraceae of Maharashtra'

### Research Papers Published:

- Kalpit Mhatre and Rajendra Shinde, March 2017. 'Four New Reports of Sacred Groves for the State Of Maharashtra' *Journal of Indian Botanical Society*, 96: 39-46. (Online) E-ISSN NO: 2455-7218

- D'Souza R.W, Lobo V: Effects of temperature and storage duration on antioxidant status in *Coriandrum sativum* Linn. *Int. J. Life. Sci. Scienti. Res.*, 2017; 3(3): 1055-1058.
- Kalpit Mhatre and Alok Gude, 'An Assessment of Mangrove Associate Plant Species in Ratnagiri District, Maharashtra, India' *International Journal of Current Research*, Vol 9, Issue 05, pp 51576-51577, May 2017. (Online) ISSN: 0975-833X

### Oral Presentation

- Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde presented a paper on the 'Current Status of Indian Boraginales' at the IIIrd International Meeting on Boraginales at Nees Institute for Research on Plant Biodiversity, Bonn, Germany on 1-2 September 2016. The trip was sponsored by the Nees Institute, Bonn.
- Dr Shinde also presented a Proposal for the Department of

Statistics of St. Xavier's College to get DBT Star College Status and support under the Star College Scheme on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

- Dr. Shinde gave a talk on 'Evaluation System under Autonomy' at Yashvantrao Chavan Institute of Science, Satara on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017.
- Dr. Shinde also spoke about 'Autonomy' at Rajashri Shahu Mahavidyalaya (Autonomous), Latur on 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2017.
- Mr. Kevin D'cruz was a Resource Person at One-Day State Level Workshop on "ICT and Innovative Teaching Techniques" at NSS College of Commerce and Economics, Tardeo, Mumbai in February 2017.
- Mr. Alok Gude presented a paper on the topic 'Sea level Rise along Indian Coast' at a National Seminar on 'Global Environment: Issues, Challenges and Solutions' held at



Pankaj Mahavidyalaya, Chopda, Dist- Jalgaon on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

### Visiting Faculty

Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde took M.Sc. Taxonomy Lectures at the University of Mumbai (Mithibai College), and at Dapoli Urban Bank's College of Art and Science, during February- March 2017. He was a Visiting Faculty for the Biodiversity Course BIO5.03 at Center for Excellence in Basic Biology, - DAE-MU, Mumbai University. He was also the resource person for the Taxonomy courses conducted by FERN, Thane and iNaturewatch, Mumbai.

### Consultancy:

Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde authenticated plant specimens in Blatter Herbarium. During the academic year many such plant specimens were authenticated. This resulted in the generation of funds amounting to Rs.16,000/- for the college.

### Recognition

- Dr. Rajendra Shinde was appointed as a Member for the following: (a) Advisory Committee, Marathi Encyclopedia – on Botany Vanaspati Dnyanmadal- Marathi Vishwakosh, Govt of Maharashtra; (b) The Ad-Voc Board of Studies in Botany, University of Mumbai for the year 2016-17; (c) The Board of Studies in Botany – Mithibai College for the Autonomous Status for the year 2016-18. (d) The Academic Council, Rajashri Shahu Mahavidyala, (Autonomous), Latur for the year 2016-18. (e) The Advisory Committee – DBT Star College Scheme, GMM College, Bhiwandi for the year 2016-17; (f) The Tree Authority, Thane Municipal Corporation, Thane for the year 2016-17.
- Mr. Alok Gude was appointed as Paper Setter for FYBSc Botany End Semester and ATKT Exams of both semesters of University of Mumbai.

### Professional Training:

- Mr. Alok Gude Participated in a one week workshop on 'Species Distribution Modeling

with MaxEnt' organized by the Agricultural & Ecological Research Unit, of the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, held from 9<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

- Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde attended Training on 'Patents' at RGNIIMP, Nagpur from 21<sup>st</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2016.

### External Examination Work

Mr. Alok Gude worked as an External Examiner for T.Y.BSc Botany Semester-V University of Mumbai Practical Exam at Nana Vanjare Vidyanagari New Education Society's Arts, Commerce and Science College, Lanja, Dist- Ratnagiri from 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

### Field Excursions and Industrial visits.

Dr. R.D. Shinde took students of MSc-II to the Plant Quarantine Centre and Patent Office to explain them the Plant Quarantine and Patent filing procedure.

- Dr. R.D. Shinde organized local excursions for TYBSc students to Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivali and to BPT Garden, Colaba for studying the seasonal flora during January 2016.
- Dr. Vijaya Lobo along with Mr. Rajdeo Singh conducted a botanical excursion to Phansad Wildlife sanctuary, Murud, Raigad from 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> anuary 2016 for the M.Sc. Botany students.
- Dr. Manek Mistry conducted short field visits every week in and around college campus to familiarize the FYBSc and SYBA Garden Art students with the Flora.

### SIP work in the Blatter:

As a part of SIP work, many students helped in Blatter Herbarium, in completion of Cataloguing of the old books and in the maintenance of the herbarium.

### Conferences, Seminars, workshops and other Courses attended:

- Dr. Rajendra Shinde attended the International Meet of EuMind Europe at Amsterdam, Netherlands on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017, in the capacity of EuMind India, Treasurer and represented the Indian Board. This visit was sponsored by EuMind India. In another international visit he accompanied Students of St. Xavier's College to Belgium for the EuMind Exchange Programme spanning from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> May 2017.
- Dr. Vijaya Lobo attended a seminar "Confluence17" arranged by Mathematics and Statistics Department of St. Xavier's College, held on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017.
- Mr. Alok Gude attended a National Conference on 'Fungi from Diverse Habitats and their Biotechnological Applications' organized by Mycological Society of India (Mumbai Unit) at Satish Pradhan Dnyanasadhana College, Thane. He also participated in a one day training program titled 'Skill Enhancement for Trainers' organized by K. C. College on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016. Furthermore, he participated in a one day Exam pattern Revision workshop for TYBSc Botany University of Mumbai, at Jai Hind College on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017.
- The faculty members of the department participated in all the Faculty Seminars held in our college.

### Change in leadership of the Department:

Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde became the New Head of Department from June 2017 as he was relieved from the post of Vice Principal. Mr. Kevin D'Cruz decided to look after the 'Xavier's Knowledge Centre' as a Director.

**Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde**  
Head, Dept of Botany  
& Director, Blatter Herbarium

# CHEMISTRY

Our very own Dr. (Fr.) Roy Pereira, S.J., Vice-Principal (Academics) proceeded to US for post-doctoral research studies in Neuroscience. In his place, Dr. (Ms.) Gulshanara Shaikh, also from our Department, was appointed as the new Vice-Principal (Academics).

Eminent researchers from BARC, TIFR, IIT- Mumbai, ICT, University of Mumbai and various other institutions were part of the two-day Research Scholars' Meet – 2017 (RSM-2017), hosted by the Department of Chemistry in association with Indian Chemical Society (Mumbai Branch) on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2017.

Approximately 150 research scholars attended the RSM-2017 and 25 research papers were presented. The RSM-2017 focused on bringing to the forefront, the current situation, trends and development in the field of Chemistry. Through interaction, dialogue, sharing of ideas and work done by the research scholars, it aimed to create an intellectual synergy in an environment of critical review. World renowned and Padma Vibhushan recipient Professor M. M. Sharma delivered the Inaugural speech. He addressed the congregation on the subject matter of

'Chemistry and Allied Sciences'. We were fortunate to have with us Professor Sandip Trivedi, another renowned Physicist and the Director, TIFR for the Valedictory address.

The Department of Chemistry is proud to announce that Mr. Ganesh B. Mule, under the guidance of Dr. Freddy H. Havaladar, has been awarded Doctorate Degree in Chemistry by the University Of Mumbai.

We are exceptionally pleased to announce that the Fourth T.Y. Batch (2015-2016) under the Autonomous system have cleared the examinations with flying colors.

Dr. Gulshan Shaikh and Mr. Marazban Kotwal conducted an Orientation session on POGIL on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2016 under Faculty Enrichment Programme.

## Guest Lectures

**Mr. Umashankar Verma**, Marketing Executive, Borosil conducted a Lecture on 'Good Laboratory Practices' on 7<sup>th</sup> July and 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016 for FY, SY and TY B.Sc. students.

A Lecture session on 'The Central Science : Organic Chemistry' by **Dr. Mahesh Lakshman**, Prof. of Chemistry, The City College of New York was organized on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2016 for FY, SY and TY B.Sc. students.

**Dr. Nandita Madhavan (IIT Mumbai)** was invited for a guest lecture on 'Molecular Engineering – SMALL IS BIG' on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

**Dr. Ruchi Anand (IIT Mumbai)** conducted a lecture on 'Macromolecular Crystallography: Photography at an atomic level' on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

**Dr. Arnab Bhattacharya (TIFR)** was invited to give a lecture on 'A ChemHistory of Lighting' on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

**Dr. G. Ramakrishnan (SIES Institute)** conducted a lecture on 'Instrumental Analytical Chemistry and its Industrial Applications' on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

## ❖ ACADEMIC AND INDUSTRIAL VISITS

1. The Department of Chemistry organized a ten-day Industrial Visit for FY, SY and TY students to Kerala during the Diwali vacations. The visit was a grand success with 40 students and 3 Department faculties participating in this visit.

A one-day Industrial Visit to a textile and a polymer industry at Silvassa was organized on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017. The Chemistry students were assisted by 3 Department faculties.

2. A two – day workshop on "Instrumentation in Analytical Chemistry" was arranged on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017. It was specifically designed by Dr. Pralhad Rege for our Chemistry Honours students at P.S.Ramanathan Instrumentation

Laboratory, Ruia College. The students were acquainted with the working of various sophisticated analytical instruments and were each awarded a Certificate of Participation.

## ❖ ACTIVITIES OF THE STUDENTS

1. An *intra-collegiate event* 'The Science Quiz' was organized on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2016 in SCAVI.
2. 'The XAC Debate', an *intra-collegiate event* was held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2016 in XIMR.
3. Dr. Gulshan Shaikh and Dr. Ashma Aggarwal were actively involved with the FY, SY and TY Chemistry Honours students in conducting a research project, 'SYNTHESIS AND ISOLATION OF SOME ORGANIC COMPOUNDS: AN ANALYTICAL APPROACH'.
4. Dr. Pralhad Rege and Dr. Ashma Aggarwal conducted a 'RESEARCH PROJECT IN PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTRY' with the SY and TY Chemistry Honours students.
5. Dr. Pralhad Rege and Dr. Gulshan Shaikh conducted a two – credit 'RESEARCH PROJECT IN FOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMISTRY' with the FY, SY and TY Chemistry students.
6. Mr. Marazban Kotwal and Dr. Ashutosh Mishra conducted a 'RESEARCH PROJECT ON AYURVEDIC BHASMA' with the TY Chemistry Honours students.
7. The Inter – Collegiate Festival "ALCHEMIA-2017" organized by the Xavier's Association of Chemistry, XAC, on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> January 2017 was a stupendous success with record participation of students from various colleges in Mumbai and also active participation of our Chemistry students ably guided by Dr. Ashma Aggarwal, Chairperson, Mr. Marazban Kotwal, Secretary and Dr. Pralhad Rege, Joint Secretary

and Treasurer. A workshop in Forensics and a Tie and Dye workshop were the highlights of "ALCHEMIA-2017".

8. 16 TY students appeared and 6 of them made it to the Merit List and were awarded certificates in the Aptitude Test conducted by the Indian Chemical Society. 3 of our top rankers were also given cash awards.

9. Eight TY students have been credited with completing their 60 – hour Internship Programme at the end of their Fourth Semester.

Three SY Chemistry students successfully completed their Internship at RCF LTD., Alibaug and one SY student completed her Internship at IISR Bangalore. One SY student completed his Internship at Windlass Biotech Limited, Dehradun.

10. About 50 students registered for the Chemistry Honors' Programme and 17 TY students qualified for the Honors' Certificate in Chemistry during the Academic year 2016 – 2017.

#### ❖ ACTIVITIES OF THE FACULTY

##### Prof. Freddy H. Havaladar

- Awarded an '**International Patent**' by the World Intellectual Property Organization on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2016 for his research publication 'PREPARATION OF NOVEL DEFERASIROX ANALOGUES FOR ANTIMALARIAL ACTIVITY'.
- Awarded an '**Indian Patent**' on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2016 for his research publication 'PREPARATION OF NOVEL DEFERASIROX ANALOGUES FOR ANTIMALARIAL ACTIVITY'.
- Appointed as a Member of the Board of Studies in Chemistry for post-graduate studies at NMIMS and K. J. Somaiya College, Mumbai.
- Appointed as a Subject Expert (VC Nominee) on Screening

Committee for Staff Placement at KC College.

##### Dr. Gulshan Shaikh

- Member of a Panel discussion on "Best Practices for Good Governance" at the NAAC-sponsored IQAC National Conference on Academic and Administrative Audit held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 organised by the Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science.
- Presented a paper on "Rubrics as an assessment tool" at the NAAC- sponsored IQAC National Seminar on "Envisioning Effective Strategies for Administrative and Academic Audit" organized by K.C. College held on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017.
- Was invited by Y.C. Institute of Science, Satara to present "Course Structure in Autonomous Status" on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017.
- Was invited by C.H.M. College of Pharmacy, Ulhasnagar to conduct a workshop on "Rubrics as an assessment tool" on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

##### Dr. Fr. Roy Pereira, S.J.

- Awarded the highly competitive IFI fellowship research grant of around US \$26,500 to pursue his research at Berkeley, USA for Fall Semester 2016. His public lecture was on the application of Neuroscience for everyday life titled, "The Power to Change: Neuroscience for Abundant Living."
- On December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 he was also invited by Google Headquarters, Mountain View, California to speak to the employees on his research. His topic was "Our Tech Gadgets and our Brains: What does Neuroscience research tell us."
- On January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 he was invited by the prestigious Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts to deliver a lecture at an international conference. His topic was, "Enhancing Health through the Mind-Body

Connection: Perspectives from Neuroscience."

- For the Spring Semester (January to May 2017) he was awarded the Fleming Fellowship Grant of around US \$9500 to pursue his research at Saint Louis University which also has a Medical School. His public lecture delivered on March 21, 2017 was titled, "Internationalization of Addiction: Help from Neuroscience."
- Prior to beginning his post doc program he did a presentation on the clinical relevance of Neuroscience on July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in South Pasadena, Los Angeles on the topic, "Living in a Stressful World: Coping with Change."

Being involved in administration and development work in the college, Fr Roy visited a number of universities such as Notre Dame University, Loyola University, Chicago, University of San Francisco, Loyola Marymount and Caltech in Los Angeles and Santa Clara University to look for study abroad and research opportunities for our students and faculty.

##### Dr. B. D. Bonde

- Invited as an External Examiner for M.Sc. Part- II Organic Chemistry Practicals at K. J. Somaiya College, Mumbai.

Dr. Ashma Aggarwal, Dr. Geeta Kotian and Ms. Saima Khan attended a one-day Seminar at Birla College, Kalyan.

Dr. Ashma Aggarwal and Dr. Pralhad Rege have been awarded Minor Research Grant of the University of Mumbai for the Academic year 2016-2017.

Dr. Pralhad Rege has been recognized as a Post-graduate Teacher for M.Sc. (By Research) by the University of Mumbai.

Dr. Pralhad Rege attended the UGC Sponsored Refresher Course in Chemical Sciences at Academic Staff College, Mumbai from 10<sup>th</sup> October to 29<sup>th</sup> October 2016 and

was awarded Grade “A”.

We are extremely proud to announce that under Prof. Freddy H. Havaladar as Head of the Department, in the last five years, the Department of Chemistry

was fortunate to have **2 toppers** at the B.Sc. Degree Examination under the College Autonomous System., Mr. Clinton Savio Alwyn Fernandes (TY Batch 2013-2014) with C.G.P.A. of 3.85 and Mr.

Aditya Chalishazar (TY Batch 2016-2017) with C.G.P.A. of 3.96.

**Prof. Freddy H. Havaladar**  
Head, Department Of Chemistry

## COMMERCE (ARTS)

In the academic year 2016-17, the Department of Commerce soared to new heights with its achievements.

Dr. Suvaiba Pirani completed her PhD in Business Administration and Policy with a thesis titled *A Study of Retention and Motivational Practices in Banks with special reference to Mumbai City*. In addition, she co-authored the Commerce text book *Service Sector (Semester II)*, penning the modules ‘Introduction to Services’ and ‘Retailing in India’

respectively.

This year, Dr. Pirani also presented and published two academic papers:

- The paper *Recent Developments in Commerce* was presented at the two day ‘International Conference on Recent Advancement in Business Management, Economics, and Information Technology’ held on the 24th and 25th of February, 2017.

- *Demonetization- Curbing Black Money and Promoting E- Banking* was presented at the one day International Conference at M.M.K. College of Economics and Commerce on 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2017.

The students of the department also followed the lead of their prolific professor with two of them securing campus placements in organisations of repute this year.

**Dr. Suvaiba Pirani**

## COMMERCE (B.COM)

The Faculty of the Commerce in St. Xavier’s College, Mumbai was established by the Jesuit Community in the year 1988 under the initiative of Late Fr. Valero Aleu, S.J. who was also the Founder Vice-Principal of the Commerce Section at St. Xavier’s College, Mumbai. After his demise the Commerce Faculty is led by Fr. Errol Fernandes, S.J. who is the Vice-Principal of the Commerce Section. The Commerce Section offers “Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com.)” Graduation Course which is a three-years integrated Under-Graduate Degree Programme. The Commerce Section has a committed team of staff members as enlisted below:

Number of Staff Members in the Commerce Section	
Teaching Faculty	09
Number of Administrative and Support Staff	04

It is with pride that I share with you this annual report for the academic year 2016-17, which is the twenty-ninth year of the Commerce Section at St. Xavier’s College, Mumbai. The report highlights the accomplishments and achievements of the faculty, staff, and students of the Department of Com-

merce during the last academic year 2016-17. The enduring strengths of our department are the rich quality and perseverance of our students and unstinted commitment of our faculty. Students securing the overall highest CGPA in B.Com. Degree Course are as indicated below:

Academic Year	Name of Student
2015-16	Celeste Pias
2016-17	Kalyani Shinde

Majority of our students are working during the day and attend college during the evening time. Our students truly follow “Earn and Learn” way of life. Our priority has always been to provide students a top-notch curriculum and learning atmosphere which can develop leadership skills so as to develop responsible citizens who can build on their experiences and successfully contribute to the society. Our Bachelor’s programme in Commerce is facilitated by multi-media learning environment enriched by face-to-face faculty mentoring and coaching. The optional applied component papers offered in S.Y.B.Com level is Advertising and Mass Communication. Students are given exposure to hands-on-expe-

rience in Computers in the Knowledge Centre Computer Lab on a regular basis. Alongwith this, in collaboration with an NGO “Kings Learning”, sponsored by Westside Tata Trend, special emphasis is laid on imparting English Teaching mainly for the first year students. An innovative approach was adopted by starting a WhatsApp Group named “Employment Exchange” in order to assist placement as well as internship of students.

The corner stone of any department is its faculty. In April 2016, Prof. Fr. Dr. Conrad Pessa, S.J., a teaching faculty of our department was awarded Ph.D. Degree by XLRI. In April 2017, Prof. Dr. Arvind Dhond, a teaching faculty of our department was awarded D.Litt. Degree by CVU, Kingdom of Tonga. We take this opportunity to congratulate them on their commendable achievements. In November 2016 Prof. J.J. Gaikwad resumed the department after availing UGC-FIP two years leave in order to pursue his Ph.D. work. I take this opportunity to welcome him to the department. Prof. Vishant Ramteke who was appointed as a substitute teaching faculty on FIP Leave Vacancy left the department in November, 2016

after a tenure of two years. He was an extremely meticulous faculty and I wish him all the best, on the behalf of the department, in all his future endeavours.

According to UGC requirements, faculty members attended orientation programme and refresher courses and a number of other faculty development programmes during the year. Also faculty members attended and presented research papers in Conferences/ Seminars and also contributed research papers in several renowned publications of high repute. Some of the faculty members were invited as Resource Persons in Conferences and Seminars as well as subject experts on selection committees panel for selecting teaching faculty in other institutions. Academic achievements of the various members for the year include the following: Students of the department excelled in academics and in extra-curricular activities both in intra-collegiate as well as inter-collegiate events. We feel bookish knowledge alone, without practical orientation, is never relevant. We thus encourage our students to take active interest in various extra-curricular and co-curricular activities. This includes sports and games, seminars, workshops and debates. A brief overview of the main events organised by the department, include the following:

- i. B.Com. Graduation Programme for the pass-out batch of the Academic Year 2015-16 was held in June 2016.
- ii. Yoga Day programme was held on 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2016.
- iii. The first year induction programme was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2016.
- iv. Annual Guest Lecture from invited Speaker and World Bank Economist Prof. Dr. Avadoot Nadkarni on the topic "Indian Economy" was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2016.
- v. The annual intra-collegiate Elocution event on the topic "Reservation Policy" was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2016.
- vi. Annual Seminar imparting 'Values of Life' which covers relevant topics extending beyond the curriculum was held for the final year students at Xavier's Villa, Khandala was held on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2016.
- vii. "EXPRESSIONS 2K17" an Intra-Collegiate Mega-Talent Competition was held on 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2017.
- viii. Study Tour to SEBI, Bombay Stock Exchange, MSME-Development Institute was held in January and

February, 2017.

One third year student, Ishwor Bhusal, of the department got an opportunity through the College and he visited Harvard University, USA for one-week during January 2017 as a part of the student exchange program. Students have also performed well in various competitive entrance examinations. Several students have continued their post-graduation studies in India and a few of them have also gone abroad for pursuing their higher studies.

Looking back on 2016-17, I am struck by the progress of the department. Reflecting on some of the outstanding achievements and successes in 2016-17 is particularly poignant for me. However, as the year draws to a close we look forward to another eventful year where more remarkable things may happen. We hope the academic year 2017-18 will bring in better opportunities. We aim to inspire everyone through our motto "Provocans Ad Volandvm" which means "Provoke to Fly" and demonstrate our experience. It is motivation and creative energy that we aim to bring to all of our activities that make visions a reality and bring positive change.

**Fr. Errol Fernandes, S.J.**  
Vice-Principal (Commerce)

## ECONOMICS

This year has been a fruitful one for the Department of Economics. The following is a list of the research and the co-curricular activities that were carried out in this year:

### Faculty Research:

Dr. Aditi Parag Sawant, Head, Department of Economics has successfully presented the mid-term report of Major Research Project at UGC, New Delhi in February, 2017.

Mr. Rahul Menon, Assistant Professor has submitted his Ph.D. thesis to JNU, New Delhi.

Ms. Aparna Kulkarni, Assistant Professor become Marathi Arthkosh (Marathi Dictionary of Economics)

Dr. Aditi Sawant, resource person at NCERT, New Delhi.

### Research Papers and Publication

Sawant A. (2016), Farmers' Distress in Indian Agriculture : A Case Study of Cotton in Vidarbha and Marathwada, Xplore, The Research Journal of St. Xavier's College, (Humanities and Social Sciences Edition) Vol. 7, Issue 2, December, Pg. 75 to 93.

Xplore, The Research Journal of St. Xavier's College, (Humanities and Social Sciences Edition) Vol. 7, Issue 2, December co-edited by Aditi Sawant and Pearl Pastakia.

Menon R. (2016), "Can Income

Transfers Help Explain Brexit?", Economic and Political Weekly, Vol 51, No 33.

Menon R. (2017), "Brexit: Fraught with Uncertainty", Mathrubhumi Year Book.

### Students' Research & Co-curriculum Activities

- Arthniti (ISSN 2277-1344 ) Department's Annual Research Journal
- Annual Lalit Doshi Memorial Lecture and Debate
- Exchange Program with St. Xavier's College, Jaipur
- Quarterly Newsletter and Web-Blog

- Annual Seminar at Khandala
- Presentation in International Conferences
- Rohit James : *The 13<sup>th</sup> South Asia Economic Students' Meet (SAESM) 2016*
- Tisha Mani : *the Austrian Economics Research Conference held in the Mises Institute in Auburn, USA , 2016*
- Dissertation for Final Year Students
- Econundrum – Department's Annual Fest
- UGC Sponsored National Conference, 2015
- Econundrum Symposium, 2016

- International Ecolit Conference, 2017

### Social Work by the Department

Financial Literacy Program post demonetization specially for Grade III and Grade IV Staff

Aadhar Card and Pan Card Camp for students and faculty

Occasional social activities such as cleaning hospitals, Career guidance for Municipality schools, tree plantation and many others

### Placement, Fellowship & Scholarship before Graduation in 2016-17

Economics Major	18
<b>Eco-Statistics</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Eco-Socio</b>	<b>06</b>
<b>Eco-Com</b>	<b>02</b>
<b>Fellowship and Scholarship</b>	<b>07</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>

We are extremely proud of our students for carrying out the various activities efficiently. We also congratulate all our students who have received placements, scholarships and fellowships. We are looking forward to this year with enthusiasm.

**Dr. Aditi Sawant**

Head, Department of Economics

## ENGLISH

This year the English Department continued to host multifarious events, workshops and courses to complement the syllabus and to make the academic and co-curricular experience lively and interesting.

Among the many exciting guest lectures was one held by Prof. Dr. Bhasker Saha of the Life Science Department, on Rabindrasangeet. For the Second Year students, author Rochelle Potkar held a lecture series on Haibun.

Through the auspices of the Austrian Consulate, writer Frank Moorhouse read from his books and discussed his experiences as a biographer. Additionally, a visiting troupe from the Australian Academy of Contemporary Dance conducted a dance workshop for our students.

The US Consulate facilitated a talk by James Fennell, Cultural Affairs Officer of the US Consulate General, on Martin Luther King Jr. and the American Civil Rights Movement.

Yet another author visit was organized in collaboration with the Department of Ancient Indian Culture, wherein Argentine novelist Carlos Gamero presented an insightful lecture on Jorge Luis Borges.

The Departments of English and Hindi were fortunate to collaborate with Max Mueller Bhavan's *Poets Translate Poets Festival* held in October. Our College was chosen as venue for one of its events, a panel discussion where poets shared their translation of one another's works in diverse languages and discussed the practical challenges involved in the enterprise of translation. The event was moderated by Dr. Pearl Pastakia.

The Department conducted a seminar on "Giving Voice to the Voiceless: The Bard and Beyond" at Premanjali Retreat Centre, Nalla Sopara, where students presented papers on literature, film and popular culture.

This year the Departments of Economics and English Departments jointly hosted a symposium on Literature and Economic Change. Distinguished speakers from India and abroad delivered some enlightening talks, panel discussions, audio-visual presentations and folk performances.

There were forty students who graduated this year, among whom was Sasha Mahuli, the Student Head of Ithaka and several others who assisted with the smooth running of the Festival. The festival featured plays, events

and social outreach on the theme of Nature and Ecological Awareness. The Ithaka journal (titled 'Metamorphoses: Journeys Within') was edited by a team of students, Sumant, Udity and Shalmali (TYBA) and assisted by Ipshta and Nayanika (SYBA).

### The Honours Program

This year, under the Honours Program was introduced a Basic Persian Course. The Department also held an Iranian Film Festival followed by a seminar under the aegis of the Culture House of the Iran.

### Faculty News

Ms. Rashmi Lee George was awarded two-year FIP leave to pursue a Ph.D. and has now resumed active service. We are indebted to Ms. Sana Ahmed, Mr. Vishant Ramteke, Ms. Rashmi Mehta and Dr. Shefali Shah (former Head of the Dept.) for taking lectures whenever our Professors have been on prolonged leave.

We thank all our faculty and students for making this year enriching and memorable.

**Dr. Pearl Pastakia**

Head, Department of English

## FRENCH

The Department of French was fraught with various activities to help the students appreciate the French language and culture. The year began with the students putting up a small programme of song and dance to commemorate the event of the storming of the Bastille on 14<sup>th</sup> July. A workshop on subtitling was organised in February 2017, where students were taught the technique of subtitling with emphasis on its various aspects: intercultural, subtitling of different registers of language as well as of songs. In February 2017 the annual magazine of the department, 'A la française', was released; this year the theme being 'French Cuisine'. Students penned articles, poems, anecdotes which brought out the flavours of Indian and French cuisine.

The 36<sup>th</sup> Congress and third International Congress of the IATF (The Indian Association Of Teachers of French) was organized by The Indian Association Of Teachers of French

in collaboration with The French Embassy in India, Institut Français en Inde, Alliance Française de Mumbai and St. Xavier's College Autonomous, Mumbai. The Congress was held at St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, from 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> November 2016. The theme of the Congress was 'Learning French – choices for tomorrow', with the same being attended by teachers from various institutions in India as well as abroad. At this Congress our faculty Ms. Alpana Palkhiwale presented a paper on 'Les textes littéraires en classe de FLE'. Our students benefited immensely from some of the sessions of the Congress.

Ms. Alpana Palkhiwale attended an International Conference organised by FIPF Federation International des Professeurs de Français, at University of Liege, Liege, Belgium from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July 2016 and presented a paper on 'Le français pour et par le plaisir, l'esthétique et l'épanouissement

personnel'. She also attended the International Multilingual Conference on 'Language teaching: challenges encountered, solutions proposed' at Ethiraj College for Women (Autonomous), Chennai on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Sept 2016, and presented a paper on 'L'espace littéraire en classe de FLE'. On 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2016 at Sophia College Mumbai Ms. Alpana Palkhiwale attended the International Conference on College 'Education for Women in 21<sup>st</sup> century: Challenges and opportunities' and presented a poster on 'Industry- Academia Interface. How French language departments in universities can teach French for professional use'.

This year we had events which helped our students to express their creativity and enhance their language skills.

**Ms. Alpana Palkhiwale**  
(Professor in charge)

## GEOLOGY

The academic year 2016-17 for the geology department was, as in the past very eventful and with many success stories..

The following M.Sc student qualified the

**CSIR-UGC JRF/ Lecturership examination -**

December 2016 : Alan Aranha

Five of our graduating students secured ranks in the first 60 in the all India - Joint Admission Test for Masters (JAM)

JAM EXAM for admission to IIT in MSc

1. Valdrich Fernandes-AIR 21.
2. Gargi Deshmukh AIR 45.
3. Kirsten Gouria AIR 47.
4. Shraddha Sigtia AIR 50.
4. Ananya Pandey -AIR 57.

Our post-graduate students successfully

completed internships at ONGC.

The department also bagged the 'Nebula' Intercollegiate Geology Festival Trophy 2017 held in Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts & Science, Gogol-Margao, Goa.

### Faculty Member Achievements:

Mr. John D'Souza participated in one week National Workshop on 'Rare Earths, Zirconium and Titanium Resources from Beach Placer deposits of India: theory and practice' jointly organized by the Geological Society of India, Bengaluru and the Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and research (AMD), Hyderabad from 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at National Centre for Earth Science Studies(NCESS), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

Dr. Ashwin Pundalik attended 33<sup>rd</sup> Convention of Indian Association of Sedimentologists, Varanasi, 12-14<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

Dr. Bobby Mathew Participated in the following Seminar/Workshops:

National seminar on 'Neo Multi-Disciplinary Studies of the Cuddapah Basin Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, held during 26<sup>th</sup>- 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016; organized by Department of Geology Loyola Degree College (YSSR), Pulivendula, Y.S.R Kadapa Dist. A.P. Sponsored by DST-SERB, UGC-SERO, APMD, UCIL.

Attended the Eighty-Second Annual Meeting of the Indian Academy of Sciences held in IISER, Bhopal from 04<sup>th</sup> to 06<sup>th</sup> November 2016 and took part in the scientific programme of lectures and an interaction meeting with the Education Panel of the Academy on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2016.

Participated in Workshop on Science writing organized in Bengaluru by Current Science Association, Bengaluru during 20-25<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

Dr. Pravin Henriques was appointed as the examination officer for conducting

the foundation certificate and Diploma in Gemmology examination by GEM-A (Gemmological Association of Great Britain) in January 2017.

Dr. Hrishikesh Samant conducted ACROFI VI – Field Workshop – in collaboration with IIT Bombay at Elephanta Island. 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

He was also instrumental in conducting one day Lab workshop on 'Petrographic Sample Preparation' held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2016 at Department of Geology, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai.

### Lecture Series:

Dr. Iain Stewart, Professor of Geoscience Communication at the University of Plymouth and also a member of the Scientific Board of UNESCO's International Geoscience Programme, delivered a lecture as a part of Science and Beyond lecture series organised by the British Council on 9<sup>th</sup> of December 2016 at XIMR, St. Xavier's College.

### Special Visit:

Dr. Shweta Gurav and Mr. John D'Souza guided a one day field trip to Elephanta Caves on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017 to a delegate from Poland Dr. Dorota Salata, Assistant Professor, Jagiellonian University who was visiting India under Erasmus Programme ( Collaborative exchange programme for teaching and training).

### Field Work:

Field work is an integral part of our subject and this year too our students were trained by our faculty in various aspects of field geology and geological mapping. short duration field visits were organised to places around Mumbai city. The first year students visited the Utan-Dongri -Gorai area also the Elephanta Island to understand local geology. The second year students visited the Khandala-Lonavala-Pune area for understanding the nuances of Deccan Flood Basalts and typical landforms and structures exhibited by them. The annual geological field mapping camp was held in Malvan, District Sindhudurg, Maharashtra where our third year students were rigorously trained for a period of

ten days in techniques of geological mapping. They also attended a special training workshop on advanced mapping techniques using RTK GPS and Total Station, conducted in collaboration with GeoDreams Inc.

Our post graduate students carried out fieldwork in the sedimentary terrain around Bhuj, Gujarat, under the guidance of Dr. (Ms) Shweta Gurav.

### New Faculty Members:

This academic year also witnessed new faculty members joining and some proceeding for other venues. Dr. Shweta Gurav joined the department and her specialisation as a paleontologist has further strengthened our academic setup.

