



SWACHATA ABHIYAN PROJECT

The 'Swachh Bharat Summer Internship', 2018, launched by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, in association with the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Govt. of India, organized by the University from 16 May to 1 June at Muhana Village, Sanganer Tehsil, Jaipur District, for which 33 students registered themselves. The Internship comprised Door to Door Meetings, Village Level Rallies, Awareness Campaigns, Construction of Compost Pits, Street Cleaning and Drain Cleaning, Nukkad Natak, Screening of Movies and Wall paintings, to disseminate information regarding cleanliness in our neighbourhood and the nation.



THE IIS REPOSITORY

The IIS University has set up an institutional repository on the IIS Digital Library, featuring all Ph D theses submitted to the University, the University's Journals, viz. JOST, JOA, JOSS, JCM and many e-Books authored by the University's faculty members and students. It also includes reputed journals by such publishers as IEEE, JSTOR, ACM, Academy of Management and PROQUEST. This research initiative thus incorporates presentations, theses, dissertations, video lectures, e-journals and e-books.

SELECTION DEBATE



A Selection Debate in English was organized by the Literary Guild of the University, for an open selection of the University's team for participation in its annual fifth All India IISU English Debate. The topic was "Technology has Isolated Us" and the activity had as many as twenty participants trying their luck for a position on the University team, as they spoke For and Against the motion. Adjudged by a panel of two in-house faculty members, the following two bagged the first prize in their respective categories:

- Riddhi Arora (For the Motion)
- Saudamini Sharma (Against the Motion)

The audience was a fair mix of students from across all Faculties, including members of the Guild, who used the platform to hone their public speaking and debating skills.



INTERACTIVE SESSION ON LEARNER- CENTRIC MOOC



An Interactive session was organized 31 May 2018 on “Learner Centric Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC)”. The Guest Speaker at the event was Dr Sameer S. Sahasrabudhe, Senior Research Scientist from Department of CSE, IIT Bombay. The session was attended by Dr Raakhi Gupta, Prof K.S. Sharma and the Heads of all the departments and focussed on interactive learning, pedagogy and the significance and relevance of these online courses.



PLANTATION ACTIVITY

To conserve the environment and to promote ecological awareness, the Department of Environmental Science and the Eco-friendly association of the IIS University, Jaipur organized a plantation activity on the occasion of World Environment Day, celebrated on 5 June 2018. The activity began with the faculty members gathering in the back lawns of the University. The occasion was graced by the presence of the Honorable Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Ashok Gupta and the Registrar, Dr. Raakhi Gupta, who actively took part in the event and planted saplings. Faculty members too planted saplings such as *Delonix regia* (Gulmohar) and *Azadirachta indica* (Neem), to mark the occasion.



INTERACTIVE SESSIONS – DEPT. OF ENGLISH

A Guest Lecture was organized on 21 Feb. '18. The topic was “Feminism as Experience: Women We Forgot to Include in History” and the Speaker was the well-known feminist writer and activist, **Dr. C. S. Lakshmi**, Director, SPARROW (Sound & Picture Archives for Research on Women), Mumbai. Dr. Lakshmi interacted with the students and talked about the inclusion and representation of women in history. She also discussed the literary contribution of some revolutionary women who have been erased from history.

The audience comprised all UG and PG students as well as research scholars from the Department, and also those from Women's Studies and History. It was a highly interactive session in which the speaker first made a presentation and then engaged the students in an informal chat on the subject under discussion. She also answered their queries pertaining to the representation of women in history and literature.



On 22 Jan. '18, the Department invited an upcoming multi-genre author - **Ms. Sangita Menon Malhan** - who spoke of her diverse experiences of writing poetry, children's stories and fiction. She motivated the students to specialize in a particular field while constantly exploring new avenues as well. She also encouraged them to join community service to gain a sense of purpose and fulfillment, which may also be reflected in their writing. The Talk saw an enthusiastic participation from not only the students from the Department but also from other Faculties who found the session very insightful and useful. The budding and aspiring writers received dollops of creative advice from the author who shared generously from her vast areas of experience and expertise as a creative writer.

them to the nitty-gritty of of creative writing. The first in the series had the renowned poet and short story writer - **Mr. Keki N. Daruwalla** - share his experiences of writing poetry and fiction.

He also read from some of his awarded works and he interacted with the students, guiding them on issues such as selection of title, role of the imagination, his preference for feminist characters and the contemporary scene in Indian fiction. The session was well-attended by students including research scholars who interacted with the noted author, especially with regard to his choice of subjects, writing style and treatment, in both his poetry and short fiction. The session was very ably moderated by the Academic Co-ordinator of the Department, Mr. Bhaskar Banerjee.

The Department also organized Author-interaction sessions for its students to expose



READERS' CLUB ACTIVITIES

The members of the Readers' Club of the Department of English organized a **Poetry Slam** on the topic 'New Feminisms'. The session attracted students from a variety of Disciplines who read out their self-composed poems on the 'woman question'. They also shared their creative responses to the issue, especially in this day and age of new feminisms. The session saw the participation of faculty members from the Department as well who used the informal forum to problematize the lay understanding of such terms as 'female' and 'feminist', and lent a more literary flavour to the ongoing discussion. The audience comprised largely of students majoring in English including those from other languages, viz. Hindi, French and German, and quite a few from Journalism and Mass Communication as well.

The Readers' Club also organized a **Group Discussion** on the topic "Evolution of Masculinity and Queers in Indian Cinema" which drew many students to it for the highly contested and debatable issues that were proposed to be talked about. The discussants, comprising students and

faculty members from the Department of English, deliberated on how the heroes in Indian films have evolved over a period of time. The consensus that emerged from the lively and animated discussion was that the typical male hero who could not express his emotions earlier has now become more expressive and emotionally forthcoming- in his avatar as the alpha male- though some films still propagate gendered stereotypes such as 'real men don't cry', and the like. The depiction of 'queers', too, and the use of this term for the LGBT category were discussed in great detail. The students asserted that the cinematic representation of the third gender today has moved from a comical, ludicrous portrayal of the community to a more sensitive and realistic one. The discussion ended with each member of the group having made her point and voiced her opinion.

