



NEWSLETTER 2019

U N I O N C H R I S T I A N C O L L E G E , A L U V A

Message

Greetings to one and all.

First and foremost let me put on record the fact that I took charge of this esteemed institution under certain extraordinary circumstances. And yet, by the grace of the Almighty, the day-to-day activities of Union Christian College are progressing smoothly, with no apparent hassles. The admissions to the current academic year were effectively completed; orientation classes were conducted for the first year



novice students; career oriented subject - specific orientation programmes were put in place for final year UG and PG students; the construction of a new Ladies' Hostel was completed; the MBA and the MCA infrastructure was expanded and expensed as per the AICTE norms; and the college happily hosted an ample number of class-wise alumni reunions.

Two specific achievements that I want to highlight is our college's selection for the 'Star College' status and our inclusion in the select RUSA Funding list.

Next year, Union Christian College will be entering its Centenary Year. And as we aspire to move beyond the Centum, the college is envisaging a signature project: A brand new library infrastructure. I humbly beseech each and every person associated with the college – of yore and of now to extend their wholesome and wholehearted support, in one way or other. As I sign off, I place on record my indebtedness to the college Manager, Rev. Dr. Thomas John, the Deans' Council, the many faculty members and members of the non-teaching staff, the alumni and of course the students for the support extended to me to smoothly channelize the administration of our college. Union Christian College is an everlasting emotion for those who love the institution. I am sure that it will remain so for years to come.

Thank you all once again.

Dr. David Saj Mathew
Principal/DDO

OSA Reunion Meet - 2019

*UC College invites
alumni to the
Reunion*

on

Saturday, 9 November
2019

at VMA Hall

from

9.00 AM to 4.00 PM

Chief Guest

Sri Sajan Peter IAS

(Additional Chief Secretary
(Retd), Kerala)

Programme

Thanksgiving Service at
9:00 am in College Chapel

Formal Meeting : 10:00 am

Reminiscences : 11.30 am

Business Meeting : 12.35 pm

Cultural Programme will be
from 2:00 pm onwards.



In Loving Memory....

Dr A M Chacko, former Head of the Department of Chemistry, Principal and Manager of U C College passed away at the age of 84 in December 2018.

An alumnus of the college, he joined the Chemistry Department as faculty in 1955. His absolute commitment to the college for more than six decades, competence and efficiency in different roles and unwavering fidelity to the ideals and values of the founding fathers, made him a stalwart whose memory inspires generations associated with the college. He was a friend, philosopher and guide

to generations of students who passed through the portals of the institution. The Union Christian College community expresses deep reverence to the legend.

In Recognition of Stellar Service

District Collector, Mr. Suhas S IAS, recognized the role of Union Christian College in flood relief operations in the unprecedented deluge last year. The college campus had functioned as the largest flood relief camp in Kerala during the time. Under the leadership of Dr. Thara K Simon and Lt. Dr. G Geethika, a team of dedicated teachers, non-teaching staff and student volunteers had worked to cater to the needs of those housed here.

The Honorable Minister for Education of the Government of Kerala, Prof. C. Raveendranath,

presented the award to Dr. David Saj Mathew on 20 July 2019 at the Tagore Auditorium, the main venue of the camp last year.

The college recalls with gratitude all the faculty and students who made us worthy of this award. At the same time, the award serves as a reminder to the college community of its responsibility to society in times of crises.



OSA November Meet - 2018

The golden jubilee of the annual Alumni Reunion was held on 10 November, 2018. It was gathering of many familiar faces, a day to relive past memories and rekindle the bliss of being part of the college. The guest of honour, Mr. Thomas Jacob fondly recalled his association with the college. The annual Intercollegiate OSA competitions for elocution and quiz attracted around eighty participants from across Kerala.



Retired teachers and students of the 1968 batch were honoured on the occasion.

Founders' Day Address

The college was fortunate to have Dr P A Padmanabhan Nair (Former Vice Dean and Acting Dean), faculty of Science, University of Johannesburg South Africa to deliver the Founders' Day Address on 29 November, 2018. He spoke on the challenges and possibilities of higher education. Drawing upon his personal experience as a student here, he suggested that the vast network of alumni be included in the upward trajectory of the institution.



Rev. Thomas John
Manager

OSA Inter-collegiate Competition Winners 2018

Prof. E Narayanan Nambiar Memorial Ever-Rolling Trophy for Elocution

English

First : Sidharth M Joy
(Mar Ivanios College)

Second : Dinu K
(Sree Sankaracharya University)

Third : Lekshmi Sony
(SD College)

Malayalam

First : Dinu K
(Sree Sankaracharya University)

Second : Mohammed Sadiq
(Guruvayoorappan College)

Third : Harikrishnan RS
(SN College)

Prof. A K Abdul Kareem Memorial
Ever - Rolling Trophy for Quiz

First : Akshay B Vinayak & Aravind MJ
(University of Kerala)

Second : Rajesh R & Rakhimol KR
(SD College)

Third : Ashkar Ali & Abin Jolly
(Newman College)

The July Meet of the overseas alumni chapters of the college was held on 13 July, 2019

Centenary Deliberations

(Excerpt from Developmental Trajectory to the Centenary)

One of the most important challenges that we face today is the dramatic changes in the way one acquires knowledge through electronic resources (information technology) and sifting through the massive "information overload". This also calls for a redefinition of education as knowledge creation, the product of the interplay between knowledge and knowing through practice, action and interaction and educational institutions as knowledge societies that generate, share and make available to all members of the society knowledge that may be used to improve the human condition. This demands a whole lot of changes in pedagogy, student-teacher relationship, class room behaviour, infra-structural requirements, and the way we conceive the role of library, laboratory etc. Such challenges demand greater involvement of UCC in its educational vocation as it approaches the centenary year.

“ We are committed to catapult the college to another development trajectory that redefines education as knowledge creation... ”

Service Learning

The Experience of a Lifetime

Twelve students and two staff from Fu Jen Catholic University, Taiwan, visited UCC and participated in the service-learning program in January 2019



Dr. Justin R Nayagam, was an invited speaker in the International Service Learning Conference 2019, held at International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan

Ms. Hitomi Yokote, faculty, Service-Learning Centre, International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan, visited UCC from July 21 to 24, 2019. Her visit strengthened UCC- ICU international partnership



Ms. Merin John, II BA Economics and Mr. Cyriac Augustine, II BSc Zoology visited International Christian University Tokyo, Japan in July 2019.