### List of Publications and Conference presentations

1. Samant H.P and Arnav Samant (2016). The Ghadiyal Godi Timeball – A Maritime Legacy of Bombay Port., The Bombay Explorer, Journal of the Bombay Local History Society, No. 55 , pp.2-11, June 2016, ISSN-2278-117X
2. Samant H.P. , Ashwin Pundalik, Joseph DSouza, Hetu Seth, Keegan Carmo Lobo, Kyle DSouza and Vanit Patel , Geology of the Elephanta Island fault zone, western Indian rifted margin, and its significance for understanding the Panvel flexure. Journal of Earth System Sciences, (In Press) ISSN: 0253-4126
3. Hetu Seth, Hrishikesh Samant, Joseph DSouza, Vanit Patel., The volcanic geoheritage of the Elephanta Caves, Deccan Traps, western India. Geoheritage., (Elsevier Press). In Press.
4. Hetu Seth and Hrishikesh Samant, (2016). Field Guide to Elephanta Island, Mumbai Harbour, India., Asian Conference on Research in Field Inclusions (ACROFI VI), IIT Bombay, November 2016.
5. Sheth, H., Pal, I., Patel, V., Samant, H., D'Souza\*, J., 2017 in press. Breccia-cored columnar rosettes

in a rubbly pahoehoe lava flow, Elephanta Island, Deccan Traps, and a model for their origin. *Geoscience Frontiers*, DOI: 10.1016/j.gsf.2016.12.004

5. Kale M.G and Ashwin Pundalik (2016). Lithofacies characteristics and provenance of sediments of Pilikarar formation, Central Narmada Basin, Hoshangabad District, Madhya Pradesh. Published Abstract. November 2016. National Conference and 33<sup>rd</sup> convention of the Indian Association of Sedimentologists.
6. Bobby P.M (2016) Geoarchaeological investigation of coastal and island forts of Maharashtra with special emphasis on characteristics of natural stones in fort architecture, Indica-Journal of the Heras Institute of Indian history and culture, Vol.56. pp.36-60.

### Projects awarded :

1. Dr. Bobby Mathew:  
"Groundwater Resource Estimation of Elephanta Island, Mumbai" Mumbai University minor Research Grant of Rs. 25000 (Rupees twenty five thousand only)-(Reference No-APD/237/419 of 2016 dated 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 Research project No. 204)
2. Dr. Goutam Bandyopadhyay:  
"Petrography and geochemistry of Mangaon pluton in and around Mangaon, Sawantwadi Area, District Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra, India" Mumbai university minor research grant of 38,000 (Rupees thirty eight thousand only)-(Research Project No.390).

**Dr. Hrishikesh Samant**  
Head, Department of Geology



## हिंदी विभाग

हिंदी विभाग ने इस साल काफी अच्छी सफलता पाई। डॉ. आशा नैथानी दयामा की छत्रछाया में सारा विभाग पल्लवित होता रहा।

हिंदी Compulsory में चुनी गई कहानियाँ तथा कविताओं का संग्रह लाजवाब था। सभी कहानियों तथा कविताओं पर कक्षा में चर्चा की गई। उन लेखकों तथा कविओं से जुड़ी सारी जानकारी दी गई एवं उनके अन्य लेख भी सुनाए गए। परीक्षा के लिए तैयार किया गया।

हिंदी Anicillary की क्लास में शिक्षा का समुद्र बहता रहा। FYBA की पहली छमाही में कहानियों का इतिहास तथा चुनी गई मशहूर कहानियों तथा लेखकों पर विचार - विमर्श हुआ। दूसरी छमाही में उपन्यासों का इतिहास और प्रसिद्ध लेखक भगवतीचरण वर्मा द्वारा लिखित चित्रलेखा पर मजेदार तरीके से अभ्यास किया गया। उस उपन्यास पर आधारित फिल्म भी दिखाई गई।

## HISTORY

The Department Report is an effort to trace the short annual history of all the activities and events conducted over the year. In this regard, the Department has had an active and fulfilling year. Dr. Fleur D'Souza, the Head of Department retired in August 2016, leaving behind a 32 year legacy. The new Head of Department Mr. Avkash Jadhav is currently on leave as part of the Faculty Improvement Programme. Ms. Kaizeen Jehangir, Ms. Mrunmayee Satam and Ms. Jesstlin Thomas have joined in at various intervals as part of the faculty.

### Field Visits:

As part of the Third Year course on Museum Studies and Institutional Archives, the Department under the guidance of Dr. Fleur D'Souza and Ms. Mrunmayee Satam organized several visits to the chief museums in the city of Mumbai. Early in July, the students were taken to the Chatrapati Maharaj Vastu Sanghralaya by Dr. Fleur D'Souza. They were given a short lecture explaining the significance of the architecture of the structure, the reasoning behind the establishment of the Museum and the year of its establishment. The students

SYBA में दो पेपर थे। एक मीडिया और एक साहित्य वाले पेपर की पहली छमाही में नाटकों का इतिहास पढ़ाया गया। मोहन राकेश द्वारा लिखे गए मशहूर नाटक 'आषाढ़ का एक दिन' पर दिलचस्प चर्चा हुई। छात्रों द्वारा लिखित तथा निर्देशित नाटक का मंचन किया गया।

मीडिया वाले पेपर की पहली छमाही में रेडिओ तथा विज्ञापनों को इतिहास पढ़ाया गया। छात्रों को खुद रेडिओ कार्यक्रम तैयार करने को कहा गया। इस में उन्हें २० मिनट तक स्वयं रेडिओ जॉकी बनकर अपना कार्यक्रम कक्षा के सामने पेश करना था।

इसके अतिरिक्त दूसरी छमाही में संपूर्ण FY और SY के विद्यार्थियों को खंडाला संत जेवियर्स विला ले जाया गया। वहाँ उन्होंने कई विषयों पर अपने अभिपत्र सबके सामने प्रस्तुत करने थे। गुलज़ार साहब, हरिवंशराय बच्चन, मन्नू भंडारी आदि साहित्यिक विषयों पर FY ने परचे पढ़े और विज्ञापन,

हास्य-व्यंग, रंगमंच आज और कल आदि मीडिया संबंधित विषयों पर SY ने परचे पढ़े।

इसके अलावा संपूर्ण FY और SY क्लास फिरोज़ अब्बास खान द्वारा निर्देशित मुगले - आजम नाटक, देखने गया। SY की क्लास ने Mr. & Mrs. Murarilal नाटक भी देखा और उस पर चर्चा की।

नवभारत टाइम्स द्वारा आयोजित 'संवाद' प्रतियोगिता में दर्शिल शाह ने द्वितीय पुरस्कार प्राप्त किया।

हिंदी साहित्य, संगीत तथा नाट्य अकादमी द्वारा प्रस्तुत 'अंतस' ने इस साल ३० वर्ष पूरे किए जिसका समारोह बड़ी धूम-धाम से कॉलेज में मनाया गया।

### आफ्रीन हैदर

were then asked to observe the variety of displays, the galleries and logistics of the museum. They were introduced to the Museum curators Ms. Divya and Ms. Bilwa who gave them a brief lecture on the role of the curator and methods of acquiring museum displays.

Dr. D'Souza also took the Third Year students to the Blatter Herbarium, St. Xavier's College, housing some of the rare species of plants. The idea behind this was to show the students the different kinds of museums that exist.

Ms Mrunmayee Satam also organized visits to the Heras Museum, St. Xavier's College (12<sup>th</sup> August, 2016), Mani Bhavan museum (18<sup>th</sup> August, 2016) and a guided tour of the Bhau Daji Lad Museum, (29<sup>th</sup> August, 2016). Ms. Satam accompanied the Third Year students to the Fort of Raigad as a part of the course on the History of the Marathas. Ms Satam conducted a lecture on the Coronation of Shivaji at the fort itself in order to help students grasp the event better. The trip took place from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> of September. The trip was much appreciated by the students for its learning value as well as by the parents for its organization.

Ms. Kaizeen Jehangir, took the Second Year students to the Heras Museum, St. Xavier's College to show the students some seals from the Harappan Civilisation. Ms. Shilpa of the institute gave a lecture on the museum collection with regard to the Harappan Civilisation. Ms. Jehangir also took the same class to the pre and proto-history gallery of the Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sanghralaya. Thirteen students made presentations with the help of the museum displays on topics such as Harappan art, culture, pottery, weapons, town planning, burial practices etc. as a part of the Continuous Internal Assessment.

The Second Year students along with Ms. Jehangir visited the Gharapuri Island (Elephanta Caves) on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2017. 12 students made presentations on the various Shiva panels at the caves as part of the Continuous Internal Assessment for the course on Early India.

Third Year students will also be taken for a Heritage Walk around the area of Kotachiwadi to understand the development of housing as part of the course on Urban Heritage. The

Department has also initiated a 40 mark research project for each student as part of the course requirement.

### **Guest Lectures:**

As the Applied Component courses offered by the Department are more vocational based, lectures were conducted by members from the industry. For the course on Museum Studies and Institutional Archives, Dr. Usha Iyer, Director of CIPLA archives addressed the students with respect to the growing importance of Institutional Archives, data and material collections as well as role of the Director.

Similarly, for the course on Introduction to Indian Cinema in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Mumbai, Ms. Parinaz Jal, Assistant Director, addressed the students about the work involved in the creation of a film from behind the scenes. .

On 30<sup>th</sup> November, Mr. Pradeep Waghmare, a lecturer of History at Ramnarain Ruia College and a doctoral fellow at the University of Mumbai delivered a lecture to the students of S.Y.B.A on the theme 'History of Reservation Policy in India and Social Transformation : A Historical and Analytical Study (1950 – 2010)'. The talk focused on the history of caste reservation in India and Babasaheb Ambedkar's role in constitutional development. This was done as a part of the course on Contemporary Issues.

The Department is also planning several other guest lectures such as by Mr. Balachandran, RAW, on terrorism, Dr. Neera Adarkar on Textile Mills of Mumbai and Mr. Richard Morris, Research Scholar, Centre for urban studies, University of Leicester in the month of January, 2017.

### **Collaborations:**

Dr. Fleur D'Souza and Ms. Kaizeen Jehangir, designed a 36 hour course on the History of India for the students of the University of Sydney as a part of their Off- Shore Programme. The course was selected by the University and 20 students from multi-disciplinary backgrounds (archaeology, history, sociology, Sanskrit etc.) attended this course. Subject experts such as Sr. Anila Varghese (Sophia College), Dr. Sonali

Pednekar (Vaze College), Dr. Mohsina Mukadam (Ruia College), Dr. Radha Kumar (St. Xavier's College), Dr. Fleur D'Souza (St. Xavier's College) and Ms. Kaizeen Jehangir (St. Xaviers College), conducted lectures over a course of four weeks. Ms Kaizeen Jehangir accompanied the students to the fort of Bassein, where Dr. Andre Baptista, archaeologist conducted a tour of the fort. The course was conducted from the 27<sup>th</sup> June to 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2016.

The programme was very well appreciated by all the students and was to be recommended as a regular feature of their Off- Shore Programme. Dr. Radiya, Centre for International Programme, St. Xavier's College, played a big role in organizing their visit.

To commemorate the 12th anniversary of the erstwhile Victoria Terminus getting recognized as a world heritage site by the UNESCO, the Central Railway (CR) had scheduled a week full of activities and a heritage walk under the guidance of renowned conservationist and architect Vikas Dilawari.

Five students (Eleanor, Tamara , Ireen , Christine and Pearl) from the Department of History, St. Xavier's College took the heritage walk on Sunday, the 3rd of July 2016. They took a group of about 20 people each through a historic tour of the now Chatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CST), starting with the museum (opened only for the heritage week), then through the architecture outside and inside of the main building of CST, the dome and finally ended with a quick quiz in the dining hall.

Research over the history and architectural aspects were guided by Dr. Fleur Dsouza. Some of the information was also provided by the J.J.School of Arts. The information imparted was not only on the architecture but also on the history of the terminus and that of the railways in general. It involved the transformation from Bora Bander station to CST. The walk conducted by the students were much appreciated by the audience (Indians and foreigners).

Dr. Anniruddha Bose, Associate

Professor, St. Francis University, USA, addressed the Third and Second Year students about prospects for studying history in a foreign country. As an outcome of these interactions, it was decided by Dr. Bose and Ms. Jehangir to start a Facebook exchange between the Second year students of Xavier's college and the students of Francis University. Wide ranging questions pertaining to history and politics were asked and answered on both sides.

### **Co-Curricular Activities:**

The Department of History, revived the student run History Group to plan and conduct several activities open to all students of St. Xavier's College. The History Group organized a Heritage walk around and inside St. Xavier's College campus on 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 as part of the World Heritage Week. The Walk was conducted by Ms. Pearl, Ms. Irene and Ms. Christine of SYBA and was attended by 40 students across streams. The demand for the walk was so high that another one had to be planned for the month of January.

The Department also entered the Quest for Excellence Programme (former Honours) after a gap of 6 years. One credit was offered to students who participated in the History Film Week on the theme *The World Since 1945*. Films such as *Goodnight and Goodluck*, *Selma*, *Invictus*, *Persepolis* and *Goodbye Lenin* were preceded by a short lecture by Ms. Kaizeen Jehangir who also co-ordinated the programme. The week was also kick-started by a multi-disciplinary Panel Discussion. The Discussion was chaired by Dr. Agnelo Menezes (Principal) and was participated in by Dr. Pranoti (Dept. of Sociology), Dr. Rahul Menon (Dept. of Economics), Ms. Rashmi George (Dept. of English Literature) and Ms. Kaizeen Jehangir (Dept. of History). All in all, it has been an active and fulfilling year for the Department of History.

**Ms. Kaizeen Jehangir**

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Having traversed a decade long journey as a full time degree course, the department of Information Technology, has once again adapted its syllabus keeping in sync with the changing technology of the industry. This year too, the department has taken a step towards focusing its attention to a field that is very much in demand; that is data science. New subjects like statistics and art of programming among others have been introduced.

With the intention of promoting curiosity and enthusiasm towards learning new technologies, a lecture series has been initiated by the dept. of BSc.IT dept beginning this academic year 2016-17.

Some of the lectures and workshops conducted were:

## Cyber Security workshop:

During the month of August a workshop was conducted by Mr. Daniel Jomon, from Tech Mahindra. It was well attended by 100 students and faculty.

## IOS:

A talk on "iOS App development" was held in the month of September. This lecture series was mainly for the F.Y.B.Sc.IT students but it was also kept open to others who were interested in learning the development

of mobile applications. Mr. Prashant Salvi was the external resource person, an MCA graduate and a free lancer, who has achieved technical expertise in this subject.

The talk was attended by a total of 38 students including one student from F.Y.Stats, and two alumni, who were happy to attend the session.

## Cloud computing and Open Source Technologies:

Two industry experts were invited as resource persons to speak on technologies used in the industry, as part of the special seminar held only for the FYBSc.IT and FYBVoc Software development students. **Mr. Niral Mistry** working with **GEP**, an expert in cloud computing shared the working of cloud based technologies like Microsoft Azure.

**Mr. Joel D'souza**, the second industry expert, working with **Seamless technologies**, showed a working demo of a twitter bot created by him, just for the talk. This was done with the help of open source technologies and the



*Industry Expert Mr. Joel D'souza taking a session for the FYBSc.IT and SYBVoc. SD students*

raspberry pi processor. He also touched upon the basic OOPS concepts and how essential they are from the industry's point of view.

## Khandala seminar

**T.Y.B.Sc.IT:** The entire student batch along with three faculty of the dept. Mr. Roy Thomas, Mr. Subhash Kumar and Ms. Lydia Fernandes, visited the Khandala Xavier's villa for a seminar cum presentation. The CIA 2 for the fifth semester subjects of **E-commerce and M-Commerce, Data Warehousing and Artificial Intelligence** were successfully conducted while utilizing the various venues of the villa and the equipment of the department. Team building activities were conducted



*TYBSc.IT-Khandala seminar cum presentation*



*FYBSc.IT-Khandala seminar cum presentation*

towards the end of the session.

#### **F.Y.B.Sc.IT:**

The First year students had their even semester, CIA 2 evaluations in the subjects of **Computer Graphics, Database Management and DCNS**. They were accompanied by the Professors of the department, including visiting faculty Ms. Rachana Pandey and Mr. Floyd Gracias. As part of the visit, a time bound activity to test their life skills was conducted. Students were divided into groups and were given a task. A timer and a live score sheet created using excel was kept to judge their performance as a team. It was thoroughly enjoyed by the students.

We thank the college and the principal for providing this opportunity and exposure to the students.

#### **Linux administration workshops:**

The course was conducted across three

weekends, by Mr. Daniel Jomon, from Tech Mahindra for 17 students.

#### **Honours program:**

An honours course with the intention of helping students learn the basics of the language (Python) covering database aspects, GUI etc. was offered by the dept. A total of 24 students attended the course.

#### **Placements:**

A total of 20 students got placed through both on campus and off campus placements. Special thanks to the placement cell of St. Xavier's college. Our students were placed in companies like Deloitte, Wipro, Infosys, and Futures First amongst many others. The highest pay package recorded was 7.2 lakhs.

#### **Projects:**

Every year the T.Y.B.Sc.IT students as part of their mandatory project

work have to come up with innovative ideas which need to be implemented using either hardware or software or both. Some of the projects undertaken this year, under the guidance of the department faculty, were as follows:

1. **Mobile Game App**
2. **Augmented Reality: Rogue Syndicate**

#### **Department Magazine: - BITMAP**

Since the department has never had any magazine, a committee of enthusiastic students was formed along with a staff-in-charge, in order to draft, compile and launch a BSc.IT. Department magazine which would help students share their views on any technology related topic that they feel strongly about. The magazine also included contribution from alumni of the department and current year students of the college discussing changing trends in the digital world. A blog for the same will also be launched which is accessible free of cost and is environment friendly.

#### **Seminars and workshops attended by Faculty:**

A short two day **e-learning** workshop was attended by Ms. Lydia Fernandes in the month of April 2017, with the intention of implementing the same in some of the courses in the coming academic year.

**Mr. Roy Thomas**  
Co-ordinator, BSc.IT

## **LIFE SCIENCE AND BIOCHEMISTRY**

The Department had a fruitful year with a range of activities.

#### **Faculty Appointments and Confirmations in the Department**

- Ms. Sonia Tak - Dogra (MSc Molecular Biology, BEd), Jun.-Oct. 2016.
- Mr. Joshua John Miranda (MSc Biological Sciences, TIFR), Nov. 2016- Apr. 2017 in place of Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta, who retired in Aug 2016.

- Dr. Archana Pawar (PhD, IISER-Pune), Nov. 2016 - Jan. 2017 in place of Mr. Prashant Ratnaparkhi, who proceeded on FIP leave to complete his PhD.
  - Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta, Nov 2016- Apr 2017, replaced Dr. Seema Das who is on a two - year sabbatical
- Asst. Professors Dr. Binoj C Kutty and Dr. Bhaskar Saha were confirmed as full-time faculty of the department.

#### **Events**

- An orientation and introduction to the Life Science department and its courses was held for FYBSc Life Science students on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2016. It was planned and entirely managed by the SYBSc and TYBSc students. Dr. Priya Sundarajan and Dr. Bhaskar Saha were in charge of organization and arrangements.
- Memorial Mass for Dr. Dorothy Hakim (nee Solanki) was held on 26<sup>th</sup> Aug. 2016 in the College



Chapel. Dr. Hakim was first a lecturer, then Head of the Dept. of Life Science and Biochemistry in the early days since the inception of the Dept. She breathed her last on Jul. 25<sup>th</sup> 2016 at the age of 69.

- One-Day National Seminar 'Biowaves 2017', was organized on 7th Jan. 2017, in honour of Dr. Radiya Pacha Gupta, Assoc. Professor, who retired on 31<sup>st</sup> Aug. 2016 after 23 years of service. Eminent alumni of the Dept. delivered lectures on the occasion.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> volume of the department magazine '*Lignum Vitae*' was released at the Biowaves 2017 seminar. The editorial board consisted entirely of undergraduate students of the department. Dr. Radhika Tendulkar and Ms Sangeeta Shetty were the staff in-charge. This year, for the first time in the history of the College, a Braille version of the magazine was published. It was released by Dr. Sam Taraporewala, XRCVC, and was well-received by the visually challenged students of the College.
- TYBSc and MSc farewell was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb. 2017 in the College Hall.
- School students from Aarya School, in collaboration with Teach for India, visited the Life Science lab on 24<sup>th</sup> Apr. 2017. Ms. Sangeeta Shetty and MSc students present explained to them research work being carried out on zebrafish and chick embryos.
- Seminar on 'Evolving Strategies for PG teaching' was held for faculty of PG departments of College on 25<sup>th</sup> Apr. 2017. Dr. Medha Rajyadhya and Dr. Yasmin

Khan from Sophia College for Women interacted with the staff. Senior College staff from Depts. Of Life Science, Botany, Zoology, Microbiology, Biotech and Zoology attended the seminar.

#### • Educational Trips/ Field Trips:

1. Khandala Educational Seminar for SY and TY students on 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> of Nov. 2016.
2. Field-study tour for TYBSc 6U students to Godrej Mangroves and Butterfly Garden, Mumbai, on 13<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2017. Dr. Priya Sundarrajan organized and accompanied the students.
3. MSc-II students were taken on a visit to the *In Vitro* Fertilization (IVF) Centre, Leelavati Hospital, Mumbai, on 4<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2017. Dr. Priya Sundarrajan and Ms. Sangeeta Shetty accompanied the students.

#### • Inter-Institutional Collaboration:

Dr. Priya Sundarrajan was the research guide for MSc- Home Science -Food Processing and Preservation student Ms. Rupal Solanki from Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science on 'Screening and isolation of protease producers and application in food processing industry'.

#### • Inter - Departmental Collaboration:

Dr. Manasi Kanuga delivered Biostatistics lectures to the students of Diploma in Forensic Science conducted by the Department of Zoology, and for MSc Biotechnology students. Dr. Kanuga also assisted Zoology project students with biostatistical

analyses of their research project results.

#### • Guest Speakers invited:

1. Dr. Biswa Prasun Chatterji, Asst. Professor, PG Department of Biotechnology, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai. 'IPR in Biotechnology'.
2. Ms. Nalini Pinto, Scientific Communication Associate, Centre of Excellence - Medical Communication and Review Team, Medical Affairs, Pfizer Ltd.
3. 'Entrepreneurship Aspects'.
4. Dr. Hrishikesh Pandit, NIRRH, Mumbai. 'Entrepreneurship'.
5. Dr. Milind Watve, Professor of Biology, IISER-Pune.
6. 'Science Katta: A Fun Way to Do Science with Undergraduate Students' Mr. Kishu Daswani, Professor, Government Law College, Mumbai, and St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai. 'Conflict Management'.
7. Ms. Caroline Rebello, Alumna 2013-14 batch, 1st in Mumbai University MSc Nutraceuticals. 'Nutraceuticals: Benefits and Health Concerns'.
8. Ms. Janjri Jasani, Head-Sustainability Services and Carbon Map & Cap Centre for Environmental Research & Education (CERE). 'Fundamentals of GHG Accounting and Reporting'.
9. Dr. Gourpriya Koppikar, Consulting Chief Dietician, Bombay Hospital 'Fooducated for a Healthy Lifestyle'.
10. Dr. Vainav Patel, Head, Dept. of Biochemistry, NIRRH. 'From LSD to HIV and Beyond'.
11. Dr. Amar Ghaisas, Brooks Oxford University, UK. 'Computational Modelling of Biochemical Pathways'.
12. Dr. Richa Rikhy, Asst. Professor of

Biology, IISER, Pune.

‘Mitochondria: Where they come from and where they will take us?’

13. Dr. Nishad Matange, DST-Inspire Faculty Fellow, IISER, Pune.

‘Fitness, Selection and Antimicrobial Resistance in Bacteria’

14. Mr. Pallav Patankar, Director of Programs, Humsafar Trust.

‘The ISHKonnect Study on MSM’

## Student Achievements

### Scholarships

- International Scholarship: Mr. Hisham Shaikh (TYBSc 6U) was awarded the prestigious Erasmus Mundus EU scholarship for the year 2016-17 for pursuing his Master’s degree in Europe.

### Internships

Current TYBSc students completed internships at various pharmaceutical companies, research centres, environmental NGOs and corporate houses in India and abroad.

### International Exchange / Study Programmes

The following students have been selected for a 1 year exchange program:

- Ms. Neha Jain TYBSc IESEG, France.
- Ms. Hamsa Narasimhan TYBSc St. Louis, USA.
- Ms. Pragya Mishra, SYBSc, St. Louis, USA.

The following SYBSc students were selected for the HCAP program in Jan. 2017:

- Ms. Sarmishtha Muralidharan and Ms. Samyukta Rajan

### Co-curriculars/ Extra-curriculars/ Awards

#### Intercollegiate Competitions

- Mr. Madhav Tipu (TYBSc 6U) was placed 2nd in the Life Science Quiz held by the University of Mumbai on 3rd Sep. 2016, and placed 2nd in the ‘Vox Populi’ quiz held on 22nd Dec. 2016 at Ramnarain Ruia

College, Mumbai.

- FYBSc students of the Department of Life Science and Biochemistry won top honours at the ‘Health Fair - Food Fest’ organized by the Department of Biochemistry, KJ Somaiyya College of Science and Commerce, Mumbai, on 8<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2016.

1st prize - Poster Making  
Janvi Gandhi, Shivani Suresh

Poster title: “Foods and Moods”

1st prize - Pictionary  
Janvi Gandhi, Surpreet Bhasin

3rd prize - Treasure Hunt  
Surpreet Bhasin

Participation - Dessert Making  
Zubia Shaikh, Karishma Katpitia

- Mr. Hisham Shaikh (TYBSc 6U) was placed 2<sup>nd</sup> among students from all over India who participated in the “Ideathon” Nobel Prize Series organized by the Nobel Prize Media, Sweden, and the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, on 22nd Dec. 2016. Mr. Shaikh has been selected for the next round to be held at Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

### College Sports Day (2<sup>nd</sup> Dec. 2016)

- Ms. Priyanka Dhal (SYBSc)  
1<sup>st</sup> prize Shot Put (Senior Girls)  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize Discus Throw (Senior Girls)  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize Javelin Throw (Senior Girls)  
3<sup>rd</sup> prize Long Jump (Senior Girls)

### Paradigm 2017 (7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2017)

- Mr. Karl Poncha SYBSc was Chairperson, Paradigm 2017.
- Mr. Hisham Shaikh TYBSc was Chief Organizer for Science exhibits.
- Ms. Ashmita Chatterji, Ms. Amrita Kalathil, Ms. Reanne, Ms. Lizanne TYBSc: Life Science Dept. official stall.
- Mr. Daniel Raj - SYBSc -

Hydroponics

- Mr. Yohann Jaffry - SYBSc - Virtual Emotion
- Ms. Naomi Monteiro - FYBSc - Phantoms in the Brain
- Ms. Dhryata Kamdar - SYBSc - Science of Death
- Ms. Devanshi Bhargava - SYBSc - Stop Stigma - HIV

### Social Outreach Activities

- FYBSc students Spandan Gite, Zubia Shaikh, Judith and Kriti made charts in vernacular languages (Hindi and Marathi) to impart knowledge about Nutrition and Health to the non-teaching staff of the College.
- FYBSc student Mr. Ishan Patil designed the layouts for ‘Spectrum’, a science magazine for underprivileged school students in collaboration with Sophia College for Women, Mumbai and the Teach for India Foundation.
- Undergraduate students successfully continued to work at their Social Involvement Programme (SIP) projects with various NGOs, besides carrying out voluntary work at their own accord.
- Several undergraduate students volunteered to help at the various college events and formed part of the organizing committee of Malhar, Indian Music Group, Antarchakshu, Ithaka, Antas.

### Student Research Projects - UG

- TYBSc S.LSC.5.02  
Developmental Biology  
40 students
- TYBSc S.LSC.6.04  
Environmental Biology  
19 students
- TYBSc S.LSC.6.AC  
Environmental Science  
60 students  
TYBSc S.BCH.6.01 & 6.02  
Biochemistry  
55 students

- FYBSc  
Honours projects  
10 students
- SYBSc  
Honours projects  
17 students

**Student Research Projects - PG - MSc**  
Dissertations - 17 students

## FACULTY

### Research

Ms. Sangeeta Shetty and Mr. Prashant Ratnaparkhi continue to work on their PhD research project. The rest of the faculty members work in their areas of interest through MSc dissertation and Honours' projects with PG and UG students, respectively.

### Publications

- Fernandes S, Fernandes S, Das S and Pacha-Gupta R. (2016) Toxicity study of lead nitrate on freshwater fish *Cirrhina mrigala*. *International Journal of Advanced Research*. 4(6):1601-1608. ISSN 2320-5407. doi:10.21474/IJAR01/749
- Gonsalves C, Salankhe P, Shetty S, Sundarrajan P. (2016) Green synthesis and characterization of silver nanoparticles. *International Journal of Advanced Research*. 4(8):1563-1568. ISSN 2320-5407. Doi:10.21474/IJAR01/1362.
- Sundarrajan P, Shetty S, Shigvan A. (2016) Screening and characterization of bioethanol producing yeasts from various sources. *International Journal of Life Sciences*. 4(3):373-378. ISSN: 2320-964X. eISSN: 2320 - 964X.
- Sundarrajan P, Kulkarni K. (2016) A Study of Phylogenetic Relationships and Homology of Cytochrome C using Bioinformatics. *International Research Journal of Science & Engineering*. 4(3-4):65-75.
- Pacha-Gupta Radiya, Sundarrajan P, Nagrath K, Tauro L, Krishnakumar P, Srivastava R, Sinha T (2016). Isolation and partial characterization of lectins from Indian varieties of leguminous plants. *International*

*Journal of Advanced Research*. 4(5): 1827-1834. ISSN: 2320 5407.  
DOI 10.21474/IJR01

## Conferences/Seminars/ Workshops

### National Level

- Species Distribution Modelling using R: Workshop, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, West Bengal. 9<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2017. Dr. Manasi Kanuga participated.
- STEM Workshop on 'Research Based Pedagogical Tools', IISER-Pune, Pune. Jointly organized by the University of Sheffield, UK, and IISER-Pune. Dr. Maya Murdeshwar (Basic course, 26<sup>th</sup> Feb. - 1<sup>st</sup> Mar. 2017) and Ms. Sangeeta Shetty (Advanced course, 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Mar. 2017) participated.

### At other universities/ colleges

- Dr. Priya Sundarrajan, Ms. Sangeeta Shetty, Dr. Radhika Tendulkar, Dr. Bhaskar Saha - Neuroscience Lecture-Workshop on 'Perception v/s Recognition' organized by the Department of Life Sciences, Jai Hind College, Mumbai on 9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2016.
- Dr. Priya Sundarrajan, Ms. Sangeeta Shetty - One day workshop on 'Intellectual Property Rights' organized by University of Mumbai in collaboration with RUSA on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep. 2016.
- Dr. Nandita Mangalore - Extraction and Isolation of Phytoconstituents, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences & Technology, Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), Mumbai. 25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> Mar. 2017.
- IQAC workshop on Teaching-Learning Evaluation, Jai Hind College, Mumbai. 1<sup>st</sup> Mar. 2017. Staff members participated.

### At St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai

- Symposium on 'Big History, Green History' organized by the Heras Institute of Indian History and Culture, 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. 2016. Dr. Priya Sundarrajan presented on 'Biotechnology-based Novel

Approach towards Sustainable Reservation and Conservation of Cultural Heritage'.

- New Teachers' Seminar - Dr. Binoj C Kutty, Dr. Bhaskar Saha and Ms. Sonia Dogra participated:
  - i. Sensitization to Jesuit Ethos and Classroom Culture - 20<sup>th</sup> Jul. 2016.
  - ii. Strategies for Optimizing Survival with Special Reference to Classroom and Teaching - Fr. Terence Quadros, SJ - 16<sup>th</sup> Sep. 2016.
- 1. All Faculty Members attended the Faculty Seminars on:
  - i. Google Drive Essential Training, Xavier's Knowledge Centre - 10<sup>th</sup> Aug. 2016.
  - ii. Taking a break, before the busy-you breaks - Fr Charles Rodrigues, SJ - 4<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2016.
  - iii. Adapting to Change - 10<sup>th</sup> Mar. 2017.
- Confluence - 2017, organized by the Dept. of Statistics & Mathematics. 10<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2017. Dr. Maya Murdeshwar participated.

### Faculty Recharge Programmes

#### Orientation Programmes

1. Dr. Manasi Kanuga, Jun. 13<sup>th</sup> - July 11<sup>th</sup> 2016, 61<sup>st</sup> OP, Jadavpur University, Kolkata.
2. Dr. Bhaskar Saha, Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar. 2017, OP, University of Mumbai, Mumbai.

#### Refresher Courses

1. Dr. Radhika Tendulkar, Refresher Course in 'ICT in Education', 3<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> Oct., 2016, UGC-HRDC, University of Mumbai, Mumbai.
2. Dr. Maya Murdeshwar, 2<sup>nd</sup> Refresher Course in Life Sciences and Biotechnology, 3<sup>rd</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> Oct., 2016, UGC-HRDC, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi.
3. Dr. Binoj C. Kutty, Refresher Course in Biotechnology, 20<sup>th</sup> Feb. - 11<sup>th</sup> Mar. 2017, UGC-HRDC, University of Mumbai, Mumbai.

## Faculty as Resource Persons

- 7 out of 10 faculty members were appointed in one or more of the following academic posts: examiners, moderators, paper setters, Member of Academic / Development boards / Boards of Study of different colleges and the University of Mumbai.
- Dr. Nandita Mangalore:
  - i. Resource person for the Orientation programme at the UGC-HRDC Academic Staff College, Mumbai University on 7/6/16, 28/9/16, 17/11/16, 13/1/17, 14/2/17.
  - ii. Judge for a poster competition at the Health and Nutrition intercollegiate fest organized by Dept. of Biochemistry, Somaiya College (Autonomous), Mumbai, on 8<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2016.
  - iii. Judge for the event ‘Trending science - science news channel’ based on bioscience topics at Palindrome, a festival of PG Dept. of Biotechnology, St. Xavier’s College (Autonomous), held on 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2016.
- Dr. Priya Sundarrajan
  - i. Member, Panel of Reviewers of Asian Journal of Life Sciences.
  - ii. Judge for the 7th Konark Research Meet held on 19th Jan, 2017 at VES College of Arts and Science, Chembur.
- Dr. Radhika Tendulkar
  - i. Visiting Faculty for M.Sc. Neuroscience, Sophia College for Women, Mumbai. October 2016; S.D.School.of Science, NMIMS University, for Integrated M.Sc in Biological Sciences. Semester 1 - Physiology (Aug.-Oct., 2016). Semester 2- Neurobiology and Clinical Psychology (Dec. 2016-Mar. 2017).
  - ii. Resource person for ‘Research Paper Writing’ for SYBSc Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Statistics students at the DBT-Star College Scheme Jigyasa Honours Programme conducted by KC College, Mumbai, on 3<sup>rd</sup> Apr. 2017.
  - iii. Member of a panel discussion and interactive session on ‘Zebrafish an effective tool for Classroom teaching’ at the Annual.Zebrafish Meet, Alibaug, 4<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2016.
  - iv. Member, Editorial Board of Spectrum - A Science newsletter, for popularizing science among school children. Collaboration with Teach for India to make scientific information accessible to underprivileged children.
- Dr. Manasi Kanuga
  - i. Resource Person: Biostatistics lectures for the students of Diploma in Forensic Science conducted by the Department of Zoology and the MSc Biotechnology students, ST. Xavier’s College (Autonomous), Mumbai.
- Dr. Maya Murdeshwar
  - i. Judge for the Bioinformatics research projects of SYBSc students of the ‘Add-On Certificate Course in Bioinformatics’ at Sophia College for Women, Mumbai, on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2016.
  - ii. Resource person for ‘Research Paper Writing’ for SYBSc Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Statistics students at the DBT-Star College Scheme Jigyasa Honours Programme conducted by KC College, Mumbai, on 3<sup>rd</sup> Apr. 2017.
- Dr. Binoj C Kutty
  - i. Judge for student’s Exhibition during ‘Consortia’ on Jan. 2017, at Pillai College of Arts, Commerce and Science, New Panvel.
- Dr. Bhaskar Saha
  - i. Visiting Faculty to the Semester VI students (Animal Physiology course, B-602) of the Centre for Excellence in Basic Sciences UM-DAE at Kalina in the month of Mar. and Apr., 2017.

