

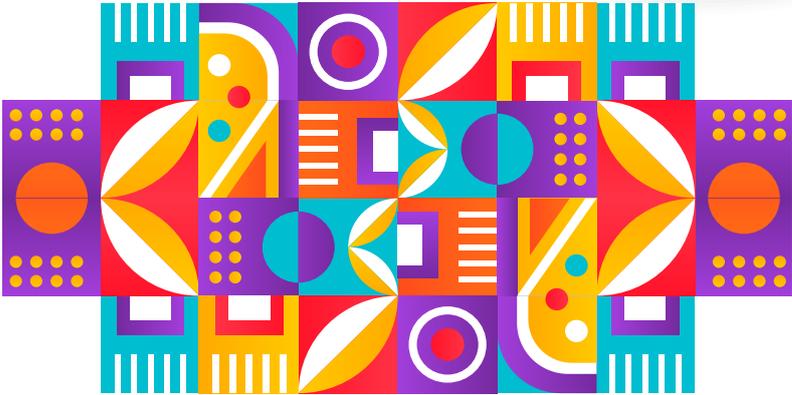
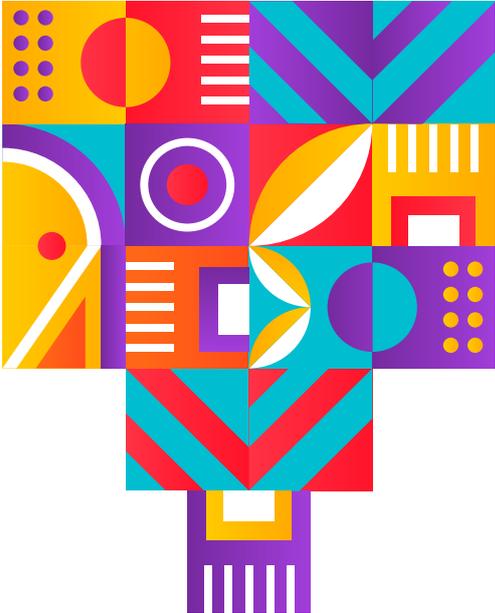


Presidency Kaleidoscope

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Uptake

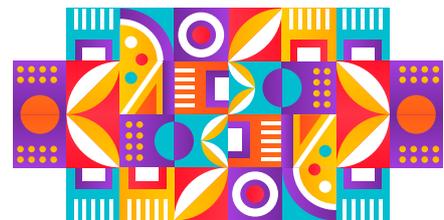
Whatever happened to the good old manners that we were taught in schools? I heard my neighbour, a very respected senior citizen, mutter loudly as I stepped into the elevator. Her annoyance was a little cherubic boy who breezed in and dropped his satchel of books on her feet, then rushed out without so much as a sorry when his landing came into view.

For those who grew up on a generous dose of please, sorry and thank you, this can be quite disconcerting, but when one looks around, it is pretty much a common situation. Youngsters have a failing memory, maybe due to the rush they are always in, or perhaps it is no longer considered cool to greet, apologize, or request anything from anyone.

I recalled the beautiful lines from A. G. Gardiner's On Saying Please

"There is no law that compels us to say 'Please'; there is a social practice much older and much more sacred than any law which enjoins us to be civil. And the first requirement of civility is that we should acknowledge a service. 'Please' and 'Thank you' are the small change with which we pay our way as social beings. They are the little courtesies by which we keep the machine of life oiled and running sweetly."

Can it be that the hurry, worry, curry culture has had a chilling effect upon these everyday civilities of behaviour that definitely sweeten the general air around us? We often find students mailing in without a proper salutation or an appropriate greeting. The social media culture, where everything is abridged or abbreviated, may be to blame to a large extent. Possibly the best antidote to this can be to counter this with a greeting or a polite courtesy with an exaggerated flourish, hoping that the message is not lost on the reader or listener.





Good manners can be infectious. This is one contagion that we would love to catch. When the day begins with a greeting, exchanging pleasantries, or just giving a broad smile by way of acknowledging someone's presence, it surely fills the heart with cheer and gets passed on to the next person. And so it is that the chain does not get broken as you are in an elevated mood. The opposite is also true. Rude behaviour and unkind words do spread their poison and, like the lift man in A.G. Gardiner's essay, can get passed on to others easily. This is where we need to try a wee bit harder. Our response need not always be based on others' reaction. Isn't it? Break the chain and flush out unpleasantness by pouring in more love and more sunshine. Think about it.

Until we meet again, have a wonderful time ahead.



Dr. Akila S Indurti
Editor

Manners maketh man.
William of Wykeham





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Dr. Saravanan Chandrasekaran

Professor, Department of Chemistry, PU
Chairperson, Environmental Cell, PU

In Pursuit of Green Technologies

It was a pleasure to meet Dr. Saravanan, who is Chairperson, Environmental Cell, PU, in the month that we are observing the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer on September 16th and to understand the workings of the Environmental Cell at Presidency University. Prof. Saravanan, who is the Marie Curie Fellow, UK, has worked in the United Kingdom on biodegradable electronic circuit boards, which were featured on the BBC too. His passion for green chemistry is evident as he explains the various steps he has taken in the department to move away from harmful chemicals and toxic solvents and replace them with environmentally friendly products to the extent possible.

The Environmental Cell in the university, with a strength of 50 students, showcases activities like Jugaad, where students recycle waste materials into usable items, thus saving the environment the agony of enduring an enormous amount of waste. This Cell organises many events in tandem with the Science Club. I was quite fascinated when the Professor explained the green method of coating materials, as these do not release harmful gases into the atmosphere.

This column will spotlight three personalities who make PU proud with their hard work and accomplishments.



It was in 2020 that the Environmental Cell was constituted, and Dr Saravanan has now taken over as the Chairperson of the Club, steering it to newer heights. The Club has hosted events like the Say No to Plastic Campaign, set up herbal gardens and vermicomposting facilities, teamed up with NSS volunteers in some of these tasks, and has promoted awareness campaigns in and around the university among the communities outside. As part of the awareness to say no to plastic, students donated about 150 cloth bags made out of discarded materials to the inhabitants around Rajanukunte. Some of the activities undertaken by the Environmental Cell are inviting experts from the field to spread environmental awareness based on their work on the ground; making the environment green; avoiding the use of chemicals; replacing them with bio-degradable materials; ensuring that effluents are not let into the water bodies.

An innovative endeavour during the recently concluded independence day celebrations was to issue seed flags to all faculty and students so that they get transformed into plants rather than end up elsewhere. Dr. Saravanan is on a spree to strengthen the environmental cell and expressed his hope that many more faculty would join the group so that they can make a visible difference on the campus.

Dr. Saravanan's heart is set on clearing the world of e-waste, one step at a time. With the increasing use of electronic devices, e-waste will rule the world in the future. Even if we make a conscious step from now on and act responsibly and dispose of things sensibly, we will be able to help Mother Earth breathe a little more freely without choking her vitals. Single-use batteries should be avoided, and rechargeable ones should be promoted.

Social media campaigns are not only powerful but also effective with greater reach. The time has now come to think of the world as a greater entity and not be bothered only by the small area that we inhabit. An energy audit in terms of water and other resources that are used to create various products, be it a cup of rice or an aeroplane, should be imprinted in each one's mind to reduce the energy footprint in this world.

How can we explore getting energy from renewable resources and minimise exploitation of non-renewable resources? There is an urgent need for this awareness in the world today. The initial cost of setting up plants for harvesting renewable energy like wind mills or solar panels may act as a deterrent, but the gains are many, not to mention bequeathing a clean earth to our inheritors.

India should also follow these stringently like the European Union. It served as an eye-opener to hear Dr. Saravanan say that devices like mobile phones and computers contain far greater amounts of gold than what is processed from the ores. These can be found on the circuit boards. Therefore, it does not make sense to send used mobile phones to landfills.



Dr. Nakul Ramanna

Professor and HOD,
Department of Civil Engineering, PU

Creating Concrete Structures

It is raining projects and proposals in the Department of Civil Engineering at Presidency University, which has entered into meaningful partnerships with the industry and signed MOUs in recent months to drive many projects that are socially relevant and help the students transfer the knowledge gained in the classrooms to the real world beyond the walls of the institution.

The dynamic Head of the Department, along with his distinguished army of colleagues, is pushing the envelope when it comes to exposing the students to the fast-paced advancements taking place in structural engineering, building technologies, smart cities, and infrastructure development. The infectious laughter is unmissable. It puts you at ease instantly. Dr. Nakul Ramanna joined Presidency University in early 2018 as an Associate Professor and as Coordinator of the Academic Committee, plunged headlong into developing a world-class curriculum, revamping the syllabus appropriately, and before long, found himself easing into the role of the Chief Custodian of Examinations, where he would schedule invigilation duties and vigilance-related activities to strengthen the examination process at PU. The role provided myriad opportunities to interact with colleagues from other departments and with key officials who got a peek into his leadership skills.

Taking over as the Head of the Department was a logical progression and students from the Civil Engineering Department have been beneficiaries of the various programmes that have been chalked out for them to hone their skills and prepare them as thorough professionals ready to face the myriad challenges that await them outside.



