



SXC Chronicles

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In this issue.....

From the Editor's desk

Team from Marquette

Fr Ignacimuthu visits SXC

NPTEL Training

Utkarsh Calls

Staff Enrichment
Programme

Women's Right

Bioutsav'13

Culfest

Human Right

Hostel Feast

Physics for Tomorrow

Education & Inclusiveness

Women's day celebrations

Staff Research Seminar

Prerna: Association of
Inspirers

Jagrat training

SSR Submission

Snippets

Highlights....

Staff Research Seminar

Research Annals of Xavier's Ahmedabad is an annual journal for young and seasoned scholars to present their original research work released on the Staff Research Day. This is an initiative which began in 2003. It has promoted a symbiotic relationship between the Arts and Science faculty.



Page ...5



The year began with two dignitaries on SXC campus, Mr AK Saxena, the Mission Director of GSBTM, and Dr Suman Govil, Advisor, DBT, New Delhi gracing the annual State level Science completion hosted by Xavier's on

Read more on page ...3



**Culfest 2013 (awaaz)
inauguration with a recital by
Ms. Viraj Bhatt.**

Page ...3

Colours of Xavier's

A half day get-together was conducted for the house keeping staff of SXC. It was the Xavier way of assuring them 'You are important and your service we value'. *Page ...6*



From the Editor's Desk

This is a new initiative from IQAC. This is our way of inspiring staff and faculty to strive for excellence. It is also an effort at documenting events of the College. We plan to bring out a chronicle once every three months. Many thanks to Fr Roland who painstakingly documented and contributed every photograph of this issue.

Team from Marquette

A team of faculty and students visited SXC from Marquette University, Wisconsin in January, 2013. The team was headed by Dr David Clark and Dr Beth Krey. The team interacted with the students of Voc. Biotechnology and Voc. Industrial Chemistry. They discussed issues related to marketing strategies of Xplant and XOIC. Later the team visited the extension activity of *Aadiahshadhi*, at Dediapada in south Gujarat.



Fr Ignacimuthu visits SXC



SXC is moving towards autonomy. Earlier a team of our faculty had visited Loyola College, and Stella Maris College, Chennai. Dr Nirmal Desai presented their findings to the Xavier Parivar on 2nd of January. In addition Fr Ignacimuthu, former Vice Chancellor of Madras University, (also Bharatiyar University, Coimbatore, and former Principal of Loyola College, Chennai), offered a one day training to all at SXC. He spoke about the pros and cons of autonomy and encouraged all to strive towards excellence in all fields.

NPTEL Training

National Programme for Technology and E-Learning (NPTEL) a training under IIT initiative was carried out at SXC for a group of faculty and students. Over 80 students from Science and Arts participated in the half day training where Mr Tilak Raj from Chennai was the resource person. He demonstrated the nuances of NPTEL programme and how it can be integrated into the normal curriculum for advanced learning.

UTKARSH

UTKARSH is the Xavier way of responding to the needs of the physically disabled students. Every year all college going physically disabled students of Ahmedabad city gather on SXC campus for a day long get-together and sharing. The planning meeting was held under the able guidance of Campus Ministry directors (Fr Roland D'Souza and Sr Mary James) on 7th January, 2013. Eighty two students from various colleges participated. The programme included showcasing their talents



and being inspired in team work and leadership by Fr Girish.

Utkarsh members along with volunteers and directors went on a picnic to Gandhinagar. Thanks to Br Pravin, Fr Hector, Dr Kinnari Dubbal, Sr Mary James and student volunteers.

Staff Enrichment Programme

A staff enrichment programme was conducted by the Campus Ministry for 18 administrative staff of SXC. The programme was aptly named 'Group Growth lab for Admin Staff'. Fr Vincent Saldanha SJ and Sr Mary James were the resource persons. They conducted sessions on team building, and developing interpersonal relationship



Women's Rights



On 25th of January a group of Xavierites enacted a street play on Women's Rights in the open air theatre. A huge crowd of students had gathered to watch the play. At the end of the play students were led to taking an oath where they promised to raise voice for women's rights.



Bioutsav'13

This year the Gujarat Integrated Bio Network (GIBiON) State level Science competition - Bioutsav-2013 - was hosted by SXC, Ahmedabad on 20th January, 2013. Over 600 undergraduate students from various Science colleges from across Gujarat took part in various competitions. The Chief



Guests were Mr AK Saxena, the Mission Director of GSBTM, and Dr Suman Govil, Advisor, DBT, New Delhi.



During the inauguration, Dr Suman Govil spoke about the initiatives of DBT to nurture and promote Biotechnology initiatives in the country; Mr AK Saxena highlighted the need for ownership in carrying out any programme successfully.

Culfest: aawas



Culfest is the event that every Xavierite looks forward to. It was held on January 21 and 22. Students displayed a mixture of physical as well as cultural abilities. Volleyball, basketball, football competitions were held, besides various cultural activities. The chief attraction of the Culfest was the 'Voice of Xaviers' competition organized by TOXA.



Human Rights

Two day seminar on Human Rights Education and Training Programme was organized on the 25th and 26th of January by Bro Albert Xaviour from International Association for Religious Freedom (IARF), London. Sixty students of SXC participated. The event was a mixture of interactive talks and group activities. Issues on Religious freedom and Gender discrimination were the major focusing points.



Hostel Feast



The annual day celebration of the two Xavier's hostels (men and women) was held on January 29 under the able leadership of Fr Ronald and Sr Shiby in the SAH. There are 320 students in the two hostels. The occasion provided an opportunity for many hidden talents to surface.