UNITED BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION IN ASIA

Two of our faculty members had opportunities to share and upgrade knowledge in their areas of expertise this year with funding from the United Board. Mr. Cijin K Paul of the Computer Science Department attended a two day regional consultation on digital education at Christ University this October. The focus of the meeting was on initiatives in digital learning and technology assisted teaching and learning. Dr. Sibu M Eapen from the Department of Malayalam presented a paper on Linguistics and Social media in the Southeast Asia Conference in Indonesia on 2 and 3 October, this year.



QUALITY ASSURANCE

With Dr. Manju George at the helm, the IQAC has been focusing on updating the faculty on key areas which are crucial to the vision of the college and its functioning.

Dr. S V Sudheer, Professor and Director,

UGC-Human Resource Development Centre, University of Kerala, spoke on "NAAC Revised Accreditation Framework", in July.

A half day session on mentorship was arranged this September. Dr. Manoj Menon from the Department of Personal Management, Rajagiri

Centre for Business Studies shed light on the difference between remedial classes, tutorials and mentorship and the need for a systematic approach to the same.



Centre for Peace Studies and Dialogue

This year's Peace building programme focused on the theme of 'Education and Climate Change'. Climate change is one of the largest threats to sustainable development globally and is just one of many imbalances caused by the unsustainable actions of humankind, with direct implications for future generations. The unflinching voice of Greta Turnberg has caused a stir at the global level and CPSD attempts to inspire young college students to take up the challenge here also. With this in mind, peace volunteers from the disciplines of History, Botany, Psychology and Chemistry were given an orientation to the year's activities in August 2019.

Another issue that volunteers addressed this year is how disadvantage is related to the social structure of hierarchy and discrimination. Led by four faculty members, Dr. Jenee Peter, Dr. Malini R, Ms. Syna Soosan Abraham, Dr. Vidhya V and students of the Psychology Department, the centre has revised its existing objectives to include the relevance of frustration - aggression in the context of campus and society in India.



The Department observed Reading Day on 19 June 2019 by conducting Diction tests and Article - reviewing competitions.

The Aashiyaana Club of the department conducted Recitation and Elocution competitions, in connection with the Hindi Day Celebrations in September 2019.

Arthapedia

An Endowment Inter-college Quiz Competition, "Arthapedia", instituted by Dr. Tomy Varghese, former Head of the Department, was held on 21 February 2019.

Economics

In July 2019, a discussion on the Union Budget 2019, led by Dr. Surajit Das from School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi was organized by the department.



A lecture on the topic '3D advantage of India – Democracy, Demand and Demographic Dividend' was given by Lt. Nithin Thomas, Head of the Department of Economics, Bharat Mata College and an alumnus of the department, as part of Economics Association inauguration, in July 2019. He also briefed students on the various career opportunities open to them.

An innovative programme consisting of 3 brain gain sessions was launched by the department in Jun, Jul & Oct 2019. Presentation and interaction of the same was carried out by alumni pursuing higher education in reputed institutions in India.

The department also organized a three day training Course on Basic Econometrics jointly with CSES (Centre for Socio-Economic and Environment Studies, Kochi), in March, 2019. Dr. Vijayamohanan Pillai N, Associate Professor, CDS was the key resource person. The beneficiaries were post graduate students, research scholars and teachers of the department and from other colleges.

A four month training programme on Entry into Civil Services has been started by the department in June 2019 to prepare students for Prelims, Interview and Group Discussion.



Dr. M V Kurien
Commemorative
Lecture

The Dr. M V Kurien Commemorative Lecture was conducted in February 2019. Dr. Alex M Thomas of the Department of Economics, Azim Premji University Bangalore, delivered a talk on 'Adam Smith and His Contemporary Relevance' on the occasion.



Prof. Simon During @ UCC



Golden Jubilee Celebration

English

As part of the Centenary Commemoration Lecture Series Centum 2019, the department hosted two international scholars this year.

Prof. Simon During (Professorial Fellow, University of Melbourne) delivered the Erudite Lecture, a flagship programme of the Kerala State Higher Education Council on September 23.

Mr. Tenzin Tsundue (Tibetan poet, writer and activist) spoke on Tibet/Travel/Exile/Poetry on 31 October.

Professor Susan Thomas Memorial Lecture by Dr. G Krishnakumar, from Bahrain Training Institute, was held on 4 September this year.

A theatre performance of *Hamlet* was organized on 6 October by Dr. C K Sujeesh of Sree Sankara College, Kalady.

Smarananjali was organized in December 2018 commemorating 50 years of PG Course. Both alumni and former members of the faculty congregated on the campus for this gala event.

A National Seminar, “Women Directors: The Struggles, Transition and Growth” in association with the Department of English, St. Teresa’s College was organized February.

A series of five pre-centenary lectures in the domain of Post-Truth were conducted by the department. Prof. T M Yesudasan, Prof C S Jayaram, Fr. Dr. K M George, Dr. T V Madhu and Rev. Dr. Valsan Thampu, eminent teachers and theoreticians were the key speakers.

Botany

Dr. M. Anilkumar and his team of researchers submitted 12 gene sequences in the international biological database (Gen Bank) and got accession numbers of the following bacterial endophytes viz. *Bacillus* sp. (in: Bacteria)(3), *Bacillus subtilis*(2), *Bacillus cereus*(2), *Bacillus aryabhattai*(1), *Staphylococcus* sp.(1) and All other taxa(3) in the Accession numbers starting from UCCBOT ES1-6 and UCCBOT12 & UCCBOT BS1-5.

They also submitted one biodiversity data (Accession No. PRJNA542222) and two metagenome data (Accession Nos. SAMN11617377 & SAMN 11616726) in the Sequence Read Archive (SRA), National Centre for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), USA, sequence database.