The Galleria

The Department of Civil Engineering at PU is firmly ensconced on the academic map of the country. One has only to see the participation in any virtual event organized by the department and there is sure to be a minimum of 350 participants not only from across the country but also from the Middle East, Africa, Canada etc. The challenge thrown by the pandemic brought a silver streak in an otherwise ominous phase. PU was able to organise over 20 events in the academic year 2020–2021, which has gradually risen to about 30 events this year. Investing personal time and energy and attending over 200 Atal and AICTE sponsored FDPs proved to be well worth the effort as it has helped Dr. Ramanna to build a repertoire of speakers and a corpus of topics and organise FDPs and workshops at PU. What is unique is that these events are not organised only for the faculty and students of the parent institution but are thrown open for participation worldwide through a telegram group with 2000 members that relays information. Call it the power of technology.

Another spinoff is that Dr. Ramanna has started creating videos, about 1000 of them, on all these programmes as they were delivered by experts and he plans to upload them on YouTube so that they can serve as a repository for students to refer to and learn from. Courses at PU are built around experiential learning, fulfilling a key NAAC requirement.

During the course of the conversation, Prof. Nakul Ramanna explained the SVAMITVA project, which is a centrally launched scheme and is a reformative step towards the establishment of clear ownership of property in rural inhabited (Abadi) areas by mapping of land parcels using drone technology. In partnership with Clear Water Dynamics, PU is using drones to map the Chittoor and Tirupati districts of Andhra Pradesh, with five students on the ground operating the drone and mapping 500 sq. km. There are three students involved in the data processing. It takes about 18 to 22 hours to render a map, and the entire project would take about four months to reach completion. Apart from generating revenue, such projects strengthen the collaboration between industry and academia and provide valuable exposure to students. It is a matter of great pride that PU is the first university in Karnataka to get a high-end, advanced PPK drone, which is used in consultancy projects. With 8 students, 2 lab instructors, and 3 faculty overseeing the project, it is only a matter of time before students take up projects for the Government of Karnataka to map areas in the State.

The University is also working on a lake rejuvenation project in the lakes in and around Rajanukunte. This would help in monitoring flooding in the area, recharging groundwater aquifers, preventing runoff and help in mapping the area for timely intervention, especially in the wake of the September deluge in Bengaluru. The department collaborates with TIDE in skill building in the peri-urban area of Rajanukunte as part of the University's outreach activities in the neighbourhood.



The Galleria

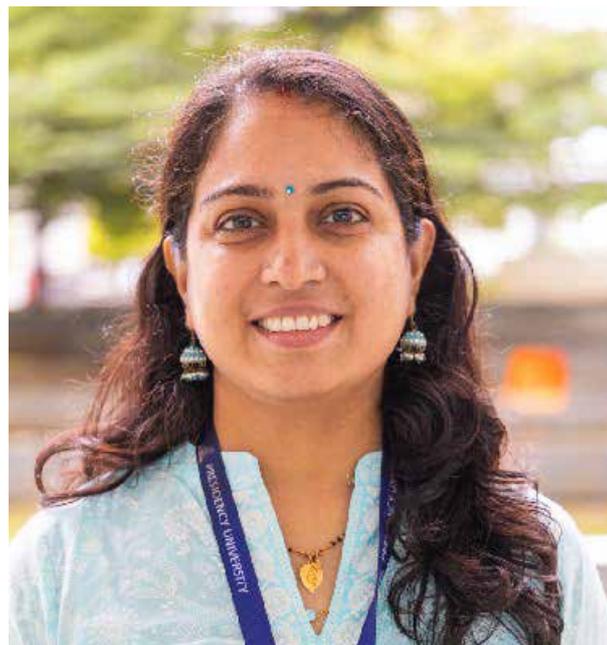
Dr. Nakul Ramanna's list of impressive achievements includes bagging the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award in 2011 from Old Dominion University, VA. His various stints in the United States, both as a faculty member in universities and as an industry professional, have broadened his horizons, and he hopes to use that experience here at PU to build a world-class university. He proved his mettle as an able leader as President of the Indian Students Association at Old Dominion University. This enriching stint has helped him embrace an inclusive vision where diverse voices can be heard with confidence, with a view to making the end product all encompassing. Throwing open the department's activities to a larger audience helps in cross-disciplinary association as points of convergence emerge.

Students are fortunate to have a mentor like Dr. Nakul Ramanna as he guides them when they are applying to various universities abroad for higher studies as he has been there, seen it all and can help students navigate through the entire application process to make the winning cut in the fiercely competitive market. Providing them with letters of recommendation or appraisals is part of his regular job profile.

Doing his bit for society, Dr. Ramanna is an active member of the Lion's Club and Adarsha Club and also serves an underprivileged school in his area. While cricket and philately have been his hobbies, there is little time now for such pursuits as he enjoys being a doting father to two lovely daughters, one a spry six-year-old and the other an infant, all of nine months. With a general practitioner of medicine as his loving wife, Dr. Nakul Ramanna's hands are quite full, literally, as he goes about fulfilling his tasks. The University is indeed fortunate to have so many achievers on its rolls.

The road to success is always under construction.

- Lily Tomlin



Dr. Deepthi P. R.

Associate Professor
Department of Physics, PU
Head-Student Mentorship Program, PU

Fostering Student Success through Mentoring

Have you seen a lifeguard alert and watchful, keeping an eye on swimmers in a pool? He is all eyes and ears but remains unseen until he notices what may be just a slight rustle or misstep to jump in

Discover the Origin

The concept of mentoring originated with the character of Mentor in Homer's *Odyssey*. In this Ancient Greek epic poem, dating back to 3000 years, Odysseus entrusts his young son Telemachus to the care of Mentor, his trusted companion, when he goes to fight in the Trojan War. Unexpectedly, he is away for decades and during that time Mentor nurtures and supports the boy. In the Middle Ages, mentoring became common practice as there were guilds and trade apprenticeships. Young people, having acquired technical skills, benefited under the care of more experienced and established professionals.

and lend a helping hand to someone in distress. A mentor is like a life guard—always observant, ever vigilant, willing to lend guidance and support and help in whatever capacity s/he can to the students. The aim of mentorship is to create a culture that fosters learning and to see that the mentee blossoms under the care of the mentor.

Dr. Deepthi avers that often times, students require compassionate and empathetic listening, and merely offering a sympathetic ear pushes the students towards betterment. 70% of the problems, if at all they can be called so, are solved by merely listening to the students. The world certainly needs more listeners!



The Galleria

Dr. Deepthi, who joined PU as an Assistant Professor of Physics in 2015 after having served in another higher education institute for 7 years, took over as the Coordinator of Student Mentorship in July 2021. She took to this new assignment with aplomb and, recognising her contribution to the mentorship programme at the University, was made the Head of the Student Mentorship programme exactly a year later, in July 2022. Her task is clearly laid out as she goes about organizing day-long online training programmes to facilitate faculty in their roles as mentors. Dr. Deepthi also orients new faculty who take over as faculty mentors, inheriting the students from the faculty who resign and move on.

Last year, soon after the University reopened, a total of 4000+ students were assigned mentors. The School of Engineering alone accounted for 2886 of these, with the remainder coming from other schools. The vastly refined mentorship programme started in the academic year 2021–2022 and has begun to yield tangible results, with mentors handholding students throughout their stay at the University.

Mentors keep an eye on attendance-related and grade-related issues. The academic mentors are also watchful of their students, and should they detect behavioural issues or emotional disturbances, they refer them to the counsellors. Presidency University's MOU with the online counselling platform Your Dost has proved to be beneficial to students who can chat with experts in relative anonymity. Continuous orientation sessions with students, mailers with details of the services offered are sent to the students regarding Your Dost.

On the anvil are plans to conduct one activity every month for each school with your dost volunteers to familiarise the students with the counsellors. Faculty Training for mentors with resource persons from an external agency, facilitating internal mentoring sessions with senior members, and interactions with mentors are some of the activities this year to make the whole process of mentoring enjoyable for both mentors and mentees. Creating WhatsApp groups by each mentor exclusively for his/her group of mentees and posting inspiring messages, planning enjoyable intra-group activities are some of the things that will be done this year as students have started coming back to the classes after the long haul of the pandemic. A commemorative Mentor's Day event to celebrate mentoring as a reliable and comprehensive support system that helps motivate students to excel in both academic and non-academic fields and to make the most of their life at college will be held this academic year.

Passionate, warm and genial, Dr. Deepthi is committed to helping students, and as Head of Student Mentorship, she brings a clarity of purpose and sharp focus to the role. She is currently guiding three research students and has over 17 publications to her credit. Her hobbies include cooking and unwinding herself by listening to soft melodies. As a mother of a teenager who is in Grade X, she is sensitive to the needs of the youth and believes in doing complete justice to the various roles that she plays. She is blessed with a supportive partner who is from the IT sector. She sums up her philosophy as being a good human being. Needless to add, all achievements culminate in this one goal, which is worth pursuing indeed.

A mentor is someone who allows you to see the hope inside yourself.