Dr. Sam Taraporewala, XRCVC, releasing the Braille version, and Dr. Gulshanara Shaikh releasing the print version of the Life Science Department magazine ‘Lignum Vitae’ (Vol. 5) at the One-day National Seminar ‘Biowaves 2017’ organized by the department on 7<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2017.

## Grants

Name of Investigator	Title of the project	Amount sanctioned	Funding agencies
Dr. Priya Sundarrajan	Biotechnology based novel approach towards sustainable preservation and conservation of cultural heritage.	Rs.1,20,000/-	Sir Dorabji Tata Trust (TATA -Heras Postdoctoral Fellowship)
Dr. Seema Das	Effect of bioaccumulation of heavy metals on growth, oxidative stress and DNA damage in Zebra fish	Rs.4,20,000/- (money disbursed in 2016-17)	UGC – Minor Research Grant
Dr. Priya Sundarrajan	Isolation and screening for novel ethanol producers from various sources and their characterization	Rs.4,80,000/- (money disbursed in 2016-17)	UGC – Minor Research Grant

**Dr. Nandita Mangalore**  
Head, Lifescience&Biochemistry



# MANAGEMENT STUDIES

## Department Report

The focus for this academic year (2016-17) was to instill the spirit of research based learning among the students and all our efforts were directed towards accomplishing this aim. The system of information generation and interactive learning in order to enhance the efficacy of the teaching –learning mechanism was also another prime focus this year.

This report gives a brief overview about the activities of the department in the academic year 2016-2017.

We strongly believe that the students should have a good understanding of the concepts and only then can they apply it in a practical scenario in a way that suits the situation best. In order to achieve this we have brought about changes in the course structure by adding new courses and have also constantly worked on the syllabus to make it more relevant. Our workshops and guest speakers have also given the students an insight into the practical problems and challenges faced by the companies. These sessions have been a source of bridging the industry-academia gap for the students. A few of the workshops are listed below:

## Workshops And Seminars

1. **Entrepreneurship : A realistic view** - By: Mr. Vikash Mittersain (Chairman & MD Nazara Technologies Pvt. Ltd.)
2. **International Investment Law: By Mr. Amal Sethi** - (Graduate student at University of Pennsylvania Law School)
3. **Human Resource Management: Theory Vs. Application** - By: Mr Rodney Dias : HR advisor at Nomura
4. **Acing interviews and kick starting careers** - By: Mr. Rodney Dias : Nomura  
Mr. Sharvil Gandhre : CRISIL  
Ms. Bhakti Dhanak : Vodafone
5. **Career Guidance and experience sharing session** - By: Ms Anna Shaji

## 6. Rebranding: A practical viewpoint

By: Pearl Academy

In addition to the above workshops, the department also conducted a lot of interactive sessions with former students who had visited our department during the course of the year.

## Zephyrus 2017

Zephyrus 2016-17 was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January 2017. It was a one day conference organized entirely by the FY (Volunteers) and SY (Head of Depts.)

The theme of the conference was, 'The Inflexion Point'. An inflexion point is an event that results in a significant departure from the prevailing course of progress. Zephyrus 2016-17 aimed to be at the helm of capturing the dynamism of the contemporary world.

There were **5 sessions**:

1. Keynote Session by Mr. Luis Miranda (Chairman, Centre of Civil Society; Former CEO, IDFC Asset Management)
2. Interactive session by Mr. James Joseph (Founder, Jackfruit 365; Former Director, Microsoft India)
3. Panel Discussion on the topic, 'Banking on a Buoyant Economy'. The panelist were as follows: Mr. Rahul Menon (Professor, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai)  
Ms. Revathi Roy (Founder, Forsche & Hey Deedee)  
Mr. Rohit Gandhi (Editor-in Chief, DNA India & Wion)  
Mr. Animesh Kumar (CEO, IDFC Foundation)
4. Interactive Session by Mr. Jatin Paranjpe (Sports Marketer, Former Indian Cricket Team member)
5. Interactive Session by Mr. Narayan Peesapathy (Founder, Bakeys, Creator of edible spoons)

The Conference was attended by almost 600 delegates and teachers from various colleges across Mumbai. They



were all given certificates for attending the conference

## Focus On Research

### Department Research Journal : *INSIGHT*

With a total of ten student research papers, we brought out the third volume of our research journal: *INSIGHT*. We now plan to apply for the ISSN number this year and hopefully should be successful in getting the same as we have three publications so far. As a part of the curriculum all the Third Year students worked on research based projects which were evaluated jointly by the internal and external examiners.

## Publications

### Neelam Shetty

"Impact of Communication Technology (Mobile Phones) on Work Life Balance"

Paper presentation: International Conference on Sustainable Development. Road Map for the Mission: Make in India Hinduja College of Commerce

Nirmal College: Work from home : a boon or a bane

St. Xavier's college: In-Film product placement.

### Pritesh Arte

Nirmal education society, National Conference :Critical evaluation of the merger of ICICI Bank and Sangli Bank

Chetana College:Investment Analysis of the Stock market & Gold

Xplore :Benchmarking of the top three private sector banks in India

## Soni George Tharakan

Xplore : Social Stereotypes

### International Programmes

Students from the Department participated in the summer school at Berkeley and one of our SY Student Ms. Prachi Kaur completed a full semester in London as a part of the Erasmus scholarship programme. We also had six students from IESEG University in France who completed two full semesters from our department.

80% of students got placed by June 2017 and the remaining 20% students have secured admission in some of the leading management colleges in India and abroad for a post graduate degree.

### Student achievements

Our students participated in a large number of competitions across colleges throughout the year, A few of their achievements are listed below:

FY BMS 2016-2017

1. Chelsea Das: 1st prize in singing in Adorea (Wilson College)
2. Punyakrit Ranawat: 1st prize in the English Experimental Theatre in Malhar
3. Sunvi Aggarwal: 2nd prize in Debate in Adorea (Wilson College)

## MASS MEDIA

The academic year 2016-17 was challenging as well as note worthy. The Mass Media department achieved new heights during the same.

### Student present papers at the Media Summit at K C College

Five first year BMM students presented research papers on the theme of, "Glocalization – Media beyond Borders" on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 at KC College. Their topics ranged from ethics of reporting communal violence to youth suicides and to application of Marshall McLuhan in the current context. The students received critical and appreciative feedback from Academicians, boosting their interest

### TY BMS 2016-2017

Kimberly Fernandez - Member of the student council 2016, Sports Secretary Winners of the Inter university basketball tournament Runners up for basketball at Kaleidoscope Winners for football at Adorea(Wilson College)

Ravi Kiran: MalharTexx coordinator

Christopher Patrao: Coordinator Malhar Security

Abhijeet Paul: Business Quiz - Gold (Mumbai University)

Dane Pereira: Vice-Chairperson (Events), Malhar 2016

Harshita Rathi and Aashwiin Sharma:HCAP delegates

Lourdes Sequeira: Malhar-Graffix Organiser

Divyansh: FestaVesta (Founder & Ceo), Ithaka (Director)

Tejas Sirohi: Guest writer for a sports cafe website and member of the college football team.

**The Board of Studies** met in the month of April 2017 and made a few changes in the course structure. We combined the two separate papers of Computers into one comprehensive course in the first semester. We have moved

in such interactions.

### Student participation in Transform Maharashtra

A group of six second year students ranked third in the prestigious competition by the Maharashtra government, 'Transform Maharashtra' under Judge's Choice Category. The challenge was to suggest policy measures that could be implemented within the state's focus areas such as 'Swachh Maharashtra', drought control, smart cities, promoting start-ups in the state, rural education, zero corruption, empowering urban poor, improving mobility in cities and harnessing technology among others. The students

Marketing Management from Semester III to Semester II as we felt that it would be important and necessary to educate the students about the fundamental concepts of Marketing early in the curriculum. We have also introduced a new paper '*Consumer Behaviour*' and thus with all the changes in the course structure made in the past two years, our BMS curriculum is not only comprehensive and relevant but is also at par with some of the best colleges in India and abroad. The content of every course is constantly modified and updated to suit the ever changing dynamic business environment.

It's been a great year for us at the department and we were able to learn a lot from the workshops and seminars organized at St. Xavier's College for the teaching faculty. We also had the privilege to be invited as external examiners for the final year dissertation viva (BMS) in some of the leading colleges in the city.

I would like to conclude by saying that it was by the grace of God that all our efforts and endeavours were successful and we will strive to raise the bar higher in the coming academic year.

**Ms. Soni George Tharakan**  
Co-ordinator, BMS

had presented a policy plan for empowering the poor from the urban sector.

### Summer School April 2017

The annual summer school had three courses - 'Public Policy' by Mr. Kishu Daswani, Mr. Shreyas Narla and Mr. Amal Sethi; 'Befriend the Word' by Mr. Krishna Warriar and the 'Sports Business Management' by Mr. Alex Twichen. 52 students from the college participated and completed the courses.

### Guest Lectures

Understanding the vitality of alternate perspectives and exposure, the department conducted about 38 such



*Hansal Mehta, film director*



*Ayaz Menon, Sports Journalist*



*Shaktiman, Alok Vaid Menon, Grace Dunham, Spoken poetry –Dark Matter*

lectures. One of the prominent ones was the lecture on challenges and threats in the 21st century with Mr. Kumar Ketkar, a reputed journalist & media analyst. It was conducted as part of Oration series organized by Mumbai University to commemorate 160 years of completion. Another such engaging lecture was by Mr. Pravin Swamy, the national editor of Indian Express who spoke on ISIS and the threat it poses to India.

### **Student Projects**

The Hiring Project: The TYBMM Advertising students for the subject of Copywriting and Advertising Design strategized to convince the industry to hire graduates from BMM(themselves). The process involved writing letters to the HR department of organizations, putting up posters on the street, ground level activation using innovation techniques- making videos pitching your ideas and pitching yourself as the best to be hired. The student community came up with unique ideas to pitch in organizations like Warner Brothers, Disney Film, Hindustan Lever to name a few. All these projects were well appreciated and resulted in

generating job opportunities for the students.

A photography project by the first year students led to an inspiring photography exhibition in NCPA on the subject of thalassemia patients and their lives. It was commended by all.

### **Beyond curriculum**

#### **(a ) Exploring the strength within – sensitization workshop with Possibilities**

Continuing the three years of association with Mr.Aspi Shroff’s NGO possibilities, the FYBMM students participated in ‘exploring the strength within the individual’ with trainers Mr. Kailash Tandel and Mr.Manoj Kumar. The trainers were PHD students with TISS and visually challenged.

#### **(b) Student exchange program – with rural community school Shikshaytan**

25 students of SYBMM were involved in this exchange program. 10 students from Shikshyatan school, Arasavanankadu, Tamil Nadu were hosted in college from January 5<sup>th</sup> to January 11<sup>th</sup> 2017 in the college campus.

As a part of this, the ‘City immersion program’ included understanding the opportunities in higher education and several interesting facets of the city ranging from a visit to the Nehru Science Centre, a kitchen tour in McDonalds to an inclusive time in an established seven star hotel. The BMM students visited Shikshyatan school during the summer vacation of April’17 to understand the positive impact of community schooling.

- 1.Shikshyatan Students performing in NCPA.
- 2.At the Jehangir art gallery tour.
3. At the Bombay Stock exchange.

#### **(c) 6<sup>th</sup> edition of Zeitgeist- The Media Conference - The Spotlight Shifts**

The two-day annual conference included panel discussions with Ayaz Memon, Merzin Tavarria and Hansal Mehta to name a few. The conference turned out to be a valuable for the students to network with media practitioners and set the stage further for mentorship, internship and career opportunities.

**Ms. Perrie Subramaniam**  
Co-ordinator, BMM

## **MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY**

The programme was envisioned by Principal Agnelo Menezes based on the need of the hour to provide multi-disciplinary skills to understand, analyse and evaluate the ever-expanding role of the government in the economy, polity, and society. The program aims to create public policy analysts trained to solve real world problems which affect the lives of large groups of citizens. The department constantly endeavors to enhance the

educational experience of students by inviting guest speakers from the fields of academia, government and the non profit sector.

Listed below are some examples of the student enrichment programs conducted in college and attended in the city:

**Niti Samvaad, St. Xavier’s College**

**Public Policy Department Conclave,**

**4th February 2017.**

**Keynote address:** Prof. V K Ramachandran (Prof. and Head EAU, ISI Bangalore) on *Agrarian Transformation and Democratization in India.*

#### **Panel Discussion:**

*Democracy: Post Truth & Half Lies (Populist perception vs Economic Reality)*



Dr. Reetika Khera (Prof. Economics, IIT Delhi)

Dr. Madhura Swaminathan (Prof., ISI Bangalore)

Mr. Somasekhar Sundaresan (Independent Legal Counsel, Advocate, Mumbai)

Moderated by: Kishu Daswani (Prof., GLC)

**Closing Address:**

Prof. R. Ramakumar (Prof., TISS) on *Economic Policy and Democratic Freedoms*

Guest Lecture by Smita Jacob on, “*Influencing Public Policy in India: A Case Study of NRLM*”

Workshop on Writing by Prof. Vijay Prashad from Trinity College

Workshop on “*Access is Empowerment*”, conducted by CSR, New Delhi

Talk by Ashley Tellis & Suhasini Haider on “*Act East, Act West*” organised by Asia Society

Interaction with Rahul Srivastava and Matias Echanove of Urbz on *Housing in Dharavi*.

Town Hall with Sir Dave Ramsden (Chief Economic Advisor to Her Majesty’s Treasury, UK) at Meghnad Desai Academy of Economics

Debating and Literary Society of Government Law College’s Policy Debate 2016 on ‘*India 2020: Countering Terrorism, Insurgency and State Sponsored Violence*’

Debate: *India and Pakistan can never be friends*. For the motion: Maroof Raza and Shiv Kunal Verma Against

the motion: Pavan Varma and Shashi Tharoor Chair: Vir Sanghvi at Tata Literature Live

Guest Lecture by Dr. Sanjay Pradhan, CEO, Open Government Partnership and former VP, World Bank on *Open Government Reforms*.

*Demonetization: What it means for you and the Economy* with Ila Patnaik as part of “*Explained*” by Indian Express

Session on *UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and CEDAW* by Safecity & US Consulate

Guest Lecture by Mr. Vinay Khattar Senior VP & Mr. Simaria CFO, Edelweiss on the Union Budget 2017

Talk by Dr. Ishani Mukherjee from National University of Singapore on *Trans-boundary Pollution in South East Asia*

International Competition Law & Policy’ at 8th Government Law College International Law Summit 2017 Keynote address: Ms. Avaantika Kakkar, Partner, Khaitan & Co.

Guest Lecture: Ms. Simone Reis, Co - Head, M & A Practice at Nishith Desai Associates on *Competition Law*

Webinar with the Intellectual Property, Government Procurement and Competition Policy Division of the World Trade Organization (WTO), Geneva on the topic: ‘*International Trade and Competition Policy in the light of new age RTAs- Recent Trends and what they mean for International Co-operation*’

Guest Lecture on *India’s Defence Policy: Issues and Perspectives* by Major General Nitin P Gadkari

Interactive Session with Dr Surendrakumar Bagde, Secretary, Social Justice and Special Assistance Department, Government of Maharashtra

Talk by Mr. Chaman Lal and Mr. Julio Riberio, retd. IPS officers on *Law, Order, and Internal Security in India*

Guest Lecture on ‘*Women’s Employment, Capabilities and Participation: Field Notes from Kochi*’ by Dr Anuradha Kalhan

Guest Lecture on *Indian Legal History* by Mr. Kiran Upasani, the Law Officer to the Director General of Police

Screening of the documentary film ‘*Guns & Guitars*’ on the North-East & interactive session with the director, Bidyut Kotoky

**Student Achievements:**

Sakina Dhorajiwala began working with the LibTech India Program in 2014. LibTech India was started by Dr. Vivek Srinivasan at the Center for Democracy, Development and Rule of Law in Stanford University in 2012.

She worked as a researcher with LibTech India on issues of Technology and Transparency in Public Services.

She created a knowledge sharing platform prototype for elected women leaders in rural Maharashtra with LibTech India and Resource and Support Centre for Development.

**Publications:**

Dhorajiwala, Sakina, and Rajendran Narayanan. 2016. “Rejected wage payments in MGNREGA.” *Business Standard*, September 18: 11. [http://www.business-standard.com/article/opinion/sakina-dhorajiwala-rajendran-narayanan-rejected-wage-payments-in-mgnrega-116091700705\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/opinion/sakina-dhorajiwala-rajendran-narayanan-rejected-wage-payments-in-mgnrega-116091700705_1.html)

Dhorajiwala, Sakina, and Rajendran Narayanan. 2016. “All about means and ends.” *The Hindu*, October 4: 11. <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/all-about-means-and-ends/article9180982.ece>

Narayanan, Rajendran, Sakina Dhorajiwala, and Sabhil Nath Paikra.

2017. "Aadhaar Trouble: How a Woman's Wages under MGNREGA Were Transferred to Someone Else's Account." Scroll.in, April 9. <https://scroll.in/article/833487/aadhaar-trouble-how-a-womans-wages-under-mgnrega-were-transferred-to-someone-elses-account>

Narayanan, Rajendran, and Sakina Dhorajiwala. 2017. "A guarantee, an illusion." The Indian Express, February 14: 13. <http://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/mgnrega-provisions-on-right-to-work-and-timely-wages-are-being-violated-4523324/>

Brenda Marbiang, Dharvi Bhardwaj, Pallavi Wardhan, Pritha Chaudhary, Sana Ali, Sankalp Singh, Saurabh Subodh and Rajat Saroha conducted a sample survey as a part of the study on voting patterns in five Municipal Corporations undertaken by Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune.

Harnidh Kaur and Serena Fernando won the first prize at a debate organized by the India Audit and Accounts Department during the vigilance week on "Proposed Amendment to Corruption Act- Is it Necessary?" (Nov 3, 2016).

Harnidh Kaur

'When Fascism Comes to India', a poem was featured in EPW (<http://www.epw.in/journal/2016/31/postscript/when-fascism-comes-india.html>)

Invited to write for scroll.in (<https://scroll.in/article/819091/a-single-tweet-showed-how-talking-about-sexual-abuse-can-destroy-apathy>)

Featured in Times of India (Chennai and Bengaluru) (<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/Now-a-net-poets-society/articleshow/55921738.cms>)

Invited to write for Quint (<https://www.thequint.com/women/2016/10/18/warmth-empathy-kindness-finding-a-safe-space-on-social-media-harnidh-kaur-sexual-abuse-twitter-solidarity>)

Work on '84 Sikh Genocide was featured on Huffington Post India (<http://www.huffingtonpost.in/2016/11/01/32->

[years-after-the-1984-anti-sikh-riots-this-poets-tweets-reco/](http://www.huffingtonpost.in/2016/11/01/32-years-after-the-1984-anti-sikh-riots-this-poets-tweets-reco/))

Invited to review a book for The Indian Express (<http://indianexpress.com/article/lifestyle/books/1984-anti-sikh-riots-vikram-kapoor-book-review-4407682/>)

Won the Sahapedia World and You Poetry Contest

Her second book, *The Ease of Forgetting* (Thought Catalog Press, New York) was released.

Invited as a panelist for Feminist Internet, powered by the Internet Democracy Project to speak about creating safe spaces on the Internet for women

Gave a TEDxTalk at FLAME University, Pune and at the Xaviers Institute for Engineering

Featured in Vogue India as a millennial to watch out for

Marbaniang Brenda Luisa was selected as one of the Emerging Leaders at the end of the Internship <http://safecity.in/safecity-emerging-leader-brenda-luisa-marbaniang/>

Saxena Saanchi Sanjay presented a paper titled 'Gender in the City: The Rise of Modernist Urban Planning' at the 3rd International Graduate Seminar on 'Fostering Change: Public Policies Impacting State, Markets and Society' at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Hyderabad.

#### **Faculty Publications and Seminars Attended:**

Awanish Kumar:

'Where is Caste in Development? Bihar Assembly Elections 2015', *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 50, No. 45, Nov 7 2015.

'Emerging forms of Agrarian Resistance under Globalisation: Insights from Maharashtra State, India', *Fourth International Conference of BRICS Initiative for Critical Agrarian Studies (BICAS)*, China Agricultural University, Beijing, China, November 28-30, 2016.

'The Great Masquerade', *The Hindu*,

27<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

The paper "At the margins of the Hindi Heartland: Bihari Identity and its Contradictions", was presented at the third International Conference on 'Bihar and Jharkhand: Shared History to Shared Vision', Asian Development Research Institute, Patna, March 2017.

Reviewed the following book for the *Review of Agrarian Studies*.

Mohanty, B. B. (ed.) (2016), *Critical Perspectives on Agrarian Transition: India in the Global Debate*, Routledge, New York.: [http://www.ras.org.in/agrarian\\_questions](http://www.ras.org.in/agrarian_questions)

'India 2020: Countering Terrorism, Insurgency and State Sponsored Violence', Annual Panel Discussion hosted by the Debating and Literary Society of *Government Law College*, Mumbai, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

Resource Person, St Xavier's College and UC Berkeley Summer School on 'India in a Globalised World: Post-Colonialism, Neo Classicism and Beyond', June- July 2016.

Nandini Naik

Attended the *India Today Conclave* 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Attended the Symposium on *Becoming Smart about Settlements* at Center for Urban Policy and Governance at TISS, Mumbai on August 26, 27, 2016

It is heartening to note that many of our students have secured employment with well-known organizations like IGIDR, World Resources Institute, Adfactors, Haqdarshak, TISS CSR Hub, etc.

Being the youngest PG department on campus we are proud of our annual flagship policy conclave initiated successfully this year as well as the achievements of our students. We look forward to expanding our horizons in the new academic year.

**Dr. Agnelo Menezes**  
HOD and Principal

# MATHEMATICS

The year 2016 was a special one for the Mathematics Department of St. Xavier's College. Established in 1892, last year saw the department mark its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Amid the celebration that accompanied this special quasiquicentennial anniversary, there remained a bittersweet element: the retirement of our HoD and esteemed Prof. Mangala Gurjar in November, 2016. With thirty-four years of service to the college, including her contributions to various faculty committees, Dr. Gurjar was an asset to the department. Her lectures were extremely popular with the students. On 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016, Ms. Meenal Kolkar took charge of the department. While Ms. P. Saradadevi from the Junior College retired in September 2016, Mr. Aditya Garg resumed his lectures in November 2016, upon recovering from ill-health.

All in all, the academic year was an eventful one. Several activities were organized, which witnessed active participation from teachers and students alike.

Faculty member Dr. Ashok Bingi was awarded a Ph.D on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2016 from Shivaji University, Kolhapur for his thesis titled *Compactly Generated Multiplicative Lattices*. Ms. Meenal Kolkar attended a short-term course on eBay content development from 19<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2016 organized by the Academic Staff College at the University of Mumbai.

With our DBT grant, we were able to collaborate with the Department of Statistics to organize Confluence'17, the Mathematics – Statistics seminar held on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of January, 2017. During the seminar, eminent speakers from reputed institutes conducted guest lectures to motivate and inspire the students. Prof. Ananth Hariharan and Prof. Niranjana Balachandran of IIT Bombay gave talks on approximation theory and coding theory respectively, while Prof. Sharad S. Sane presented the applications of graph theory.

Dr. Ashok Bingi served as a resource person in the two-day "State Level

Workshop on Preparation of NET/SET Examination" organised by D.B.F. Dayanand College of Science and Arts, Solapur. The workshop was held on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Dr. Bingi also presented a research paper on *Pseudo-Classical Primary Elements in Lattice Modules* at the "International Conference on Mathematical Analysis and its Applications" (ICMAA-2017) organized by the Department of Mathematics, Dayanand Science College, Latur between 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2017. In addition, his research paper *Absorbing Elements in Lattice Modules* was published in the "International Electronic Journal of Algebra (IEJA)". while his paper *On 2-Absorbing Primary and Weakly 2-Absorbing Primary Elements in Multiplicative Lattices* was published in the journal "Transactions on Algebra and its Applications (TAA)".

Professor Mangala Gurjar continued to work as coordinator for the Madhava Mathematics competition in its 7<sup>th</sup> year. Held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of January, 2017 in Mumbai, the Madhava Mathematics competition, a national level competition conducted by HBCSE under the aegis of NBHM witnessed active participation from our students. Vrushali Sukhi, Radhika Patodia, and Aryaman Jal from SYBSc gave outstanding performances at the same. In addition, Vrushali Sukhi and Radhika Patodia took part in a workshop organized by Somaiya College of Science and Commerce, Vidyavihar, Mumbai held from 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2017. Aryaman Jal attended the Indian Academy of Sciences Summer Research Fellowship held at IISER, Mohali from April to June 2017, where he studied analysis and graph theory. Radhika Patodia and Aryaman Jal got selected for TIFR's month-long 'Visiting Students Research Programme' between 5<sup>th</sup> June and 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017. In addition, they were the runners-up in the Mathematics Quiz organized under Confluence '17. Another SYBSc student, Anushka Naruka, attended the mini-MTTS (Mathematics Training and Talent Search) camp held at Ruia College, Mumbai between 11<sup>th</sup> and

16<sup>th</sup> April 2017. TYBSc student Bijesh K.S. completed an internship under the 'Nurture Maths Programme' in memory of S.S. Pillai. Several TYBSc students conducted research work, too. Vishesh Makwana, Ananda Padhmanabh Suresh, and Rajath Krishna R wrote a research paper titled *A Generalization of Bernstein- Vazirani Algorithm to Qudit System*. Ananda Padhmanabh Suresh conducted research on *Fault Tolerant Quantum Computation in Higher Dimensional Space* under the guidance of Prof. Thalanayar Santhanam. Rajath Krishna R wrote a research paper on *Optimal Weak Value Measurements: Pure States* with Professors N.D. Hari Dass and Sai Smruti Samantaray. Vishesh Makwana and Ananda Padhmanabh Suresh secured admissions at the University of Edinburgh, UK for an MSc. in Theoretical Physics and Artificial Intelligence respectively. Rajath Krishna R secured admission in Imperial College, London for an MSc. in Quantum Fields and Fundamental Forces.

The new Mathematics Computer Lab was inaugurated on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017 by Dr. Suman Govil, Scientific officer-G, DBT, Delhi. The grant from DBT (Mathematics) was used for purchasing 22 computers, along with Maple software.

Ms. Meenal Kolkar went on Maternity leave in April 2017. Ms Rubina Shaikh was newly appointed in February 2017 as a teaching faculty in our Junior College. On a parting note, we express our gratitude to Ms. Dhwanita Rao for her service as a visiting faculty member.

**Dr. Ashok Bingi**  
Coordinator, Department of  
Mathematics

# MICROBIOLOGY

The academic year began with the Graduation Ceremony where our high performing MSc and BSc achievers of 2015- 2016 received their certificates. Anushree Sawant and Ria Manojkumar ranked first among our Post graduates and Yagya Chadha stood first amongst our graduates.

Dr. Aparna Talekar joined back in July after her maternity leave while Ms. Karuna Gokarn resumed teaching after a two year FIP leave in December and submitted her finished thesis in March.

Professor Vivien Amonkar retired as the Head of the Microbiology department after 27 years as Head of Department and 37 years as a faculty member.

## Graduates 2016

77% of our students got admission into postgraduate courses in IIM Bangalore, Vellore Institute of Technology, Mumbai University, SNTD University, Pune University College London, Institut Supérieur d'Agriculture (ISA) Lille, France.

Others are employed or preparing for competitive exams.

## Postgraduates 2016

85% have been employed, 15% are studying for competitive exams like UPSC, UGC-CSIR.

10% of employed students are Assistant professors, others have become Content analysts, or are working in Research and Development.

Our faculty and students engaged in several activities throughout the year -

## Department Activities

- A. **Teaching social responsibility:** the SYBSc students checked the potability of 10 drinking water points in the college every month far exceeding their SIP hours.
- B. **Peer learning:** SYBSc students welcomed their juniors, FYBSc students, with an exhibition entitled 'GAME OF MICROBES' on 5<sup>th</sup> of July, 2016 in the

Microbiology Laboratory. Students learnt from each other about the various aspects of Microbiology and its scope. Other interested Junior and Senior college students also visited the exhibition. This annual exhibition creates bonding, teaches team work and boosts confidence and self-worth amongst students.

## C. Organising seminars

- ❖ "GREENVOICE" an intercollegiate event was held at St. Xavier's College, Autonomous Mumbai on 21st June 2016, organized jointly by the Department of Microbiology and PG Department of Biotechnology. It was sponsored by Novozymes South Asia Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore. The event started with a panel discussion highlighting the topic, "ROLE OF MICROBIAL BIOTECHNOLOGY IN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY." The panelists were - Mr. Vishal Jajodia, an Industrialist from Vapi, Gujarat, Ms. Jyoti Mhapsekar, the President and one of the founders of Stree Mukti Sangathan, an NGO that operates in and around Mumbai, Prof. Mukesh Pandya, the former HOD of the Department of Microbiology at Jai Hind College, and a consultant in the field of waste management and Principal, Dr. Agnelo Menezes, an economist.

At the Valedictory function, the Guest of Honour Mr. Chandrashekhar Chore, Deputy Commissioner of BMC addressed the audience and impressed on them the need for creative thinking and that failures are stepping stones to success.

- ❖ **Interactive student workshop** was conducted and sponsored by Novozymes South Asia Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August, 2016, the topics being Sustainability and Global development (Pranjal Goswami) and Biotechnology and Innovation (Dr. Aditya Basu).

## D. UMAX (Undergraduate Microbiology Association

**of Xavier's):** organized the refreshments for the Annual Exhibition, fun activities for the Khandala seminar, MICRO day and the Farewell for our MSc and TYBSc students.

- E. **Honours programme:** was coordinated by Ms. Sangeetha Chavan

CLASS	ACTIVITY
FYBSc	<b>Workshop on Antimicrobial effects of plants, herbs and spices</b> Conducted by- Prof Miriam Stewart for 2 credits
SYBSc	<b>Project - Study of cytotoxicity of chemicals</b> Conducted by- Dr. Pampi Chakraborty for 2 credits
TYBSc	<b>Lecture series-IPR</b> Conducted by- Dr. Biswaprasun Chatterjee for 1 credit

- F. **MICRO DAY:** An annual Academic celebration held on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2016 with the release of the Department magazine 'The Michronicle' by Mr. Sachin Rajan. The editorial team and the office bearers of UMAX took charge of the event.
- G. **Vivien era :** The faculty of the department organized a grand retirement farewell for Prof Vivien Amonkar on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October, 2016. Ms. Sangeetha Chavan with the help of the MSc students prepared a movie on Vivien's life story in our college which spanned about 40 years. The occasion was graced by the our Principal Agnelo Menezes, Principal Ashok Wadia of Jai Hind college, Vice Principal Dr. Aruna from Wilson college, many of the Microbiology fraternity of the University of Mumbai, faculty members of St. Xavier's College and Alumni from our Department. The Department was honored by the presence of the famed late classical Indian vocalist

Mrs. Kishori Amonkar who witnessed the love and great regard that everyone has for her daughter-in-law Prof Vivien Amonkar. The programme ended with Chaat and Chai. This event helped the department to connect with their alumni once again.

#### H. Khandala seminar and Industrial visit:

Khandala seminar trip and the trip to SULA Wines was organized from Jan 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017. 50 students participated along with 3 staff members. The activities consisted of Department Evaluation, Internship presentation, Role Play, camp fire with songs and fun games. Thereafter, the students were taken to Sula wines where they saw how wine was made. The seminar and visit received a positive feedback.

#### I. Guest Lectures

1. Mr. Sachin Rajan, our alumnus, spoke on "Management as a career for Microbiologists" on MICRO day, 24<sup>th</sup> of August, 2016.
2. Department of Microbiology organized a lecture by an eminent scientist Dr. Swaine Chen M.D, Ph.D from the National University of Singapore who gave a lecture on 'Definitive elucidation of virulence mechanisms: Lessons from *Campylobacter* for understanding why bacteria cause disease', held

on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 to SYBSc, TYBSc, MSc Microbiology and Life Science students. He is the Ph.D. guide of our alumna Dr. Varnica Khetrepal who received her doctorate in December.

3. Dr. S.T. Dheen and Dr. P. Hande of Yang Loo Lin School of Medicine, NUS, spoke on "PhD opportunities at Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, NUS", Singapore on 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb, 2017 to our Msc students from Biotechnology, Life-sciences and Microbiology.

**J. The TY and MSc farewell** was held in the college hall on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February, 2017 and organized by the UMAX committee.

**K. The BOS meeting** was organized on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March wherein MSc Practical syllabus was discussed.

**L.** The Department under the leadership of Faculty member Sangeetha Chavan initiated the task of Solid waste management in our college with a talk on "Solid Waste Management in Mumbai" by Ms. Sindhu Iyer of Stree Mukti Sanghatana on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in the SCAVI. The talk was attended by our MSc students.

**M. DBT Star 2017 grant:** Our department was one of the seven departments awarded the DBT Star 2017 grant for the purchase

of instruments and chemicals. We purchased several new instruments viz Multichannel pipettes, variable pipettes, Loop Sterilizers, High-end electrophoresis apparatus, Microscope with camera and the Fire buoy.

**N. Career Guidance** seminar was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April, 2017 for BSc and MSc students. Three speakers were invited. Gillian D'Souza for Science writing in India, Mrs Asha Sridhar – Careers in the Food Industry, and Mrs Yogita Narwekar – Entrepreneurship. It was attended by 41 students who obtained information about careers in each of these fields. The talks were very inspiring and informative.