CSRS

Documenting Alternate Lifestyles

The activities of the CSRS under the stewardship of Dr Mini Alice and Ms Nino Baby for the year 2018-19 largely focused on completing its three year Institutional Project funded by UBCHEA - Understanding Alternative Lives: Equipping Students for a Peaceful Co-Existence. The documentary based on the completed project was shot during February and April at Arangottukara, Kerala and Thiruvannamalai, Tamil Nadu and is getting ready for release this December. The book comprising the compilation of interviews is also in the offing.

Mathematics



A Workshop on Foundations of Complex Analysis, an enrichment programme for post graduate students was organized in November 2018 in association with Institute of Mathematics Research and Training (IMRT), Trivandrum. Dr. A R Rajan, Former Professor and Head, University of Kerala, Dr. M N N Namboodiri, Former Professor, CUSAT and Mr. Preenu C S, Assistant Professor, University College, Thiruvananthapuram, were the resource persons.

A talk on Elementary Calculus was delivered by Prof. Edwin Tomson, Associate Professor (Rtd.), St. Albert's College, Ernakulam on August 31, 2019 as part of bridge course for first year UG students of the department.

The second and third year UG students of the department were given an orientation on opportunities for higher studies and to prepare for competitive examinations like IIT – JAM on August 1, 2019.



The department organized CIPHER, an interschool Mathematics Quiz Competition for the Prof. K P Mathew Ever Rolling Trophy, and Thasnim Memorial Endowment Intercollegiate Seminar Presentation Competition, both in Oct 2018 and Sep 2019.

Chemistry

The Department organized the Prof. T R Anantharaman Memorial and Dr. A M Chacko Memorial National Seminar on 25 January, 2019. The Prof. T R Anantharaman Memorial Lecture on “Modified Electrodes-Versatile tools for Chemical and Biosensing” was delivered by Dr. Leena R, Assistant Professor, Department of Applied Chemistry, CUSAT.

Dr. A M Chacko Memorial Lecture was delivered on “Advanced Characterisation Techniques using X-ray” by Dr. Ditty Dixon, Ramanujan Faculty, CSIR-Central Electrochemical Research Institute, Karaikudi.

Sasthra Jaalakam, a residential workshop funded by the State Institute of Educational Technology for school students was conducted from 30 November to 2 December 2018, in order to inculcate scientific temper.

Sasthra Padham, another three day residential workshop was conducted in January 2019, which was funded by *Samagra Shiksha*, Kerala for Plus one students, in order to increase their scientific knowledge and temperament. A Science Lecture Series on the topic “Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment Using Radiopharmaceuticals” by Dr. M R A Pillai, Group Director, Molecular Group of Companies, was conducted on 28 November, 2019.



Dare the Difference in You



NCC cadets of 22 K Bn made us proud with their participation in social service activities and many national level camps. 56 cadets along with NCC officer Major K.S. Narayanan participated in the 'Swatchatha Hi Seva' program at Changampuzha park, Edapally.

Roll of Honour



SUO Arjun B
(IGC RDC 2019)



UO Sarath K A
(ALC West Bengal 2019)



CQMS Amal P Franglin
(SSB Capsule Camp, TVM)



SGT Abhiraj Rajan
(Kerala Trekking 2018, Idukki)



GT Aalaap K Sathesh
(SSB Course, OTA, Nagpur)



CPL Alan Anil
(IGC TSC 2019)



LCPL Harigovind M C (IGC TSC 2019,
Kerala Trekking 2019, Idukki)



L/CPL Anuraj V R
(IGC RDC 2019)



LCPL Jinesh Jayakumar K
(IGC RDC 2019)



CDT Alen Sony
(IGC TSC 2019)



CDT Vaishnav Chandran
(IGC TSC 2019)



CDT Ghanashyam M M
(IGC TSC 2019)

Pipping Ceremony



Capt. K S Narayanan has been elevated to the rank of Major on March 2019. He is also the first Major from U C College and 22 -BN NCC after Major Dr. Rajan Varughese. With 15 years of service and 35 camps to his credit, Major K S Narayanan has been selected as the contingent officer to train cadets for the Republic Day Parade.



NCC Unit was honoured by the Karumalloor Grama Panchayat with a memento for the service and support rendered by the cadets in the flood relief activities initiated by the Panchayat.

Roll of Honour 7(K) Girls Bn.



SUO Elizabeth Mathew



JUO Shaino Mariam Philip
All India Trekking Camp- Nilgiri



JUO Reshma K.S



CSM Vaishnavi Gopakumar



Cdt. Keerthi Gopinath
(IGC TSC 2019)



Cdt. Sreelakshmi K.G.
Pre RDC 2020



Cdt. Divya G.Vimal
Pre RDC 2020

50 SW cadets participated in the CATC held at Carmel College, Mala in September 2019 and won the overall Championship. Cdt. Princy Maria Paul won first prize in solo dance. They bagged first position in cultural competitions.



In association with the College Union and Gandhi Darshan Club, the NCC Unit planted 33 saplings of fruit trees on the campus.

A signature campaign, an awareness lecture and oath taking were key features of the NCC's Anti Narcotic drive.



Laudable Service

Lt. Dr. G Geethika was awarded DG NCC Citation for meritorious service in the Republic Day Camp 2019.

Not Me but You



NSS still continues its services with the very manifest motto, 'not me, but thou'. The activities are planned to instill the spirit of team work, service and to make them dedicated leaders.

The 7 day special camp of NSS unit 'Pankayam-2018' with its tag line, *Onnayithuzhayam onnilekku* was conducted in December 2018 at FMCT HSS Karumaloor. The camp concentrated on the flood relief activities of Karumaloor Gramapanchayat. Volunteers participated in a socio- economic – health assessment and the construction of a new road.

120 of the volunteers participated in the one day camp *Vazhakkannu*, on 28th August 2019. Dr. Kurian C Soman, the former NSS program officer, took a class from 9:00 am to 10:30 am on the NSS and its objectives. Volunteers planted 110 banana saplings, 65 tapioca stems and some vegetables. Seeds were provided by the Department of Physics.



Flood Relief: No. 20 Assam Mail was an initiative to help those affected by the floods in the states of Assam and Bihar. Students campaigned for and collected materials required to send to the affected zones.