- Oprah Winfrey

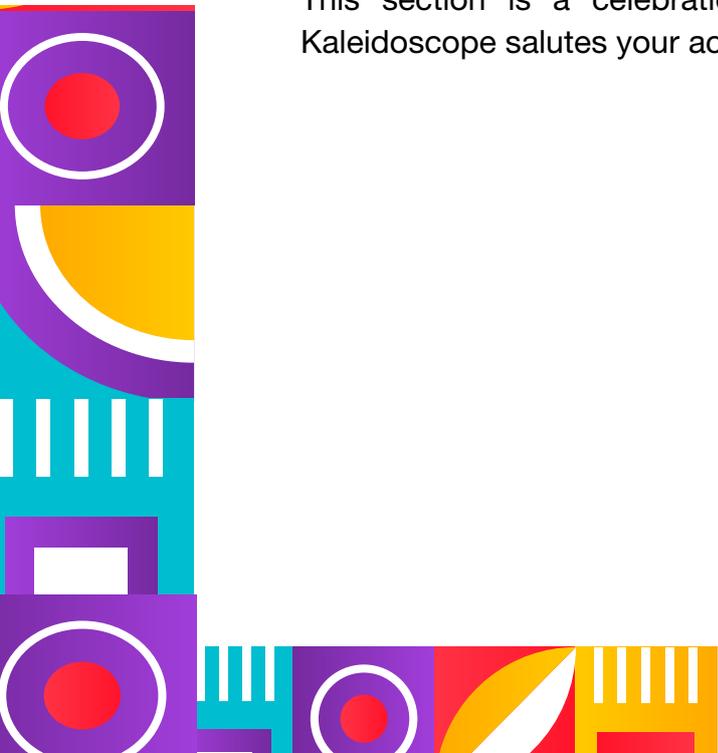
Beyond Classroom



DEPARTMENT OF **STUDENT AFFAIRS**

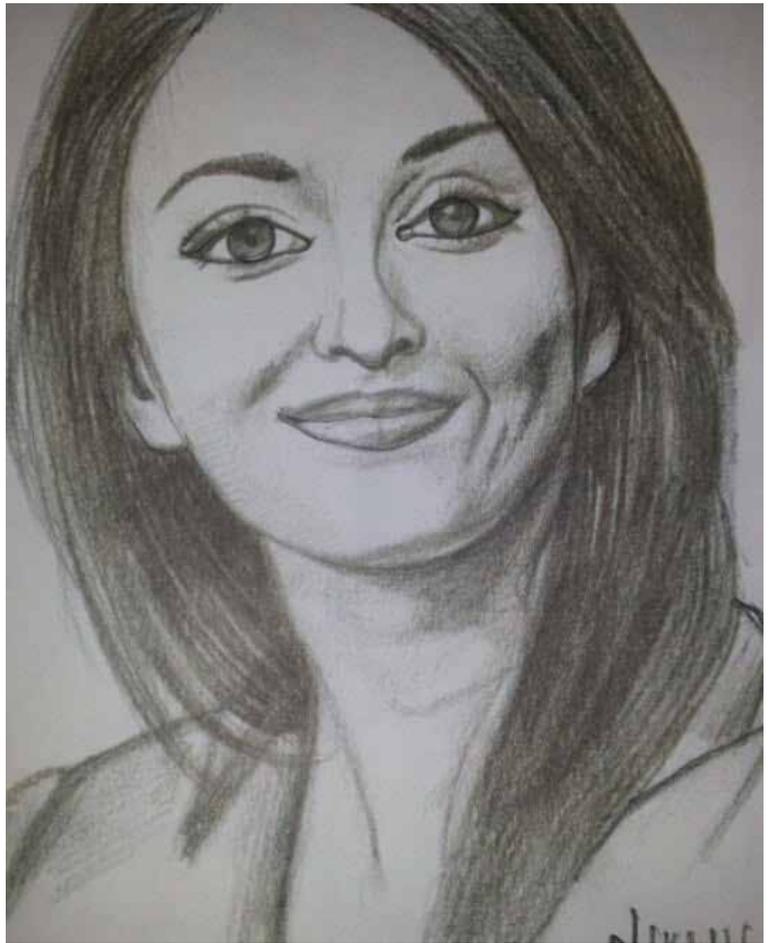
Campus Buzz

This section is a celebration of your talent and achievements, dear readers. Kaleidoscope salutes your accomplishments. You make the PU family proud.





Sketch Time



Nikhil O
2021BCV0020
BCA AR/VR – SOIS

Sketch Time



Raj Rajak
2021BCH0021 - B. Com (Hons)
SOC, PU

Drawing is not what one sees but what one can make others see.
- Edgar Degas



Different Strokes





Sketch Time

Different Strokes



Bhoomikaa. R
20211BCH0010
B. Com (Hons)



Mandala Art



Ms. B. Parkavi
Asst. Professor, Dept of CSE
SOE, PU

A mandala is...an integrated structure organized around a unifying centre.

- Longchenpa



A selection of poems from our in-house poets

The Summer of Twenty

The flames of the great torch shine,
on my guiltless eyes they dine.
Make this vessel of life warmer,
I am young and it is summer.

Such a relief to let go of the blubber,
with an infamous opinion I'd utter.
Gone are the days of sluggish stutter,
time for dynamic melodies and twitter.

The heels won't crack,
the lips might dry,
with lazy blankets people won't lie.
With tiny effort they won't sigh,
with ample energy they will rise high

It's the season of glare and light,
let's not hide the skin tone is fright.
It's a sunburn due to bright,
Not a kill on sight.



Verse Time

The trees shed their leaves,
Only youth can fulfil their needs.
Towards a better future they move,
It's the progression they choose.

The flames of the great torch shine,
like a post winter mango vine.
Announcing the arrival, a drummer,
I am ignorant and it is summer.

So dismaying was this season two cycles prior,
where the great illness awakened the fire.
Weaving in the fabric of life a deathful wire,
I wish the integrity of our leaders was a little higher.

Not just blubber, we even lost souls,
Mayhem everywhere and corpses on floors.
Death leaves a dreadful knock, on doors,
a genocide from a microscopic source.

The heels didn't crack, but our lips did dry,
in front of my eyes my loved ones lie.



Verse Time

With a heart full of regrets, I sigh,
I wished one more gaze before they shut their eye.

It was a season of glare and light,
but we had to confine in fright.
I see death with eyes open wide,
the kid inside faded with every death in sight.

Trees shed their leaves,
the illness brings us to our keens.
Grief and sorrow in the breeze,
desperation in every house they cease.

The flames of the great torch shined,
On my juvenile soul they dined.
Glazed by the souls that suffer,
I grew up and it is summer



Mohammed Noaman Ahmed
20211CSE0559, SoE

True happiness involves the full use of one's power and talents.
– John W. Gardner



The Girl Child

Of all the creations I have known
The girl child sits on the throne

Beauty in her each breath
Pearl like soul in her sheath

She walks her first step
Heavens below her feet in depth

With determined ambition
She begins her expedition

Things she packed
Comprised her life in fact

First came endless care
Without even expecting any kind of fare

Next happened to be love
That came like a beautiful dove

After walking this path
Her feelings emerged like froth

She learnt to forgive
So that she can move away from negative

Endless were her sacrifice
Which have no price

Despite all these she full-fills her dream
Hence her happiness redeem.

In her she has lucky charm
Present around always like a helping arm

Even praised by god
Her existence is an applaud

By nature, she is a fighter
To make future brighter

Of all the creations I have known
The girl child sits on the throne.



Syed Afnanuddin
20191CSE0739



Verse Time

ಜೀವನ

ಜೀವನದ ಅತ್ಯಮೂಲ್ಯ ರತ್ನ
ಕಠಿಣ ಪರಿಶ್ರಮ
ಹಾಗೂ
ಜೀವನದ ವಿಶ್ವಾಸಾರ್ಹ ಜತೆಗಾರ
ಆತ್ಮವಿಶ್ವಾಸ

-ಜಗೋ

LIFE

Invaluable Gem in the World is
HARDWORK
And Reliable Partner for Life is
SELF CONFIDENCE



JaGo
Dr. Jagdish H Godihal
Prof.-CIV & Deputy Dean -Academic Research, PU



PULWAMA ATTACK {14 FEBRUARY 2019}

कि अटल पवन मायूस दिखा था, मलय पवन भी रुकी रुकी थी । कुतुब मीनार की शानो शौकत उस दिन झुकीं झुकीं थी, लाल क़िला और ताजमहल भी सननाटे के साये में, सायता सा खो गया था हिंद दशा की चाय में, अशोक स्तम्ब की शांति तीस में हिंसा गुलती दिखती थी, अरे आतंकवाद था मक़सद जिनका जिहाद महल मुखौटा था, और जालियाँवाला बाग़ था लगता जीवित होकर लौटा था ।

सिर्फ़ 44 जवान भी गये थे उस दिन

सिंदूर माँग का जला, जाली थी राखी माँ की ममता जल रही थी, और कोई पिता का सहारा था तो पित्तक्षमता जल रही थी, आयना तब देख रहा था पंचशील अभियान हमारा । एक धमाका जला गया समूचा स्वाभिमान हमारा, अटल जले, कलम जले, माँ भारती का माँ मान जला था । और पुलवामा माटी पर उस दिन पूरा HINDUSTAN जला था ।