#### Student achievements:

**A. MSc I students** attended SIES College fest OPERON 2016 and came home with several prizes 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Chromostreaks, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Labathon, 1<sup>st</sup> place in Cold Blood.

**B. Internships:** Most of our students worked on an internship in the winter and summer breaks. A number of our students were chosen this year on an All India Level for prestigious internships during the months of April, May and June:

**C. TYBSc students** went on a one

NAME OF STUDENT,	INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME NAME	INSTITUTE	GUIDE, SUBJECT
Saanjbati Adhikari, FYBSc, <b>was one of 10 in the country to be chosen</b>	POBE – 2017 programme JNCASR fellowship programme	JNCASR, Jakkur Bangalore	Training in Different Laboratories
Ms Neha Banwani, SYBSc	JNCASR, Summer Research Fellowship Programme 2017	Molecular Biology and Genetics Inst, JNCASR, Jakkur, Bangalore	PROF. UDAYKUMAR RANGA Life Sciences
Mr. Avirup Sanyal, SYBSc	JNCASR, Summer Research Fellowship Programme 2017	IISER, PUNE	DR. SUTIRTH DEY, Life Sciences
Ms. Priya Ketan SYBSc	Indian Academy of Sciences, Summer Internship Programme- 2017	RMRIMS, PATNA	Dr. Ganesh Chandra Sahoo,
Ms. Bibakhya Saikia SYBSc	Indian Academy of Sciences, Summer Internship Programme- 2017	NIIST, Thiruvananthapuram	Dr N.Ramesh Kumar,
Mr. Avirup Sanyal, SYBSc	Indian Academy of Sciences, Summer Internship Programme- 2017	Dr BR Ambedkar Centre for Biomedical Research, Delhi	Prof. Vani Brahmachari,
Mr Ritvik Chandavarkar SYBSc	Indian Academy of Sciences, Summer Internship Programme- 2017	IGIB, Delhi	Dr Shantanu Chowdhury



NAME OF STUDENT,	INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME NAME	INSTITUTE	GUIDE, SUBJECT
Ms.M. Geervani	IISER –K- 2017, Summer Internship Programme	Indian Institute of Science Education and Research- Kolkata, Mohanpur, Nadia district, West Bengal	Dr. Punyasloke Bhadury, Marine Microbiology lab, HOD of Biological Sciences,
Sanchi Dali	-	National Institute Of Immunohaematology	Dr. Aruna Shankarkumar Transfusion and Transmitted diseases (Hepatitis virus )
Rebekah D'Cunha		Novozymes, Bangalore	Ashith Bilimale, Associate Industry Technology Specialist, Technical Services lab,

day Visit on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December to ACTREC for their Open Day through invitation where they saw the kind of research being done by the PhD scholars and scientists and interacted with them.

**D. Project work:** Every SYBSc, TYBSc and MSc Part 2 student participated in project activity.

❖ **SYBSc Individual Projects:** Every student isolated and identified an organism from an extreme environment or from the soil habitat and research an application. The projects were documented in the form of reports, a presentation and a poster. These projects were conducted in the months of December to March.

❖ **TYBSc Group Projects:** Students worked in groups of six on Industrial Microbiology themes from July to September and wrote papers on their projects.

❖ **MSc Part 2 External project:** 19 MSc Part II students worked on their external dissertations in premier institutes like ACTREC, BARC, NIH and NIRRH for 4 months from May to August 2016.

❖ **MSc 2 internal project :** Four projects were carried out by students in groups in the months of January to March which were Bacteriophage therapy, Preparation of a Plant growth promoting bacterial consortium, Degradation and detoxification of Azo-dyes and Extraction of Bio-color from Micro-organism and preparation of Bio-wrap.

**Staff achievements :**

**A. Compilation by Faculty of the Dept. of Microbiology:** BIOSAFETY GUIDELINES FOR MICROBIOLOGICAL WORK IN St. Xavier's College, Autonomous, Mumbai which was released on 21<sup>st</sup> of June, 2016.

**B. Papers published**

1. Gokarn K, Sarangdhar V and Pal RB (2016). Ethanol extraction method for DNA isolation from *Mycobacterium smegmatis*. *Int. J. Curr. Res.*, **8(9)**: 39013-39015.
2. Gokarn K, Pal RB, Sarangdhar V (2016) Cloning of *Mycobacterium smegmatis* Exochelin MS genes *fxbA*, *fxbC* and *exiT* in *Escherichia coli*. *Mol. Biol.*, **5:176**, doi:10.4172/2168-9547.1000176. Impact factor 2.
3. Gupta PK, Chakraborty P, Kumar S, Singh PK, Rajan MGR, Sainis KB (2016). G1-4A, a Polysaccharide from *Tinospora cordifolia* Inhibits the Survival of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* by Modulating Host Immune Responses in TLR4 Dependent Manner G1-4A, a Polysaccharide from *Tinospora cordifolia* Inhibits the Survival of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* by Modulating Host Immune Responses in TLR4 Dependent Manner. *PLoS ONE* 11(5): e0154725. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0154725. Impact factor 3.2.

**C. Paper presented**

Stewart, M., Padalia, U., Rawat, K.P., Sarma K.S.S., 'Study of the survival of *Candida albicans* exposed to Gamma irradiations'

at the National Conference on 'Fungi from Diverse Habitats and their Biotechnological Applications' organized by Satish Pradhan Dnyanasadhana College, Thane, College of Arts, Science & Commerce on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 and won first prize for the presentation.

**D. Resource person:** Professor Dr. Vivien Amonkar

1. 'Higher Education Pedagogy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century' for the young Faculty of St. Joseph's College, Bangalore : 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2016.
2. 2 day Seminar cum workshop 'Higher Education Pedagogy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century' for the Faculty of the Philosophy Department, Loyola College, Chennai : 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2016.
3. For guiding faculty in framing syllabi and starting programmes under Autonomy, Nagindas Khandwala College of Commerce, Arts & Management Studies and Shantaben Nagindas Khandwala College of Science, Malad, Mumbai: 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2016
4. 'Experience sharing on Autonomous Status' at the RUSA Sponsored Consultation Meeting on Autonomy on Sept 23, 2016 at St. Xavier's College Mumbai.

**E. Subject Expert :** Professor Dr. Vivien Amonkar

1. Vice Chancellor's Subject expert- Microbiology, Selection Committee, CHM College, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2016

2. Governing Body nominated Subject expert- Microbiology, Selection Committee: Professor Stage, Sophia College, 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2016.
3. Vice Chancellor's Nominee, Selection Committee, Teacher Fellowship: Faculty Development Programme, CHM College, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016

#### F. Seminars, Workshops and Conferences attended

##### ❖ Conferences attended :

Two day National conference organized by Satish Pradhan Dnyanasadhana College, Thane , on 'Fungi from Diverse Habitats and their Biotechnological Applications' in association with Mycological Society of India , on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> , 2016 was attended by **Prof. Miriam Stewart**.

##### ❖ Seminars and workshops attended

- i. 'Techniques and applications in Immunology'- organized by Department of Biotechnology, Jai Hind College on 29<sup>th</sup> June to 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2016 (sponsored by Lady Tata Memorial Trust) attended by Pampi Chakraborty
- ii. Young teacher's seminar on Sensitization to Jesuit Ethos & Classroom Culture- held on 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2016 at St. Xavier's College was attended by Dr. Aparna and

Dr. Pampi

- iii. Google drive workshop – held on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2016 in St. Xavier's College was attended by all Department faculty
- iv. Young Teacher's Seminar on Strategies for Optimizing Survival with special reference to Classroom and Teaching- Resource person: Fr. Terence Quadros S. J.- held on 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 in St. Xavier's College was attended by Dr. Aparna and Dr. Pampi
- v. Participation in M I G Lecture Series on 'Tuberculosis : Captain of All the Men of Death' organized by Mumbai Immunology Group held at National Institute for Research in Reproductive Health (ICMR) Parel, Mumbai, on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October, 2016 by Ms. Miriam Stewart.
- vi. St. Xavier's College Staff Seminar on Stress Management conducted on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October, 2016 by Fr. Charles Rodrigues S.J. titled 'Take a Break.... Before the Busy- You Breaks' attended by all staff members of the department.
- vii. Dr. Pampi went for a Workshop to Khalsa College on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of January on Bio-informatics
- viii. A Workshop on 'Latest techniques on proteomics' was held in Jai Hind college on the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> February 2017 which was attended by Ms. Sangeetha Chavan.

ix. NAAC Sponsored Seminar On Teaching, Learning & Evaluation ' A New Dimension to Teaching, Learning & Evaluation ' was held on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 in Jai Hind College and was attended by Ms. Sangeetha Chavan.

x. A one day seminar organized by the college 'Adapting to change' was held on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2017, was attended by all staff members of the department.

#### G. Selection to the BOS of Microbiology:

Miriam Stewart was Appointed as subject expert in Microbiology on Ad hoc subject board (BOS) of Mithibai College in September, 2016.

#### H. Member of IQAC committee:

Prof. Vivien Amonkar was a member of the committee of the Nirmala Niketan college of Home Science.

I. Ms Sangeetha Chavan was appointed external examiner for the 5<sup>th</sup> Semester TYBSc practical examination at Jai Hind College.

Developing our students' abilities along with our own has been our goal because we know that in every student and faculty there is a hope and a dream which if fulfilled adds benefit and strength to our Great Nation.

**Ms. Miriam Stewart,**  
Head of Department

## PHYSICS

This year's highlight was the implementation of project based learning for all three years of undergraduate learning. Every student did at least one project per semester or more as a part of the practical course. The project based learning method was well appreciated by students and increased their level of confidence in the subject.

At FY level, the students were given input lectures about the type of projects, tracker video analysis and error analysis of the data they collect.

Inquiry based learning methods were introduced to make them think and realize how a particular experiment has to be performed. Students were highly motivated to follow this system of learning Physics.

Students submitted the working models, posters and reports written in research paper format. A few interesting project titles are given below:-

- Frequencies in a Guitar, hand pump, video analysis of collisions using carrom board with coins and

the striker, catapult, phenomenon of Beats, design of a Gyroscope, the Physics behind running, Hydraulic arm, Hydraulic press, etc.

- Similarly second year students were also given projects based on their theory papers. They made three projects in each semester related to their theory courses and were evaluated.

- The FYBSC theory syllabus was reframed and implemented from June 2016. For both the papers

there is only one main reference book. The teachers taking these courses had prepared a course plan for the full course and they followed it. A feedback was taken with the help of a questionnaire and it was found that around 70% students liked the structure of the syllabus, the implementation of course plan.

### Departmental activities:

- Physics exhibition put up by SYBSc students which was visited by college students and teachers from all the streams as well as school students
- A lecture by Prof. H. C. Pradhan was held on 29<sup>th</sup> Sept 2016 for scientific communication skills course. He spoke on 'effective science communication'.
- Prof. Vijay Singh delivered a lecture on 'Golden Ratio, Center of Mass and Aesthetics' on 24th Nov 2016.
- A lecture on 'Quantum Mechanics' by Prof. T. P. Singh, TIFR, Mumbai.
- About 40 FY level students were taken for a whole day visit to Homi Bhabha Center for Science Education.
- TY students visited Khandala for a two day seminar.
- One day seminar on "LIGO" in collaboration with IAPT which was attended by students and faculties of different colleges across Mumbai.
- 'Drishyam' a student level seminar on digital image processing with Prof. J. B. Mistry as a resource person.

### Faculty achievements:

- Dr. S. P. Bodhane is a member of managing committee of a school, A. B. Goregaonkar English School.

- Dr. S. P. Bodhane has been an observer for Indian National Olympiad -2016 exam organized by Homi Bhabha Center for Science Education in Jan 2017.
- Dr. Vedasankari was a visiting faculty for PG courses in B. N. Bandodkar college, Thane.
- Dr. Vedasankari was a paper setter for PG courses of Mumbai University.
- Dr. Jyoti Singh worked as a co-ordinator for vocational course, BVOC in software development.
- Dr. S. P. Bodhane and Dr. Leena Joshi worked as a resource person for orientation cum selection camp for the students representing India for the International Olympiad.
- Mr. Rajesh Singh went as an examiner at ISC exam at Singhania school, Thane.

### Workshop/seminar/ programmes attended:

- Dr. Vedasankari attended a two weeks' National level seminar.
- Dr. Radhekrishna Dubey attended a Four week Orientation course at Staff Academic College in JNU in Oct'16.
- Dr. Leena Joshi attended a Four week Orientation course at Staff Academic College, Mumbai in Nov'16
- NIUS Physics Teacher's workshop conducted by HBCSE, Mumbai was attended by Dr. Radhekrishna Dubey and Mr. Rajesh Singh.

### Paper/posters presented in conference:

- Mr. Ajay Yadav presented a paper (poster) and attended an international conference on "Ion beams in materials Engineering and

Characterization (IBMEC-2016) at IUAC, New Delhi.

- Dr. Radhekrishna Dubey presented a paper (poster) and attended an international conference on "Ion beams in materials Engineering and Characterization (IBMEC-2016) at IUAC, New Delhi.
- Dr. Leena Joshi presented a poster on 'Innovative way of conducting Physics lab' in National conference on academic and administrative audit held in January, 2017 by College of Home Science, Nirmala Niketan, Mumbai.
- Dr. S. P. Bodhane presented a poster on 'Novel ways of Open book and Peer learning methods for Internal Assessment' at the National Conference on Academic and Administrative Audit held in January, 2017 by the College of Home Science, Nirmala Niketan, Mumbai.

### Student Achievement:

- Two students from TY class, Adway Gupta and Aaryan Sharma got selected in TIFR for integrated Ph.D. course. Both of them also secured good ranks in IIT entrance test (JAM).
- FY B. Sc. Student, Abhay Mehta got selected for NIUS programme.
- Arjun Ashoka (SYBSc Physics) got selected as a core member of Team India; he will be working on the fabrication of his team's pod at a hardware accelerator, Bangalore as they prepare for the international SpaceX Hyperloop Pod Competition.

**Dr. Shyamala Bodhane**  
Head, Department of Physics

## POLITICAL SCIENCE

The department of Political Science began its activities with a talk by Mr. Anuj Dhar, on his best seller book "India's Biggest Cover-up", based on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and the conspiracy theories about his

mysterious death. The lecture witnessed a packed room of curious audience. The talk was followed by a question answer session, which was very thought-provoking.

This activity was followed by a

collaborative lecture held with the History Department by Jon Wilson, Professor of History, King's College, U.K. The talk was based on his book 'India Conquered' — an appealing explanation of both the historical and

political scenario in India under the British Raj. This resulted in various thought-provoking questions and arguments being raised by the audience.

A tie up with the Argentinean Embassy was made to organise a talk by Mr. Alejandro Zothner Meyer, the Acting Consul General of Argentina, who addressed the issues being faced by both the nations- Argentina and the U.K concerning the Malvinas Islands or the Falkland Islands.

The XPSA, (Xavier's Political Science Association), introduced the Political Awareness Campaign aimed at providing basic information on the government, it's working and rights offered to the students of the college. The Campaign was spread across two days, covering a total of 10 topics— 5 different topics each day. The different topics were titled as Know Your Rights, Government Schemes, Fundamental Rights and Duties, Voting Rights, Local Government, State Government, Union Government, What do I do? (Women's rights) and Freedom of Speech and Expression. A police station stall was set up for the students to experience and be acquainted with the procedures to file a FIR, to be aware of their rights in a police station and also the duties of the police. The campaign was inaugurated by the Inspector General, (Protection of Rights) Mr. Quaiser Khalid, who also released the booklet printed with basic information on the rights of the citizens and the important contact information of various public bodies.

The flagship event organised by the XPSA was the Youth Parliament— one of the principal events of the department. The Youth Parliament acts as a platform through which students learn the functioning of the Parliament in a simulated environment with students as Members of Parliament. This event saw many colleges from Mumbai participating in it. This year we have had two agendas spread across the span of the two days; on the first day the agenda was- The Necessity of Bullet trains and on the second day it was- Implementation of Social Security Schemes. Through these agendas and procedures, the students learnt and



*T Y B A seminar in Khandala*

experienced the legislative functioning of the parliament.

The other events to be organised by the XPSA were National Essay Writing Competition, the Goolam Essaji Vahanvati Annual Memorial lectures, a talk by Adv. Abhinav Chandrachud and film screening.

The Political Science Department as part of the Social Involvement Programme assisted the Reconstructive Surgery Foundation in organizing a fundraiser for the acid attack survivors, on the 29<sup>th</sup> of January 2017. The event was a theatre and song performance called "Sounds of the Sufis- Messages form the Mystics", based on Sufi music, led by Anuraag Dhoundeyal, an alumnus of Xavier's, and his team of The Looking Glass Company. A positive initiative unlike any other, this activity was aimed at bringing awareness about the plight of the victims of acid attack. This is the first time such an initiative was organised within campus and also remains the landmark event of this year. It was the relentless hard work of the staff and the students which made it a successful event. I would like to add special mention of Martin C, Kyle Curry, Antriksh Aade, Ruhi Jain, Rohit Bharadwaj, and Raghuveer Kelkar.

This year the annual department magazine 'Samvad' was published with the theme of "Non- State Actors- Pulling

the Strings". The articles and Research Papers were focused on the role of a variety of non-state actors and their influence on the state actors worldwide. The number of research papers keeps increasing and is a good sign as it helps encourage students to get in to research. Keeping up with the tradition of interviewing three dignitaries, this year 'Samvad' interviewed Shri Anna Hazare; Mr Ashley Tellis, Senior Associate, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington and Mr. Vincent Darlong- Implementation Support Officer, The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), a specialized agency of the United Nations.

The department-activities could not have been successful without the hard work and dedication of all the FY, SY and TY students' teams of XPSA and 'Samvad' and the unconditional support of Ms. Shazia Shaikh. A special mention of the Principal Dr. Agnelo Menezes, who stood by us through all the ups and downs - without his encouragement, confidence and trust we would not have been able to organize so many, and if I may say, such ambitious activities. Thank You, Dr. Agnelo. We are eagerly looking forward to a successful academic year 2017-18 and have started planning for the same.

**Dr. Pratiba Naitthani**  
Head - Department of Political Science

# PSYCHOLOGY

This year's report traces the highlights of the journey for staff and students in the department, along the *psycho-path*. As you read on, you will realize it has been written in a humorous style, with psychology relevant one liners.

We began the year with special workshops and lectures for our TYs. The Team Building workshop was conducted by Ms. Tarana Pithawalla and the training sessions on research methodology, report writing and inferential statistics were conducted by Ms. Danielle Pereira. This helped orient our TY class to the kind of work required for maintaining a journal for the experiments conducted as part of the Practicals course requirement.

*(What kind of window shades are you likely to find in the lab of an experimental psychologist? Double Blinds.)*

They also learnt about the process of hypothesis testing, using statistical techniques to determine the significance of results obtained.

*(How do you determine the temperature of a flag? By its degrees of freedom)*

There were a total of 10 workshops held, 6 in the odd semester and 4 in the even semester. These were also open to students from other disciplines who wished to avail of a transfer credit. One of the popular themes among students was Forensic Psychology.

*(Did you hear about the felon who founded an experimental institute? It was Con-founded)*

RESOURCE PERSONS	THEMES FOR WORKSHOPS
Dhvani Toprani	Collaborative Thinking
Shama Shah	Rational Emotive Therapy
Devika Mehta	Dance Movement Psychotherapy
Jhanavi Doshi	Forensic Psychology
Sneha Janaki Ramesh	Emotional Intelligence
Shruti Murali & Anuja Deodhar	Lateral Thinking
Khushnam Engineer	Transactional Analysis
Maurelle D'Sa	Sports Psychology
Toru Jhaveri	Advertising and Persuasion

We also organized Guest Lectures



*The Annual Sociology Department Seminar*

for our students. One was by Dr. Adam Lowett, from Coventry, UK, in collaboration with the CIP on Psychology: the quirky science of mind and behaviour. The other was by an alumnus of our college, Dr. Sonia Suchday (Chair of the Psychology Department at Pace University and Chair of the US National Committee at the International Union of Psychological Sciences). The themes of her two presentations were 'Psychology and spirituality in the Indian tradition' and 'Stress in a global world: Youth in Urban India'. She also shared some of the findings of her ongoing research on how youth handle stress and emotions such as anger.

*(A psychoanalyst's third law of e-motion: For every emotionally intense action, there is an equal and opposite Reaction Formation)*

Three field visits were conducted this year. The Psychology of Gender SY students visited Sevasadan Girls Orphanage at Gamdevi and TY students of Abnormal Psychology visited the Department of Psychiatry at Masina Hospital and interacted with the staff there, under the supervision of Ms. Linda Dhakul. The Cognitive Psychology class visited the Department of Radiology at J. J. Hospital, supervised by Br. Dean Fernandes. This was a particularly unique experience as our students were given an orientation to brain imaging techniques, with case studies, by the experts there and they also got to observe the MRI machines as they were being used for cerebral scanning.

*(Would you call the temporal lobe of your brain, your Ear Lobe?)*

Over the years we have found that students, who are new to the college and the city, tend to take a long time to figure out the college rules, norms, associations etc. on our campus. The continuous academic assessments and the fast paced life of the city, tends to overwhelm them. They are also away from their families and support systems so the cumulative stress (academic and personal) often tends to exceed their coping abilities. Given that social support is one of the mediators of reactions to stress, as part of our departmental 5 hours of SIP on campus, we chose to offer assistance to such outstation students, to help them adjust to the college and the city. 28 psychology students and 10 non-psychology students registered for this activity and submitted a photo journal documenting their activities with the outstation student they mentored, both on and off campus.

*(Where would large, brainy African mammals go for higher education? The hippo-campus)*

The Psychology department Annual Khandala Seminar was held from 25-27<sup>th</sup> Nov 2016. The theme was 'Application of Psychology to current events / phenomena'. 93 students (32 FY, 36 SY and 25 TY) attended and all 3 staff members were present. There were 41 papers presented, ranging across interdisciplinary and applied themes such as economics, warfare, terrorism, media, social networking, environmental consciousness and of course, one of the most fascinating areas for psychology students, mental illness.

*(I don't have OCD, I have CDO ... it*

needs to be in alphabetical order, you know.)

Some of the themes on which papers were presented are listed below.

This year, 25 of our students participated in the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Bombay Psychological Association (BPA) conference titled 'PIECES TO PEACE: Conflict and its resolution', held at SNDT, Churchgate, on 13<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017. The 3 staff members of our department handled the registration counter at the BPA conference.

*(How much does it cost to become a member of the Psychoanalytic Therapy Association?)*

*Nothing. It is a Free Association)*

Nine papers were presented by our students. This is noteworthy because of the kind of primary data collected by the undergraduate students who presented alongside professionals, professors and PG students from colleges in the city.

The PAPERS presented were on the following themes:

1. Conflict Resolution and Personal Behaviors (Aishwarya Bellam, TYBA)
2. The Effect of Media Propaganda on Conflict Case: Influence of Tamil Cinemas on Tamil Nadu politics. (Shweta Ravi, TYBA)
3. Conflict in siblings: Role of gender and personality traits (Kanika Shah, Sneha Ramanan, Shruti Nair, TYBA)
4. Impact of Equity and Satisfaction on Marital Conflict (Andrea Noronha, Kriti Krishan, Ketaki Mhatre, Jennifer Francis, Zico Bahl, TYBA)
5. Intrapersonal conflict faced by police officers as a function of their personality (Krupa Nishar, Trusha Shanbag, TYBA)
6. Mediating role of shame and guilt on conflict resolution strategy (Sailee Biwalkar, Praneeta Katdare, TYBA)
7. The Relation between Time Perspective and Coping Strategies

in Indians (Arunima Ticku, Maitree Vohra, TYBA)

8. Intrapersonal Conflicts Observed in Regrets Towards the End of Life. (Pooja Bhanushali, Jahnvi Pandya, SYBA)
9. Nature of work-family conflict for Indian women (Prashanti Ganesh, Richa Raipancholia SYBA Psychology and Namrata Nerukar from TYBA Economics)

A group of three SY Psychology of Gender students (Yashi, Ambika, Nayanika) presented at the research paper competition held by SNDT, Ghatkopar on the theme 'Shades of Violence' for which they secured the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize.

*(When a woman believes that there is nothing she can do about the outcomes in her life and that her life is ruled by an insect, does she have an External Locust of Control?)*

The theme for the department magazine, Uncommon Sense 2016-17, was 'The Psychology of Attraction.' There were 30 articles that covered a range of topics from the obvious 'romantic' kind of attraction, to other kinds like addictions, narcissism, attraction to horror etc. A core group of SY students took charge of the process of marketing, mentoring and editing the articles authored by the students.

*(What would Baumrind say is the best parenting style for writers? An Authoritative style.)*

This year, The Next Step was conducted as a symposium, in the XIMR. The objective of this event was to give our current students a glimpse of the PG courses and potential career paths they can choose from, after graduating with Psychology. The alumni of the department from diverse fields and with varied experience, were invited as resource persons. They threw light on the kind of course work, evaluated the course with respect to the pluses and minuses and shared some personal insights. This was an opportunity for our students to interact with some of our alumni and get some information that would help with the decision regarding further training / education

/ career choices.

*(What would Piaget say to a person who wants training for a career that involves construction work, surgery as well as acting? S/he would need to think about working from a Concrete Operational Stage)*

	SPEAKERS	CAREER PATHS / COURSES
1.	Khushnam Engineer	Counseling
2.	Laura Britto & Laura Menezes	Special Education
3.	Prachi Desai & Tanvi Ravi	MNWC, Parla
4.	Arathy P, Arundhati Debnath & Madhura Phansikar	University Department of Applied Psychology, Kalina
5.	Siddhartha Fondekar	Industrial at Mithibai
6.	Rohini D'Souza	Training & Development
7.	Dr. Noellene Fialho	Human Development, Nirmala Niketan
8.	Charnelle Dias	XIC, Communications
9.	Ninad Patwardhan	Christ college Bangalore & IIT
10.	Darlene DeMello	XIMR, Management
11.	Dr. Hemal Shroff	TISS courses (social work, health etc.)
12.	Jagruti Wandrekar	Clinical work in a social setting
13.	Kaneenika Ninanawe	Clinical at KEM hospital
14.	Neha Shah	Working with disabilities (resource centers)
15.	Jyayasi Kapadia & Maya Shah	BEd, & Montessori (for teaching at School)

As we come to the end of this report, we hope that the added one liners (albeit targeted towards those with a background of psychological concepts and/ or a goofy sense of humour) did put a smile on the face of every reader. The emotions and distinctiveness that this report now possesses, is likely to make the experience of reading it, not just more enjoyable, but also more memorable.

*(If an experimental subject is conditioned to press a button, but then forgets he did it, does he Repress?)*

**Ms. Ruby Pavri**  
Head, Department of Psychology

# SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

This year, has been an active one for the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. As a subsidiary of this department, The Academy of Sociology and Anthropology has been successful in conducting a few activities through the course of this year and also laying down certain frameworks which we hope to see continuing in the academic years to follow.



*“Sociological Monologues”*

- **The Inter-class Mentorship Program-** This was an academic initiative aimed at establishing a mentee-mentor relation between the First and Third Year Sociology and Anthropology students. This program aimed to reach out in a personal manner of connecting one Third Year representative with 2-3 First Years and create a chain through which struggles at the First Year level could be met with by the assistance from a Third Year level. This included feedback with assignments, general mentoring with regards to the subject matter and a sharing of readings for additional help during the course of the year.
- **A talk by Mr.Jigmey Tsultrim titled “A Day In Tibet”-** It was an attempt to provide the students at Xavier’s with an insight into the socio-cultural background, historical relevance, as well as the migration policies affecting the people of Tibet at the level of micro and macro level interactions with other nations.
- **A lecture by Prof. Joe Devine on “The Social, Political and Anthropological Aspects of Development”** – This lecture was conducted in collaboration with the Council of International Programmes, where Prof. Devine spoke of varying developmental concepts, substantiating them with data gained through his personal research work.
- **The Annual Department Seminar-** Held from 29<sup>th</sup> November-1<sup>st</sup> December 2016, it was one in collaboration with

The Academy. The students at this seminar presented papers on the topic of “Alternatives to Development”, critiquing and some providing viable solutions of their own.

- **“Sociological Monologues”-** An initiative in collaboration with The Playhouse- English Theatre Society. An activity based on the format of the acclaimed “Vagina Monologues”, where students will be provided the freedom to perform out their monologues on sociologically relevant themes and topics.
- **Honours programs** - The honours course which is aimed at fostering academic excellence and creative development under Sociology and Anthropology organised a lecture series on Gender and Migration, 8 Marxist thinkers, a course on Writing within academics and on the Environment.
- **Guest lectures** - The department encourages that understanding of a subject is necessary beyond a classroom and takes effort to organise guest lectures. This year there have been guest lectures on and by the following-
  - Sinead D’Silva: Paolo Freire’s idea of Education
  - Smita Jacob: National Rural Livelihood Mission
  - Sumitra Badrinathan: Do we need the nation anymore?
  - Ms. Shriya Bhatia Kaul (Smart Cities)
- Dr. Sunetro Ghosal (Techniques of Academic writing)
- Ms. Ketaki Hate (Research Methodology in Gender Studies)

## Professors’ Activities through the year -

- **Dr. Sam Taraporevala** served as the vice chancellor’s nominee as a subject expert on the screening committee, for a career advancement scheme for making recommendations to the university for the promotion of the university department teacher from Assistant professor in stage 1 to Assistant professor in stage 2 and /or Assistant professor in stage 2 to Assistant professor in stage 3 in the subject of Sociology. He has also addressed senior academicians at a conference organised on autonomy by RUSA at St Xavier’s College. He spoke on the theme of building inclusion in higher education. He is also playing the role of a project advisor for design students at Industrial Design Centre (IDC) IIT Powai on inclusive design. He was invited by various corporates to conduct sensitization and awareness workshops on the theme of social inclusion and awareness in the workplace. These included workshops in Pune and Chennai for BNY Mellon, Citibank, Sanofi Pharmaceuticals, Tatas (at Bombay House) and Deloitte. He was invited to IGNOU as the keynote speaker for a seminar on Science and Technology for Persons with Disabilities. He spoke on the theme of “Science and the Blind, a double-edged sword: The Socio-Technical

Challenge". He also continued the association with the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) as member of doctoral advisory committee.

- **Ms. Madhuri Raijada** has been included in the Board of Studies (Sociology) of Mithibai College and is also the Vice-Principal of Bachelor of Arts.
- **Dr Pranoti Chirmuley** presented a seminar paper entitled *Customs, Education and Rites: Do Rites Ensure Rights?* at KC College and published a paper titled: *Inked: The Untold Story of Dadasaheb Panvalkar* and the Heras Institute

publication: The Bombay Explorer. She has also been awarded the Post-Doctoral Heras-Tata Fellowship

- **Ms. Radhika Rani** presented a paper entitled *Online Misogyny and Virtual Feminism in India*.
- **Dr. (Fr) Arun De Souza s.j.** has been awarded the Post-Doctoral Heras-Tata Fellowship and continued the association with Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) as a member of the doctoral advisory committees. The transfer of Fr. Arun as the Bombay provincial priest was met with mixed feelings from the college and the students. He is sorely missed as

a teacher and a colleague by the department and the academy of Sociology and Anthropology. We wish him the best.

The department is proud to state that from the current batch that graduated: we have students pursuing -their Masters in Sociology, Anthropology as well as one year fellowship at reputed universities like: London School of Economics (LSE); Delhi School of Economics (DSE), Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and Sciences Po in Paris.

**Dr. Sam Taraporevala**  
Head, Department of Sociology and Anthropology

## SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT (B.VOC)

The academic year 2016-17 marked the third anniversary of the inception of the Bachelor of Vocation (B.Voc) programme. We developed and implemented a robust syllabus for semesters V and VI, with courses such as Data Warehousing and Mining, Software Testing, Android Programming and ERP and SCM. With this syllabus, a complete three-year degree programme has been formulated. Along with all the general component courses, we aim at training our students to be well-educated graduates who are ready to take up jobs in the IT industry or become entrepreneurs. The degree program is aligned with the Qualification Packs selected from the list drawn up by the sector skill council, NASSCOM. The career paths selected by us are: Junior Software Developer, Web Developer, and Junior Data Associates.

In semesters V and VI, we have included a mandatory project carrying six credits. The students will be using all the technology that has been taught to them and are expected to make a working software product. Some of the students from our first batch did make a live industry project, while others worked with in-house teachers and created projects which could be used in an actual industry application. Some project topics included: To Build Android ROM, Creation of assistant module for tour management portal, App development using Android, Dreamscape: Abstract Desperation (An artificial intelligence driven 3D game).

In January, the students of Semester IV participated in a Department Seminar in Khandala. Instead of the usual industrial visits, we had arranged for some talks and workshops by

experts from the IT industry in the Xavier's Villa, from which the students could benefit. Some CIA II exams were conducted there in the form of presentations, written tests, etc.

During the academic year, the students took part in various activities organized in the college, which helped them assimilate within the student community. The Software Development students displayed active participation in the IT fest, XENITH.

Many of our senior batch students and some of the junior batch students undertook a summer internship in April – May 2017. Most of them worked in companies offering services in website development and marketing.

**Dr. Jyoti Singh**  
Coordinator,  
B. Voc. (Software Development)

## STATISTICS

The academic year 2016-17 began with Ms. Myrtle C. Fernandes taking over as the Head of the Statistics Department. This year witnessed the emergence of new challenges, ideas, expectations and remarkable achievements.

The results of our students both in the Science as well as the Arts streams in the college exams were very encouraging.

Ms. Gauri Kamat topped both TYBSc and the Statistics exams while Mr. Nimit Parikh who is an Eco-Stats double major student topped TYBA.

The Statistics Department was added to the STAR College scheme. Mr. Saju George had accompanied our Vice-Principal Dr. Rajendra Shinde for the presentation in Delhi. We extend our

gratitude to Dr. Shinde who offered crucial inputs for making this happen.

The Department endorsed an expansion of both academic and co-curricular activities this year. It jointly organized its first ever inter disciplinary and intercollegiate seminar- Confluence'17 with the Mathematics Department. It was sponsored by FinStat Academy,



Strategic Caravan and IMS Learning Resources Pvt Ltd. The theme of the seminar was 'Relevance of Maths & Stats in the Real world'. This two day seminar conducted on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of January received an excellent response both from in-house as well as students who came from other colleges. It also saw the release of the Department magazine- The Plot (2016-17). With the help of Mr. Saju, the Treasurer of the Stats Society, Ms. Annapurna and Piyali, the staff-in charge of the magazine and the student body of our department, the seminar marked a grand success.