Physics for Tomorrow

The department of Physics had initiated a series of seminars under the title, Physics for Tomorrow. This year, the seminar was on High Potential Research Areas in Physics, held on January 29. Dr Singvi from PRL the Guest of Honour. The speakers emphasized the need for quality research and encouraged students to opt for a career in research. Many scientists and over 200 students benefitted from the one day National seminar.



Inclusivism in education: Arts seminar



In the light of the increasing push towards privatization in the education sector in India and the attempt of SXC to move in the direction of autonomy, a seminar was held on February 1 on "Education: A Step towards Inclusivism". Dr Sudarshan Iyengar, Vice-Chancellor of Gujarat Vidyapith, was the key note speaker. The seminar was unique in the sense that students participated in group work and discussion. The post lunch session was a panel discussion where Dr Suguna Ramanathan, Fr Jimmy Dabhi, Fr Franco, and Dr Sarvar Sherry Chand participated. 121 students and 26 faculty took part in the seminar.

Blood donation by TOXA

On February 2, TOXA organized a blood donation camp on campus. Many students volunteered to donate blood. This is one of the many ways Xavier's responds to the dignity of life.

Web launch & Google Apps



Finally Xavier's Ahmedabad has a web site with an **.edu.in** extension. The College website www.sxca.edu.in was formally launched by the Fr Robert SJ on February 6 in presence of a group of students and google representatives from Pune. On the occasion, Google apps for education installed **institutional email id** for both faculty and students. The team from google also offered a short training in the educational applications that can be used for enhancing teaching learning.

Soft skill in English

Journalism is a passion for many students at SXC. These students must be creative, well read and have to have an eye for news. Over 125 students of FY, SY and TY of Functional English and Journalism courses attended a seminar on Print and Electronic media by a former student, Ms Ruth Saldanha, currently working as a journalist. The gist of her talk is summarized in her own words as 'you are not making news, but reporting news'.

Annual day and TY farewell



The College Annual day was celebrated on March 9 in the SAH. Dr SS Shah, Mrs Jyotna Narula and Prof. RR Parmar were the special invitees for the annual prize distribution. Certificates were awarded for outstanding performance in academics, special categories, sports, extra curricular activities etc. The famous Dr Vikram Sarabhai award was shared by Ms Saman Hakim and Dhanajay Jhala.

Women's day Celebrations

International Women's Day was celebrated on March 8. Ms. Divya Raval a PSI, gave a talk to a group of students. Later on a 'sheri natak' was staged in the open air theatre, followed by a 'sheri garbha' where many students took part. Students also staged a street play on 'Violence against Women' which was telecasted by DD Girnar. Ms Mabel Macwan recited her poems on issues of women at a kavi sammelan on DD Girnar. Students also participated in seminars and poster making competitions on 'Violence against Women' where Dhruvika Zala of FYBA won the second prize in poster making.

Staff Research Seminar

Research is one of the 'Best Practices' at SXC. Several faculty presented part of their research findings either in the form of an article or an oral presentation during this year's Staff Research Seminar held on 16th March, 2013. The articles are published as '*Research Annals of Xavier's Ahmedabad*'. This year, SXC released the 10th volume. Prof Shraddha Pandya, Dr Urmi Shah, Dr Tushar Pandya, Dr Puransingh Makwana, Dr Devang Pandya, and Prof Ami Shah presented papers.



Prerna: Association of Inspirers

Prerna is an association of supporting staff of SXC who manages the cleanliness in SXC. There are 12 members in the group (Deepak, Kamlesh, Tulaji, Jagdish, Deepak Warli, Manoj, Dinesh, Mohankaka, Karan, Lalji). Seven of them are from Dharampur. Sr Mary James and Fr Roland conducted a half day get-together session to help them get to know one another and share about life in the city. This is one of the uniqueness of SXC: caring for all on campus.



Jagrat Training

The TY students of Jagrat had a two day workshop on career prospectus. The programme was coordinated by Fr Lancelot D'Cruz. Dr Iswar Mehra, Mr Robin Thomas and Fr Lancelot D'Cruz were the resource persons.

SSR submission

SXC goes for accreditation from NAAC for the third cycle. The online submission was done on February 13, 2013 as directed by NAAC on the College website (www.sxca.edu.in). The hard copy was submitted on March 11. The IQAC team met each department to lead them through the process of self study and coordinated the work.

Snippets

- ✓ This year the final year University examination began on March 16. College also conducted the end semester examination for semester-II and IV from March 18.
- ✓ Gita competition held at L.D. Arts college, Ahmedabad on 30th January six students of Sanskrit department had participated, and have won the silver Trophy.
- ✓ Prof Francis Christy was coordinator for the State level CAT (Chemistry Aptitude Test ☺) on line exam organized by Pharma Care Society. 18 undergraduate and 6 post graduate students took part. Mr Kamal Peshwani of TYBSc Chemistry stood first at UG level.
- ✓ Dr TC Pandya continues to keep his Research spirit high. He attended a high level seminar in March.
- ✓ Rejoice Hockey and Basketball lovers of Xavier's. SXC is revamping its Hockey ground and Basketball court. We hope to offer a world class grounds by May end. This will kindle the passion for Hockey and Basket ball in all Xavierites.

SXC Chronicle is for private circulation only. Helps us to document your achievements, small or big. You can reach us at: iqac@sxca.edu.in

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