“कि पीट पर अगर वार ना होता, सिंघो की संतान पर 44 अकेले भारी पड़ते पूरे पाकिस्तान पर”

कि साँप जब तक आशतीनो के ना मारे जाएँगे होसला कितना भी हो हम जंग हारे जाएँगे,

और दुश्मनों के संग हम फिर करेंगे फ़ैसले पहले घर के जाहिलों के सर उतारे जाएँगे ॥



Bhan Singh
B.com llb
20211BCL0006

The poet is the priest of the invisible.
– Wallace Stevens



Vignettes

When I Turned 19

I write this today as I turn 19, looking back at the events that have shaped me into a strong and vulnerable woman. People/Society often consider vulnerability to be a weakness, but it takes immense courage to lower your guard and let people see you at your darkest times because that gives them faith to feel and acknowledge their emotions. But, today is not about how people or society perceive me. It is about the strength I have shown, and how I still do not choose to give up. For someone who thought she could not make it past 19; here I am completing my first year, adjusting to a country far away from home, and being able to make terms with the fact that not everyone in your life is meant to stay. There is so much grief caused by the people I love and the ones who hold an essential place in my life. Today, I forgive them for all the things they have done to me. This clearly does not mean that I am not taking a stand or disrespecting myself. This is who I am, I cannot hold negative emotions towards others for prolonged periods, I choose to let go because I am better than whatever they did to me. I feel immense gratitude for the people who are still with me in the process of making peace with several unresolved emotions. But I think none of this matters at the end of the day. The only significant and constant thing is me; all experiences and people are just an extension of my process. I surely do hold certain people in high regard, but not more than me. I choose to be selfish because no one has done it for me. I will do this for myself, protect and save my younger child. She has been the constant, having faith and trust that I will make it till the very end. I will do it for her and most importantly; I will make myself proud and practice kindness. With myself. Because more than anyone, I need it the most.

Happy birthday to you, I am so proud of you.

Your younger self always knew that you could make it so far.

Do this for her. Protect her.



Jharna R. Chellani
20211bav0051
BBA Aviation

You campaign in poetry. You govern in prose.

– Mario Cuomo



Say No to Ragging

Say Yes to Camaraderie and Friendship

As we welcome freshers who are entering the portals of the University with the hope of making a new beginning, here is a Native American tale that senior students can bear in mind before they plan any rite of passage for the newcomers.

A grandfather was having a rather interesting conversation with his young grandson, who did not understand why he felt like troubling and teasing others and taking pleasure in seeing others squirm in discomfort.

"That's the classic case of having two wolves within you," said Grandpa casually.

"Two wolves," asked the little boy, "where and why?"

"We all have two wolves within us. One is absolutely harmless, and what's even better is that it only sees the good in people, never the bad. It tries to extend the hand of friendship to strangers and reaches out to make them happy and comfortable in unfamiliar surroundings. It is longing to be of help.

But then there is this second wolf, which is, in reality, a monster. It longs to see others in pain, to tease and bring out the baser nature within each human being.

These two wolves scream for attention from within and try to win over each other. "Unfortunately, this is an ongoing battle every day and only one of them can emerge as the victor," explained Grandpa.

The little boy, his interest sufficiently piqued, asked the grandfather, "Which one wins, Grandpa?"

The grandfather smiled and said quietly, "The one we feed."

So, to all of you dear students, pause for a while and think. Which wolf would you want to feed? Give the good wolf a chance and allow it to win.

Say no to ragging; say yes to camaraderie and friendship.

RAGGING





Teacher's Day

September 5th is celebrated as Teacher's Day in India. The day marks the birth anniversary of the second President of India, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. When the philosopher-writer-statesman Dr. Radhakrishnan was approached by his admirers and students who were keen on celebrating his birthday, he suggested that each year they could observe his birthday as "Teacher's Day", and from then on, the tradition of remembering and honouring teachers for their selfless service to the country began, with the first Teachers' Day being celebrated on September 5, 1962. He was known for his simplicity and humility, and it was during his tenure as the President that the Rashtrapati Bhavan was opened to the general public. He was honoured with several awards during his lifetime, and was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1931. He received the prestigious Bharat Ratna in 1954 and also the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade in 1961.



Kaleidoscope presents a few articles in commemoration of the day.

Some Insights into Education

Teacher as a Guru (Dispeller of Darkness)

As part of the traditional Indian invocation, the Shanthi mantra is chanted before the commencement of any lesson.

Om Saha nau-avatu

Saha nau bhunaktu

Saha viryam karava-avahai

Tejasvi-nau-adhi-tama-astu ma vidvis-avahai

Om santih santih santih

This invocation is 5000 years old, and it is good to know what we are invoking, why we are invoking, and what exactly those words mean. At present, a sense of reverence is gradually diminishing and this may not just refer to a lack of reverence to teachers in particular, but a general lack of reverence for life, for nature, for the mysteries that are in us and around us, for so many things we do not know, for the many questions that we have no answers to.





Therefore, the Indian tradition introduces the concept of a guru to help the seeker gain clarity on what is being sought. This is to be done in a spirit of reverence and humility and the chanting of this mantra refers specifically to this and is chanted at the beginning of a class or a course.

Om Saha nau-avatu

(May the divine protect us both—the teacher and the taught. In this specific instance, the teacher is playing the role of a guru, imparting knowledge to other students, but in a larger context, the teacher is also a seeker and hence requires a guru who can show the way.)

Saha nau bhunaktu

(May the divine feed us both!) (May what we invoke provide us with energy.)

Saha viryam karava-avahai

(May we both work tirelessly! May we work towards the common objective of education with our full vigour)

Tejasvi-nau-adhi-tama-astu ma vidvis-avahai

(May our learning enlighten us rather than incite hostility.) And may our studies be beneficial to both of us; may we be enlightened; may we not disagree; and may it not result in vidvis (hostility).

It does not say do not ask questions. In fact, the teacher may not have answers to the questions asked. Let the overall goal not be forgotten. (The whole purpose of being here is to learn and to achieve that, one requires the blessings of the divine.)

Om santih santih santih

The Higher Goals of Education through Self-Awareness and Inner Transformation

The word "education" is derived from the Latin word educare, which is in turn related to the word educere, which means "to lead forth". We may also interpret this word to mean inner development leading to outer progress and fulfilment of the individuals concerned and of society at large.

Can a student aspire to be a "good professional" or a "good citizen" without also aspiring to be a good human being? Likewise, can one be a "good teacher" without being a good human being?

The gurus of our past were masters not just in narrow academic fields but also in character, compassion and wisdom. The word "guru," in the original Sanskrit, means "dispeller of darkness."

Here, the darkness refers not just to subject knowledge but to fundamental ignorance, which was identified as the root cause of human suffering.



Today, despite all the signs of technological development, we are also faced with a stark 'loss of values' in society and live in an age of anxiety (mental disorders) and unsustainable development. Educators must take some responsibility for this.

By habit, we have trained ourselves to look outward; self-awareness is a powerful means of discovering one's true nature and potential. Realizing that potential in all its dimensions should perhaps be the ultimate objective of education.

The higher goals of education include developing multiple parts of our being, not just cognitive (intellectual) intelligence but also physical, life force, emotions and a deeper self.

Siddirbhavati Karmaja

It literally means excellence or perfection in all actions. So whatever thoughts we think, whatever words we speak or listen to, whatever deeds we do, we are required to do them mindfully, not negligently, whole-heartedly, not half-heartedly. We are required to perform them joyously. We are required to do them authentically and not with any trace of lack of integrity. So these are the values respected in our tradition and values that we wish to promote among our colleagues and among our students and these should be the basis of our education and learning. But how do you do all that? How do you really put into practise something that requires sustained inner motivation, something that calls for higher vision, something that drives every action that you do?

The answer lies in the Bhagavad Gita. How do you discriminate between what to do and what not to do? How do you learn to recognise and then transcend your own dysfunctional patterns? How do you learn to nurture your higher potential? How do you learn to find fulfilment in your relationships and in your work? How do you deal with conflicts that may seem inevitable in our daily lives? How do you move beyond your narrow self-interest and into the service of humanity? These are some of the things we should aspire for and explore in our lives through education, which is the ultimate purpose of our lives.

Excellence in teaching is reflected by excellence in learning. The student is the core focus, while teachers are content to be in the background. In our Indian tradition, we have the concept of "guru dakshina", and the real "guru dakshina" for any guru would be the blossoming of a student. There is no better 'dakshina' than that. I would like to add that, as a teacher, it pleases us to see students excel in their areas of specialisation, in which we have a role, in the subject we teach them, and it is a pleasure to have wonderful students who can question and challenge us. This is what really makes our day. If we can have good interaction with them, bringing out good insights, it is worth sharing with colleagues and students.





In conclusion, it can be said that the real centre of any institution is the students. It is our duty to develop the students because they represent the future of the country and of the world. Teachers have a large role to play, and go beyond being pundits or specialists in their narrow fields of specialisation. Teachers have to transform into gurus, dispellers of darkness.