We also celebrated the National Statistics Day on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June marking the birthday of Dr. Mahalanobis - a great statistician. Many interactive games were held during the break and several applications of Statistics were shown on all the digital displays in the college.

Ice-breaker sessions were held by the Second year students to welcome the First year students. These fun filled sessions achieved their objective of making the freshmen comfortable and accustomed to the new environment. Along with this, all the six classes of our Department were taken for a Library visit to discover the immense collections of books and other facilities available to enhance the teaching learning process.

Apart from the regular teaching, the members of the department participated in various activities throughout the year.

Ms. Piyali willingly agreed to take up the responsibility of being the Department Representative for 'The Quest for Excellence' programme, of our college. She handled the responsibility well. A Market Research was conducted

under this programme for the first year students.

Ms. Myrtle, Ms. Pooja, Ms. Ayesha, Ms. Annapurna and Mr. Saju attended the International Conference on 'Recent Advances in Statistics' organized by the Department of Statistics, Mumbai University.

At this conference, Ms. Annapurna presented a paper on 'Estimation of Parameters of a Multivariate Geometric Distribution.'

Ms. S. Annapurna also presented a paper on 'Estimation of Parameters of a Bivariate Geometric Distribution and its Application' at Anubhav 2017 in K.C. College. Furthermore, she conducted an SPSS course for our students of SYBA.

Ms. Pooja and Ms. Piyali participated in a workshop on 'Statistical Analysis using R-software' conducted at K.J. Somaiya College of Science & Commerce.

Ms. Pooja attended a State level workshop on SPSS at Dnyanasadhana College, Thane. She was also selected as Vice-Chancellor nominee for the scrutiny of CAS forms in K.C. College.

Ms. Myrtle went as Subject expert to Ruia College for the Academic Audit of the Statistics Department. Moreover, she was invited to I.Y College as a Guest Lecturer to address the students on 'Basic & Inferential Statistics' and on 'Career Guidance'. She was also requested to address the TYBA students (Psychology Department) of our College on 'Basic Statistical Techniques for Statistical Analysis'.

As it has been in the past years, all the teachers of the Department served as External examiners for the University Practical Exams.

The Department as every year reached out beyond academics and involved students in multiple co-curricular activities.

Ms Perrie, Head of the Department of Mass Media at St. Xavier's and Ms. Neelam Shetty from the Department of Management Studies, carried out a training session for our students. It gave them an understanding as to how to write their curriculum vitae and conduct themselves at interviews. .

Mr. Vinayak Deshpande, Director - Sankhya Analytical & Research Pvt. Ltd conducted a session on career guidance for our TYBSc students

Our regular Data Science courses conducted by the FinStat Academy ran smoothly. This year the course was extended to the Third Year BA students as well.

The Post Graduate Diploma in Data Science (PGDDS) is currently in its second year and has received a promising response. We are grateful to the Industry partner Sankhya Analytical & Research Pvt. Ltd.

We would also like to extend our appreciation and gratitude to Ms. Arpita Shah and Ms. Chinmayi Pawar, who assisted the Department in the absence of Ms. Pooja Ochaney & Ms. Ayesha Dias.

Our report would not be complete without acknowledging the ever willing and cheerful contribution of our Lab Assistant Mr. Kishor Arbune towards the smooth functioning of the Department.

We look forward to another challenging and fruitful year ahead.

**Ms. Myrtle. C. Fernandes**  
Head, Department of Statistics.

## **TOURISM (B.VOC)**

The Bvoc (Tourism) department had an eventful year, both academically as well as administratively. The academic year 2016-17 marked the graduation of our very first batch of students.

Dr. Fleur D'Souza retired as the Course-

Coordinator and was replaced by Ms. Uma Ranade in July 2016 who resigned in December 2016. Ms. Radhika Rani took over as the Course-Coordinator in January 2017. We are grateful to all of them for their unconditional support and hard work in shaping up our

department and its constituents

### **Special Lectures by Industry Experts:**

- Ms. Prity Jariwala, Tour manager at Thomas Cook, on "Roles and Responsibilities of Tour Manager"



*Visit to Sagunabaug, Maharashtra's first agro-tourism venture, in February 2017*

(June 2016).

- Mr. Neale Murray, CEO Murray Events conducted a guest lecture on Event Management and Experiential Marketing (July 2016).
- Mr. Tim Rudling - Regional Manager, Swiss Education Group (SEG) gave a guest lecture on Current Trends in the Global Hospitality Industry (November 2016).
- Mr. Milind Bhide (CEO, Explorers) held an interactive session with the



*St. Xavier's College: Winner of Quiz and Short Film Making Competition Organized by Garware Institute of Career Education & Development, Mumbai University on 1st October 2016*

students to discuss the scope and challenges of adventure tourism (February 2017).

#### Achievements:

- Uma Ranade (BVoc Tourism Course Coordinator) presented a paper on "Beyond the Borders: Exploring Muslim Women's Identity in Pakistani Serials Aired on Indian Television" at the International Conference on Identity Studies, Vienna, Austria in

August 2016.

- Faisal Khan (TYBVoc), Atandra Ray (SYBVoc) & Gavin D'souza (SYBVoc) won the 1<sup>st</sup> prize in Tourism Quiz organized by Garware Institute of Career Education & Development, Mumbai University on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016.
- Aalap Kulkarni, Mohammed Amir Khan and Nirmal Varghese won the short film competition on "Mumbai Meri Jaan" organized by Garware Institute of Career Education & Development, Mumbai University on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016.
- Faisal Khan (TYBVoc) won the 1<sup>st</sup> prize in Tourism Quiz and "Tag It Bag It" competition organized by Ruia College on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2016.

**Ms. Radhika Rani,**  
Course Co-ordinator

## ZOOLOGY

The department of Zoology has a sum total of 140 students, belonging to First, Second and Third year courses. We also have an additional 58 students of SYBA, BMM and BMS doing a Cross Faculty course titled 'Secret Lives of Animals', 16 TYBSc students from Life Sciences and Microbiology departments attending 'Economic Entomology' and 28 students attending Diploma in Forensic Science.

### Department Activities

#### Guest Lectures:

CSIR-Emeritus scientist **Prof. Surendra Ghaskadbi** from Agharkar Research Institute, Pune delivered a couple of lectures on Hydra Biology and new research carried out in the field, on 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017.

**Dr. Robin Catchpole**, astronomer from Institute of Astronomy, Cambridge, delivered a lecture on 'Asteroids, Comets and Impacts, Should We Worry?' on 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017. The lecture was arranged as a part of department's

honors program and was attended by students and faculty from other departments as well such as Geology, Life Sciences and Physics.

#### Field trips

The department took the students of Economic Entomology to BAIF, Urulikanchan and CBRTI, Pune on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> July 2016. Ten students of TYBSc visited Namdapha Tiger Reserve from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> November 2016. Twenty eight students went for a zoological excursion to Tadoba National Park from 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> December 2016. Twenty students went for an overnight sky observation trip to Neral on 25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017 as part of the Astrobiology honours course.

#### Exhibitions:

During the Science fest Paradigm on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017, the department organized an exhibition 'Walk of Life' where about 60 specimen belonging to animal phyla and classes were displayed in a sequential order and the students



*Field Trip to Tropical Rain forest Namdapha National Park, Arunachal Pradesh*

of the department gave an explanation for each specimen. The exhibition was open to in-house and outside college students. A similar exhibition was shown to the students coming of rural background from Shikshayatan, Thiruvavur, Tamilnadu, on 10<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017.

#### Faculty Development

The teaching faculty of the department participated in the seminars on Inclusive Education, Use of computers and other software, and BAND which were conducted by the college. **Mr. Conrad Cabral** completed Refresher Course



*"Walk of LIFE" Exhibition, Zoology lab*



*Field Visit to BAIF, Urulikanchan*

from University of Mumbai, Kalina during May-June 2016. **Dr. Sujata Deshpande** attended a workshop on Hydra Biology at Agharkar Research Institute, Pune from 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> July 2016. She also attended a workshop on Research Based Pedagogical Techniques at IISER, Pune from 26<sup>th</sup> Feb to 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

#### Faculty as Resource person

**Dr. Smita Krishnan** was invited as a subject expert for scrutinizing CAS applications at Kirti M. Doongurse College, Mumbai on 17<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017.

**Dr. Pushpa Sinkar** was involved in organizing the Young teachers seminar for the new teachers of the college.

**Mr. Conrad Cabral** was invited to deliver lectures for Bioinformatics course for MSc students once a week from Sept 2016 to Apr 2017 at Sophia College, Mumbai and for two hours a week for two such weeks at KJ Somaiya College, Mumbai.

**Dr. Sujata Deshpande** was invited by the department of Extra Mural Studies to deliver a talk on 'Astrobiology' for the students attending the course on 'Astronomy and Astrophysics', on 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017. She was invited to give a lecture on 'Astrobiology: Origin, Evolution and Search of Life in the Universe' on 19<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017 to the students of Physics department of G.M. Momin College, Kalyan. Moreover, she was invited to give a talk on Honeybee Biology at Parle Tilak High School on 25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017.

#### **Student Activities**

Eighteen students of the department joined internship programs at various institutes in the country.

### **Honours Program Report**

Department of Zoology registered a total number of 58 students including from the Biological Science Hub and conducted the following activities for the Honours Program in the academic year 2016 – 17:

#### **1. Basic Astrobiology: Is There Life Elsewhere in The Universe?**

A one credit interdisciplinary lecture course along with an overnight sky observation field visit was conducted by **Dr. Sujata Deshpande**. Students were graded on the basis of attendance, model / poster making and its presentation. Students from FY, SY, TYBSc, BA, BMS, BMM and BSc-IT participated in the program.

#### **2. Introduction to Bioinformatics**

**Mr. Conrad Cabral** conducted a two credit interdisciplinary course on introduction to bioinformatics for the FY, SY and T.Y.BSc students. They were graded on the basis of attendance and a written exam / presentation.

#### **3. The Study of Animal Personalities**

This course was conducted for one credit by **Mr. Stephen Salazar**. Being an interdisciplinary course, students of FY, SY, and T.Y.BSc from other science departments also participated alongside the zoology students. The course introduced them to the exciting field of animal personality and attempted to bring the recent trends in the study of animal personality or behavioural syndromes using empirical methods into focus.

#### **4. Insect Ecology: Tools and Techniques**

This was a short course conducted for one credit by **Mr. Rishiddh Jhaveri**. It aimed at equipping students to design and execute basic ecological research project looking at insects. The students were assessed and graded on the basis of attendance, submission of a research project and its discussion. Students of FY, SY and TYBSc participated in the program.

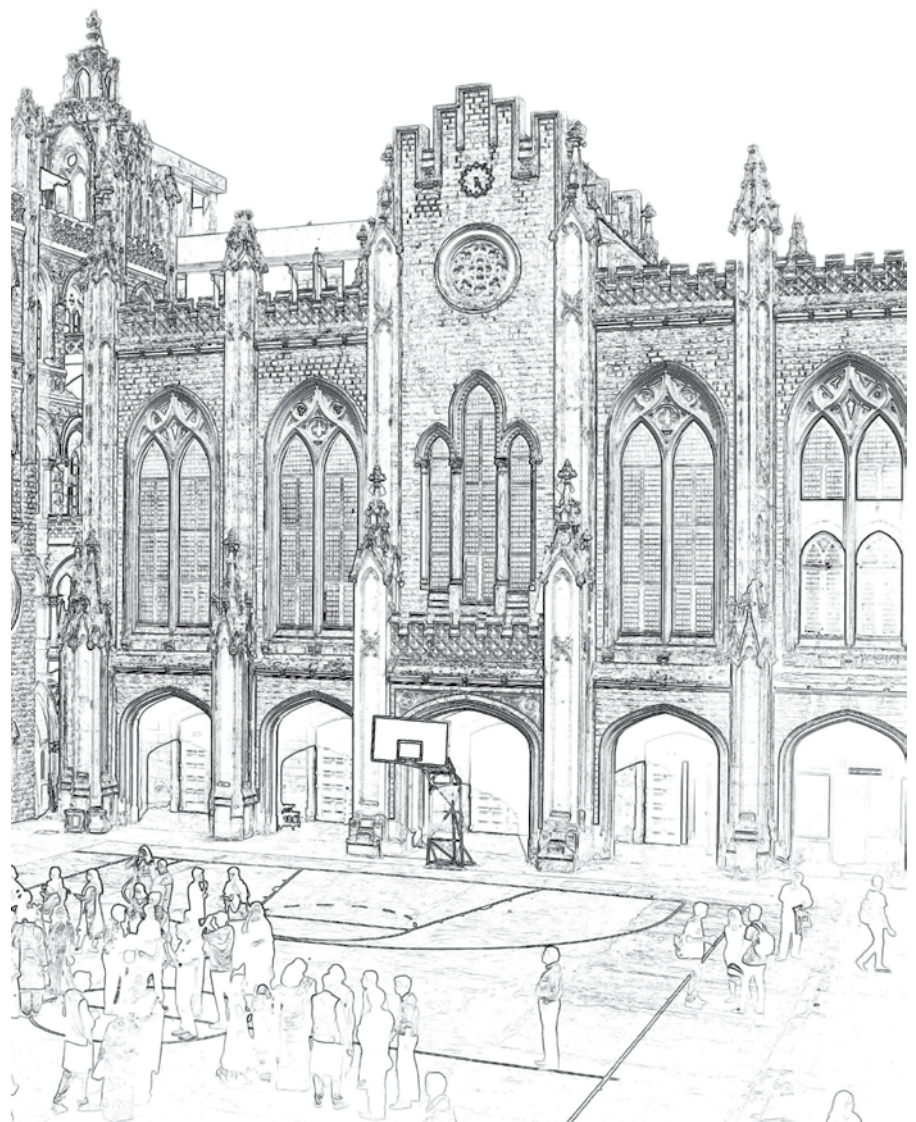
#### **5. Forensic Science Honours Program**

A one credit program comprising of lectures and practicals was conducted by trained forensic consultants. The design of the program was based upon Wildlife Crime, in keeping with the nature of our department. Students learnt the basic crime scene investigation protocols for Wildlife Crime Investigation, and specific analytical techniques used in the field during the course of crime investigation. The learning acquired by the students was enforced through execution of an investigation of a 'Mock Wildlife Crime Scene'. Students of FY, SY and TYBSc participated in the program.

#### **6. The dissection of invertebrate and vertebrate** was continued from the last academic year by **Dr. Smita Krishnan**. The students were awarded one credit and graded on the basis of a practical exam.

**Dr. Smita Krishnan**  
Head - Department of Zoology

# RESEARCH DEPARTMENTS



## BLATTER HERBARIUM

The Blatter Herbarium is an internationally recognized Herbarium for Taxonomic research, Floristics and allied fields of study. Established in the year 1906 at St. Xavier's College, Mumbai by Fr. E. Blatter, the Herbarium flourished and grew rapidly under Fr. H. Santapau and his students from the early 1960s. The Herbarium is listed in the international "Index Herbariorum", compiled by New York Botanical Garden and has an acronym "BLAT". The Herbarium specializes in the taxonomy of the vascular plants of Western India. Research also has been carried out on algae, mosses and fungi of the Mumbai region. It is the only private herbarium in India housing such an important and large collection of plant specimens; the oldest collection dates back to 1876.

During the Academic year 2016-17, with the help of the Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT) grants, the Herbarium acquired a customized scanner-cum-digitizer and began the herculean task of digitizing the entire herbarium. So far 450 type specimens have been scanned and stored in the soft copy form. Soon, these images will be uploaded on the server and will be made available to the world for reference and research. The work is voluminous and tedious

and has to be done with utmost care without damaging the irreplaceable historical specimens. With the help of computers purchased under the SRTT grant, we are also computerizing the entire Herbarium data base; work towards the same has begun.

During the year a large numbers of school students, Botany students from other colleges and universities, and NGOs involved in teacher training (e.g. Muktangan) have visited the Herbarium to learn about its functions and utility as well as for research work. Officials from the Botanical survey of India as well as research scholars and botanists from across the world visit the Herbarium every year. This year well-known botanist, Dr. Kanchi Gandhi, Senior Nomenclature Registrar, Harvard Herbaria, U.S.A and co-author of "Flora of North America" visited BLAT and conducted a workshop on nomenclature for our students.

Disinfecting the existing specimens, replacing the old folders with new ones, attending to visitors and authentication of plant specimens is the routine work of the Herbarium staff.

Dr. Rajendra Shinde visited the 'Nees Institute for the Biodiversity of Plants,



University of Bonn, Bonn and presented a paper on the current status of Indian Boraginales. Under the guidance of Dr. Shinde, Ms. Sweedle Cerejo and Mr. Rajdeo Singh were awarded Ph.D. in Botany from Mumbai University.

### Publication:

Kalpiti Mhatre & Rajendra Shinde, 2017. Four New Reports of Sacred Groves for the state of Maharashtra in Journal of Indian Botanical Society, 96: 39-46. eISSN 2455 7218

**Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde**  
Director, Blatter Herbarium

## CAIUS RESEARCH LABORATORY

### Industry- Academia Collaboration – Industry Projects carried out in the Caius Research Laboratory

An MOU was signed with Mr. Ravi

Nangia of Harmony organics Pvt. Ltd. on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 for the project on "Cloning of the Santalene Synthase gene in yeast". The project cost INR

3,75,000/-, with Dr. Vishwas Saragdar at the helm as the principal investigator and Ms. Archana Rasure as project assistant.

### Faculty/ Students working in Caius Research Laboratory and ongoing projects

Name	Department	PhD/ Project	Title of Project	Funding
Ms. Miriam Stewart	Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology	PhD	Studies on the Feasibility of Electron Beam Irradiation to Improve the Microbiological Safety of Minimally Processed Foods.	-
Ms. Sangeetha Chavan	Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology	PhD	Effects of silver, zinc oxide and titania nanoparticles on nitrogen fixing, phosphate solubilizing and biofilm forming bacteria found in soil ecosystem.	UGC – Minor Amount sanctioned Rs.3,47,000/- Jan 2015 – Jan 2017

Name	Department	PhD/Project	Title of Project	Funding
Ms. Karuna Gokarn	Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology	PhD Thesis Submitted March 2017	Cloning of genes involved in the biosynthesis of exochelin MS from <i>Mycobacterium smegmatis</i>	UGC – Minor Amount sanctioned Rs.2,82,000/- Jan 2015 – Jan 2017
Dr. Priya Sundarrajan	Associate Professor, Department of Life Science and Biochemistry	Project	Isolation and screening for novel ethanol producers from various sources and their characterization	UGC – Minor Amount sanctioned: Rs.4,80,000/- Grant Released 2017 - 2019
Ms. Sangeeta Shetty	Assistant Professor, Department of Life Science and Biochemistry	PhD	Isolation of novel cellulases from extremophiles and other sources	UGC – Minor - Amount sanctioned: Rs. Rs. 1.5 lakhs for the period 2012-2014
Mr. Conrad Cabral	Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology	Project	Regulation of var gene in <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i>	-
Ms. Neha Gupte	PhD Student, Department of Botany. Guide: Dr. Rajendra Shinde, Associate Professor, Department of Botany	PhD	Phylogenetic analysis of Boraginaceae of North – West Maharashtra	-
Ms. Archana Rasure	Caius Research Laboratory PI: Dr. Vishwas Sarangdhar	Project Assistant	Improvement of Santalene Synthase Activity	Harmony Organics Pvt. Ltd.,Pune. Rs. 3,85,000/-
Ms. Rupal Solanki	Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science. Guide: Dr. Priya Sundarrajan	MSc Project	Isolation of Protease producers from various sources and their application in food processing industry	TATA – Heras Post- Doctoral Fellowship to Dr. Priya Sundarrajan Rs. 1,20,000/-
Ms. Lavanya Indurthi	Department of Biotechnology, VIT. Guide: Dr. Priya Sundarrajan and Dr. Vishwas Sarangdhar	MSc Project and Internship	Generation of vectors for Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria	-
Mr. Valentine Borges	Guide: Dr. Mrs. Pushpa Sinkar, Prof. C. V. Rao (Collaborator).	Project	“Green-synthesis and characterization of multi-functional silver nanoparticles	-

### PhD Degree Submission:

Ms. Karuna Gokarn, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology submitted her doctoral thesis entitled “Extraction of siderophores from *Mycobacterium smegmatis* and their evaluation as novel therapeutic agents” on 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2017.

### Extension Activity:

A tour of the CIF was organized for MSc Part I Food and Nutrition students of Nirmala Niketan College on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2016. The students were briefed on various research techniques and were familiarised with the various instruments in the CIF. A similar activity was conducted for MSc Botany and TYBSc Life Science students.

In addition, a tour of the lab was conducted to provide an insight into research to students who visited under international programmes, as well as

school children who visited the lab during *Paradigm*.

### Multidisciplinary approach:

The CIF encourages a multidisciplinary environment for learning. The instruments in the lab are being used not only by the biology departments but also by the departments of Physics, Chemistry and Geology. The lab is used for UG and PG practicals, research projects, the Honours programme, industry projects and doctoral studies by faculty and students alike. Indeed, faculty and students from various departments – Botany, Biotechnology, Life Science, and Microbiology – are carrying out research leading to their doctoral degrees.

### Internships and Project training for outside students:

a. Ms. Lavanya Indurthi, a student of Vellore Institute of Technology is

carrying out a six month internship in the lab as part of her MSc. Project work.

b. Ms. Rupal Solanki, an MSc part II student from Nirmala Niketan, completed her project work in the lab.

### Honours Programme:

An Honours Programme was conducted by the laboratory on “Analytical Techniques in Research” from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2016. With Dr. Vishwas Sarangdhar and Dr. Priya Sundarrajan as the resource persons for the event, the programme attracted the participation of eleven students from FYBSc and SYBSc.

A meeting of members comprising all the Heads of the Biological Sciences departments, The Principal and the Director of Caius was held on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August, 2016. Certain norms and charges for the usage of lab facilities by in-house faculty and students, as well as

students from outside the college, were formalized.

### Papers Published:

1. Sundarrajan P, Shetty S, Shigvan A. (2016). Screening and characterization of bioethanol producing yeasts from various sources. *International Journal of Life Sciences*. 4(3):373-378. ISSN: 2320-964X. eISSN: 2320 – 964X.
2. Karuna Gokarn, Vishwas Sarangdhar and Ramprasad B. Pal (2017). Effect of microbial siderophores on mammalian non-malignant and malignant cell lines. *BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine* 17:145. DOI 10.1186/s12906-017-1657-8
3. Karuna Gokarn, Ramprasad B Pal and Vishwas Sarangdhar (2016). Cloning of *Mycobacterium smegmatis* Exochelin MS genes fxbA, fxbC and exiT in *Escherichia coli*. *Mol Biol*, 5:4. DOI: 10.4172/2168-9547.1000176
4. Karuna Gokarn, Vishwas Sarangdhar and Ramprasad B. Pal (2016). Ethanol extraction method for DNA isolation from *M. smegmatis*”. *International Journal of Current Research*, 8, (09), 39013-39015.
5. Karuna Gokarn and Ramprasad B. Pal (2017). Preliminary evaluation of anti-tuberculosis potential of siderophores against drug-resistant *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* by mycobacteria growth indicator tube-drug sensitivity test. *BMC Complementary and Alternative*

*Medicine* 17:161. DOI 10.1186/s12906-017-1665-8

### The Institutional Biosafety Committee:

As per Govt. of India regulations, organizations handling genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and recombinant DNA materials for research or production should constitute an IBSC with the DBT approval. In the regulatory framework, IBSC is one of the statutory bodies which operates directly from the premises of the institution and is responsible for proper implementation of biosafety rules, regulations and guidelines. The college IBSC, constituted in 2003, approved by DBT, Govt. of India, convenes regular meetings to monitor the GMO and recombinant DNA activities of the various on-going research projects. The committee was reconstituted and approved by the DBT on 22.02.2017. Dr. Shobhona Sharma, Head, Department of Biological Sciences, TIFR, is the DBT nominee for the committee and Dr. Ameeta Joshi, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology, JJ Hospital is the Biosafety Officer. The external experts are Dr. Tarala Nandedkar, retired Dy. Director, NIRRH and Dr. Vishwas Sarangdhar, Consultant, Harmony Organics Pvt. Ltd., and the Internal experts are Dr. Vivien Amonkar, Retired Professor, Department of Microbiology, Dr. Madhuri Hambarde, Department of Zoology and Dr. Aparna Talekar, Department of Microbiology. Dr. Priya Sundarrajan, Director, Caius Research Laboratory is the Member Secretary of the Committee. Two meetings of the

committee were held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 respectively. The research projects discussed in the previous year were reviewed by the committee. A total of two new research projects that were submitted to the committee were reviewed and passed in the two meetings.

### Central Instrumentation Facility

The fully air-conditioned state of the art Central Instrumentation Facility of the laboratory currently houses equipment that the college had obtained through the DST – FIST grant of the Govt. Of India, and two instruments obtained from the UGC grant. The Equipment includes the Gel Documentation system, two UV-Visible spectrophotometers, a Thermal cycler, a CO<sub>2</sub> incubator, an Ultrasonicator, a Lyophilizer, a BOD incubator, an Electroporator, Gas chromatography, an HPTLC applicator, a two-dimensional gel electrophoresis system, Laminar air flow, a Biosafety cabinet Class AII, an Orion pH meter, an Eppendorf cold centrifuge and microcentrifuge, an Olympus bright field, pulse field and polarising microscope and a -80° Deep freezer. An ELISA reader and a fluorescent attachment obtained through the Lady Tata workshop grant is also housed in the CIF. A fully functional Animal Tissue Culture facility is available, where research using animal cell lines is being carried out.

**Dr. Priya Sundarrajan,**

Director,

Caius Research Laboratory and CIF

## HERAS INSTITUTE OF INDIAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

### The Heras Tata Heritage Conservation Fellowship 2016-2017

This Fellowship was awarded to the following scholars:

- 1) Dr. Priya Sundarajan, Associate Professor, Department of Life Science and Biochemistry, and Director, Caius Research Laboratory, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai. The topic - Biotechnology

Based Novel Approach towards Sustainable Preservation and Conservation of Cultural Heritage.

- 2) Dr. Roy Pereira, Provost/ Vice Principal, Academics, Department of Chemistry, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai. The topic - History of Mind-Body Medicine: The Eastern Context
- 3) Dr. Ashok Ohol, Researcher and

Visiting Faculty, Dnyanamata, Ahmednagar. The topic - Jesuit Contribution to the Development of Ahmednagar District

- 4) Dr. Radha Kumar, Associate Professor, Department of Ancient Indian Culture and Archaeology, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai. The topic -Constructing the Nava Tattvas in Alampur's Nava Brahma Temples.

- 5) Dr. Pranoti Chirmuley, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai. The topic -Invisible Faith and Marginalized Identities: Conservation of the Cultural History of the Parsis

#### **The Heras Tata Institutional Fellowship 2016-2017**

Dr. (Fr) Arun De Souza, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai. The topic -A Three Generational Study of Rural Tribal Children at St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.

#### **The Heras Tata Post Doctoral Fellowship 2016-17**

Following scholars were selected for the Fellowship:

- 1) Prof. Shereen Ratnagar, Former Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. The topic - The Small Harappan Settlement: Was it a Village?
- 2) Prof. Aravind Ganachari, Former Professor and Head, Department of History, University of Mumbai and Ph.D. Guide, University of Mumbai. The topic - Colonial India Sucked in by Empire's Exigencies: Bombay Presidency and the First World War, 1914 – 1920
- 3) Dr. Anila Verghese, Director of Sophia Polytechnic, Former Principal and Head, Department of History, Sophia College, Mumbai, and Ph. D. Guide, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai. The topic - Sacred Sites of South India in Literature and Art.
- 4) Dr. Mridula Ramanna, Former Head and Associate Professor, SIES College, Mumbai, and Ph.D. Guide at the Asiatic Society of Mumbai. The topic – Creating Awareness of Preventive Medicine in Colonial Bombay
- 5) Dr. Devangana Desai, Researcher and Writer, Art History. The topic - Mythology and Art – Krishna reclining on a Banyan Leaf.

#### **The Research Methodology Programme August- September 2016**

This academic year twelve students of the TYBA (AIC) participated in the research methodology programme. Besides studying and interpreting the historical significance of the artifacts of the Heras Institute, they were guided by Mr. Anupam Sah to use the basic conservation techniques to clean up their respective artifacts through a Conservation Workshop at the Stone Gallery of the Heras Institute.

#### **The Heras Symposium**

The Heras Symposium was held from the 21<sup>st</sup> November to 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2016. On Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016, the Symposium was held in St. Xavier's College Hall. The Panelist –1) Marcus Bussey, (Senior Lecturer in History and Futures School of Social Sciences ML32, University of the Sunshine Coast, Queensland, Australia) spoke on Big History, Deep History; 2) Prof. Barry Rodrigue, (Research Professor, College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Southern Maine, USA and one of the Founding member of the International Big History Association) spoke on Big History; 3) Prof. John Ozolins, (Specialist in Social Philosophy and Knowledge of Australian Aboriginal Perspective on the Environment) spoke on The Universe Story as Means of Understanding our Interconnectedness” and had provided valuable insights to the 300 FYBA students of the SPC “Giving Voice to Values” Course. The vibrant and diligent students assiduously and vivaciously participated in the interactive Q&A session. The entire session was commendably moderated by Dr. Mridula Ramanna, a pioneer in the writing of Medical History.

The afternoon session had the following Faculty present their inputs on Sustainability:- Dr. Louiza Rodrigues, Associate Professor, Department of History, R. Ruia College, Mumbai, presented on “Colonialism and Forest Reconnaissance: Mapping Green History”; Dr. Mridula Ramanna, a research scholar, pioneered investigations and interpretations in Medical History of India spoke on – Colonial Perceptions of Disease and their Linkage to the Environment; Ms. Shakuntala Gawde, Assistant

Professor, Department of Sanskrit, University of Mumbai, presented on - Interpretations of *Kaliyamardana* episode from *Bhāgavata Purāṇa*; Dr. Radha Kumar, Associate Professor, Department of Ancient Indian Culture and Archaeology, St. Xavier's College, shared insights on - Jogulamba Devi–A Representation of Earth-Human Synergy; Dr. Namita Nimbalkar, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai, presented paper on, “Nationalism: Views of Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore”; Dr. Priya Vaidya, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai, spoke on, “Letters of Swami Vivekananda: Relevance to Learning and Living”. The session was prudently moderated by Prof. Shereen Ratnagar, former Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

On Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016, the Symposium on “Big History, Green History” was held at the Godrej Complex with 60 participants and supported by the philanthropic Dr. Pheroza Godrej. The programme commenced with an exhilarating walk led by Dr. Deshpande and Mr. Jadhav through the Godrej Mangroves, one of the enormous green lungs of Mumbai. It was educative and enlightening to get acquainted with the vast biodiversity of the area. This was followed by breakfast and a Symposium which was moderated by Prof. Shereen Ratnagar. On the Panel were Prof. John Ozolins, Prof. Barry Rodrigue who continued from where they left us at the Interactive session the previous day. Then, Dr. Priya Sundarajan presented some valuable insights based on her research and experimentation in “The Conservation of Cultural Artifacts” which was much appreciated by all present. Matt Cobb then led the group to his fascinating presentation on “Indigenous Dharma” that called for group participation.

Post lunch, the Symposium had Prof. Shereen Ratnagar present her paper on “Sustainability: The Big Picture”. This was followed by Dr. Anita Rane-Kothare's views on “Conserving Cave Graffiti”. Dr. Orla Hazra spoke on, “The Pedagogy of Big History”. This session was moderated by Prof. Barry



Rodrigue.

At the close of the programme all reiterated their acknowledgement to Dr. Pheroza Godrej and her affable team for the amazing day spent at the Godrej Complex.

The next day, Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2016, students from the St. Xavier's Institute of Education and St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, participated in a Poster/ Slogan Competition on the theme, "Sustainability: Past Present Future". Prof. Barry Rodrigue and Prof. John Ozolins judged the Competition and awarded the first prize to Ms. Marishka D'Souza of St. Xavier's Institute of Education. Ms. Irene Leo of St. Xavier's College bagged the second prize and Mr. Stefan Fernandes of St. Xavier's Institute of Education

was given the third prize. The posters and slogans of the participants were thought-provoking and captivating.

The 53<sup>rd</sup> series of Heras Memorial lectures were delivered by Prof. Mariam Dossal, former Head, Department of History, University of Mumbai, on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2016 at 5.00 p.m. in the St. Xavier's College Hall. The topic: "Kavyashala", "Dingal-Pingal" and the Cultural Riches of Kutch and "Craft as Identity: Exploring the Material Culture of Kutch", was much appreciated by the audience.

Thereafter, members of the Heras Advisory Board were felicitated for their outstanding achievements:

Dr. (Fr.) Joseph Velinkar s.j. for his

two publications, "On the Spice Trail" and "India and the West – the First Encounter".

Dr. Kunjlata Shah for her publication on, "Ahmedabad: A Society in Transition (1818-1914)".

Dr. Zeenat Shaukat Ali for being conferred the "Mother Teresa Memorial International Award for Social Justice 2016" which was awarded by the Harmony Foundation.

Dr. Fleur D'Souza was the recipient of the "Thana Gaurav Award" that was bestowed on her by the Thana Municipal Corporation.

**Dr. Joan Dias**  
Director - HERAS

## **NADKARNI - SACASA RESEARCH LABORATORY (NSRL)**

The NSRL has been named after the two pioneering spirits, Prof. V.V.Nadkarny and his guide and mentor Fr. F.J.Sacasa, S.J. During the first forty year period, over 100 M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees were awarded. The current guides are Dr. Freddy H. Havaldar and Dr. Dionysia Coutinho. Today, the NSRL has also opened up to undergraduate students seeking to do research projects.

### **Doctorates awarded**

Under the guidance of Dr. Freddy H.

Havaldar, two NSRL students, Mr. Bhushan V. Dabholkar and Mr. Ganesh V. Mule were awarded Ph.D. degree in Chemistry by the University of Mumbai.

### **Research Projects**

Dr. Gulshan Shaikh along with Dr. Ashma Aggarwal and Dr. Pralhad Rege worked with a couple of students on three research projects during the academic year 2016-2017.

### **On-going Research Project**

Mr. Himanshu Gupta is presently working on his Ph.D. research project under the guidance of Dr. Freddy H. Havaldar.