Naattarivudinam

An ayurveda awareness programme by Dr. Kavitha from Kottakkal Aryavaidyasala was held in August. The awareness gained on lifestyle diseases was beneficial to all.



DKD App Launch
Dr. Kalam Blood Donation app is an innovative initiative of the unit that reduces the effort of finding a donor during emergencies.

With just a click, all the donor details are made available. Olympian Joby Mathew inaugurated the program and celebrity Urmila Unni was the special guest for the event.



Money from the sale of old newspapers collected by volunteers, was used to fund a meal for orphans.

Thoosanila - A campaign to avoid the use of plasticware during Onam celebrations was initiated in various



departments, by encouraging the use of banana leaves to serve the traditional *sadhya*. Any shortage of leaves was supplemented by the NSS. Waste generated during the Onam celebrations was collected and buried in a pit for decomposition.

Observing Significant Days

Yoga day (21 June) was celebrated in association with MCA and Physical Education Department, with a mass Yoga session conducted in our auditorium.



Anti Drug Day (26 June) A palm printing protest was conducted against increased drug usage among youth. Students unitedly presented the idea of "Say no to Drugs. And Say Yes to Life".

Hiroshima Day (6 August) A moment of silence for the victims of the atom bombing at Hiroshima was taken by the NSS volunteers. Sadako Sasaki Origami crane making was taught to students by one of the NSS volunteers.



Physics

A three day residential bridge course on Mathematical Physics was conducted in association with the Academy of Physics teachers in July 2019, for first year PG students from around the state, with Dr Pramod Dominic and Dr Madhu K, as resource persons.



The Astronomical Society of Kerala (ASK) in collaboration with IUCAA Centre for Astronomy Research and Development (ICARD), Newman College, Thodupuzha organized a two day Introductory Workshop on Astronomy and Astrophysics for students from various colleges and universities in Kerala, this August. The programme consisted of lectures, sky watch and problem solving sessions. It was organized as a tribute to late Prof. V. C. Kuriakose (Rtd. Head, Dept. of Physics, CUSAT) who worked to further the cause of Astronomy education in Indian Universities. The college was VCK Sir's alma mater and the place where he started his career. Prof. K K Leelamma, retired faculty of the department is his spouse.

Sastra Jalakam, a programme to inculcate a practical understanding of Physics in high school students, was held in November.



Psychology

Dr. V K Alexander Memorial Seminar was held in March 2019. Mr. Johns V Lukose, alumnus of the department, addressed the students on the prospects and challenges of establishing successful careers in Psychology. Dr. Ajayan P, also an alumnus, Dy. Director, Forensic Hospital, USA delivered a talk on "My Journey as a Psychologist and Researcher" in August 2019. Mr. Sam Ninan Koshy, alumnus and National coordinator of 'Walk for Freedom', in collaboration with Raise our Voice, an NGO, led an interactive session on issues related to human trafficking on August 27. Ms. Hitomi, Service Learning Instructor, ICU, Japan gave a talk on "Opportunities and Challenges in Implementing Service Learning in Higher Education Centres".

A workshop on Statistical research methods and SPSS by Dr. Justin K James was also conducted. A training programme led by Fr. Lijo Thomas on implementing mentoring programmes for primary school students was held on 2 September this year.



INSPIRE

Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research is a scholarship offered by the Department of Science and Technology to attract students pursuing Doctoral degrees in scientific disciplines. Five students, Ms. Ann Mary George, Ms. Anupama Antony, Mr. Harikrishnan T U and Ms. Swarna from the Department of Mathematics have won the prestigious Scholarship.

Zoology



The Department conducted a two day workshop on DNA Fingerprinting, in association with Make Intern on 19 and 20 September 2019. A national level preliminary competition for Zoology students in association with Shastra Fest (IIT Madras) was also held on the same platform. Aleena Mariam Benny of 1st MSc Zoology was selected in the preliminary round to attend the finals at IIT Madras.

A DST sponsored citizen science programme was held on 5 August 2019 at Central Marine Fisheries Institute, Kochi to study Cholera causing *Vibrio* spp. infestation in the Vembanad Lake through remote sensing. It was part of Rehabilitation of *Vibrio* Infested Vembanad Lake: Pollution and Solution (REVIVAL) project. 14 students of I MSc Zoology successfully completed the one day training programme. They helped in the analysis of water samples using Sechi discs provided by CMFRI and uploaded data through a mobile app.

History

A two day PG History Curriculum Revision Workshop was held in January 2019 with 60 participants including research scholars, PG students, and 35 teachers from ten colleges / universities.

The Flagship programme 'History Connect' kick-started with a recorded lecture by Prof. Romila Thapar delivered at Harvard University on ancient Indians'



sense of the past. Dr. John Thomas, IIT Guwahati gave an orientation for the I MA students.

Dr. Debjani Das, Vidyasagar University, Calcutta gave the Symbiosis Phase II Lecture this September.

The Dr. Iravatham Mahadevan remembrance was organized by the Archaeological Museum on 28 Nov 2018. Dr. K S Madhavan, Calicut University,

delivered a special lecture on “Mapping/Remapping Approaches to Kerala History” in September.

The UCC archaeological Museum added to its collections and hosted Prof. R Takran, (UGC), students from Taiwan and Japan and forty Higher Secondary Teachers.

Malayalam

A national seminar on *Cinema-Kalayum Rashtreyavum* under Vidwan P G Nair Research Foundation was organised by the department in February 2019. Renowned Malayalam writer and film actor, Mr. V K Sreeraman inaugurated the seminar. Film critic Mr. G P Ramachandran ,delivered the keynote address and eminent film director Mr. John Paul was the chief guest in the closing session.



Refresher Course for HSS Teachers

In association with SCERT, Govt. of Kerala, a ten day residential refresher course for Higher Secondary School Malayalam Teachers was conducted from 26 September to 5 October 2019. District HSS coordinator Smt. Nalinakumari inaugurated the programme.

A seminar in memory of K Saraswathiyamma in collaboration with Kerala Bhasha Institute was held in August 2019. Smt. Gracy (story writer), Shri. Kalpetta Narayanan(writer), Shri. N Jayakrishnan (Asst. Director, Kerala Basha Institute) and Dr. Muse Mary George delivered lectures in this programme.