‘Yatha Guru Tatha Sisya’ = As the Teacher, So the Student.

Reference - www.devdasmenon.com



Mr. Ramachandra Gollar
Assistant Professor
Department of Civil Engineering, PU





OBE, Blooms Taxonomy, Question Papers and Way Forward

The worth and potentialities of a country get evaluated in and through the work of a teacher. In this context, Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan said beautifully, “You cannot make or build the nation by just bricks, you have to establish the minds of young people, and then alone can the nation building take place.” Every year 5th September is celebrated as Teachers Day. On this auspicious day, we the Teachers connected with teaching at University pledge to rededicate for the cause of all round development of students in particular and for metamorphic changes in the education system adapting to the winds of change for the betterment of the student community. Outcome Based Education (OBE); Bloom’s Taxonomy; Question Papers and Way Forward.....have been delineated in the following paragraphs. Considering all these aspects this article focuses on Learning – OBE - Why and What; Blooms taxonomy – What, When, How; Teaching Learning – OBE- Focus and Adopt – Where and How; Question Papers – (LOTS and HOTS) What, Why and How.

Outcome Based Education (OBE): The implementation of OBE in right earnest needs 21st-century teaching skills. This means teaching as you have always taught but with today's tools and technology. Teaching in the 21st century encourages teachers to be creative in providing interesting activities for the students. Teaching is not only delivering material and assessing the students’ ability but also the process of involving the students to be active on the activities provided. Technology provides teachers and students with access to a variety of educational resources that inspire (4C’s), those are Creativity, Critical thinking, Communication, and Collaboration.

Bloom’s Taxonomy: Learning Design Framework: Learning outcomes are statements of what is expected that the student will be able to do as a result of a learning activity. Learning Outcomes should be ‘SMART’ Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Timed. The framework to Designing Courses must be based on Learning Outcomes, like What do you want the student to be able to do? (Outcome); What does the student need to know in order to do this well? (Curriculum); What activity will facilitate the learning? (Pedagogy); How will the student demonstrate the learning? (Assessment); How will I know the student has done this well? (Criteria).

Question Papers: Bloom’s Taxonomy is a classification of the different objectives and skills that educators set for their students (learning objectives). It highlights on why we need to give more emphasis on setting qualitative and thought provoking question papers based on OBE philosophy using Bloom’s taxonomy It builds evidence for accountability, accreditation and improvement. It shows evidence of how well our students learn and uses evidence for continuous improvement.





JaGo equation of effective Teaching learning:

$$T L = a b (A S K) + c T P + d T T \text{-----}(1)$$

Where, TL- Teaching Learning, Efficiency; ASK- Attitude, Skill, Knowledge

TP- Teaching Pedagogy; TT- Technological Tools

a, b, c, d = Constants (0 to 1); a—Teacher ASK ; b– Students ASK c– Teacher understanding and execution of pedagogy; d- Technical tools created etc

Summary:

- Adopt and Practice the concept of Teacher as a life long learner;
- Update the knowledge in your discipline and interdisciplinary fields;
- Learn to use educational technology, keep updating.....;
- Use of technologies, which are teaching-learning friendly and learn to use available resources effectively;
- Learn, Unlearn and Relearn

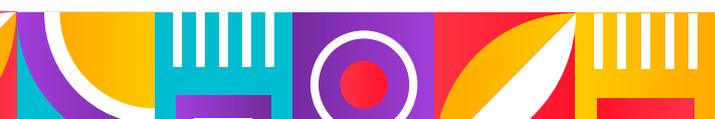


Professor Jagdish H Godihal (JaGo)
Professor, Department of Civil Engineering
Deputy Dean – Academic Research, PU

Calling all students, staff, faculty

Are you good at penning a poem, spinning a yarn, narrating an anecdote, shaking a leg, crooning a tune, wielding a brush, tossing a ball, arguing to win, taking a shot, in short, anything that is worth a mention? Here is your chance to showcase your creativity. Send your entries to editor@presidencyuniversity.in by typing them out in a word document or taking a picture with a high-resolution camera (no cell phone pictures, please) along with your photograph and credentials.

Change is the end result of all true learning.
– Leo Buscaglia





Kaleidoscope Special Feature: Team Vikasana

Team Vikasana



On a pleasant afternoon, when the clouds decided to let the sun peep through them and spread its warmth, I met members of Team Vikasana, who in their natty black tees were returning from the auditorium after being felicitated for bringing laurels to the University. The group of earnest young men explained the various features of the team and gave me an insight into the work that they have been doing here.

Team Vikasana is the Student Research & Development Team of Presidency University. Vikasana, meaning "development", is evolving constantly and the team has caught the attention at the national level with its brilliant performance in all the events it has been participating in. The meticulous planning and attention to detail ensure that all the members are in sync and staying true to their motto, "Learn, Build, and Win." They value every experience as one that takes them to the top of the learning curve.

How did it all begin?

The year was 2019 and the event was the prestigious Robocon. Seven students got together with a view to enrolling in the event and mentored by the indefatigable Dr. Madhusudhan, Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, PU under the guidance of Dr. C.S. Ramesh, Dean, Research & Development, Presidency University, participated in the event. For the uninitiated, the ABU Asia-Pacific Robot Contest (ABU Robocon) is an Asian-Oceanian college robot competition, founded in 2002 by the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union. In this competition, robots compete to complete a task within a set period of time. The contest aims to create friendship among young people with similar interests who will lead their countries in the 21st century, as well as help advance engineering and broadcasting technologies in the region. The seven students, like the seven lode stars, went, saw and came back inspired. The rest, as they say, is history. These students—Bharat. L, Bharat Krishnan, Kunal G Adhikari, Mohanth Srinivas, Amit Kumar, Preetam. R, and Ashmita—were the pioneers of the programme.



They understood how winning teams work and how they should prepare themselves and came back vowing to build a strong team that could compete in the event, which is conducted in three stages. In 2021 and again in 2022, the team got a perfect score of 100 in Stage 1 and qualified themselves to move to Stage 2.

DD Robocon Delhi Visit

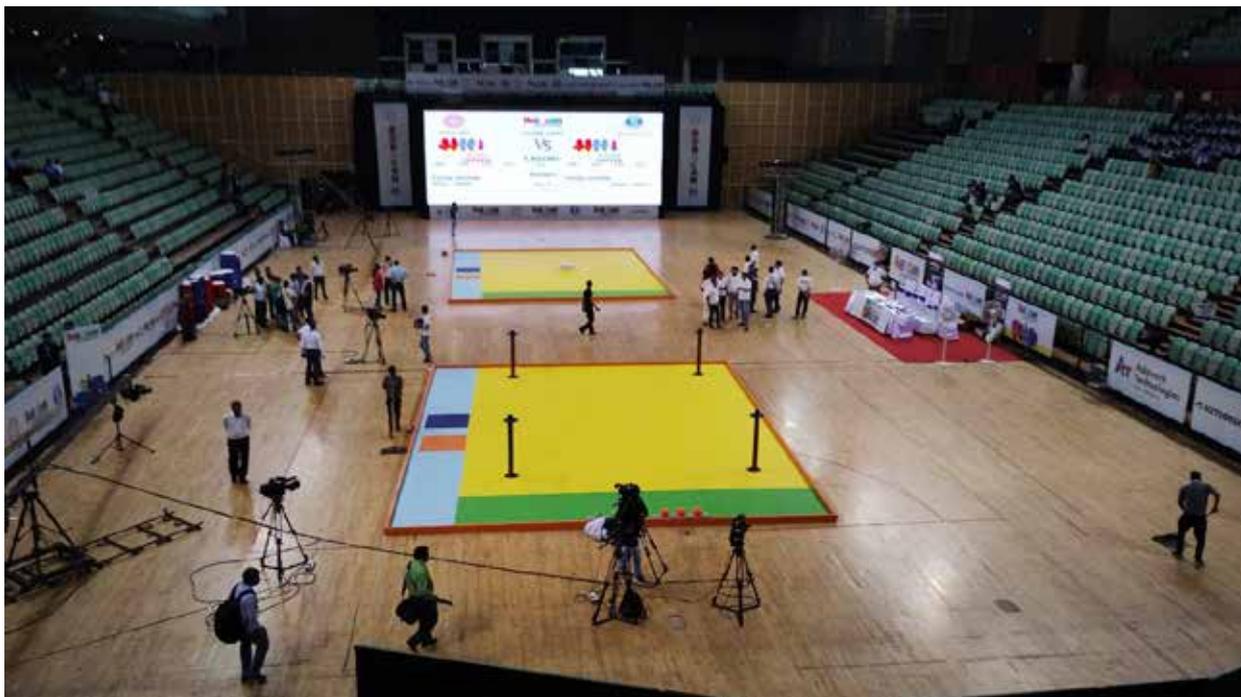
This year, the team represented Presidency University in the ABU Robocon held at IIT Delhi, becoming the only team from Karnataka to have cleared the selection rounds. A total of 80 teams from various institutions all over the country had registered for this illustrious event, and only 40 made it to the nationals. Over the course of a 3-day visit, 11 students from the team visited the campus.