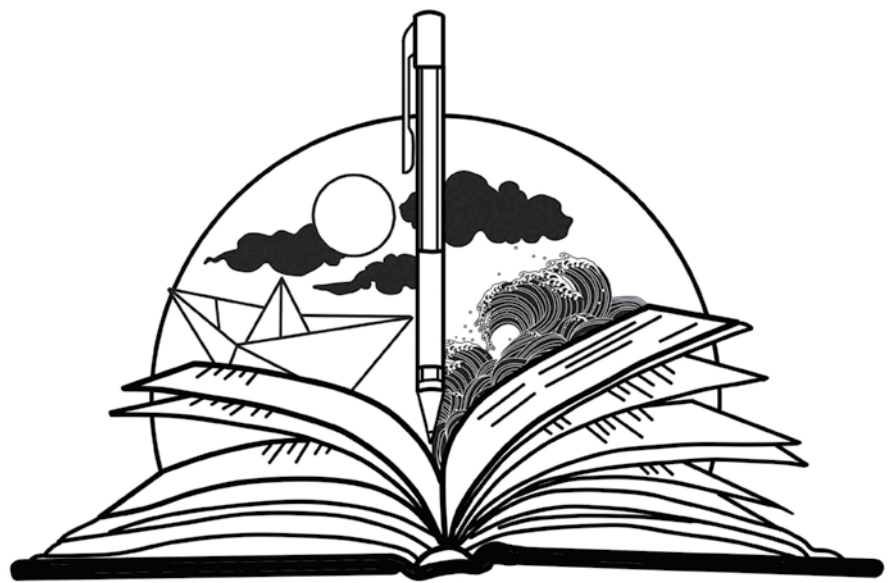
The NSRL will always be happy to welcome enthusiastic faculty and students for research projects as well as M.Sc. (Research) and Ph.D. students.

**Dr. Freddy H. Havaldar**  
Director, NSRL

*"Peace is a daily, a weekly, a monthly process, gradually changing opinions, slowly eroding old barriers, quietly building new structures."*

**- John F. Kennedy**

# ASSOCIATIONS



# AICUF REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

The AICUF had many activities in this calendar year.

## **Masses and Prayer Services: Spiritual Sustenance**

Several Masses and Interfaith Prayer Services were organised in collaboration with DIRS.

We started our journey by conducting a novel Interfaith Prayer Service for the re-opening of college on 7th June 2016. There was much greater innovation and crowd participation than usual.

At the Inaugural Mass for all on 7 July Lawrie Ferrao SJ shared some simple stories that enlightened all on the Ignatian theme of "Finding God in All Things"

Ambrose Machado SJ celebrated the Mass of the Holy Spirit on 16 July for the new Junior college students. His inspiring homily evoked a passion for eco-justice, the need of the hour.

The Eucharistic celebration on Founder's Day, 30 July, began with a rousing street play on Communal Harmony introducing the theme "To Be Religious is to be Interreligious". John Cyriac SJ, in his fiery homily challenged the staff and students to be "fires that kindle other fires".

On 3rd Dec., for the feast of Francis Xavier, AICUF and DIRS Fr. Vijay Gonsalves celebrated the Mass on the theme 'Celebrate Creation in Solidarity'. We integrated peace prayers and simple action hymns in the Mass. For the Offertory we had cosmic spirals painted as a background on 20 charts on which the participants traced their hands with their signatures as a sign of commitment. The creative Cosmic Crib was also inaugurated at the end.

On Ash Wednesday, 1 March 2017 in collaboration with DIRS there were creative Masses at 9.40 and 10.30 am and 1 pm on the theme:

Stardust you are and to stardust you will return.

## **Bonding Session**

The Core Committee went with Fr.

Prashant for a 2 day bonding session on 11-12th June 2016, which helped them to know more about AICUF's origin, history, and purpose. Besides bonding we planned for the upcoming events.

## **Cleanliness Drive**

On 18th June we all cleaned up our office as cleanliness is next to godliness. We also made an attempt to recycle thus making the best out of waste material like used papers, old books, reference material, etc.

## **Drama Workshop:**

The drama workshop on 28<sup>th</sup> June, facilitated by Melissa Rumao was an elating experience. The participants were given useful tips before performing short skits. Many activities were conducted to show how drama was used even as a part of everyday life.

## **Foot Artist Workshop:**

Our resource person Mr. R. Narayanaswami, is a quadriplegic artist who is confined to a wheelchair due to cerebral palsy but this couldn't dampen his fun-loving personality and positive attitude. He inaugurated the session on 9<sup>th</sup> July by painting a beautiful scenery with his right foot. To see him sway his feet and hold the brush between his toe and forefinger sent chills down our spines. Then came our turn to draw with our feet. Surprisingly, it wasn't all that bad as we had anticipated, few were even exceptional. We discovered our hidden talents! His sister Mrs. Vimala D'Souza shared a lot of memories about her remarkable brother. 14 students from JJ College of Arts joined us.

## **Panel Discussion on Communal Harmony**

On 2nd August the AICUF and DIRS organized a Panel Discussion on the theme "To Be Religious Is To Be Inter-Religious." The panelists, who were professors from different faculties and different religious traditions briefly shared about the meaning of religion in their personal lives. They also shared views on corporate terrorism and its impact on different communities. The questions posed by students after the

session led to a stimulating discussion on atheistic movements, religious terrorism, commercialization of ritualistic festivals and the purpose of religion in our individual and collective lives.

## **Visits to Ashadaan**

The visit to Ashadaan on 3<sup>rd</sup> August, was an experience of a lifetime that not only touched hearts but made us ponder on the type of lives we are living. There was fun, laughter and games. These children with autism or Special Kids are truly special not because of their disability but because of their ability to put a smile on the faces of the AICUFers. This was followed up by a two-day visit on 26-27<sup>th</sup> Sept. aimed at imparting some basic hygiene maintenance tips.

## **Street Play**

On 15<sup>th</sup> August, we went to Baretto high school to present the street play spreading communal harmony among the school kids. It was the same play which we performed during our College Mass on 30<sup>th</sup> July and the response was surprisingly quite enthusiastic. The kids responded really well and were able to catch the message we wanted to convey.

## **Y.E.S. CAMP :**

The Youth Encounter Session (YES) state camp was held at the JDV campus, Pune from 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> November. The main focus was to strengthen the foundation and help growth of the three pillars of AICUF: 1. personality development, 2. social outreach, 3. spiritual growth.

Br. John Mezasia, who played a major role in coordination, was ably assisted by Bros. Vivian Almeida, Wellington Patil and other Jesuits from De Nobili College. Besides icebreakers, fun games and bonding there were fruitful sessions on "Family" by Fr. Edward, "Communication in Today's World" by Bro. Vivian, and AICUF history via treasure hunt by the AICUF team. Thanks to Bro. Luminesh and team the enlightening input on Ecology was enriched by a guided nature walk, gardening and even stargazing. After

the visit at the cultural night all the 5 groups came up with innovative skits.

## MAGIS

After being inspired by all those who attended the International MAGIS 2016, Almost 80 students (youth) from all across Maharashtra with majority of AICUFers, attended MAGIS organized at Bangalore from 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> of November 2016, at Bangalore. The theme was same as International MAGIS- 'To give and not to count the cost.'

## AICUF: UJALI WEEK

Before the usual Ujali Week we had a Thanksgiving Week in which we asked students for stories of the most inspiring woman in their lives. The top 10 stories were rewarded with a token of appreciation. Then we had a movie screening of the controversial documentary 'India's Daughter' based on the Nirbhaya case with a discussion facilitated by Mr. Joseph Aloysius on how women are demeaned in our patriarchal society.

Our theme for UJALI Week this year was #RiseToRaise. It was geared towards empowering women to raise their voices against all atrocities and injustices which are afflicting them in our society today.

1) 7 Dec.: In collaboration with Prerana, AICUF Maharashtra organized a walk for freedom through the streets of Kamathipura red light area on behalf of all females enslaved in the vicious sex slavery and trafficking network across the country.

2) 8 Dec.: 30 of our volunteers partnered with the sex workers for the workshop on 'Self-Defence' organised to empower women physically and psychologically.

3) 9 Dec.: We had a panel discussion

on 'Importance of NO' and Consent. The legal and moral aspects were highlighted from a feminist perspective. This was followed by a flash mob near Goregaon station which showcased the whole empowerment thrust and theme of UJALI through an innovative artsy approach using song and dance.

4) 10 Dec.: The interactive session at St. Andrew's college focused on the objectification of women in the social media.

5) 11 Dec.: Through Pehchan NGO we distributed food to the needy near Mumbai Central and spent some quality time with the underprivileged. Those interested had an option of sacrificing a meal and contributing a sum of Rs. 50 for this cause.

Ujali was truly enlightening, enriching and empowering for all concerned.

## CHRISTMAS CRIB

The AICUF and DIRS put up a cosmic crib on the occasion of Christmas highlighting current issues of refugees, violence and climate change.

## AICUF DAY

AICUF MAHARASHTRA successfully celebrated AICUF DAY on 25th and 26th January 2017, a two day programme. Day One was primarily an evaluation session which was more about reflecting on what we have learnt from the various activities held so far. We began with meditative movements led by Fr. Prashant to set the spiritual tone and concluded with a unique InterFaith Mass. Day Two was well spent celebrating Republic Day with homeless Migrants from Gujarat, who have been staying on the footpaths adjacent to a renowned Sports Club. It was a scenario seen as the rich and the poor existing together divided by a boundary. We collected food

grains, clothes, books, biscuits, sweets, stationary, etc. for a week in our college and from our homes and distributed them among the elderly and children there. We extend our gratitude to Pehchaan NGO for having given us this opportunity to conduct this drive. A big thank you to BPCL for having extended their help to add up to the proceeds.

## International Summer Camp: Asia Pacific Council of International Movement of Catholic students (IMCS) Pax-Romana.

The theme of this event was basically upon Pope Francis's encyclical called "Laudato Si" focusing on the climate change and all the environmental crisis happening around the world, especially the Asia Pacific region. The international Movement of Catholic Students(IMCS) had organized the council meet and the All India Catholic University Federation(AICUF) had hosted the whole event. The Workshop started from 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>st</sup> May 2017 at Indian Social Institute(ISI), Benson town, Bangalore. The main Motto of the workshop was to go **EGO to ECO**. The participant countries included India, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Thailand, Myanmar, Taiwan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. We also had the President of IMCS Mr.Edouard Karoue from Topo, Africa. As well as the Asian Coordinator Mr.Ravi Tissera along with Fr.Emmanuel, National Advisor India. This meet had a great impact on the participants as in terms of the personal environmental views. "Laudato Si" in Action: Addressing the Ecological crisis in Asia Pacific, capacity building of Asia students to be critical and analytical educators and advocate of environmental justice.

**Niharika Gupta**  
General Secretary - AICUF

*"If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy.*

*Then he becomes your partner."*

**- Nelson Mandela**

# DEPARTMENT OF INTER-RELIGIOUS STUDIES



## **INTERFAITH PRAYER SERVICE (7 June 2016)**

For the first time the academic year started with an InterFaith Prayer Service organized jointly by the DIRS and the AICUF. The aim was to build greater respect and appreciation for people of all faiths so that we can work together for the common good of humanity and of all creation.

Linking the spiritual and the scientific to the theme of *Magis*, the Rector Fr. Tony J. D'Souza exhorted us to embrace courage, innovation and love on our humble journeys. The brief powerpoint presentation clarified that "*Magis*" is not just doing better or more or even excellence for self-promotion but it is a call to go deeper, to be more compassionate namely, to do the best you can for yourself, for others and for Mother Earth.

Dr. Radha Kumar, accompanied by some DIRS and AICUF members, led the participants who swayed spiritually to the interfaith music without inhibition. The lively prayer session ended with an action song of blessing at the end of which participants high-fived each other exclaiming with joy: "You are a Blessing to the world!"

## **JOY of SELF-DISCOVERY(5-9 July)**

The interactive sessions, including Universal Meditation, facilitated by Prashant Olalekar were highly appreciated by the participants of this Honours course which linked the self

to others and the whole universe in embodied fashion. The fifth session was held on 15 July at Asha Daan for destitute children, who are discarded by their parents because they are physically or mentally challenged. This session turned out to be the highlight of the course. Praying and playing with the children built bridges of love and compassion. The group sharing raised our awareness of God present in the vulnerable poor and deepened our insights on joy. We were overwhelmed by the mutual experience of blessing and being blessed. From preoccupation with our individual selves we realized and relished the joy of interconnection with the poorest of the poor.

## **BUDDHIST SPIRITUALITY (13-15, 18 July and 13-16, 19 September)**

Dr. Noel Sheth SJ facilitated this holistic course so that the encounter with Asian Buddhist spirituality would transform the professor and the students and urge all to collaborate for social and ecological transformation. It blended immanence and transcendence, introspection and outreach, contemplation and action, and put us in touch with the Sacred, ourselves, other humans and the cosmos.

## **TO BE RELIGIOUS is to BE INTERRELIGIOUS (2 August)**

On Tuesday, 2nd August, 2016 the AICUF and the DIRS organized a panel discussion on: "To Be Religious is to Be Inter-Religious." The panel, which included professors from the various

faculties and religious traditions, was skilfully chaired by the Rector, Fr. Tony J. D'Souza.

The panelists briefly spoke about the meaning of religion in their personal lives and also shared their views on corporate terrorism and its impact on different communities. The questions posed by students led to a stimulating discussion on atheistic movements, religious terrorism, commercialization of festivals and the purpose of religion in our lives. The keen interest of students in the over-packed classroom is a positive sign of hope for communal harmony.

## **INTERRELIGIOUS LAUGHTER? HA-HA-HA(23 August)**

How is laughter related to religion which is usually serious stuff? Religion as identity easily becomes a barrier. Laughter, much like music and dance, overcomes this barrier and bridges the gap created by 'otherness'. The DIRS had the pleasure of organizing a Laughter Yoga workshop on Tuesday, 23 August from 2.30 to 3.30 pm in the gymnasium. Mr. Modi and his team of senior youngsters of the Laughter Yoga Club, Juhu communicated the childlike joy and natural energy of Laughter. We discovered how to laugh away our stress. Laughter is such a lively and lovely "out of the box" way of interreligious dialogue as it builds bridges and dissolves barriers. If we can laugh together, whatever religion we belong to, we can live together!

## **AWAKENING to COSMIC COMPASSION (14, 16-18 September)**

(Dr. Orla Hazra, Prashant Olalekar SJ and Candice Menezes M.Phil.)

The third Awakening to Cosmic Compassion (ACC) Honours course was held at Koshimbi Retreat Centre. The Integral Ignatian Pedagogy model was engaged through the fourfold wisdom conversation between science, religion, women and indigenous communities. Through video screenings, songs, dance, meditation, discussions and journaling, the students learned the story of how the universe was formed

and our mysterious emergence within this interconnected story. The meditative Cosmic Walk left us in awe and wonder. The participants were motivated to be cocreators of cosmic compassion. Sr. Teresita, founding member of the community shared the story of the community as well as the history of some of the young residents, either orphaned or displaced, some of whom are indigenous. Prior to this weekend workshop, on 14 September Ms. Rashida Atthar, an environment scholar, facilitated an Exposure Visit at the Bombay Port Trust garden, Colaba. This helped to raise awareness of biodiversity and the potential of renewal when humanity collaborates with an integral vision.

#### **GANDHI JAYANTI at ASHA DAAN(2 October)**

On Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti, 2 October, about 20 students of the Don Bosco Youth Group participated in an interactive session with the destitute women residents at Asha Daan – a home run by Mother Teresa’s nuns. Both Gandhi and Mother Teresa had been champions of communal harmony in their own way – they accepted people of all faiths without prejudice. The students connected with the women through songs, movement and meditation. This deep connection helped us see each other as humans and only humans, never mind our beliefs, religion, gender or place of birth. The group sharing made us aware of our own feelings of being touched and overwhelmed and also of our commitment to the marginalized. Pertinent questions about advocacy for the poor were raised.

#### **DIRS COSMIC COLLABORATIVE VENTURES (21-28 Nov. 2016)**

Main Resource Persons: Dr. Barry Rodrigue (Coordinator of International Big History Association and Founding Member of Deep Time Journey network) and DIRS Team: Dr. Orla Hazra, Candice Menezes and Prashant

#### **Heras Symposium on Sustainability (21-23 November)**

The DIRS collaborated with the Heras Institute to organise the Heras

Symposium on Sustainability that was held from the 21<sup>st</sup> November to 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2016.

The following research scholars: 1) Prof. Marcus Bussey, (Australia) 2) Prof. Barry Rodrigue, (USA) 3) Prof. John Ozolins, (Australia) provided valuable insights on Big History to the 300 FYBA students on 21 November.

At the noon session the following faculty presented inputs on Sustainability:- Drs. Louiza Rodrigues, Mridula Ramanna, Shakuntala Gawde, Radha Kumar, Namita Nimbalkar, Priya Vaidya.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016, the Symposium on “Big History, Green History” was held at the Godrej Complex with 60 participants. The programme commenced with an exhilarating guided walk through the Godrej Mangroves, one of the enormous green lungs of Mumbai. This was followed by a Symposium. On the panel were Prof. John Ozolins and Prof. Barry Rodrigue.

After Dr. Priya Sundarajan presented some valuable insights on “The Conservation of Cultural Artifacts” Rev. M. Cobb led the group with an interactive presentation on “Indigenous Dharma”.

Post lunch papers were presented by Drs. Shereen Ratnagar and Anita Rane-Kothare. Dr. Orla Hazra enlightened the group on “The Pedagogy of Big History”.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2016, students from the St. Xavier’s Institute of Education and St. Xavier’s College, Mumbai, participated in a Poster/Slogan Competition on the theme, “Sustainability: Past Present Future”.



**The Universe of Integral Eco-Education (24 Nov. 9 am to 4.30 pm):** Workshop at Don Bosco, Matunga for Teachers and Community Social Workers - Archdiocesan Office of Environment and Greenline Movement.

**The Big Story of Integral Ecology (25 Nov. 6-8 pm):** at JDV, Pune for Faculty and Students

#### **Integral Ignatian Pedagogy in the Context of an Evolutionary Universe**

(26-28 November 2016, JDV, Pune)

At the start of the IIP workshop for principals and staff of the west zone JEA and JHESA Prashant Olalekar SJ led the participants through simple embodied awareness exercises that were transformative. The dualistic nature of our mindset and its implications in the classroom were highlighted. The inputs on ‘Integral Pedagogy in the Context of an Evolutionary Universe’ by Dr Orla Hazra Ph. D and by Barry H. Rodrigue Ph.D. on the ‘Common Story and Big History’ were thought provoking and enlightening. The guided reflection at the end of the day (Ecological Examen) co-facilitated by Candice Menezes was a process of feeling the internal shift in ourselves through which we sensed our oneness with all things and beings. The nature walk led by Bro. Lumnesh SJ made us feel and see the story of the universe in each and every plant and tree.

The practical session of Rev. Mathew Cobb initiated a shift from the head to heart and the whole body. Fr Mathew C.Ph.D, spoke on the emerging conversation between religion and science. The conclusion of the workshop was the Cosmic Walk – a truly emotional movement.

This innovative workshop was a journey of self discovery giving a holistic view of the concept of interbeing and of universal consciousness, an unbroken continuum from the big bang to the formation of the universe, galaxies, earth and finally us.

#### **COSMOS and ME** (23 November)

Dr. Marcus Bussey, educator and futurist from Australia, who was in Mumbai for the Heras Sustainability Conference, facilitated a unique interactive session on 23 November (2 to 4 pm) for about 20 students eager to understand their cosmic connection. During the session we playfully re-enacted the birth of the universe starting with the Big Bang, the formation of stars and the birth of life on earth. At the end of the session, students were left in awe and wonder at the universe that started forming billions of years ago and that set the ground for all of life to take birth. Our fundamentalist approaches towards religion and our anthropocentric system of development fail to make sense when viewed from such a wider cosmic perspective.

#### **CELEBRATE CREATION in SOLIDARITY** (3 December)

The DIRS and AICUF jointly organized the Mass on the college feast of St. Francis Xavier on the relevant theme: 'Celebrate Creation in Solidarity.' Before Mass all participants were invited to put their handprints on chart papers as a symbol of creative solidarity in taking care of all creation. These charts were displayed at the time of the Offertory by representatives of various groups. The main celebrant, Fr. Vijay Gonsalves, enlightened us on the Ignatian vision of the sacredness of the whole universe. The congregation prayed for the following intentions: i) to reorient the course of development by considering its effect on the poor and the environment; ii) to recognize and root out corporate terrorism; and iii) to identify ourselves as cosmic citizens beyond all human boundaries. We felt motivated to take action 'with our working hands' (the title of the Offertory action hymn) to solve the social cum environmental crisis we face today. Prayers of different faiths,

including tribal wisdom, on peace and creation were meditatively read out. The participants participated enthusiastically in the meaningful action hymns and appreciated this inclusive approach to rituals.

#### **COSMIC CRIB**

The DIRS prepared a Cosmic Crib -- a creative crib that celebrates not just the birth of Jesus some 2000 years ago but awakens us to the birth of God in each one today. For, as the mystic Meister Eckhart said, "We are all meant to be mothers of God, for God is always needing to be born." The earth was placed in the crib symbolizing the Earth-Child, a thought-provoking and refreshing reversal of roles. We call our planet 'Mother Earth' but by viewing it as the Earth-Child, we are challenged to play our role as nurturing mothers of the earth. In the background conflicts like riots, wars and migration, and climate change were depicted. The earth-child is surrounded by people of different faiths -- an interfaith collaboration for taking care of the earth.

#### **ALTERNATIVE LEADERSHIP: VOICES OF DISSENT** (5-8 December)

This course conducted by Rev. Dr. Matthew Cobb, an American Adivasi, provided an opportunity for students to embrace the leader within them by speaking 'truth to power.' The gestalt pattern of the course was very different from the methods used in the classroom or in other Honours courses. The students were at the edge of suspense throughout and the final day enabled them to join together the pieces of the jigsaw puzzle. The interdisciplinary course broke the watertight compartments between various disciplines to provide a holistic understanding of life and learning. It taught us to deal with the voices of dissent within and between communities in order to channel our energies and enthusiasm for the creation of a more peaceful planet.

#### **ART to HEART: ME DOLL Workshops** (18, 19 December)

Ms. Barbara Sultan, an art-therapist from America, co-facilitated "Me-Doll" workshops at Asha Daan,

Byculla (18 Dec.) and Snehalya, Thane (19 Dec.) with Prashant. This project was developed to help those with developmental disability express the unexpressed part of themselves. Using art and craft as media of self-expression the children made 'Me-Dolls' symbolizing themselves with the materials provided. It was amazing to see these developmentally challenged children, who otherwise prefer to stay aloof or restlessly move about from one place to the other, actively participating and creating beautiful Me-Dolls. The boundless joy and compassion we experienced is inexpressible.

#### **ART to HEART: ME DOLL Workshop** (28 January 2017)

On 28 January 2017, the DIRS organised one more Me-Doll workshop for the women's section of Asha Daan facilitated by Ms. Candice Menezes assisted by Riya Sawant. Twenty female inmates who had various disabilities participated, each expressing herself through her Me-Doll. In the reflection session one student remarked that she understood the value of serving society better from this session than from the SIP. It was heart-wrenching to interact with this literally cashless group.

#### **ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES** (1 March 2017)

Three Masses were celebrated on Ash Wednesday, 1 March, 2017 during the breaks at 9.40am, 10.30am and 1 pm. The last one in Marathi was organized by the administrative staff. The AICUF and DIRS offered a contemporary ecological and scientific twist through the novel theme: Stardust you are and to Stardust you shall return

#### **UNIVERSAL MEDITATION WORKSHOPS**

The Universal Meditation workshops facilitated by Prashant Olalekar every month for a variety of college groups as well as for the exchange programmes for the universities of Berkeley, Sydney and Harvard were extremely energising, enlightening and enriching.

**Fr. Prashant Olalekar**  
Director - DIRS

# FORENSIC SCIENCE



In the academic year 2016-17, the Diploma in Forensic Science and Criminal Law course had thirty –eight fresh enrollments for the programme comprising students and professionals from the fields of Law, Commerce, Management, Security, as well as the IT industry.

This year, in addition to the department faculty, the students were exposed to lectures by practicing professionals in the fields of Cyber Crime Investigation (Mr. Sachin Dedhia - Founder of Skynet Secure, Mumbai), Law - Mr. Ashish Chavan (Advocate), Law - Mr. Kishu Daswani (Professor of Law - St. Xavier's College & Government Law College), Law – Senior Advocate Shrikant Bhat and Statistics - Dr. Manasi Kanuga (Department of Life Sciences and Biochemistry, St. Xavier's College). A guest lecture on the “Insights of Wildlife Forensic” was conducted by C. Samyukta.

Over the course of the programme, the students were exposed to different areas of forensic practice relevant in this day and age. Equipped with their basic knowledge in the field, and practical exposure, they researched

and prepared extensive Crime Scene Reports in the form of ‘Mock Charge-Sheets’. These were then presented to professionals in the field in the form of a ‘Moot Court’. The experience offered the students an overview, with practical experience, of the process of the Indian justice delivery system from ‘crime scene to courtroom’.

Some students of the programme attended ‘A Glimpse into the World of Investigation’, a Forensic Expo conducted by the Institute of Forensic Science, Mumbai on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of December, 2016.

Ms. Zareen Sheikh and Ms. Havovi Hyderabadwalla conducted a competitive two-day workshop during *Malhar* 2016, on behalf of the department. On the first day of the workshop, the eighty intercollegiate participants were taught the basics of crime scene investigation and the skills required for the same. These lessons were provided to the participants through hands-on teaching techniques. On the second day, they solved a Mock Crime Scene applying the forensic analytical techniques taught during the initial component of the workshop.

In February 2017, Ms. Riva Pocha and Ms. Alethea Vaz also conducted a Forensic Workshop at *Palindrome*, the annual festival organized by the MSc students of the Dept. of Biotechnology, St. Xavier's College. The workshop was keenly attended by students from all over the city, and the session was tremendously successful in spreading

awareness about forensics. It provided the participants an opportunity to get an insight into the various analyses conducted in a forensic lab.

In January 2017, Ms. Riva Pocha and Ms. Alethea Vaz conducted a one credit Wildlife Forensics Honours Programme for the Department of Zoology, wherein the students were taught the basics of crime scene processing and exposed to the collection, packaging, and analysis of various evidences found at a wildlife crime scene.

In February 2017, Ms. Havovi Hyderabadwalla and Ms. Alethea Vaz, on behalf of the department, judged the Moot Court of the ‘Optimus Crime’ Event at the annual Science Festival, *Paradigm*.

From November 2016 to March 2017, Ms. Riva Pocha, Ms. Sejal Gupta and Ms. Alethea Vaz conducted a series of forensic lectures for the MSc Applied Medical Sciences programme conducted by the Life Sciences Department of the college.

In January 2017, Dr. Pushpa Sinkar, Ms. Riva Pocha, Ms. Sejal Gupta and Ms. Alethea Vaz started a six-month Online Certificate Program in Forensic Science. The primary objective of the program is to make quality forensic education easily accessible by facilitating distance learning for students in all parts of India.

**Dr. Pushpa Sinkar**

Co-ordinator

Forensic Science Program

## हिंदी साहित्य, संगीत तथा नाट्य अकादमी

इस साल हिंदी साहित्य, संगीत एवं नाट्य अकादमी ने तीन साल पूरे किए। इस तीसरी वर्षगांठ के जश्न की शुरुआत हुई पदाधिकारियों के चुनाव से। हरिता बालकृष्णन (सचिव), मार्टिन चिरियनकंदाथ (खजांची), हर्ष गाँधी (विपणन सचिव), पूजा रॉय (सह विपणन सचिव), आँचल शर्मा (नाट्य सचिव), पलाश शाकीय (सह नाट्य सचिव), ज्योति नायक (संगीत सचिव), प्रांजलि मगर (सह संगीत सचिव), हेतवी धीमर (साहित्य सचिव), ध्रुवन शर्मा

(सह साहित्य सचिव), कृपा निशार (प्रचार प्रसार सचिव) व रिचा नायर (सह प्रचार प्रसार सचिव) को इस साल की कार्य-कारिणी समिति के लिए चुना गया। इस साल के अंतस महोत्सव के लिए २९,३० नवंबर तथा १ दिसंबर की तारीख निश्चित हुई।

२३ अक्टूबर को अंतस २०१६ का आरम्भ डांडिया नाइट से हुआ। शहनाई और ढोलक की थाप पर छात्र खूब थिरके।

स्क्रिप्ट, अभिनेता एवं गायकों का चयन सितंबर में हुआ। अक्टूबर-नवंबर की छुट्टियों के दौरान चुने गए चार स्क्रिप्ट एवं ऑरकेस्ट्रा के बॉलीवुड गानों की तैयारियाँ प्रारंभ हुईं। इस उत्सव के अवसर पर हमने कोशिश की थी कि जितना हो सके उन सबको शामिल करें जो पिछले तीस सालों से अंतस में जुड़े हुए हैं।

२९ नवंबर को साहित्य का कार्यक्रम प्रस्तुत किया



गया। इस कार्यक्रम को दो भागों में विभाजित किया : पहला, रचनात्मक लेखन, जिसमें प्रतियोगियों की रचनात्मक शैली को परखा गया। दूसरा, भाषण प्रतियोगिता (विषय-बच्चों के प्रति बढ़ते अपराधों पर नियंत्रण कैसे?), हिंदुस्तानी प्रचार सभा के सहयोग के साथ संचलित किया गया।

इस साल नाट्य विभाग को चार नाटकों की जिम्मेदारी दी गई थी जो हैं (विशेषिका बाहेती द्वारा निर्देशित 'परिदे') शिवम अरोरा द्वारा निर्देशित 'आखरी दास्तान', स्नेहल खांडेकर के द्वारा प्रस्तुत 'कप केक' और शिवानी पाटेकर के द्वारा निर्देशित 'अंधा युग'। सभी दर्शकों ने इन्हें खूब सराहा।

१ दिसंबर को अंतस का फ्लैगशिप कार्यक्रम प्रस्तुत किया। चूँकी हम इस साल तीसरी सालगिरह का जश्न मना रहे थे, इसलिए ऑर्केस्ट्रा का आयोजन फर्स्ट क्वाडरेंगल में हुआ। पहली बार पिछले तीस वर्षों के गायिकों ने मंच पर दर्शकों का मनोरंजन किया। 'एक ओंकार' गीत से शुरू हुआ अनोखा अंतस ऑर्केस्ट्रा का सफ़र। केवल छात्रों ने ही नहीं वरन् प्राध्यापकों ने भी इस समारोह में उत्साह से भाग लिया।

हम Garnier Men का आभार प्रकट करते हैं कि उन्होंने अंतस को सफल बनाने में सहयोग दिया।

हम डॉ. आशा नैथानी दायमा के आभारी हैं उन्होंने

हमारा मार्गदर्शन किया।

हम उन सभी लोगों को धन्यवाद देते हैं जिनके सहयोग से अंतस 'सफ़र ३० सालों का' संभव, सफल और सम्पन्न हुआ।

अकादमी की अध्यक्ष डॉ. आशा नैथानी दायमा ने तीस साल के सफ़र को दर्शकों के साथ साझा किया। उन्होंने अपने भूतपूर्व तथा वर्तमान विद्यार्थियों के प्रति तथा कॉलेज के प्रति आभार प्रदर्शन किया और कहा कि सबके सहयोग के कारण कार्यक्रम प्रस्तुति का उनका सपना साकार हो सका।

**हरिता बालाकृष्णन**  
(सचिव)

## INDIAN MUSIC GROUP

### Indian Music Group

The Indian Music Group (IMG) is an autonomous organization under the umbrella of St. Xavier's College. The primary aim of the IMG is to promote and popularize Indian classical music among the youth and to make them realize the richness within. In this line, IMG organizes different concerts and workshops throughout the year. Below is a brief account of the activities undertaken by the IMG in the academic year 2016-17.

### Mini Baithaks:

This year, the IMG decided to bring back the tradition of having small *baithaks* for a smaller audience. We conducted two such Mini *Baithaks* throughout the course of this academic year. The first event featured Nilesh Dhumal on the Shehnai, held on 17th September. And, the second Mini *Baithak* held on the 10<sup>th</sup> of Decemeber, saw artists from 'Kalangan' explore the intricacies of Classical Music within popular songs.

### Jam Sessions:

Early in the year, we established a database of people proficient and interested in the performing arts, called the Talent Log. From this talent log, we scheduled weekly jams to inculcate interest and passion towards the IMG in students of our college. These sessions were weekly affairs, with a pre decided song that was

to be performed. This gave the IMG an opportunity to directly interact with students and make our library more approachable.

### Aaroh: (July 29, 2016)

This is IMG's inaugural concert for the new academic year. We had student artists from our college performing. There were two dance performances, followed by instruments and vocals presenting a medley. The main aim of this event was to promote talent pools within college, and provide a stage for budding artists to find their feet and establish themselves.

### Malhar Ke Prakaar: (August 27, 2016)

This concert was the second in our academic year. It signifies the onset of the monsoons through the various renditions and interpretations of Raag *Malhar*. The rains are welcomed by music that is centered on the same theme. Our artists for this concert were Ankita Joshi (Hindustani Vocals), and Chirag Katti (Sitar). With their energy and sound musical knowledge, they enthralled a diverse audience.

### Social Involvement Program (SIP):

#### Children's Day: (November 14, 2016)

As part of the SIP program at Xavier's College, each department within the college has to organize an activity with social service as the aim. In this regard,

we collaborated with the Vatsalya Trust at Kanjur Marg. This NGO has taken up the cause of young children (age ranging from 0-10 years) who have been abandoned by their parents. The IMG executive members and volunteers together organized several fun activities for the children of the Trust on Children's Day. We had coloring, dancing, and many games throughout the session. We also provided light snacks for the children.

### Viraasat: (November 19, 2016)

A relatively infant concert, Viraasat aims to highlight the legacy of Indian culture upheld by the youth of today. Viraasat 2016 saw performances by two Xavierites - Harshi Talsania (Odissi dancer) and Sindhuja Bheesette (Bharatnatyam dancer). This was followed by a Hindustani vocal performance by Manali Phatak (disciple of Dr. Ashwini Bhide Deshpande) and a thoroughly captivating session by Shikhar Naad Qureshi (son of Taufiq Qureshi) along with Sarang Kulkarni (Sarod player). Sarang Kulkarni surprised us with his novel instrument - the Zirod while Shikhar joined him on the drums.

### Music Appreciation Course (MAC): (December 6-7, 2016)

As a part of the Honors Program of St. Xavier's College, the IMG organized a two-day workshop offer-

ing students ONE Transfer Credit. The workshop was conducted by Prathamesh Kandalkar and Karan Chitra Deshmukh (percussion session) on Day One and by Pt. Chandrakant Limaye on Day Two. They talked about music, *taal*, rhythm, the importance of beats, and the different genres of Hindustani music amongst other topics. It was an enriching learning experience for the students. They were graded by the artists on the basis of a report they wrote.