Other Activities

- *Madhyamam Velicham* - led by Mr. Baby Karuvellil, editor of Madhyamam newspaper to encourage reading habits.
- *Akshara slokam* - state level competition in association with Vidwan P G Nair *Smaraka gaveshana Kendram*.
- *Nalacharitam Aattakadha* by Tripunithura Kadhakali Kendram.
- Contemporary Malayalam Short Story-An interactive session in association with *Bhashaposhini*

Computer Science



A quiz competition *QUIRIOZITY 19* was held in Jan 2019 for the Higher Secondary Students to test their IT Skills and knowledge. Amal Kuruvilla Babu and Shone Antony George from Sacred Heart HSS,

Thevara, won the first prize . Sachin Sanjeev and Rohit Manu from Brahmanamdodayam HSS Kalady won the second prize

Two seminars on Android Development were conducted for final year students by RiSS Technologies, Ernakulam and Networkz Systems, Kalamassery in November and December 2018. A seminar on Web Technology was also conducted for final year students by Technologies, Kadavanthra on 23 Nov, 2018.

A one day workshop on PHP and MySql was conducted for second-year students from RiSS Technologies, Ernakulam on 15 March 2019. The Department also conducted a workshop on Java practical lab schedule for the faculty members of Colleges affiliated to M. G. University, Kottayam on 20 July 2019.

MCA

The orientation programme for the first year post-graduate students of the Computer Science Department, conducted on 20 August 2019, was inaugurated by Mr. Dinesh Thampi, Vice President Operations at TCS. This was followed by a technical session by Mr. Krishna Kumar (Green Pepper Digital, Bangalore).



The department organised a six day workshop on the topic 'Machine Learning in Python' in March, by Mr. Renjith Viswanath (Alumnus of 2003 MCA Batch)

In association with the department, Mahindra Pride School, Chennai organized a four day Skill Development Training Programme for the final semester MCA students starting from 19th August 2019.

In addition to the Placement Training Programme, conducted by Mr. Sooraj Abraham for the final semester students in January, the department also organized a Training Programme on 'Android Basics' by Jithin Antony for second and fourth semester students on 5 August.

Activities of Outreach and Women Empowerment Cell

As a part of the International Women's Day celebration, a Walkathon was arranged to support the Menstrual Health Awareness in association with JCI India Cochin Aircity Chapter, Aluva.

Two computer systems were handed over to the authorities of Kadungalloor L.P. School on 16 November 2018 as a helping hand to replace their losses during the floods.



MBA



The School of Management Studies celebrated the International Women's Day on 8 March 2019. The objective of the celebration was to express love and gratitude towards women's contribution to our lives and society. It honoured the power and struggles of women who have stepped above all barriers and reached the pinnacle of success in every sphere of life. The

programme was inaugurated by the honourable Chairperson of Kerala Women's Commission, Ms. MC Josephine.

In collaboration with HDFC, KSACS, and KSBTC, the School of Management Studies conducted a Blood Donation Camp. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Zulaha M., Government Hospital, Aluva. More than 30 students and faculty members donated blood.

The School of Management Studies has been recognised as a Certified Authorised Testing Centre for Microsoft Excel.



Commerce

The Department of Commerce conducted an All India Tally Commerce Aptitude Test organized by Manvish Infosolution Aluva, on 2 September 2019. Kiran Vignesh of third year Model II emerged as the college level topper in the test.

In order to familiarize the final year students with



new career opportunities in the field of Commerce, a one day Career Development Programme was conducted on 14 June 2019, which was led by P Madhusoodan Kartha from PMG College, Chalakudy.

The department arranged an environmental visit to Asuragundu for the final year students on 2 October 2019.

Electronics & Computer Maintenance

Besides an orientation programme on Life Skills for the the first years, the following seminars and workshops were conducted by the department:

- ♦ Seminar on Fourth Industrial Revolution - Cyber security research expertise in vulnerability analysis and penetrating testing by Ms. Sheema Madhusudhanan of Prayan Learning.



- ♦ Seminar on Opportunities in Electronics by Mr Adrine Antony Correya, International School of Photonics, CUSAT.
- ♦ Seminar on Fiber Optic Communication: Concepts Application and Advances by Mr. Vijo M Joy, Assistant Professor, Aquinas College, Edakochin.
- ♦ Seminar on Embedded Systems -Mr.Neju M of Quest Innovative Systems was the main speaker.
- ♦ Two day workshop on Android Application Development and CCTV Installation and Operations.

SWAYAM-NPTEL Local Chapter

Under the guidance of Ms.Gincy Abraham (SPOC), Department of Computer Science, awareness classes

for both teachers and students were conducted on NPTEL online courses. 52 students successfully completed online courses during Jul-Oct 2018. Dr. Niladevi

earned a mentor certificate.

During the period Jan-Apr 2019, 114 students successfully completed the course. Two teachers earned mentor certificates and 5 teachers got FDP certificates. Mr. Alwin Alexander, Ms.Gincy Abraham, Mr. Sujith Kumar and Mr. Akhil T V are the top performing mentors and 451 students enrolled in various courses of NPTEL during Jul-Dec 2019.

Abinaya Subramaniam, Rinu Mariyam and Jain Joy of III BSc Chemistry benefitted from an opportunity to attend a six day workshop on Techniques in Inorganic Chemistry held at IISER Pune in July this year.



Bioscience



Mr. C S Pradeep Kumar, Biostarts Ventures, Kolkata and Sustainability Advisor and Indian Partner, BIOSFERA Foundation, The Netherlands, delivered a popular science lecture in July on "Plant Biotechnology for Sustainable Environ-

mental Management and Bioengineering Solutions". The programme was sponsored by the Indian Women Scientist's Association. Mr. Pradeep spoke on how innovative biotechnology and bioengineering solutions can be used for protection and restoration of water bodies, solid waste dump site restoration and river embankment stabilization. He suggested that the College should start an incubation centre where ingenious students can incubate their ideas leading to start-ups.

Workshops and Internships

- High-throughput sequencing and Data Analysis- Dr. Rita Mukhopadhyay, Head Gene Technology Section, MBD, BARC was the resource person.
- Molecular Biology Techniques funded under DBT Star College Scheme for St. Xaviers College. The faculty of the department served as resource persons.
- Python Programming three day certificate internship programme for Bioinformatics students.