The theme/objective for Robocon 2022 was to build a pair of robots that help in demonstrating the game of "lagori". Team Vikasana was applauded by the jury as it had one of the lowest budgets when it came to the development of the robots. In addition to this, the team presented the lightest robots among all the robots displayed at the event, as 60% of the robots were made using 3D-printed parts. This extraordinary idea was praised by both the faculty of the university and the jury. The overall ranking of the team was 19 out of 80, finishing with a perfect score of 100/100 in round 1 for the second consecutive year. This incredible achievement would not have been possible without the unstinting assistance from the sponsors and the guidance provided by the faculty advisors.



Team Vikasana



How are they able to attend these events?

The team members were ecstatic because the university provided them with an exclusive meeting space, a workstation to conduct their experiments, and a 3D printer, in addition to sponsoring their trips. They are also granted permission to stay overnight to complete unfinished tasks that cannot be left in the middle, and are provided accommodation in the hostel. In fact, the University ensures that these students can pursue their passion with single-minded determination.

On Expansion

While change is a constant feature of life, continuity leads to a sense of security and helps the team to propel forward. The office bearers are always third-year students, and when they move to the final year, they mentor their juniors, handholding them for a whole year to ensure that learning is leveraged. Team members who graduate from the University continue to take on the role of mentors, ensuring that the link is never severed.

The Various Divisions of Team Vikasana

There are 6 divisions in Team Vikasana; the robotics division is in charge of developing the robots that are presented in competitions like Robocon and Robowars. The cyber security division has achieved excellent national rankings at Capture the Flag contests and is also a part of the global cyber security platform Hackthebox, with more than 100 top-ranking universities. An autonomous vehicle being developed by the Electrical Vehicle team will be used for campus transportation. The IN-Space and Astronautical Society of India is holding a student competition, and the Aerospace division has



Team Vikasana

created a CANSAT for it. In fact, the team has named the Aerospace division Vayu vega. The Public Relations division is in charge of improving and uplifting the team's image and has also held numerous workshops and informative sessions. The Gaming division has held tournaments for various games, which is a great deal of fun; there will be several more tournaments in the future for the gaming division.

The Faculty Mentors

The team is aided by dedicated and talented faculty mentors—Ms. Priyanka, Mr. Sunil, Mr. Isaac Joel, Mr. Aravind Kumar, and Dr. Pradeep Bhaskar—who, by imparting their knowledge and invaluable advice, ensure that everything is carried out effectively and that the team is always on the right track.

Achievements

Apart from bagging the All India 19th rank in the recently held DD ROBOCON 2022, Team Vikasana has also bagged the Gold @ E-nnovate 2022, Poland.

Excellence is not competing with others; it is bettering oneself each time. That Team Vikasana has its focus right and it is only a matter of time before they go places is evident in the passion with which they work, putting their energies together.

Would you like to know more about Team Vikasana? Does this motivate you to join the team?

You can find them at <https://linktr.ee/VIKASANA>, on Instagram at team_vikasana, or by email at teamvikasana@gmail.com.



What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.

– Jane Goodall



Roundup of activities in August 2022

Independence Day Celebrations at PU



Celebrations galore





Alumni Day Celebrations





Network Security and Cloud Computing





Rotaract Meet



PHD Orientation



19.08.2022 09:39
13.16835, 77.53606 (+12m)
Altitude: 812m
5G9P+9CH, Ittagallpura, Karnataka 560089



19.08.2022 10:50
13.16834, 77.53607 (+11m)
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CS Workshop





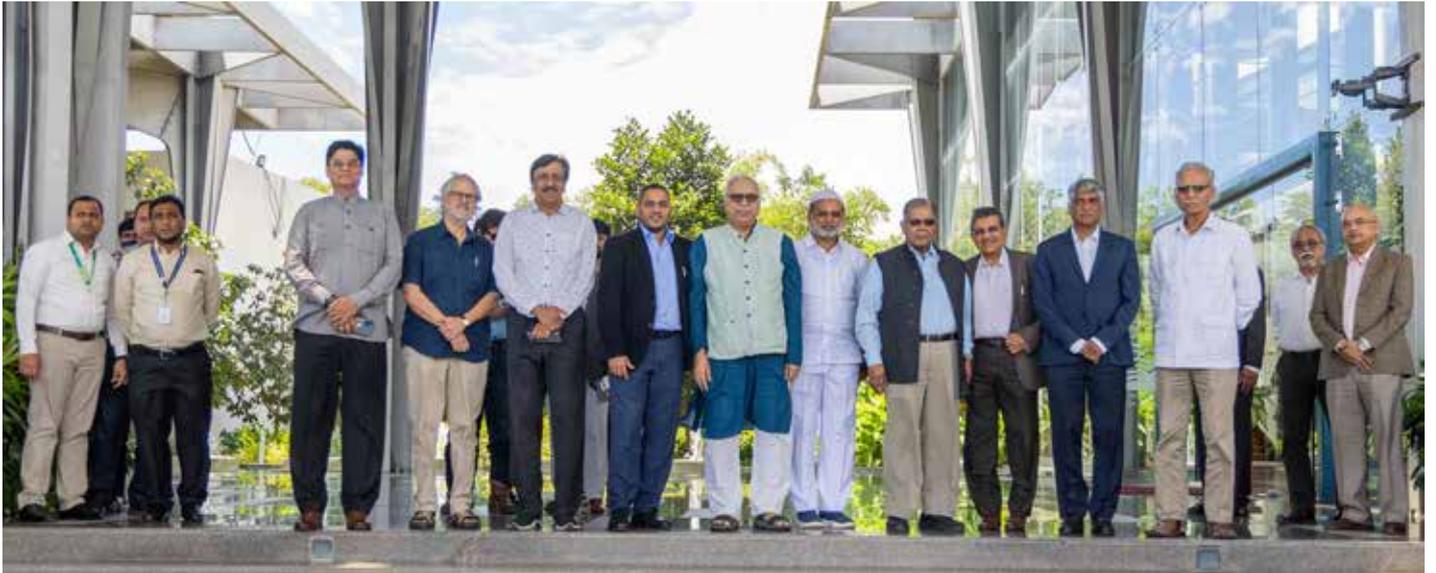
Hackathon





Dignitaries from The Alliance for Economic and Educational Development of the Underprivileged (AEEDU) visited Presidency University







National Instructional Workshop on Cryptology



Calling all students, staff, faculty

Have you published papers, written books, bagged awards or won accolades recently? Send us a short report with an accompanying photograph. Have it featured in Kaleidoscope by mailing it to editor@presidencyuniversity.in



NCC Awards





Kaleidoscope proudly congratulates

Dr. Muddu Vinay, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Presidency University, for having won the prestigious Emerald Literati Award for Outstanding Paper in 2022.

The P-VC received this award for his article "Impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic on the Indian Education Sector: Teachers' Perspectives on Online Teaching and Assessments" published in the journal Interactive Technology and Smart Education.

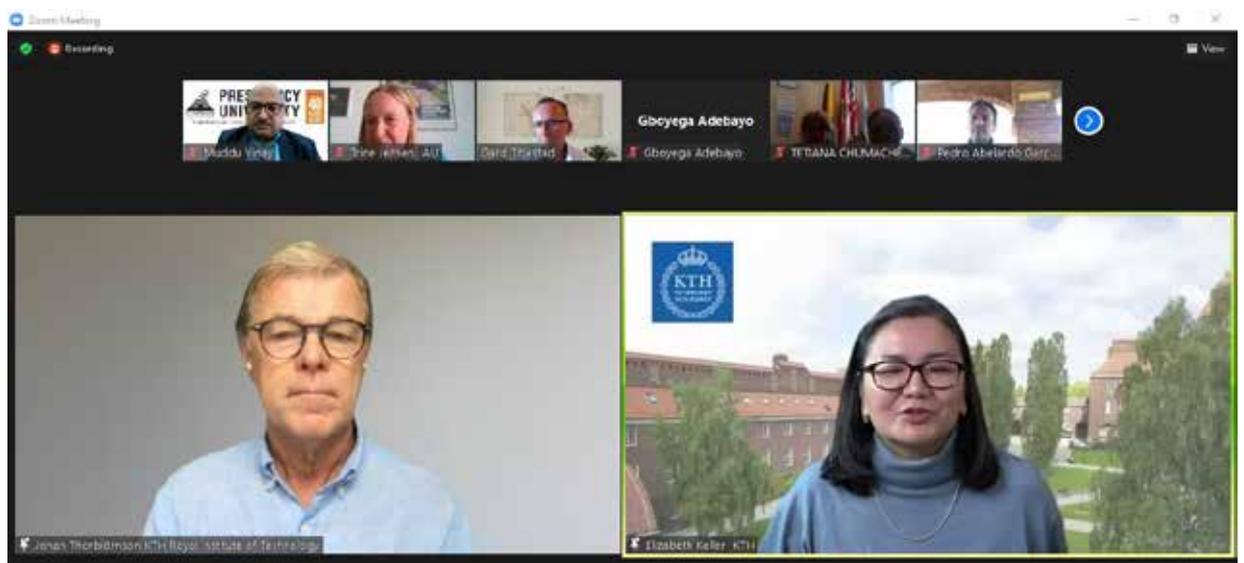


For more than 25 years, Emerald Publishing has rewarded outstanding and impactful contributions to scholarly research through its prestigious Emerald Literati Awards for Excellence. The awards are one of the largest, independent award schemes led by a publisher. Established to celebrate and reward the outstanding contributions made by Emerald's scholarly community, these awards help strengthen the impact of the winning research and support the author's scholarly journey by providing the recognition and international kudos they deserve.