### Birthday Concert: (January 7, 2017)

On 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2017, the IMG celebrated its 44<sup>th</sup> foundation anniversary.

## मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ

झेवियर्समधील मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ हे १३ वर्षांची परंपरा लाभलेलं मुंबई विद्यापीठातील एकमेव असं मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळ. झेवियर्समध्ये मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाची स्थापना १९२३ साली झाली. तिथपासून आजपर्यंत विद्यार्थ्यांद्वारे चालवली जाणारी ही संघटना झेवियर्स महाविद्यालयामध्ये मराठी भाषा व संस्कृती जोपासण्याचं काम करत आली आहे. याच कार्यासाठी वर्षभर मंडळाद्वारे विविध कार्यक्रम आयोजित करण्यात येतात. दरवर्षी प्रमाणे या वर्षीदेखील मंडळाच्या कार्यकारिणीने अगदी उत्साहाने वर्षभरात विविध कार्यक्रम आयोजित केले आणि ते अगदी यशस्वीरीत्या पार पाडले.

या वर्षी मंडळाने आपल्या २०१६-१७ या शैक्षणिक वर्षाच्या प्रवासाची सुरुवात सर्व शिक्षकांसोबत गुरुपौर्णिमा साजरी करून केली.

या निमित्ताने गुरुंचा आशिर्वाद लाभल्यानंतर २४ ऑगस्ट रोजी मंडळाचा "अंतरंग-गोष्ट तुमची आमची" हा उद्घाटन सोहळा पार पडला. आयुष्याच्या प्रत्येक टप्प्यावर येणारे अनुभव आणि त्यातून मिळत जाणारी शिकवण, याचं चित्रण, नृत्य, संगीत, नाटक अशा विविध कलाकृतींद्वारे या कार्यक्रमांमध्ये करण्यात आलं. U.V. प्रकाशाचा वापर करून सादर केलेली झुंज ही कथा आणि नवरस हा तबल नऊ मिनिटांचा नृत्याविष्कार या दोन्ही कलाकृतींनी साऱ्या प्रेक्षकांची मनं जिंकली. या सोहळ्याला सुप्रसिध्द सतार वादक स्वीकार कट्टी हे प्रमुख पाहुणे म्हणून लाभले होते. या वेळेस त्यांनी आपल्या सतारीची तार छेडत कार्यक्रमाची शोभा वाढवली.

यानंतर फोटोग्राफीचे शौकीन असणाऱ्यांसाठी

With performances by Dr. Meeta Pandit (Hindustani Vocals) and Pt. Brij Narayan (Sarod), the concert was very well attended.

The Janfest line-up was revealed post concert through a video and ticket sales began soon after.

### Janfest 2017: (January 25-26, 2017)

Janfest is the two-day flagship concert organized by the IMG every year. This year, the Janfest stage witnessed performances by Pt. Shounak Abhisheki (Hindustani Vocals), Pt. Vishwamohan Bhatt (Mohan Veena), and Begum Parveen Sultana (Hindustani Vocals)

सप्टेंबर महिन्यामध्ये "क्लिक उत्सव" ही ऑनलाईन फोटोग्राफी स्पर्धा आयोजित करण्यात आली होती. या वर्षी capture the celebration या थीम वर आधारित असलेल्या या स्पर्धेला स्पर्धकांचा खूप छान प्रतिसाद मिळाला. या स्पर्धकांमधून परीक्षकांच्या पसंतीच्या तीन छायाचित्रांना पारितोषिक देण्यात आले.

तेजोमय या मंडळाच्या दिवाळी अंकाच्या चौथ्या आवृत्तीचे अनावरण नोव्हेंबर महिन्यात करण्यात आले. या अंकाद्वारे प्रवास या विषयावर विद्यार्थ्यांचे सुंदर सुंदर लेख प्रकाशित करण्यात आले. तेजोमयाच्या प्रकाशन सोहळ्यानिमित्त झेवियर्समध्ये श्यामची आई या सिद्देनहॅम कॉलेजच्या प्रसिध्द एकांकिकेचा प्रयोग पार पडला. त्याच प्रकारे या सोहळ्यानिमित्त भरवण्या आलेलं पुस्तक-प्रदर्शन हे देखील या सोहळ्याचं प्रमुख आकर्षण ठरलं.

मंडळाचा आंतरमहाविद्यालयीन वार्षिक सोहळा "आमोद" या वर्षी १९, २०, २१ जानेवारी रोजी पार पडला. तीन दिवस चालणाऱ्या या सोहळ्यामध्ये नाट्य, साहित्य, संगीत, कला या विभागांतर्गत १० स्पर्धांचे आयोजन करण्यात आले होते. यात बहुरूपी, सुर-संगम, पोस्टरबाजी, ब. न. पुरंदरे वक्तृत्व स्पर्धा, स्वर क्षेत्र, फु बाई फु, कार्टून फॅक्टरी, चार ओळींची गोष्ट, काव्य नाटुकली आणि महाराष्ट्राची लोकधारा अशा विविध स्पर्धांचे आयोजन करण्यात आले. यात एकूण ३५ महाविद्यालयांनी आपला सहभाग नोंदवला. पखरण या मंडळाच्या वार्षिक अंकाचे प्रकाशन आमोदच्या पहिल्या दिवशी करण्यात आले. या अंकात केवळ विद्यार्थ्यांनीच नव्हे तर शिक्षक व कॉलेजमधील शिक्षकेतर कर्मचाऱ्यांनी देखील आपल्या लेखांद्वारे

for the First Session. The Morning Session on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January was graced by Pt. Hariprasad Chaurasia (Flute). Ustad Irshad Khan (Surbahar) and Dr. Ashwini Bhide Deshpande (Hindustani Vocals) honoured the evening session, which culminated into a Santoor recital by Pt. Shivkumar in the Grand Finale of Janfest '17. Janfest 2017 was thoroughly enjoyed by all audience members, workforce, staff and artists themselves.

On the whole, the IMG had quite an eventful year with new beginnings and distinct ideas.

**Dr. Bhaskar Saha**  
Convener, IMG

विविध विषयांवर आपले विचार मांडले.

वर्षाखेरीस शेवटचा पण अत्यंत महत्वाचा आणि सर्व मराठी जनांसाठी अभिमानाचा असा मराठी भाषा गौरव दिन २७ फेब्रुवारी रोजी झेवियर्समध्ये अगदी उत्साहात साजरा करण्यात आला. जेष्ठ साहित्यिक कुसुमाग्रज यांचा जन्मदिन मराठी भाषा दिन म्हणून साजरा करण्यात येणारा हा दिवस मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळाने झेवियर्स इन्स्टिट्यूट ऑफ कम्युनिकेशन यांच्या सहयोगाने, कुसुमाग्रज आणि मराठी साहित्य विश्वातील इतर दिग्गजांना त्यांच्या कलाकृती सादर करून आदरांजली देत साजरा केला. या वेळी कुसुमाग्रजांच्या काही कविता सादर करण्यात आल्या. तसेच काही गुणी कलावंतांनी पु. लं. चा अंतू बरवा साकारून हसता-हसता प्रेक्षकांच्या डोळ्यात चट्कन पाणी आणलं, तर नटसम्राट अप्पा बेलवलकर साकारणाऱ्या कलाकाराला प्रेक्षकांनी टाळ्यांच्या कडकडाटाने दाद दिली. या कार्यक्रमाला लोकमतचे कार्यकारी संपादक विनायक पात्रुडकर हे मुख्य पाहुणे म्हणून लाभले होते, तसेच फ्री प्रेस जर्नलच्या क्रीडा विभागाचे प्रमुख दिनार पाठक हे देखील उपस्थित होते.

मराठी वाङ्मय मंडळामार्फत मराठी संस्कृतीचा वारसा पुढे चालवत ठेवण्याचे हे प्रामाणिक प्रयत्न सर्वांना रुचतील आणि जास्तीत जास्त मराठी व अमराठी विद्यार्थी या मंडळाचा भाग होऊन आपल्यापरीने मंडळाच्या कार्याला योगदान देतील आणि आपल्या या मंडळाचा प्रवास असाच वर्षानुवर्ष चालत राहील हीच सदिच्छा !

**डॉ. राजेंद्र शिंदे**

## PLACEMENT CELL

The Placement Season of 2016-17 has been a remarkable one and it delights me greatly to present the Annual Placement Report for the same.

There were over 50 companies on campus this season—visiting for both placements and internships. The number comprised of a diverse mix of logistic companies, consultancies, retail and media houses, investment banks and IT firms. Over 300 students participated in the placement process from all the departments. Over 100 students have been placed in this academic session. The average package was Rs. 4.5 lakhs per annum, the highest pay package being Rs. 13 lakhs per annum.

The Companies that visited the College for the On-Campus hiring process during the academic year 2016-2017 were Aasaanjobs, Accenture, AG

Sterling, Aon Hewitt, Arte Advisors, Aufklaren – Event Management, Axis Bank, Bain Capability Centre, Citi India, Crisil, Dalberg, Deloitte Consulting India Ltd., Directi, Endurance, Ernst & Young, Futures first, Gandhi Fellowship Program, Get Simpl, Great Place to Work, Half Tick Information Services Pvt. Ltd., ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Pvt. Ltd., Kapso Business Services, Kohinoor Katalyst Program, Laugh out Loud Venture, Mahindra & Mahindra, Media.net, Morgan Stanley, Mu Sigma, p3 Architectural Solutions, PRactice Strategic Communication Co. Ltd., PwC, PwC – Acturial Science, SAP, Social Quotient, Superscribe, Talerang, Tata Capital, Think Analytics Careers, Toy Bank, Vito India, Capgemini and Infosys.

The Companies that held the hiring process at their respective offices were Arpwood Capital, Alchemist Marketing

Solutions, Cactus Communication Pvt. Ltd., CMIE, Datamatics, Social Cops: Data for Impact Fellowship, Elements Media Works, MGH Logistics, Michael Page, Tata Strategic Management, Teach for India, The Blueberry Trails, White Rivers Media, and Kwench Global Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

### Faculty Members on the Placement Cell

Dr. Shiney Peter, Mr. Rohan Jadhav, Mr. Joseph Aloysius, Ms. Lydia Fernandes, and Bro. Dean Fernandes S.J.

### Students Team

Ms. Jesline D'Souza, Aashwin Sharma, Ms. Andrea Noronha, Ms. Nidhi Meppadan, Ms. Angelique Jacquet, Mayank Kumar, Tushar Jain, Piyush Agarwal, Faisal Amin, and Ms. Denise D'Mello.

**Ms. Neelam Shetty**  
Convenor - Placement Cell

## WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT CELL

The Women's Development Cell met after it was first formed in April 2016 to understand its role and functions. Newly inducted members were sensitized and educated to the role of the WDC. The team met several times in the academic year 2016-17 to conduct activities and deal with complaints.

The first meeting was to get an idea and formulate a new flyer. It was also decided to make it available online keeping with the college theme of "Go Green." This was made possible with the help of a student volunteer Ms. Eleanor Pinto from SYBA. It was executed immediately after several revisions of drafts. It is now featured on the college monitor.

The next area of focus was gender sensitization for the first year students. The plan this year was to have very specific programs within each class specifically the Special Course since it would have a greater impact. This was carried out successfully across several classes among FYBA (03classes), FYBSC (03classes) FYBMM, FYBMS, FYB.VOC, and FYBSC IT. It was also organized for three other groups of

students- the Media students of SYBA, Psychology of Gender class SYBA and TYBA class studying a paper in Abnormal Psychology. Over 1000 students were covered by this program. The WDC members helped at intervals to execute the program. The lecture was conducted by two lawyers Ms. Trisha Shetty and Ms. Pragya Khanna from the organization 'SHE SAYS'. It provided information beyond mere sensitization. The students were educated about what constitutes as sexual harassment, sections of the IPC, the laws that exist for protection, how to lodge an FIR and were provided an app that allowed them immediate access to police, hospital, psychologist in any area if they were in trouble. The WDC team met after the first lecture to evaluate its effectiveness. This lecture in different classes was attended by other staff as well from the college.

The WDC met as a smaller core group, this was constituted by the Principal on a need based emergency to deal with complaints received from students relating to molestation that occurred outside the college premises namely

CST and the Metro subway. The committee met the Azad Maidan police station and the Principal followed up on that. The CST subway now has cameras owing to the effort of Dr. Agnelo Menzes and the student council's online petition. We still need to safeguard the students using the Metro subway. The other complaints relating to outraging the modesty of female students within the campus by verbal comments and remarks were dealt with by giving a warning to the concerned person and follow up of the same by the core team from the WDC within a week. There has been no further remark or incident after this intervention. The other complaints from students were dealt by holding an inquiry and calling the NGO representative Dr. Nandita Gandhi. After seeking information from both parties, the report was submitted to the Principal with recommendations for action.

The plan for the next semester was to organize a defense training workshop. It was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February, wherein the training was conducted by Mr. Elroy Vaz an alumnus of St. Xavier's

College. The workshop was attended by 45 students under the supervision of the staff members.

The plan for next academic year is to conduct a gender sensitization

workshop for all the teaching as well as non-teaching staff on campus and to further educate students about cyber safety, and nutrition. It was a fruitful academic year with the achievement of goals that were set for the year. We

look forward to the future with hope of setting higher goals of having a gender neutral campus.

**Ms. Linda Dhakul**  
Convenor - WDC

## ZOOLOGY ASSOCIATION

The Xavier's Zoology Association established in year 2015-2016 is at the forefront of running exploratory activities of the Zoology Department in order to develop students' interest in the subject of zoology and nature in general.

The department of Zoology of St. Xavier's College, Mumbai inaugurated Xavier's Zoology Association (XZA) for the year with an exhibition called 'Walk of Life' on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2016. On display were some of the rarest specimens in the department. These specimens were exhibited in a sequential manner which depicted the evolution of life on earth. Starting with single celled life like protozoan and coelenterates, moving on to other invertebrates like arthropods and mollusks, it ultimately established the connecting link between invertebrates and vertebrates – the urocordates and hemincordates. In vertebrates the specimens belonged to each class of the phylum.

Other than these, we also had on display primate skulls giving insight into how we came into being. There was a section showing 'Evolution gone wrong' which had specimens of a conjoint calf and a deformed fetus. Besides these specimens the show stealers were the puffer fish and the insect box. Scheduled from 11 am to 1:30 pm the event went on till 4:30 pm



owing to the incredible footfall of over 450 people, including students from all courses and teachers from various departments. Our honorable guest, Principal Dr. Agnelo Menezes, was quite amazed with the collection.

In an attempt to enrich students' experience, the association conducted various co-curricular activities and workshops throughout the year.

The Zoology association had the privilege to host Dr. Y.V. Jhala who gave a talk on 'Technology Applications and Careers in Wildlife' on 19<sup>th</sup> august 2016. Dr. Jhala gave his speech to a room full of budding zoologists. By talking about the duties of a conservationist and the tools at his/her disposal, Dr. Jhala presented them with an idea of what it's like to work in the field of conservation. The association also organized a field trip to Ovalekar Wadi, Thane for exploring and studying butterflies. Soham Pattekar, an alumnus of the department, guided an eager bunch of future zoologists and butterfly enthusiasts along the trail, imparting knowledge about these pretty winged creatures.

In addition, the association conducted a workshop entitled "Paws for a cause" by Shirin merchant, a canine behaviorist and trainer, on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016. She is one of the leading authorities in India in training 'assist', 'search' and 'rescue' dogs. The aim of this workshop was to show how dogs can be used in therapy and to acquaint students with dog training as a viable career option. She brought with her two Labradors, a rough collie and a border collie.

One of the Labradors, called Angel, was accompanied by her wheelchair bound owner, Karan, whom she assists in day to day activities. The workshop ended with an interactive session among the



students.

The association also organized 'dry waste disposal' for the college with the help of 'Sampurn(E)arth Environment Solutions Pvt. Ltd.' and earned 34,000 green-points.

In collaboration with Humane International Society, the association organized a film screening entitled "Blood Lions" produced by Pippa Hankinson on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2017. This was done to sensitize the members about the cruelty involved in captive hunting.

The association also published the magazine 'Imprint' with the theme "Of Plato and Platypus" to showcase how man and animal have lived beside each other for ages, both in synchrony and in conflict. The magazine was released by Prajna Chowta of Anne Mane Foundation on 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017.

Ms. Melissa Mascarenhas had arranged for a Forensic quiz on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017. It was based on animal footprints and DNA evidence in forensic science.

Having begun on an enthusiastic note, the Zoology association looks forward to more such interactive and enhancing activities in the coming years.

**Dr. Madhuri Hambarde**  
Convenor

# SPORTS

## Senior College

Our Senior College teams participated in the following tournaments organized by University of Mumbai.

The results were as follows:

PERFORMANCE IN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS ACADEMIC YEAR 2016-2017		
SPORT	WOMEN	MEN
FOOTBALL	1 <sup>st</sup> Runners-up	Participated
BASKETBALL	Winners	Fifth
HANDBALL	Fourth	-----
HOCKEY	2 <sup>nd</sup> Runners-up	Eighth
VOLLEYBALL	Seventh	Fourth
TABLE TENNIS	1 <sup>st</sup> Runners-up	Participated
BADMINTON	1 <sup>st</sup> Runners-up	Participated
CHESS	Participated	Participated

## Individual Achievements

The following students participated at Mumbai University level.

PERFORMANCE IN INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS ACADEMIC YEAR 2016-2017	
<i>MUMBAI UNIVERSITY INTER COLLEGIATE REPRESENTATION</i>	
JUDO	Chatterjee Nikita (SYBA) <b>63kg (Placed 5<sup>th</sup>)</b> Chaitali Mendon (SYBA) <b>52 kg (Placed 6<sup>th</sup>)</b>
ATHLETICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long Jump: Chavan Mayuri – FYBSc (<b>Placed 6<sup>th</sup></b>)</li> <li>Discus Throw: Vora Shruti- SYBA (<b>Placed 1<sup>st</sup></b>)</li> <li>Shot Put: Vora Shruti- SYBA (<b>Placed 2<sup>nd</sup></b>)</li> <li>4 x 100 meters relay: Agarwal Advika (FYBA), Chavan Mayuri (FYBSc), Dsilva Kim (FYBSc), Veira Alika (FYBSc) (<b>Placed 7<sup>th</sup></b>)</li> <li>4 x 100 meters relay: Agarwal Advika (FYBA), Chavan Mayuri (FYBSc), Kavinaya Mohandas (SYBA), Veira Alika (FYBSc) (<b>Placed 4<sup>th</sup></b>)</li> </ul>
GYMNASTICS	Gandhi Aditi – TYBA ( <b>Rank 6<sup>th</sup></b> )
ARCHERY	Nair Rhea (FYBA) Compound Round ( <b>Placed 2<sup>nd</sup></b> )
BOXING	Yashwardhan Singh (FYBA) Heavy Wt Upto 91kg ( <b>Placed 6<sup>th</sup></b> )
CARROM	Virginia Fernandes (SYBA) Singles ( <b>Placed 7<sup>th</sup></b> )
TABLE TENNIS	Sumar Misbah (FYBA) Singles ( <b>Placed 6<sup>th</sup></b> )
TENNIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jai Memdonsa (SYBA) &amp; Anhad Mishra (FYBA) <b>Placed 4<sup>th</sup></b>.</li> <li>Royston Sequeira (SYBMS) &amp; Tanmay Rao (SYBA) <b>Placed 7<sup>th</sup></b></li> </ul>

<i>INTER UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATION</i>
<b>BASKETBALL:</b> Carina Menezes (SYBMS), Veira Alika (FYBSc)
<b>HANDBALL:</b> Khyati Bohra (SYBMM), Mehta Sakshi (FYBA).
<b>VOLLEYBALL:</b> Kavinaya Mohandas (FYBA), Raviraja Chandan (TYBCOM)
<b>ARCHERY:</b> Nair Rhea (FYBA).
<b>ATHLETICS:</b> Vora Shruti (SYBA), Chantelle Mascarenhas (SYBA).
<b>AQUATICS (DIVING):</b> Shinde Ketan (MSc II)
<i>OPEN STATE/ NATIONAL REPRESENTATION</i>

**BASKETBALL (WOMEN)** : Kimberly Fernandez (TYBMS)  
**FOOTBALL (WOMEN)** : Kimberly Fernandez (TYBMS), Anoushka Fernandes (FYBSc)  
**VOLLEYBALL: (WOMEN)** : Kavinaya Mohandas (SYBA).  
**(MEN)** : Raviraja Chandan (TYBCOM), Sachin Chandan (SYBCOM),  
: Abhishek Shekar (FYBCOM)  
**ARCHERY** : Nair Rhea (FYBA).  
**ATHLETICS: (WOMEN)** : Chantelle Mascarenhas (SYBA).  
**(MEN)** : Peters Denzil (FYBMS).  
**TABLE TENNIS** : Sumar Misbah (FYBA)  
**WATER POLO** : Moses Monica (SYBA)

**INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION**

**BASKETBALL (WOMEN)** : Menezes Carina (FYBMS) represented India for the 23<sup>rd</sup> FIBA Asia Women Under/ 18 Championship held in Bangkok (Thailand) from 13<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

**ST. XAVIER’S COLLEGE – WOMEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM**



**WINNERS  
MUMBAI UNIVERSITY INTER-COLLEGE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**

*Top row L-R*

*Iadashisha Shanpru, Nidhi Meppadan, Shweta Soni, Coach Sayed Rasool, Kylynn Bhathena, Shreya Bhawe, Akshara Parul*

*Bottom row L-R*

*Anushka Hirwani, Kimberly Fernandez, Shruti Nair, Arantxa Cardozo, Alike Viera Tandon, Carina Menezes*

**ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE – WOMEN'S FOOTBALL TEAM**



**1<sup>ST</sup> RUNNERS UP**

**MUMBAI UNIVERSITY INTER-COLLEGE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT**

***Top row L-R : Khyati Bohra, Danica Rozario, Natasha Masters, Coach – Jeffery Campus, Sports Director Dr. Thomas Pires, Kim D'silva, Shweta Shirodkar, Daphisa Jana, Stuti Agrawal***

***Bottom row L-R : Shruti Narkar, Aanya Dhingra, Sakshi Mehta, Cliantha Crasto, Kimberly Fernandez, Giselle D'silva, Ninoshka Silveria, Anoushka Fernandes***

**ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE – WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM**



**2<sup>ND</sup> RUNNERS UP**

**MUMBAI UNIVERSITY INTER-COLLEGE HOCKEY TOURNAMENT**

***Top row L-R : Abigail Shinde, Raizel Fernandes, Denise D'mello, Dyann D'souza, Sai Pitre, Amrita Gandhi, Aanya Dhingra, Sports Director Dr. Thomas Pires,***

***Bottom row L-R : Anoushka Fernandes, Rachel Michael, Kimberly Fernandez, Maita D'souza, Neala D'silva, Rizpah Cardoza***

**ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE  
WOMEN'S TABLE TENNIS TEAM**



**1<sup>ST</sup> RUNNERS UP - MUMBAI UNIVERSITY INTER-COLLEGE TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT**  
*L-R : Juhi Jain, Misbah Sumar, Radha Joshi, Vishwa Shah.*

**ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE  
WOMEN'S BADMINTON TEAM**



**1<sup>ST</sup> RUNNERS UP - MUMBAI UNIVERSITY INTER-COLLEGE BADMINTON TOURNAMENT**  
*L-R : Priyanka Dhal, Samhita Giriraja , Reshell George, Sai Pitre,*

**INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION**



*Menezes Carina (FYBMS) represented India for the 23<sup>rd</sup> FIBA Asia Women Under/ 18 Championship held in Bangkok (Thailand) from 13<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> November 2016.*

**ANNUAL SPORTS DAY 2016-2017**



**ANNUAL SPORTS DAY 2016-2017**



**Chantelle Mascarenhas (SYBA)  
SENIOR GIRLS  
INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

**ANNUAL SPORTS DAY 2016-2017**



**Denzil Peters (FYBMS)  
SENIOR BOYS  
INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP**



**SENIOR COLLEGE SPORT DAY RESULTS**

The Annual Athletic Meet for the academic year 2016-2017 was held on the 29<sup>th</sup> November and 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2016, at the University Sports Ground, Marine Lines. Faculty and students in large numbers cheered the participants. All the winners were presented with medals and certificates by the college faculty members.

<b>SPORTS DAY RESULTS 2016-2017</b>			
<b>EVENT: 100M</b>		<b>GROUP: SENIOR BOYS</b>	
<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>FACULTY</b>	<b>TIME</b>
I	DENZIL PETERS	BMS	10.97
II	BRENDEN FERREIRA	BSC IT	12.14
III	BRADLEY-MICHAEL RODRIGUES	BVOC	12.45
<b>EVENT: 100M</b>		<b>GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS</b>	
<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>FACULTY</b>	<b>TIME</b>
I	CHANTELLE MASCARENHAS	BA	13.16
II	ADVIKA AGARWAL	BA	14.37
III	SIMRAN ALPHONSO	BVOC	15.21
<b>EVENT: 200M</b>		<b>GROUP: SENIOR BOYS</b>	
<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>FACULTY</b>	<b>TIME</b>
I	DENZIL PETERS	BMS	24.72
II	ALLAN FERNANDES	BSC IT	25.05
III	BRADLEY-MICHAEL RODRIGUES	BVOC	26.45
<b>EVENT: 200M</b>		<b>GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS</b>	
<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>FACULTY</b>	<b>TIME</b>
I	CHATELLE MASCARENHAS	BA	27.55
II	ADVIKA AGARWAL	BA	30.5
III	SIMRAN ALPHONSO	BVOC	32.35
<b>EVENT: 400M</b>		<b>GROUP: SENIOR BOYS</b>	
<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>FACULTY</b>	<b>TIME</b>
I	DENZIL PETERS	BMS	56.04
II	ALLAN FERNANDES	BSC IT	58.10
III	ABHISHEK SHEKHAR	BCOM	58.82
<b>EVENT: 400M</b>		<b>GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS</b>	
<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>FACULTY</b>	<b>TIME</b>
I	CHANTELLE MASCARENHAS	BA	63.21
II	ADVIKA AGARWAL	BA	72.42
III	PRIYANKA DHAL	BSC	80.56
<b>EVENT: 800M</b>		<b>GROUP: SENIOR BOYS</b>	
<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>FACULTY</b>	<b>TIME</b>
I	ALLAN FERNANDES	BSC IT	2:16.09
II	HAROLD BARRETTO	BSC	2:17.23
III	ROHIT PAL	BSC IT	2:18.45
<b>EVENT: 800M</b>		<b>GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS</b>	
<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>FACULTY</b>	<b>TIME</b>
I	CHANTELLE MASCARENHAS	BA	2:43.23
II	ADVIKA AGARWAL	BA	3:05.35
III	RACHAEL MICHAEL	BSC	3:27.43

EVENT: 1500M		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	ROHIT PAL	BA	04:43.04
II	ALBIN VARGHESE	BA	05:23.96
III	PRASHANT HEGDE	BSC	05:49.28
EVENT: 1500M		GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	CHANTELLE MASCARENHAS	BA	05:50.58
II	ADVIKA AGARWAL	BA	07:11.37
III	MAYURI CHAVAN	BSC	08:14.07
EVENT: LONG JUMP		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	DENZIL PETERS	BMS	6.51M
II	MEET SHAH	BA	5.65M
III	SACHIN CHANDAN	BCOM	5.64M
EVENT: LONG JUMP		GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	MAYURI CHAVAN	BSC	4.14M
II	CHANTELLE MASCARENHAS	BA	3.80M
III	RADHIKA THAKUR	BMM	3.13M
III	PRIYANKA DHAL	BSC	3.13M
EVENT: HIGH JUMP		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	SACHIN CHANDAN	BCOM	1.60M
II	BRADLEY RODRIGUES	BVOC	1.56M
III	DENZIL PETERS	BMS	1.50M
EVENT: HIGH JUMP		GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	KIMBERLY FERNANDEZ	BMS	1.30M
II	RACHAEL MICHAEL	BSC	1.28M
III	MAYURI CHAVAN	BSC	1.05M
EVENT: SHOT PUT		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	THEJANGUZO TERHUJA	TYBMS	10.95M
II	NAGESH MOGAVEERA	TYBCOM	10.74M
III	JOSHUA KEVIN	SYBSC	9.44M
EVENT: SHOT PUT		GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	PRIYANKA DHAL	SYBSC	7.38M
II	ANUSUYA GOGOI	FYBSC	6.73M
III	MAYURI CHAVAN	FYBSC	6.10M
EVENT: JAVELIN THROW		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	VICTOR	BA	40.09M
II	THEJANGUZO TERHUJA	BMS	35.15M
III	SHASHANK	BCOM	31.20M

EVENT: JAVELIN THROW		GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	MAYURI CHAVAN	FYBSC	11.47M
II	PRIYANKA DHAL	SYBSC	9.10M
III	SWEENY CASTELLINA	FYBSC	7.15M
EVENT: DISCUS THROW		GROUP: SENIOR BOYS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	THEJANGUZO TERHUJA	TYBMS	28.91M
II	DHRUV SINGH	MPP	21.25M
III	ANAND THOMAS	FYBSC IT	20.61M
EVENT: DISCUS THROW		GROUP: SENIOR GIRLS	
POSITION	NAME	FACULTY	TIME
I	KIMBERLY FERNANDEZ	BMS	16.59M
II	PRIYANKA DHAL	BSC	15.56M
III	MAYURI CHAVAN	BSC	13.48M

### INTERCLASS TOURNAMENT WINNERS

SPORT	GIRLS	BOYS
BADMINTON SINGLES	Sai Pitre (TYBA)	Saini Prateek (FYBA)
BADMINTON DOUBLES	Daphisa Jana & Reshell George (FYBSc)	Soham Daruwala & Meet Shah (SYBA)
BADMINTON MIXED DOUBLES	Sarma Arijit & Giriraja Samhita (TYBSc)	
CARROM SINGLES	Virginia Fernandes (SYBA)	Arshad Shah (MSc I)
TABLE TENNIS	Rishwin Jackson (SYBSc)	Misbah Sumar (FYBA)
TABLE TENNIS DOUBLES	Misbah Sumar & Harun N (FYBA)	
BASKETBALL	SYBA	TYBMS
RINK FOOTBALL	SYBA	SYBA
RINK HOCKEY	-----	SYBA
VOLLEYBALL	FYBA	SYBscIT

### INTER CLASS TEAM WINNERS



**WINNERS  
INTERCLASS GIRLS BASKETBALL  
(SYBA)**



**WINNERS  
INTERCLASS BOYS BASKETBALL  
(TYBMS)**



**WINNERS  
INTERCLASS GIRLS RINK FOOTBALL  
(SYBA)**



**WINNERS  
INTERCLASS BOYS RINK  
FOOTBALL (SYBA)**



**WINNERS  
INTERCLASS GIRLS VOLLEYBALL  
(FYBA)**



**WINNERS  
INTERCLASS BOYS VOLLEYBALL  
(SYBSc IT)**



**WINNERS  
INTERCLASS MIX DOUBLES  
BADMINTON (TYBSc)**



**WINNERS  
INTERCLASS MIX DOUBLES  
TABLE TENNIS (FYBA)**

**COMMERCE SECTION**



**WINNERS  
INTERCLASS BOYS FOOTBALL  
(SYBCom)**



**WINNERS  
INTERCLASS BOYS VOLLEYBALL  
(TYBCom)**

## INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COLLABORATION.

The XRCVC in collaboration with the Sports Department participated in the National Football Tournament organized by the All India Blind Football Association in Bengaluru from April 20th to April 24th, 2017.

### XRCVC WOMENS FOOTBALL TEAM



*Dr Thomas Pires(Manager), Maya Venkiteswaran(Assistant Coach), Anjana Shah, Kajal Kalwar, Pallavi Pandit, Vaishali Salavkar(Goalkeeper), Babita Saroj(Goalkeeper), Mansi Choudhary, Sapna Bairwar, Fatema Manthalkar, Mahek Okoth(Assistant Coach), Royson Gonsalves(Assistant Coach), Lygel D'Mello(Head Coach).*

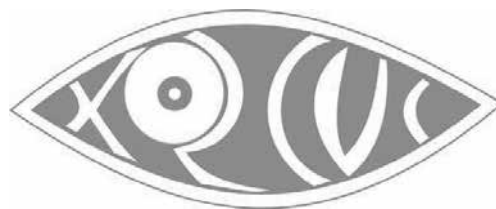
### XRCVC MENS FOOTBALL TEAM



*Royson Gonsalves(Assistant Coach), Rahul Gajjal, Ronak Shah, Ganesh Phalke, Ajay Lalwani, Jayesh Panchal, Dr Thomas Pires (Manager), Lygel D'Mello(Head Coach), Sanjay Gupta, Rias D'Souza (Goalkeeper).*

# XRCVC

The XRCVC is a resource and advocacy centre for visually challenged persons. As an enabling unit on campus at St Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai, it endeavours to transform lives both at the micro and macro levels. Along with providing direct and indirect support to visually impaired persons at the micro level, it also works closely with government agencies, corporates, researchers and educational institutions on advocacy and sensitisation initiatives at the macro level.



XRCVC disseminates information about its work to members and other stakeholders on an almost real-time basis through its website ([www.xrcvc.org](http://www.xrcvc.org)) and on social media through its Facebook page (XRCVC—Xavier's Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged) and Twitter handle (@XRCVC).



(Left) A training workshop at XRCVC Viviana Extension; (centre) the new, heavy-duty Index Braille Embosser at XRCVC; (right) a team from UGC visits XRCVC

Put simply, the centre's objective is to empower visually impaired persons all over the country.

During the period June 2016-May 2017, we took significant steps to achieve this objective.

Our membership base expanded to 587 persons during the year. We were also able to touch—and hopefully transform—thousands of lives across the country through our advocacy work, particularly in the areas of education access, financial access, print access and independent living (see section sub-titled 'Advocacy').

XRCVC set up an additional training room in St Xavier's College during the year, and many of the centre's training workshops are now conducted there. In June 2016, XRCVC-Viviana extension in Viviana Mall, Thane celebrated its first anniversary with an event where Plectalk Vachaks (an accessible e-book reader) were distributed, followed by a training workshop with NVDA Espeak. Like in the previous academic year, our activities through the year were channelised through our restructured triad of work:

- Direct Support Services
- Advocacy
- Awareness

Given below is a summary of our activities in 2016-17 under each head.

## Direct Support Services

The XRCVC offers a range of direct support and training services to persons with vision impairment, caregivers, educators, and institutions.