Student Christian Fellowship

SCF students initiated a 'Fridays for the Future' campaign in the college, urging fellow students to pledge responsible use of the environment. Weekly meetings were held to discuss human rights issues and climate change hazards. Competitions were held in college to observe International Anti Drug Abuse day. Students gathered on campus to sing and learn new songs. SCF members involved themselves in the flood relief operations arranged by the YMCA, Alangad. The annual camp was organised in association with SCM (Kerala) and held at SCM centre, Pattom. Attendance of other camps included ones held at Chennai and Thiruvananthapuram.

Adhit Chandy George from the Economics Department represented SCM Kerala in a student exchange programme held in Germany from June 10 to 18, 2019. He was selected an executive committee member of SCM (India) at the General Body meeting held at Shillong in September 2019.



Sports

Our sports team brought laurels to the college at the University and National levels for Aquatics, Hockey and Cricket. 18 students represented the State at National level and 57 students represented the MG University at various All India University Championships in 2018-19. UCC emerged champions in Roller Hockey Women, Cricket Women, Hockey 5'S Men, Roller Sports Women, Baseball Women and Runners-up in Hockey 5'S Women, Hockey Men, Fencing Women, Netball Men, Football Women, Softball Women.



Individual Champion

Abhijith Gegarin (II B. Sc Computer Science) emerged individual champion of MG University Aquatic championships. He won one silver and four gold medals in various swimming strokes.

National Women Cricketers

Aleena Surendran, Sourabhya P and Darsana Mohanan were members of Kerala State Senior Cricket team at the national tournament in Raipur, Chattisgarh.



At the National Level

Kochuthressia K K and Shanavas S represented Kerala in the Senior National Hockey and Akhil J V and Sreejith G S in the Junior National Hockey Championships.

Anjana N R and Joshina P M (II BA Economics) represented MG University and secured second place in the All India Inter-University Women Softball Championship held at Calicut University.



Annual Athletic Meet

The 97th College Annual Athletic Meet involving stiff competition from the 14 departments was conducted on 20, 21 and 22 January, 2019. The Economics Department emerged overall champions and also topped the Men's section. The Department of Commerce emerged Women's Champions.

International Day of Yoga



The Department in association with 22 (K) BN, NCC and NSS units observed the International Day of Yoga on 21 June, 2019. The mass drill programme held at the MCA Seminar hall had 150

students as participants.

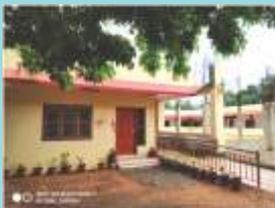
basic survival skills in swimming, in the post-flood scenario. A batch of 12 students taken to Saji Vallasseril River Crossing Club, crossed Periyar River, after a 12-day training programme in March/ April 2019.



Inculcating Life Skills

Karate and Skating classes offered to the nearby community since 2013 are going on in full swing. The department has started coaching students in

Infrastructural Development



A new women's hostel has been constructed near Skinner hostel. Built to accommodate 40 students and 5 teachers, the new building was funded by the UGC and college management. The hostel complex was formally opened with a Dedication Ceremony on 4 July this year.

The newly constructed MCA Block was inaugurated on 18 September 2019, with a well attended Dedication Ceremony.



A 'BLISS'ful Life

The counseling centre of the college continues to provide active support and help for the mental health



needs of the college community. In connection with World Mental Health Day BLISS and Department of Psychology jointly organized

mental health awareness program for all the students of our college. Research scholars, post graduate and final year undergraduate students conducted an interactive session in each class where they discussed the tips to stay mentally healthy, myths about mental illness, early signs of common mental disorders, and the importance of seeking help.

Dreaming Big

The Placement Cell has become a student oriented zone on campus, under the guidance of new placement officer Ms. Sheetal V R. The cell has introduced initiatives including student registration and internal sessions by the Placement Officer for final year students' to increase awareness. 1285 students have registered as a result.

As a first step in 2019-20, the placement cell organized a Soft Skills Development session in July with 150 students. Mr. Unnikrishnan, Deputy Chief Information and Guidance, University Employment Bureau, CUSAT, led the session, which was followed by a mock test. John Cockburn, International Marketing Director and Placement Consultant took a session on opportunities in Newsland.

In September, Chegg Recruitment Drive was conducted in the MCA Auditorium and an online test in the MCA & MBA labs. 295 students participated, and 85% cleared the online test.

To ensure more convenience in reaching the students, a whatsapp group has been created for the students of first,



second and final years. In response to the interest expressed by students, certified course facilities for Excel and MS Office are being provided on Saturdays. KMAT and NET training sessions are also being offered from Nov 2 onwards, on all Saturdays and Sundays.

'One Touch'

A wonderful gathering of about 50 paraplegic patients along with their bystanders,



ORMA 2K19, was organized in March by the Pain and Palliative Care Unit. A motivation session was provided by Adv. Jimmy Jose, Red Cross Society member and an active palliative social worker. The patients had a memorable day and the program ended with each participant given a token of happiness from the unit. The staff and volunteers visited Sneha Jyothi Sisubhavan, an orphanage, on 19 January 2018 to distribute essential items.

A two day training program was held at the Pain and Palliative Care Unit of Anwar Hospital, under the guidance of Dr. Hyderali.

On Palliative Care day, 24 volunteers participated in the gathering of paraplegia patients at the General Hospital, Aluva.

Stalls are set up on Thursdays for the sale of household products made by paraplegic patients. Income generated is used for the welfare of the patients.

Kids' Dale

The day care centre of the college functions as an important support system for teachers with young children. Apart from taking care of the daily needs of the



children, the active and dynamic staff celebrate all the main festivals with children and conduct sports and cultural programmes to encourage their talents.