With over 24000 downloads, the article demonstrates excellence and impact in the community.



Adding to the laurels, the Pro-VC, Dr. Muddu Vinay, has been nominated as an expert member in the project "Innovative Doctoral Courses for Sustainability (IDOCOS)." This is a singular honour as the PVC is the only member chosen from India for this prestigious project, which is partnered by the KTH Royal Institute of Technology, the University of Bergen, NORDUnet, Nordic Insight and the International Association of Universities (IAU). The IDOCOS project seeks to propose an innovative approach to the co-creation and sharing of doctoral courses among universities in different countries. It proposes a structured process and comprehensive guidance supporting the move towards more internationally co-created and shared resources for doctoral education to enhance reciprocal exchange of research capacity and resources, to increase competencies and ultimately strengthen high-quality research education through international collaboration. The project also provides a demonstration of a cross-disciplinary doctoral course focusing on digital transformation, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the 2030 UN Agenda.



The first panel meeting of the Innovative Doctoral Courses for Sustainability (IDOCOS)



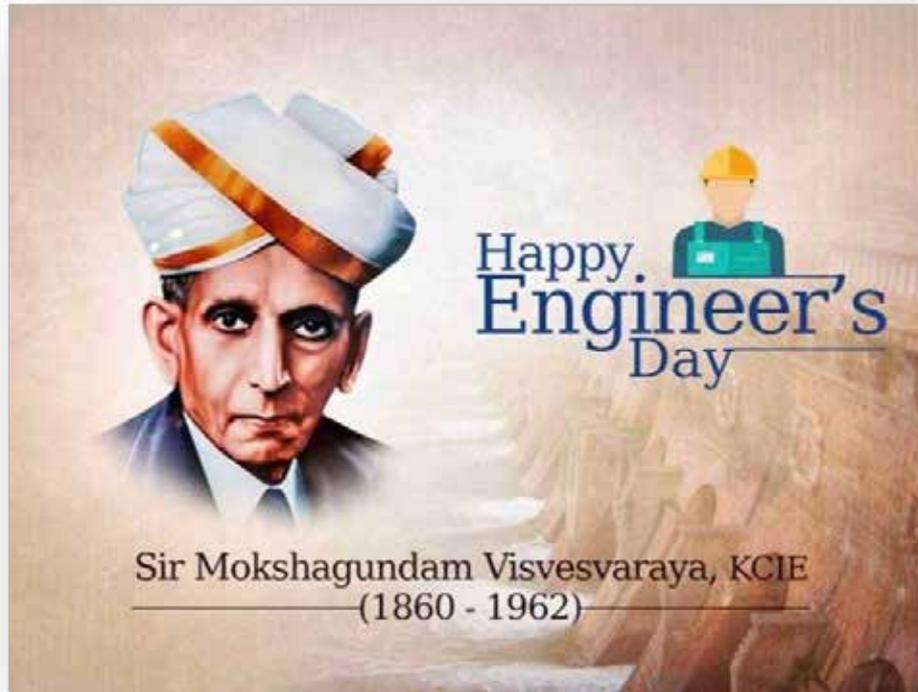
Kaleidoscope also congratulates

Dr. Malarvili K. Professor, Department of Kannada, who was conferred with the prestigious Kuvempu Bhasha Bharathi Book-2021 for the best book translation from Indian languages to Kannada. Dr. Malarvili received the award for her translation of Padmabhushan Vairamuthu's Kallikaattu Ithigaasam from Tamil to Kannada as Kalligaadina Ithihaasa.





Engineer's Day



Sir M. Visveswaraya, regarded as the "Father of Modern Mysore," was born on September 15, 1861, in Muddenahalli village in Karnataka. He completed his school education in his hometown and later completed a Bachelor of Arts (BA) from the University of Madras. However, he switched his career path after graduating and pursued civil engineering at the College of Science in Pune.

In 1968, the Indian government declared Sir M. Visveswaraya's birth anniversary as Engineers' Day. Since then, September 15, is celebrated as National Engineer's Day to honour the achievements of the great engineer Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya and to recognise and acknowledge all engineers who have contributed to nation building.

Popularly known as Sir MV, Visvesvaraya undertook many complex projects and designed remarkable edifices during his lifetime, most of which are considered engineering marvels to this day. He patented and installed an irrigation system with water floodgates at the Khadakvasla reservoir near Pune to raise storage to the

highest levels, known as the "block system" in 1903. This was also installed at Gwalior's Tigma Dam and Mysuru's Krishnaraja Sagara (KRS) dam, the latter of which created one of the largest reservoirs in Asia at the time.

An expert in irrigation techniques and flood disaster management, Sir MV was not just a great civil engineer but also served as the 19th Diwan of Mysore from 1912 to 1919. In 1915, he was awarded the title of "Knight" by King George V and came to be referred to as Sir. M. Visveswaraya.

Sir MV's contribution was not limited only to infrastructure but also to the field of education. He played an important role in the foundation of the Government Engineering College at Bangalore in 1917. The college was later renamed after him as the University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE). He was awarded the Bharat Ratna in 1955 for his singular contribution to the building of modern India.



Picture Calling

Answer to the August edition of the Picture Calling Photo contest:

This is a KSRTC bus converted to a mobile classroom and recreation area for children in Kerala.

In an innovative move to greet children coming back to school after 2 years, the Kerala government has converted an abandoned KSRTC bus in Thiruvananthapuram into a mobile room for reading and recreation.

Old bus, new classroom

The two-tier classroom has been created out of one of two decrepit low-floor buses out of hundreds meant to be scrapped by the Kerala State Transport Corporation. The classroom on wheels has a TV, air-conditioner, chairs with multi-coloured tables, benches, and shelves for books, but the steering wheel and the driver's seat have been retained so that children can play

According to the minister, building a classroom from scratch costs crores of rupees, while converting a bus into a classroom would cost significantly less. Students of the Government Lower Primary School in Manacaud, Thiruvananthapuram, had a surprise waiting for them on the school campus this June.



The following got it right.

1. Saman Ali, Admin Associate, Registrar's Office
2. Prithu Banik - 20211CAI0001
3. Sanchita Goswami - 20211CSD0035

Congrats!



Here is another picture to test your general awareness.

Picture Calling



What's happening with the lane on the right side?

Send the details of this picture, your name and your role/ class details to editor@presidencyuniversity.in

The world is but a canvas to the mind.



Towards a Cleaner World: Careers in the Energy Sector

Air quality deteriorates, index slips to 'severe' category.
Delhi air pollution shortens life by 10 years, report says.
Air pollution, fifth largest killer in India.

These are warnings of not some distant apocalypse, but news brought to us by our very own reporters on an everyday basis. There is a greater awareness today of the importance of clean energy and eco-friendly practices than ever before. Clean energy is the key to building a resilient future for a resurgent India if we want its denizens to be healthy and productive. Using renewable energy resources reduces the carbon footprint and results in less pollution and wastage, and this thrust is sure to create a massive boom in employment in the coming years. The energy sector is seen as the champion sector that can lift the lives of the millions in this country who suffer untold misery due to pollution of air, water, soil and water, to name a few. In its Renewable Energy and Jobs – Annual Review 2020 report, IRENA says that 63% of the total employment has come from this sector. India is also the third largest job provider in the renewable energy sector, with over 8.24 lakh jobs. The opportunities and employment in renewable energy have been steadily growing since 2012.

Energy storage will continue to grow in the coming years and this is bound to attract jobs. Energy storage technologies are implemented across several industries, including e-mobility and consumer electronics. The electric vehicle industry is a growing industry and both central and state governments are offering incentives to promote electric mobility in the country. Though there are infrastructural challenges, mobility solution providers are gaining confidence and entering the market. The consumer goods segment is another huge market that is banking on energy storage. About 20-30 different job profiles have emerged within this segment, from search at the material level, product development at the cell level, material scientists, not to mention maintenance and service support jobs.

Thus, we find energy storage is emerging as an interdisciplinary sector focusing on the pure sciences, chemical engineering, material engineering, and fundamentals of manufacturing, R&D and manufacturing of advanced energy storage technologies like e-mobility. With a good industry-academic partnership, courses can be carefully curated and students can expect good prospects in this field.

While the software industry boomed in the last few decades, the energy sector will boom in the next few.

A transition to clean energy is about making an investment in our future.
– Gloria Reuben

This column includes one regular and one offbeat to give you ample choice to make an informed decision.