1. **Volunteer Support:** Despite all the technology and advancements, human assistance cannot be eliminated completely. The XRCVC provides volunteer services for:
  - Reading
  - Converting material into accessible formats – through typing, scanning, editing, recording
  - Examination taking – scribe facilities
  - Teaching – for any subject

Depending on the member's needs and requirements, the XRCVC provides volunteers on an annual basis for regular support or on a one-off basis for short-term periods.

There were 117 volunteers working with us through the year, sourced from the Social Involvement Programme (SIP) of St Xavier's College (Autonomous). In addition, volunteers were enlisted for a short term on need basis for awareness programmes like Antarchakshu.

## Technologies

The XRCVC houses the latest and the most exhaustive list of assistive technologies (AT) to be explored by visually challenged persons — as also employers, government bodies and any other group that would like to know more about AT. Anyone is welcome at the XRCVC, preferably with prior appointment, to explore our full range of assistive technologies and their use. Like every year, we procured a wide range of new technologies in 2016-17. Some of these include a heavy-duty Braille Embosser (Index Fanfold DV5), additional Perkins Braille, a Braille Labeler, Sony LED TV, Infty Reader, HP Scanjet 2500 F1 ADF+Flatbed Scanner, Angel India e-book readers, daisy players, Brother DCP-L2541DW Multifunction Printer, Geometry kits, and low



(Left) Shekhar Manjulkar receiving the Lions Club of East Bombay Scholarship at XRCVC; (centre) an image from Antarchakshu 2016 at IIT Bombay; (right) a sensitisation workshop at Sanofi Pharmaceuticals, Mumbai

vision aids such as Ruby Magnifiers, Compact 7 HD, Clearview C HD TV, Magic HD screen magnification software, Zoomtex Magnification-cum-reading software, and Magic Large Print Keyboards. We also replaced a large number of older laptops and desktops with newer machines.

## Training

The XRCVC imparts training in Computers, the use of specific assistive devices, Braille, Orientation & Mobility, Maths & Science, English language and Life skills through various training programmes. These are available for diverse learner groups – visually challenged persons, special educators, teacher trainers and other stakeholders. With the right skills and know-how, independent living and working is an increasing reality for persons with vision impairment.

Our comprehensive and revamped training schedule in 2016-17 ensured that our Special Educators and trainers had their hands full throughout the year. The training sessions during

**Table 1: Training Services June 2016 – May 2017**

Direct Training	No of beneficiaries	Indirect (Stakeholder) Training	No of beneficiaries
Computer & Assistive Technology (AT)	299	Computer & AT	10
English	16	Education	68
Orientation and Mobility (O&M)	23	TOT – I for INCLUSION	518
Activities of Daily Living (ADL)	8		
Education Including Mathematics & Science Support	151		
<b>Total</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>596</b>

the year included customised workshops by various members of the XRCVC team including Calveena D'Sylva, Neha Trivedi, Rebecca Carvalho, Mimansa Vahia, Aurealia D'Mello, Sushil Pandit, Shizanne D'Mello, Vikas Dabholkar, Keshavan Nadar, and Krishna Warriar.

These training sessions were held at the XRCVC and the XRCVC-Viviana Extension as well as at schools.

Through the year, the XRCVC's training services reached out to 1093 persons. (see Table 1).

## Personal and Career Guidance

Guidance services were provided to members and their families to identify needs, interests and aptitudes as also troubleshoot and cope with concerns.

## Scholarships

The Lions Club of East Bombay Scholarship for the year was awarded to our member Shekhar Manjulkar, for being the most deserving visually impaired student graduating from St Xavier's College, Mumbai.

Recognising the high costs for higher education and assistive technologies, the XRCVC provides scholarship and access technology lending schemes to deserving students. New higher education avenues have been pursued by the visually challenged over the last decade. Along with new opportunities come new costs of higher education courses. Similarly, whilst assistive technologies and computers have provided immense aid to the visually challenged, what is often considered a luxury for sighted students is a necessity for a student with visual impairment.

### Sports and Recreation

Oftentimes, recreation and sports get left out in discussions on lives of persons with disabilities. However, these are as integral a part of life for persons with disabilities as for the non-disabled.

Recognising the value of sports and recreation, the XRCVC works on creating innovative opportunities and events. The XRCVC Recreation Club conducted regular fitness and training sessions under the supervision of Dr Thomas Pires, Sports Director, St Xavier's College.



(Left) A trek conducted by the XRCVC Recreation Club; (centre) the release of 'The ABC of Inclusive Publishing' by HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar in Delhi; (right) a meeting with principals and senior education officials at Akola

Besides, the XRCVC team organised and participated in many sports activities during the year.

A summary of these is given below:

- Two teams from XRCVC — featuring boys and girls, respectively — participated in the All-India Blind Football tournament organised by Snehadeep Trust at Game Changers football ground Mathikere, Bangalore in April 2017. Sports Director Dr Thomas Pires accompanied the teams.
- XRCVC member Rahul Gajjal also participated in a national training and selection camp for football held in Kerala.

### Advocacy

Ensuring environmental access is a key factor in determining that vision loss does not result in a disability. XRCVC's advocacy initiatives work in four main areas to create accessible environments: Print Access, Financial Access, Education Access, and Independent Living.

#### Print Access

The access to printed works for the visually challenged depends on its availability in accessible formats and the permissibility of the legal systems to convert material to accessible formats. The XRCVC has been working relentlessly to overcome these challenges.

During this period, the XRCVC produced 91 DAISY books totaling 5911 pages (including many in full-text-full-audio format). All accessible DAISY titles are uploaded onto a national accessible online library ([sugamyapustakalaya.in](http://sugamyapustakalaya.in)). Some of the events that took place or were conducted under the Print Access initiative during the year are appended below.

- XRCVC worked closely with Benetech, a global non-profit social entrepreneurial venture harnessing the power of technology for social benefit on many print access-related initiatives.
- Dr Sam Taraporevala, Sushil Pandit, and Aniket Gupta participated in the launch of Sugamya Pustakalaya (India's online accessible library) in Vigyan Bhawan, Delhi in August 2016. An updated edition of XRCVC's publication 'The ABC of Inclusive Publication' was also released on the occasion by the Government of India's Human Resources & Development Minister, Mr Prakash Javadekar. Additionally, Dr Sam Taraporevala and Aniket Gupta met Mr Javadekar in December 2016 and requested him to actively champion the Sugamya Pustakalaya initiative.
- Also followed up with vendors who could create accessible books.



- In August 2016, Dr Sam Taraporevala, Sushil Pandit, and Aniket Gupta attended the board meeting of the Daisy Forum of India (DFI) in Delhi.
- In September 2016, Dr Sam Taraporevala set up a system with Mr Vivek Mehra, CEO and MD of Sage Publications, so that he could contribute to the cause of inclusive publishing in a formal manner through networking with other publishing houses. A book request system with Mr Mehra's office was also established.
- XRCVC started the system of providing Braille Bills to Reliance Energy and also provided the second phase of feedback on accessibility to their App.
- In February, XRCVC, Bookshare, Daisy Consortium, Daisy Forum of India and Sightsavers conducted a workshop on inclusive publishing for local language publishers (Marathi, Gujarati) at St Xavier's College. There were seven participants.
- Dr Sam Taraporevala and Aniket Gupta participated in the National Conference on Review of Bharati Braille and attend two meetings of the Braille Council of India, in February 2017 and March 2017, respectively.
- In February 2017, Dr Sam Taraporevala, Sushil Pandit, and Aniket Gupta met a representative of the *National Atlas and Thematic Mapping Organization* (NATMO) to discuss accessible content creation of diagrams.
- A session on XRCVC's Accessible Book Production Standard 1.0 was conducted for 18 participants at Cygnet Infotech Pvt Ltd in Ahmedabad in March 2016 by Rebecca Carvalho and Shizanne D'Mello. These guidelines, with modifications, are to become standard for NGOs involved in book production. This also included a Training on creating Accessible Math Books and an orientation on the use of LaTeX.
- The internal Guidelines for XRCVC's Book creation process (XRCVC's Accessible Book Production Standards 1.0) were modified for a larger audience and the same were uploaded on XRCVC's website in March 2017. Alt text was added and an accessible copy of the same was created as well.

### Testing and Research

The following accessible softwares / devices were tested during the year by / at XRCVC.

- XRCVC conducted regular discussions with Assistech, IIT Delhi team and with Innovision (IIT Bombay) to evaluate the work on the Refreshable Braille Display devices being developed at both institutions.
- An IDC (IITB) student tested a prototype of his accessible date picker with VI students from St Xavier's College in July 2016. He is trying to build a date picker that can be used by all, including visually impaired people.
- During the same month, Dr Sam Taraporevala and Prashant Naik attended a meeting at Mantralaya called by the Maharashtra government to discuss assistive devices to be provided to blind and low vision persons. Later, they compiled a list of such special devices and sent it to the ministry of social justice.
- In August 2016, a team from Lotus College of Optometry (Juhu) visited XRCVC to conduct preliminary tests for a magnification device with students. They are planning to make a device which can be used by visually impaired persons to carry out their daily activities.
- In December 2016, the centre helped two IDC students to put together a field study for their project, 'Packaging and Visual Impairment'.
- During the same month, Amitabh Sarkar from 5 Feathers Media visited XRCVC to discuss Captcha accessibility.
- In January 2017, Hemant Seta from Band visited XRCVC to discuss the accessibility of his app. Band is being positioned as an alternate Whatsapp.
- During the same month, research was carried out by XRCVC staff on Wikki Stix local production, and the first set of the stiks were made ready.
- Research was also undertaken for accessible rubber tiles during the month. The first phase was completed during the month—where alternatives to the Bayers chemical for cheaper production were identified. Besides, Baishali Gupta and Prashanta Mallik from Covestro made multiple visits to XRCVC during the month to showcase the accessible tactile tiles made by their company.
- Additionally, the centre's 3D printer was shifted to its new location at the IITB-Monash Research Academy, Powai in January 2017. XRCVC and the Academy have entered into a collaboration where the latter will take responsibility to maintain and run the printer.
- Neha Trivedi had an interaction with Abhijit Patwardhan in February 2017 to share ideas on XRCVC's education project. He is currently at a Fellowship in Stanford trying to set up a company for 3D printed models for learning.

- During the same month, the website of Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) was tested for accessibility.
- In April 2017, students from Agnel College tested an app they are developing for independent navigation using Beacons.
- The centre also provided Gujarati Text-to-Speech feedback to Suresh Bazaj.
- An online recruitment test by Deloitte was tested for accessibility.
- IIT Delhi tested its Tactile Diagrams being created for Class 9 Science NCERT Textbook.

### Reading Without Seeing

The XRCVC had launched an extremely effective national-level awareness programme in 2012 under the banner of 'Reading Without Seeing', which takes access technologies to blind and low-vision users across locations, and ignites in its audiences the curiosity and basic knowledge to begin their journey of accessing the printed word independently. The programme equips participants with the basic knowhow of a host of assistive technologies.

**Table 2: Reading Without Seeing (RWS) Workshops (June 2016 – May 2017)**

No.	Organisation Name	Venue	Date	Participants
1	Thane (XRCVC Members)	XRCVC-Viviana Extension	12-Jun-16	13
2	Thane (Vision Insight Foundation)	XRCVC-Viviana Extension	26-Jun-16	23
3	Thane (RCI CRE Teacher Trainees of NAB)	XRCVC-Viviana Extension	30-Jul-16	32
4	Thane (NMMC-ETC Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation)	XRCVC-Viviana Extension	15-Oct-16	17
5	Thane (NAB TCTVH)	XRCVC-Viviana Extension	08-Nov-16	9
6	Thane (XRCVC Members)	XRCVC-Viviana Extension	20-Nov-16	17
7	Thane (Ambernath NAB-IDBI)	XRCVC-Viviana Extension	16-Dec-16	14
8	Thane (Marathi Mandir High School)	XRCVC-Viviana Extension	28-Jan-17	23
9	Ambernath (NAB-IDBI)	A - 52/53, Additional Ambernath MIDC, Anand Nagar, Ambernath - 421 506	15-Feb-17	40
10	Thane (TCS Corporate Maitree) ACTC	XRCVC-Viviana Extension	18-Mar-17	15
11	Mumbai (Snehankit Helpline for SNTD Women's University)	XRCVC Department, St. Xavier's College	25-Apr-17	10
12	NAB India Para Professional and Functional training batch	St. Xavier's College	May 24-17	27
		<b>Total</b>		<b>240</b>



*(Left) Maharashtra's education minister Vinod Tawde visits XRCVC; (right) a science excitation workshop at St Xavier's*

The programme gained added momentum this year with 12 workshops reaching out to 240 persons. These workshops were conducted by the XRCVC team comprising Sushil Pandit, Keshavan Nadar, Aniket Gupta, Vikas Dabholkar, Calveena D'Sylva, Shizanne D'Mello, and Rajni Pandit.

Additionally, XRCVC provided some accessible technology (AT) equipment to a social organisation named Vasudev Ved Pratishtan so that they could showcase the same during their various programmess and exhibition on AT conducted in Malaysia.

## Financial Access

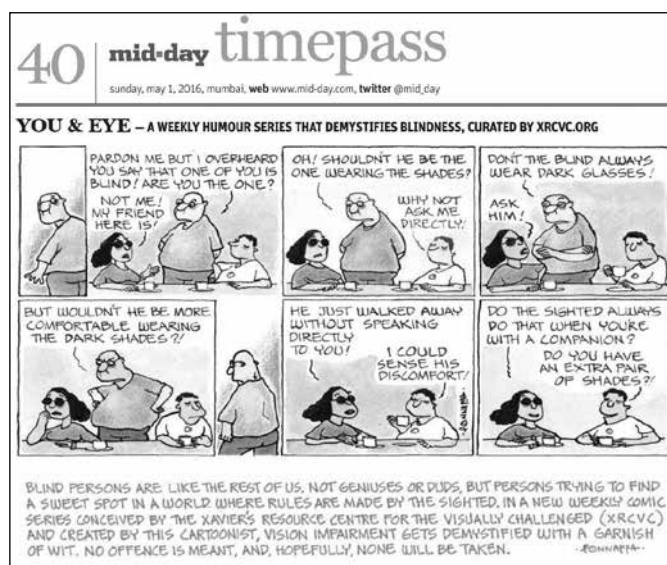
Some of the activities under the Financial Access initiative are appended below.

- In June 2016, Dr Sam Taraporevala, Neha Trivedi and Ketan Kothari met the banking ombudsman, Mr R L Sharma in Delhi to discuss how banking could be made more accessible. This was followed by a meeting with Dr Alok Pande, Director, DFS, Ministry of Finance.
- Officials from the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) Institute visited XRCVC in December 2016 to explore a partnership for making their courses accessible.
- In January 2017, Dr Sam Taraporevala, Aniket Gupta, and Ketan Kothari travelled to Bangalore to attend the inauguration of State Bank of India's 'Centre of Excellence for PwDs'. They had a fruitful discussion with the chairman of SBI, Arundhati Bhattacharya. Dr Sam was invited to be on the Advisory Panel of the Centre of Excellence.
- Dr Sam Taraporevala, Jatin Shah and Prashant Naik met an IT/ Accessibility specialist for App development) to provide inputs for an ATM locator app.
- In the same month, Calveena D'Sylva helped NCR with checking of Braille labels for their ATMs as requested by Mr Ashok Shankar (Solutions Manager - Financial of NCR)
- In April, XRCVC provided help to ATM manufacturer Perto (Mr Roberto Baur and Mr Vijay Salunkhe) with regards Braille labels.
- Assistance was provided to the Ethiopian National Association for the Blind in their endeavour to develop Accessible ATMs.

## Education Access

While Right to Education has become a fundamental right in India, this right is far from being actualized for persons with disabilities. During the year, the XRCVC continued its work towards inclusive education practices and services at school, college and higher education levels. A plethora of activities were conducted during the year in this connection, which are appended below.

- During the year, the XRCVC continued its ongoing work with officials from Rashtriya Uchcharat Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) to take forward the mandate of RUSA in ensuring quality in higher education and achieving excellence. Equity through inclusion in higher education is one of the key components under RUSA. In July, RUSA Joint Director Sharad Patil and Ishrat Jahan visited XRCVC to discuss the way ahead for universities. XRCVC also helped RUSA prepare a draft government resolution to build equity for persons with disability. In September, XRCVC conducted a session on building inclusive education through support services at the higher education level as part of a 'Consultation Meet on Academic Autonomy for Eligible Colleges', organised by RUSA in collaboration with St Xavier's College. XRCVC also provided a demonstration of access technology to the delegates made up of principals and senior officials of various colleges / universities in Maharashtra. During the year, phone and direct support was provided to many universities / colleges education officials from Maharashtra including Shri Shivaji College of Arts, Commerce and Science, Akola; North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon; Shivaji University, Kolhapur; etc.
- During the year, XRCVC created and shared the structure of an Inclusion Cell to be set up at St Xavier's College to the Principal. The same was also shared by XRCVC with RUSA as a model to be shared with other colleges. Subsequently, Dr Sam Taraporevala and Neha Trivedi attended the first meeting of the Inclusion Cell in February 2017. The cell has been set up under RUSA's Equity Project and will look at various efforts to make the college inclusive. One of the first issues taken up at the cell was inclusive examination systems and compiling the data on students with disability on campus. A presentation on the concept of inclusion was made to around 90 faculty members by Neha Trivedi and Dr Sam Taraporevala of the XRCVC and Prof Linda Dhakul from the Dept of Psychology of the college on March 10. In April, the centre, as an active part of the inclusion cell, continued ongoing work on the processes to be followed by the cell. Another presentation was made at the senior college staff meeting on April 29. XRCVC also continued ongoing work with the Examinations Department of St Xavier's College to help some visually impaired students answer their examination papers using laptops.



The first 'You & Eye' cartoon strip which was published in Sunday Mid-day on May 1, 2016 to create awareness about the lives of persons with visual impairment. The strip is published every week in the newspaper.

- The XRCVC through the year continued its ongoing pioneering work in the area of mathematics and science education. Students were provided direct support services. The XRCVC created accessible electronic textbooks, Teaching-Learning Aids (TLAs), and provided conceptual training to these students. In addition, the XRCVC has started creating a TLA resource library for mathematics and science education, starting Std 1 onwards.
- The XRCVC's team on inclusive education comprising Neha Trivedi, Calveena D'Sylva, Rebecca Carvalho, Mimansa Vahia, Aurealia D'Mello and Shizanne D'Mello continued work on the Concept Teaching Manuals (CTMs), which have been designed for use by teachers working with blind or low vision students. Special educators or parents working on a one-on-one basis, as well as classroom teachers and tuition teachers in an inclusive classroom can incorporate the information and ideas from these manuals. These CTMs cover interactive ways to teach concepts to blind or low vision students including the use of Teaching-Learning Aids (TLAs) in the form of activities, real objects, 3D educational toys and models, 2D tactile diagrams, etc.
- Ongoing work continued with students who are part of the XRCVC's comprehensive educational offering. XRCVC also regularly conducted training and sensitisation sessions at Prime Academy, and other institutions like Beacon High School, St John's Universal ICSE School, and Besant Montessori School.
- Calveena D'Sylva participated in a consultation organised by Sightsavers in Delhi in November on the topic 'School Readiness Framework for CVI in IE'. It was an orientation programme on inclusive teaching practices for teaching CVIs in inclusive education.
- XRCVC conducted its capacity-building workshop— 'I For Inclusion' for various stakeholders during the year including the teachers of the Prime Academy (ICSE) school, Marol (in June 2016), the St. Xavier's Institute of Education (in December 2016), and the North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon (in March 2017).
- Dr Sam Taraporevala, Neha Trivedi and Ketan Kothari participated in a full-day consultation conducted in Delhi at the invitation of Sightsavers on the theme, 'ICT for school going visually impaired children in an inclusive setup'.
- Mimansa Vahia commenced a 45-week long intensive training schedule in July for visually impaired persons titled, 'Mathematics for Management Exams Training'. In August, she also conducted a Science Excitation workshop at Victoria Memorial School for the Blind.
- In September 2016, Dr Sam Taraporevala visited the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) as an invitee to the Doctoral Advisory Committee meeting for the PhD thesis of Ruchi Palan. The thesis focuses on Disabled Students in Higher Education: A Study of Experiences and Aspirations.
- In October, the centre's Special Educators worked closely with Mr. Purandare of Galord Arts during the month to produce a Geometry kit for VI students for the upcoming trainings. This included an accessible scale and protractor.
- During the year, XRCVC arranged over 100 scribes from nearby schools for the exams of students with special needs at St Xavier's College.
- An orientation visit was organised for 55 second-year BEd students of K J Somaiya College.
- In January 2017 Kabir Nagral, a Grade 10 student at Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts (USA) came to meet Dr Sam Taraporevala and Neha Trivedi. He was recently awarded a fellowship by his school to research learning initiatives for visually impaired students in India and the US. The eventual goal of his research is to identify, adapt and deliver effective and affordable maths and computer learning solutions which will provide job skills for the visually impaired. He was accompanied by his father Ajit Nagral, who heads a company called Sciformix. They were provided specific CTMs and TD research queries to start their work
- The UGC team to review autonomy for the college visited the centre as part of its evaluation. The centre's work came in for high commendation in their report.
- A team from Mumbai University's Local Inspection Committee visited XRCVC in January to learn about the work done at the centre. They were in college to review the affiliation for unaided courses.
- Uma Rao from Mathruchaya Bangalore visited XRCVC in January to share and exchange ideas on how they are creating books and tactile diagrams. She explained and demonstrated to Rebecca how Quick Tac and Swift can be used. In turn, Rebecca Carvalho took her through some parts of the research XRCVC has done with creating Thermoform diagrams.
- XRCVC organised a programme for the Marathi Vidnyan Parishad in January on the occasion of National Science Day. A Reading Without Seeing workshop and awareness workshop were conducted on the occasion.
- During the month, XRCVC sent Assistech its first two kits for tactile diagram production.

- Work also commenced on creating teachingtools.in, the online CTM library. The first Wikipage has been set up in this connection
- Work pertaining to book content creation and accessible study material creation continued through the year. Both staff and volunteers are engaged in this work
- Neha Trivedi set up a support group of Higher Education STEM visually impaired and low vision students to start a collaborative process of work.
- Dr Sam Taraporevala was the keynote speaker for a seminar on Science and Technology for Persons with Disabilities at IGNOU. He spoke on the theme of “Science and the Blind, A double-edged sword: The Socio-Technical Challenge”.
- Co-ordinated for and held a meeting in March 2017 with Dr Salil Jandyal, Hon. Secretary Mrs Goenka and Mrs Deshpande of Victoria Memorial School to discuss the kind of support XRCVC could provide in the academic year 2017-18.
- Rebecca Carvalho met with 22 teachers from NAB Education Department for their Andheri centre, and oriented the teachers to some aspects of the work being done under the XRCVC Maths-Science Project and also provided a detailed brief about the Maths Science Efficiency workshop.
- XRCVC Maths Science Egroup discussions among members continued through the year. The egroup currently has 63 members.
- Meetings were held in April 2017 with Gregor Strutz and Snehal (an NID student) on the possibility of collaborations to develop a Geometry kit. Key design challenges while designing the ideal Geometry tools for India were also discussed with them.
- In May 2017, Neha Trivedi and Calveena D’Sylva visited St. John’s Universal School, Goregaon West, to discuss with the management the various examination and other options for the two VI students in the school. They also met officials of Chatrabhuj Narsee School, Kandivali East, with regards the possibility of admission for a student whose parents had sought help from XRCVC.
- In May 2017, 18 members of the Lions Club of East Bombay visited XRCVC to hand over the Lion’s trophy to Shekhar Manjulkar.

## **Independent Living**

Each of us, as we pass through our day, interact with a range of products, environments and services from transport services, to kitchen appliances, and entertainment products. How accessible are these daily living services and products for the visually challenged? The XRCVC’s Independent Living initiative questions and works towards rectifying these areas. Some of the activities covered under this initiative during the year are appended below.

- Conducted continuing discussions with Assistech, IIT Delhi and Mumbai First about OnBoard, the accessible announcement system that will help Visually Impaired persons board buses.
- Worked on pilot testing of location identification signages called Beacons. The plan is to have a Mobile Application in place for indoor navigation and identification for blind users. Also coordinated with a firm called NWBT on installing Beacons at Mumbai airport, and worked with a few engineering students on their Beacon navigation project and indoor navigation device.
- Worked with LEAF Design Pvt Ltd on accessibility initiatives with design students.
- Continued ongoing research and development work on visual / auditory / tactile teaching-learning aids and other independent living aids. Worked on integrating diverse technologies which could create a composite system to read through fingers, see through eyes, or hear through ears. The research also has immense potential for the teaching-learning process as it can promote paired reading and can assist a non-Braille literate person to also function effectively.
- An Art of Living course was conducted in August 2016 for XRCVC members by Prof Sarada of St Xavier’s College.
- Point of View conducted a five-day Digital Storytelling workshop for XRCVC members. Digital Story Telling is a creative form of expression, which enables the participants to delve within and talk about one story/ experience / moment that stands out most for them. At the end of five days they were mentored on giving voice to their thought and feeling, scripting their story, and given technical training for producing their digital story.
- XRCVC’s suggestions given to the Ministry of Urban Development, Delhi were incorporated in the ‘Harmonised Guidelines And Space Standards For Barrier Free Built Environment For Persons With Disability and Elderly Persons – February 2016’

- XRCVC also gave its inputs to Enable India for their Viable summit
- In February 2017, continued ongoing work with Fr Agnel Institute of Engineering and with Mr Sandeep Anand of NBW Tech for Beacon testing.
- Dr Sam Taraporevala and Neha Trivedi met Faizan Zahid from IDC to exchange ideas on accessible bus transport.
- A few engineering students from Swami Vivekananda college visited the centre to discuss their project on independent navigation aid for the blind.
- Ketan Kothari from Sightsavers and Shizanne D'Mello translated E5 E-book prompts from English to Marathi.

## Awareness

Creating awareness about the lives and capabilities of visually impaired persons is one of the key areas that will open doors for them in a world where the rules are made for and by sighted people. The XRCVC has been working on a number of such initiatives through its awareness and sensitization workshop Antarchakshu\* —The Eye Within.

In May 2016, the XRCVC had launched a comic strip series titled 'You & Eye' as a sensitisation and awareness initiative. Probably India's first comic strip on the lives of visually impaired persons, 'You & Eye' is a collaborative effort between the XRCVC, Jagran Group publication Mid-day, and Pune-based cartoonist, Nala Ponnappa. The comic strip is

**Table 3: General Awareness workshops and events**

No	Date	Participant profile	Venue	No of Participants	
1	03-Aug	Architecture Students	IES School of Architecture	35	
2	09-Aug	IT professionals	Accenture (Inclusion and Diversity Expo)	80	
3	12-Aug	Design students	IIT Bombay	20	
4	15-Aug	IT professionals	BNY Mellon, Pune	66	
5	15-Aug	IT professionals	BNY Mellon, Pune	36	
6	15-Aug	IT professionals	BNY Mellon, Pune	37	
7	16-Aug	IT professionals	BNY Mellon, Chennai	50	
8	16-Aug	IT professionals	BNY Mellon, Chennai	66	
9	01-Sep	Students	FYBMM students, St Xavier's College	40	
10	13-Sep	Students	Volunteer training for Antarchakshu	122	
11	Sept 18, 19, 20		Antarchakshu at IITB	1734	
12	01-Oct	PhD Students	IITB-Monash Research Academy	27	
13	03-Oct	Corporate staff	Citibank	16	
14	05-Oct	Corporate staff I	Sanofi Pharmaceuticals	27	
15	05-Oct	Corporate staff II	Sanofi Pharmaceuticals	33	
16	20-Oct	Media students	XIC	20	
17	02-Dec	Tata	Bombay House	32	
18	16-Dec	Corporate Staff	Deloitte office, Delhi	26	
19	16-Dec	Corporate Staff	Deloitte office, Delhi	19	
20	26-Dec	IIT students	IIT Delhi's TRYST festival	12	
21	26-Dec	IIT students	IIT Delhi's TRYST festival	20	
22	20-Apr	Retailers	Viviana Mall Thane	48	<b>TOTAL: 2566</b>

being published every week in the Sunday edition of Mid-day to a very good response from readers.

In addition, XRCVC conducted its mega sensitisation and awareness event Antarchakshu\* in IIT-Bombay on September 18, 19, 20 (A detailed report on the event is available separately.)

During the year Antarchakshu<sup>7</sup> was conducted at many places and for a variety of target groups covering 2566 participants. (see Table 3).

- In February 2017, XRCVC put up a stall on Accessible Maths and Science at Paradigm (the annual science exhibition held at St. Xavier's College). There were approximately 40 visitors.
- During the same month, Dr Sam Taraporevala delivered a lecture to approximately 90 advertising students on 'Sight' at ISDI, Lower Parel. The lecture was organised by the Indian Advertisers' Association under their five-part lecture series 'Sense'.
- XRCVC participated in an exhibition for the National Science Day at the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (HBCSE), and put up a stall on inclusive Science education, with focus on accessible tactile diagrams and demonstration on performing accessible light experiments.
- In May 2017, Dr Sam Taraporevala and Aniket Gupta visited Hyderabad to attend the first Accessibility summit organized by Microsoft in collaboration with Sarthak Education Trust. Dr Taraporevala gave a talk on First Perspective: 'What we need. What we don't need.'

### **Networking**

- Dr Sam Taraporevala and Neha Trivedi met Mr Mukesh Jain and Mr Sanjay Singh, MSJE at Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities in Delhi to discuss accessibility initiatives.
- Dr Vinay Saini from IIT Bombay (Nanobios Lab, Dept of Biosciences & Bioengineering), visited XRCVC in October 2016 to familiarise himself with the activities of the centre. He also introduced Dr Sam Taraporevala via email to Prof Amir Amedi and Tomer Behor from BrainVisionRehab.com, who are working on an assistive device called the Eyecane.
- Satish Kanamadi from TISS and two of his colleagues visited XRCVC to gain insights into how they could improve their Assistive Technologies Centre, the MK Tata Centre for the Visually Challenged.
- Additionally, Dr Sam Taraporevala and Aniket Gupta visited Delhi in December 2016, where they attended a meeting at MSJE to discuss assistive devices for the blind, held discussions at Saksham with Dipendra Manocha and others on accessible mobile phones, and attended the unveiling of the accessible metro map in Delhi's Patel Chowk station. The map has been developed by Assistech - IIT Delhi.
- In January, Aradhana Lal from Lemon Tree Hotels visited XRCVC to discuss career opportunities for disabled persons at Lemon Tree.
- In February, Shahin Shaikh, Secretary, NAB Modal Research and Rehabilitation Centre, Nashik visited the centre to understand the work at XRCVC.
- Jinisha Chedda (Director - Kandivali Sol's Arc) visited the centre on February 10
- Sushil Gangawane from Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation visited the centre in February seeking assistance to set up a resource centre in Vashi.
- Mark Mascarenhas, Ophthalmologist from Swaraashi Netralaya, visited XRCVC to enquire whether he could refer his patients to the centre.

### **Conclusion**

We would like to extend our gratitude to our funders, partners, and sponsors who have played a major role in making us what we are today. We would like to specially thank Great Eastern CSR Foundation, Tata Capital Housing Finance Limited, Sightsavers, Dhun Pestonji Parakh Discretionary Trust, a contribution by Armaity Keki Namver in memory of her brother late Hoshang Keki Namver, Godrej Industries Ltd, SBIMF Funds Management Pvt Ltd, NCR Corporation India Pvt Ltd, Lions Club of East Bombay, Center for Internet and Society (CIS), Banoo N Daroga, RUSA Maharashtra, TATA Sons Ltd, Suryavanshi Ads & Promotions LLP for supporting our various projects.

A big thank you to our large pool of volunteers as well. Their commitment ensures that a small organisation like the XRCVC is able to make a significant contribution and touch the lives of countless people all over the country.

In conclusion, our deep appreciation goes out to St. Xavier's College—the management, staff members and students, for demonstrating to educational institutes all over the country how a centre of learning can be truly inclusive to persons with disabilities, particularly blind and low-vision persons. Special thanks to Dr Agnelo Menezes, the principal, whose ongoing support and guidance has helped the XRCVC continue as a centre of excellence of national repute.

## IN CHERISHED MEMORY



### A TRIBUTE OF LOVE TO MR. THEOTONIO PEREIRA

*'Music is the movement of sound to reach the soul for the education of its virtue'.*

- Plato

Mr. Theotonio C. Pereira from the Department of Physics who passed away suddenly on Oct. 2, 2015 seemed to echo what Plato brought to bear. Physics was his first love and music his second and together, they set him on a journey questing for the soul of education at Xavier's. A dedicated teacher and alumnus of merit, he taught physics to several generations in a career that spanned 28 long years. Loved by his colleagues, he remained simple and cheerful in disposition. He took delight in his little family consisting of his wife Sharmine, daughter

Shanice and son Sean. Electronics and gadgets caught his fancy and found him volunteering to offer his expertise to the fledgling B.Sc. I.T course at its inception.

Although his mobility was restricted he did not shirk his responsibilities as a teacher and mentor. He served on several committees and was among the first few teachers to give EUMIND the shape it has today.

When death came a-calling, it found him ready for a new innings of life with His Maker. He reported for work on Oct.1, 2015 but collapsed after a massive heart attack that very night. As Randy Pausch says,

"We don't meet the reaper by living longer, but by living well, and living fully- for the reaper will come for all of us. The question is: what do we do between the time we are born and the time he shows up".

Rest in Peace Theo and may the angels carry you onward!

**Hasnain Naqvi**



### A TRIBUTE TO MR YESHWANT GAWDE, FORMER LABORATORY ASSISTANT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY

Shri Yeshwant Gawde joined the Department of Microbiology of the college as a laboratory attendant in 1963. He retired after years of dedicated service, as lab assistant, in 1998. Through these years, Yeshwant worked most sincerely and with a fierce loyalty to the department. The welfare and training of the students was his greatest concern and the faculty depended heavily on him for the optimum working of the department laboratories. He willingly trained laboratory assistants of other Biology departments of the college in Microbiology practices.

Yeshwant's dependable and cooperative spirit was encapsulated in the title of Shahrukh Khan's movie ' Main Hoon Na'. The Department was very fortunate to have enjoyed the services of Yeshwant.

May his soul rest in peace.

**Professor Vivien Amonkar**



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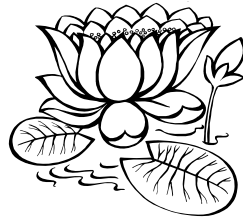
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