New HoDs Assume Office

- Ms. Juby John, Department of History.
- Dr. Alex Mathew, Department of Physics
- Dr. Geena Joy, Department of Mathematics
- Dr. Manju M. George, Department of Botany
- Dr. Radhika. S, Department of Hindi

150 Years of the Gandhian legacy

The Gandhi Darshan Club started its activities by taking a pledge against drug abuse and arranging 'a hand against drug' campaign among students. Commemorating the Mahatma, on his birth anniversary, the club organized a Gandhi caricature competition in October which found participation from the students of various departments. Imbibing the true spirit of Gandhi's

love for nature the club members in association with the College Union planted 33 fruit tree saplings on the campus on 5 October 2019. The club continues its journey promulgating Gandhian ideas through various activities under the mentorship of Dr. Twincy Varghese.

You See UCC

The Photography Club kick started its activities with a competition titled 'Melodies of Nature' in sync with World Environment Day celebrations on June 5. Staff



advisor Dr. Sunil Abraham Thomas ensured that new members were welcomed to the fold. An 'Election Photography Contest' which attempted to capture candid clicks and the subtle nuances of campus life during student elections, was also a major highlight of the year's activities. Twenty students took part in the 'Photo Walk' at Fort Kochi, where they interacted with freelance photographers.

Raandhal

The second edition of 'Raandhal-Back a Smile Campaign' committed towards environment consciousness, student creativity and social outreach, was organised by the students of the Department of English in December 2018, under the guidance of Ms. Sheenu Varghese. The exhibition of upgraded products like bags, artefacts, wall hangings from discarded wood, cloth, paper and plastic was inaugurated by Dr. Thara K Simon. As part of promoting a greener and healthier organic way of life, a food stall was also put up in association with the Department of Botany. Live portrait-making and music formed the other attractions of the event.



Exploring Culture through Collaboration



In July this year, the Malayalam and English Departments jointly organized a vibrant Rajasthani folk evening in association with the District Library Council, SPIC MACAY North Kerala and Police Library club. The soulful melodies and graceful dances left the large audience enthralled.

An archaeology and heritage exhibition *Chirath* was organized jointly by the departments of History and Psychology in July. The exhibition showcased a fortuitous acquisition of two thousand artefacts by the college. This collection from Kulangara Tharavadu in Paravur, was gifted to the college by philanthropist and alumnus, Mr. Paul Mathew Kulangara.



Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Centre

The mission of the IEDC is to "develop institutional mechanism to create entrepreneurial culture in academic institutions to foster growth of innovation and entrepreneurship amongst the faculty and students". Technopark Technology Business Incubator (known as Kerala Startup Mission) has taken this initiative of the Govt. of India to the Top Colleges in Kerala, in order to exploit and effectively convert the skills and expertise within the college to create entrepreneurial ventures.

The Kerala Startup Mission extends all guidance to the college in arranging Faculty Development Programmes (FDP) & Entrepreneurship Awareness Camps (EAC) for students with the objective of creating Job Providers instead of Job Seekers. Thirty students have attended training in various platforms last year and have developed ideas and products.

The students and the assistant nodal officer, Ms. Jyothilekshmi participated in the IEDC annual



summit which was held at Amal Jyothi Engineering College, Kanjirappilly. The college has been selected as a premium member of ICT Academy due to its excellence in the field of ICT related activities, a privilege accorded only to a group of 25 colleges.

International Linkages

The college has fostered strong partnerships with three institutions of international repute - Hope College, Michigan ; Bellarmine University in Louisville and the Fujen Catholic University in Taiwan . These partnerships support mutual exchange of knowledge and offer opportunities for



personal and institutional growth. Further strengthening our North American ties, President of UCAANA, Dr. Thomas P Mathew visited Hope College for the installation ceremony of its newly elected President, Dr. Matthew Scogin. In turn, Dr. Mathew

cordially invited him to our upcoming centenary celebrations.



UCCAANA Updates

The Union Christian Alumni Association of North America (UCCAANA) is constituted of all alumni in North America and Canada. The recent visit of one of the UCCAANA Board members, Dr. Kottayil IypeVarughese, (Professor, Department of Physiology & Biophysics, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, Arkansas), an old student of the 62 batch of Pre-university, was one of the highlights of this academic year's interface between UCC and UCCAANA. His visit has highlighted the possibilities of what UCCAANA can do in strengthening and expanding our international linkages, which is an avowed commitment of UCC. The Manager impressed him on the need for an International House as part of the Centenary project adjacent to a Technology and Incubation Center, a significant landmark in the development of UCC.

The UCCAANA is eager and striving hard to expand its membership base including more UCCians from the younger group. UCCAANA leadership rests with Dr. Thomas P Mathew (President), Dr. Bhamini Nayar (Vice-president) Dr. Anju Mary Philip (Secretary) and Mr. George Varughese, ACP (Treasurer). We gratefully acknowledge their contributions.

May Their Souls Rest in Peace

In Memoriam

Ms. Sinu Varghese, (Research Scholar) and Ms. Midhuna Sivan (III B. A.) of the Malayalam Department passed away this year. Their tragic demise is a loss to the department and the college community.



Rtd. Prof. V V Jose
Botany Dept.



Rtd. Prof. Aleyamma Itty
Phy. Edn. Dept.



Mr. P D Markose
Rtd. Lab Asst.



Mr. V C Manoharan
Rtd. Herbarium Keeper



Mr. A Velayudhan
Rtd. Senior Clerk



Ms. K K Annamma
Rtd. Head Accountant



Mr. P T Subramanian
Rtd. Last Grade HG

PG University Toppers 2019



Ms. Sneha Jacob
English (I)



Ms. Josily Achamma Mathew
Psychology (I)



Ms. Asritha Raj
Psychology (II)



Ms. Nayana.P.B
History (III)



Ms. Anu Mathai
Physics (V)



Ms. Amrutha K H
Zoology (VI)



Ms. Seethal Elias
Malayalam (VI)



Ms. Deepthy George
Zoology (VII)



Ms. Anjana Vijayan
Botany (VII)

MGU Youth Festival Winners

Mr. Shivam Tripathi	Chemistry	Hindi Elocution	Third
Ms. Meenu Prasad	Chemistry	Aksharashlokam	A Grade
Ms. Mahesh Varghese	English	Film Review	3rd Place
Mr. Jebin George	English	Western Group Song	3rd Place
Rithik Valsan	English	String Instrument	3rd Place
Raichal Joseph	English	Mime	2nd Place
Azra Jhulka	English	Mime	2nd Place
Mr. Ajay Krishnan	CME	Lalithaganam	A Grade

Commendable Achievement

A SKSCSTE student project (935/SPS63/2018/KSCSTE) had been awarded to Ms. Anjana Jose and Ms. Lintu Alias under the guidance of Dr. Shinoj V K.