Personal Trainers

How many of us have seen our New Year's resolutions crumble into thin air within just a few days of making them? Especially if the choice is between an hour of hard work at the gym and a tiny bar of chocolate, it doesn't require a great mind to say which side the scale will tip. This is exactly where a personal trainer takes over. Their goal is to make the world a healthier place, and, towards this end, they can use any means ranging from motivational talk to cajoling to persuasion to get the clients moving, quite literally. This is a great career option for sports enthusiasts and fitness freaks who can combine passion with a lucrative career and make it big on their own.

Offbeat

The fitness industry is set to grow in the coming years with rising levels of obesity and lifestyle diseases and a growing awareness of the need to invest in good health. They are known by different names: personal trainers, aerobics instructors, clinical exercise specialists, gym instructors, and corporate trainers.

Who can become a fitness trainer? One who can combine the knowledge of fitness, health, nutrition, exercise, and holistic living can become successful in this field as options are many. They can work in health clubs, gymnasiums, and fitness institutes as fitness trainers. You can also offer special classes if you are trained in martial arts, kickboxing, Pilates, or other sports. Most residential associations have club houses or dedicated spaces inside the complexes where such classes are held. Classes are

held by the hour, and then there are seasonal camps that can be held during kids' vacation breaks. Trainers cater to different categories and different needs.

Sports fitness trainers coaching athletes are always in demand and the best in the country move on to play significant roles in teams with players. There is a greater recognition of the role played by trainers for athletes today, and their contribution to the country is acknowledged.

To be a successful trainer, one has to be a fitness enthusiast, have indefatigable energy, and be in shape at all times. While it looks good from the outside, it is a lot of hard work and physical effort. So, if you are willing to devote your energy and time to workouts and various types of clientele, this is an option worth considering.

Nothing will work unless you do.
– Maya Angelou



Common Errors in English

This column will feature some of the common errors that creep in while speaking English. Knowing the errors will help in correcting oneself and speaking the language without making any mistakes.

everyday/every day

Wrong: He starts work everyday at 9 a.m.

Right: He starts work every day at 9 a.m.

“Everyday” (one word, no space) is an adjective describing something that’s very common, like an everyday occurrence.

“Every day” (with the space) is an adverbial phrase that means each day.

When in doubt use this tip:

If you can use a day of the week, say Monday, in the sentence, you should use “every day.”

I/me

Wrong: The HR manager told Aman and I to talk with her.

Right: The HR manager told Aman and me to talk with her.

The general rule:

Use “I” when it’s the subject of a verb (e.g., “I walked to the store”).

Use “me” when the pronoun is the object of the verb, or when the verb is doing something to someone or something (e.g., “the dog followed me to the store”).

that/who

Wrong: The people that reach their sales target will get a reward.

Right: The people who reach their sales target will get a reward.

A simple tip:

Use “that” when you’re talking about things, and “who” when you’re talking about people.



then/than

Wrong: That presentation was better then the first one.

Right: That presentation was better than the first one.

Remember:

We use “then” when you’re talking about time (e.g., “I’m going to go to the meeting, then to lunch”)

We use “than” when you’re comparing things (e.g., “I’m older than he is”).

Wrong: How are you this week?

Right: How have you been this week?

Wrong: Why don’t you stay for some more time?

Right: Why don’t you stay here a little longer?

Misplaced modifiers

To make sure you are describing the right object, use an adjective directly before the word you want to modify (describe).

Example:

Wrong: "I drank a hot mug of coffee. (This implies that the mug is hot, not the coffee.)"

Right: "I drank a mug of hot coffee."

Comparative adjective error

Wrong: If I learn a second language, finding a job will become more easy for me.

Right: If I learn a second language, finding a job will become easier for me.

RULE: Remove the word “more” and simply write “easier.”

English has two comparative adjective forms. Add -er to the end of one or two syllable adjectives. Use ‘more’ with longer adjectives.

Wrong: My job will be more easier for me if I am able to speak English as well as Hindi.

Right: My job will be easier for me if I am able to speak English as well as Hindi.

RULE: Do not use both -er and more. This is called a double comparative. Remove the word ‘more’ and simply write “easier.”



From gothilla to gotthu (don't know to know)

Here are a few conversation questions put together by the Department of Languages-Kannada for non-Kannadigas to make yourselves at home in Bengaluru. Happy learning.

1. Ninna hesaru Enu?
What is your name?
Nanna hesaru -----
My name is -----
2. Adhu yaara Mane?
Whose house is that?
3. Adhu Rakesh avara Mane.
That is Rakesh's house.
4. ee hudugi yaaru? Ninna thanginaa?
Who is this girl? Is she your younger sister?
5. Haudhu ivalu nanna thangi, ivala hesaru Suma.
Yes. She is my younger sister. Her name is Suma.
6. Adhu yaava pusthaka?
Which is that book?
Adhu katheya pusthaka.
That is a story book.
7. Adhu avara swantha manenaa?
Is it his own house?
8. Alla adhu avara svantha mane alla. Baadige mane.
No. it is not his own house. It is a rented house.
9. Avalu yaara magalu?
Whose daughter is she?
10. Avalu nanna gelathiya magalu.
She is my friend's daughter.



11. Nimma University ya hesaru Enu?
What is the name of your University?
Namma university ya hesaru Presidency University.
The name of our University is Presidency University.
12. Nimma thandeya hesaru Enu?
What is your father's name?
13. Bharathadha Rajadhaani Yaavudhu?
Which is the capital of India?
Bharathadha Rajadhaani New Delhi.
14. Adhu dodda kaalejaa?
Is it a big college?
15. Nimma makkala hesaru Enu?
What are the names of your children?
16. Niivu Kannada kaliyutthiddiraa?
Are you learning Kannada?
Haudhu naanu iiga Kannada kaliyutthiddene.
Yes, I am learning Kannada now.

The expert in anything was once a beginner.

- Helen Hayes



Food Tales

Roti, kapda, makaan- these are the basic necessities of life. Have you wondered how the roti became a staple in our diet?

Originally, rotis were made with maida. They are said to have originated in Persia. Later, these flatbreads were made with whole wheat flour and became popular in India. Some theories believe that chapaati or roti existed during the Harappan age, as can be seen from the citations in some of the old texts. Agriculture has always been the main occupation in the country and people knew the art of cultivating crops like wheat, bajra and millets. There is a mention of rotis in Tulsidas's Ramacharit Manas too. The medical text Bhavaprakasa, written by Bharata Mishra, refers to rotis. There is a reference to rotis during the time of Guru Nanakji too. They were a mainstay of the British Army's diet.



Whatever its origins and history, no meal is complete without the perfectly shaped roti, accompanied by a generous serving of vegetables in gravy.

Trivia

The Kite Bridge of Ahmedabad

Atal Pedestrian Bridge, a new foot overbridge over the Sabarmati River in Ahmedabad, is 300m long with a width varying between 10m and 14m. The city is passionate about flying kites, and this has been imaginatively captured in the design of the bridge.

It is a single-span steel truss bridge with two additional foundations. The cross section of the truss has a rhombus shape similar to kites. The elevation of the truss gives the impression of an arch which is supported on spherical bearings at each end. The depth of the truss varies across the length. The bridge is shaded by colourful fabric panels, their colours inspired by kites. They protect people from the harsh Gujarat summer.





The Chess Bridge

Speaking of bridges, here is Chennai's iconic Napier Bridge, which got a 'chess makeover' to promote the 44th Chess Olympiad, which put the port town of Mahabalipuram on the world map.

Chennai, hailed as the chess capital of India, hosted the first ever Chess Olympiad. Some of the best known names in the world of chess gathered in Chennai from 188 countries. Tamil Nadu is home to 26 of the 74 Indian Grandmasters.

The branding of the event was visible everywhere – from buses being painted black and white, to bus stands, traffic signals and metro pillars. It was chess all the way in Tamil Nadu!





The Ice Cafe

This is an ice café near Leh, in Ladakh. History was made in Ladakh when three locals created a unique ice café-restaurant built inside a giant stupa-like structure in Gya Meeru village in Ladakh. This unique café was built by Border Road Organisation officials along with three local youths—Jigmet Tundup, Nawang Punchok and Sonam Chosdup, on the Leh-Manali National Highway.

The inspiration behind this innovation is the scientist Sonam Wangchuk's concept of conserving winter water in the form of an artificial glacier built in the shape of a cone known as an "Ice Stupa". Water was allowed to fall on the cone-shaped net structure from a certain height and once the water started freezing on the net, more water was added to increase the thickness and size of the cone structure so that it looked like a Buddhist stupa and enough space could be created to serve food inside it. In March, the water starts melting, and this is collected in tanks and used to feed the planted land using a drip irrigation system in the Ladakh region of J&K. Such innovations, besides attracting visitors, serve as a useful innovation in water-starved areas of the country.

Trivia





We would love to hear from you.

Have something to say, suggest, critique or applaud for this issue of Kaleidoscope? Would you like to see something here that we might have missed? Feel free to mail your ideas and send them to editor@presidencyuniversity.in

The Team

Mr. Salman Ahmed - Chief Patron

Dr. Akila S Indurti – Editor

Abdulla – Designer

Pingal Chanda – Photographer

Kaleidoscope wishes to thank all those who have contributed to this edition of the magazine.