JRF/NET/KTET

Mr. Mahesh Varghese	English
Ms. Sneha Jacob	English
Ms. Sifna Xavier	English
Ms. Navya Rose Thomas	English
Ms. Basima Ismath	English
Ms. Shilpa Paul	Physics
Ms. Deepthi K.H	Malayalam
Ms. Jiya Joseph	Psychology
Ms. Sajna Nizar	Botany
Ms. Merin Alice George	Botany
Ms. Veena Mathew	Botany
Ms. Lisinta Sivan	Zoology
Mr. Manu K T	History
Ms. Elizebeth Raju	History

UG BSc Toppers 2019



Elizabeth Jacob K.
Mathematics (I)



Ms. Nimitha K A
Computer Science (II)



Abeeeshna N.
BT & SP (I)



Keerthana Bhaskaran
BT & SP (II)



Athul Bhagianath
E & CM (I)



Basil T. Alias
E & CM (II)

B.Sc. Computer Science
Deepak R Krishna (VII)
Merlin Joseph (X)
Sandra M.S. (X)

BSc. Mathematics
Riya Vincent (X)

BSc. Physics
Haneen V.N. (IX)

BSc. Zoology
Riswina Nissar (IV)



PhD Awarded

Ms. Smitha C Elayadom, Librarian of MCA was awarded PhD on the topic 'Application of Knowledge Management Techniques in the University Libraries in Kerala' from Alagappa University, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu.



Ms. R S Radhika, Assistant Professor has been awarded PhD in Hindi by Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady on the topic *Loktantr Vimarshke Sandarbhmein Samkaleen Hindi Upanyas: Ek Adhyayan.*



Ms. Geena Joy, Assistant Professor of Mathematics has been awarded PhD by Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam for her thesis titled 'A Study on Lattice Matrices'.

Research Output

The following candidates have been awarded PhDs under the guidance of Dr. E I Anila, Department of Physics:



Athma P V



Bindu K R



Sreeja V G



Safeera T A

The following candidates have been awarded PhDs under the guidance of Dr. Rachel Reena Philip, Department of Physics:



Bindu G Nair



Keerthi K



Aijo K John



Anitha Abraham

The following candidates have been awarded PhDs under the guidance of Dr. Sunny Kuriakose A (Retd.), Department of Mathematics:



Sheeja T K



Manjusha R

PhD awarded under the guidance of **Dr. Sibin M Eapen**, Malayalam Dept.



Sr. Sheeba C

New Research Guides

Dr. Jenish Paul and Dr. Simi Pushpan K, both from the Department of Chemistry have been granted Research Guideship by M.G. University.



Zoology Department-New Research Centre

It is a matter of pride that the department of Zoology has been upgraded to a research centre of MG University, with Dr. Shirley Thomas (HOD) and Dr. Revathy V S as research guides. The research centre was inaugurated by former HOD Prof. N C Chacko. Former faculty members of the department, Prof. Jacob Kurien, Prof. M Sajeer Thomas, Prof. Annie George, Dr. T Thomas Philip, and Prof. Suja Lukose were honoured on the occasion; as were UG and PG rank holders.



Dr. V P Markose, Associate Professor, Dept. of Malayalam has been nominated as Member, Directorate of College Development Council, MG University, Kottayam.

Dr. Muse Mary George & Dr. David Saj Mathew have been nominated as Chairpersons of PG Boards of Studies, M G University, Kottayam.

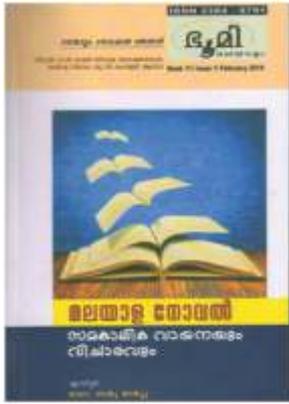


Horizon books published *Stree Kartrivthvam Aakhanyam Prethinidhanam* by Ms. Sinu Varghese Research Scholar, Dept. of Malayalam. Dr. Muse Mary George released the book on 13 February, 2019.

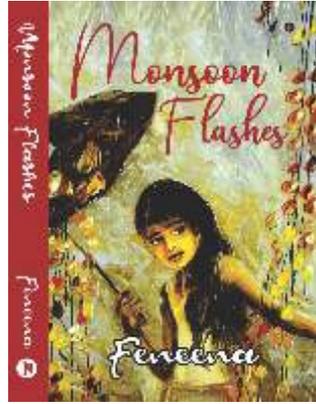
New Projects

Dr Reshmi R of the Physics Department has been granted 20 Lakhs, for a project titled 'Pulsed Laser Deposition of Monolayers of 2D Transition metal dichalcogenides for TFT Applications' under the DST Core Research Scheme.

Books Published



Dr. Saju Mathew



Ms. Feneena S Mohamed

Fare thee Well...



Sri. P.P. THOMACHAN
Gardener (HG) - (1995-2019)



Sri. LALGI JOHN THOMAS
Lab Assistant (HG) - (1984-2019)



Sri. P.P. MATHUKUTTY
Lab Assistant - (1995-2019)



Sri. P.K. POULOSE
Senior Clerk - (1995-2019)



Sri. C. SUNDARAN
Lab Assistant (HG) - (1982-2019)



Sri. JACOB T.V
Senior Clerk - (1995-2019)



Sri. ALIYAS V.V
Senior Computer Assistant -
(1995-2019)



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Editorial Board : Ms. Suma Mary Skaria, Dr. Sonia Chacko | Ms. Sheenu Varghese | Ms. Asha Baby Mathews | Ms. Akhila Narayanan | Ms. Geethu Mohan | Ms. Rajana P
Dr. Bindu M | Dr. Nelson Joseph | Dr. Shinoj V K | Ms. Mily Mary Sleeba | Mr. Cijin K Paul | Dr. Jenee Peter