



Annual Report: College Day – 19 March 2021

Good morning and a warm welcome to everyone present here. I am privileged and honoured to welcome our chief guest, Professor S. Gowri, Vice Chancellor, University of Madras. A mechanical engineer by profession, Dr. Gowri received his doctoral degree from IIT Madras and has extensive research experience in India and abroad. Among the many accolades that Dr. Gowri has received, the ‘Outstanding Academic’ award presented to him by the Indian Society for Technical Education, MHRD, and Government of India in 2011 merits special mention. Dr. Gowri has accomplishments in many fields, including film, creation of digital course content, and experience as an expert member in the National Research Council Forum for New Education Policy, New Delhi.

Let us welcome Dr. Gowri with a round of applause. Thank you, Sir, for taking time off from your many commitments to be here with us on our special day.

I extend a warm welcome to Dr. Sr. Francisco Nirmala, Provincial, Chennai Province, Sr. Fatima Furtado, Superior, Stella Maris Convent, Sr. Susan, Secretary of the College, Vice Principals, Deans, faculty, members of the Governing Body, the Academic Council, administrative and support staff, retired faculty, parents, alumnae, benefactors, friends, FMM Sisters, Rev. Fathers, and you, my dear students.

Before I proceed with the College Day Report, I would like to place on record our deep sadness and loss at the passing of our beloved Dr. Sr. Helen Vincent, former Principal on 14 December 2020 at the age of 90. A scholar and academic of high repute and an able administrator, she was responsible for steering Stella Maris towards higher achievements in the field of education. Under her stewardship, Stella Maris scaled new heights in the field of women's education, acquiring national and international renown, and joining the ranks of leading institutions of higher education in the country. We mourn her passing, and are forever indebted to her vision, commitment and dynamism which served to strengthen our educational endeavours in the service of society.

We also mourn the passing of one of our library staff, Ms. Arokia Mary who passed away on 23 August 2020. She had served the College from 1999.

Let us pause for a minute in silence and pray for the repose of their souls. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls rest in peace. Amen.

On this occasion, I greet very specially Thirumathi Meena M. support staff who retired in June 2020 after 28 ½ years of dedicated service. On behalf of the College community, I thank her for her unstinting, committed service to the College.

In this age of the Covid-19 Virus, many changes have been wrought throughout the globe, disrupting what we saw as “normal” and bringing in what has come to be referred to as the “new normal.” It is the new normal in education across the world to adapt to change in programme and course delivery, using new technology to meet needs of students and educational processes in general. His Holiness Pope Francis has summed up our situation clearly; he says, the coronavirus pandemic “has given us a chance to develop new ways of living.”

We are in a very unusual situation, but we have found ways to cope with this unprecedented crisis and continue to perform our regular tasks in the midst of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. With the lockdown, we had to find ways of reaching out to our students, and the only way was through virtual communication. To enable this, the Department of Computer Science facilitated the procurement of Google Suite for Education and put together an online training programme in the use of remote teaching technology in record time. It was a very difficult period, but our dedicated and conscientious faculty learned fast, and within two weeks we were able to begin remote teaching classes.

We were also faced with the challenge of supplying needy students with laptops and mobiles so they could be a part of the remote teaching-learning process. A proposal submitted to the United Board for the United Board Pandemic Response Fund was approved and an amount of US\$ 25,000 was sanctioned in November 2020 for

purchase of laptops and data for these students. Students, faculty and retired faculty contributed towards purchase of android phones for students.

I am happy to announce that three new programmes have been introduced in the College from the academic year 2020-2021:

M.A. Human Resource Management

B.Com. (Honours)

MSc. Data Science (joint programme with GITAA and LHU)

Keeping up with global developments in education, we have recently made our entry into social media sites. The official YouTube Channel of Stella Maris College was launched on 15 August 2020. With persistent requests from our international partners, we now have a Facebook profile and an Instagram account. Thanks to Ms. Nikita Chawla for her efforts in getting this done for us. Many of our students were also involved in this project. Thank you, students, for your cooperation and efforts.

Despite the changes and challenges brought about by the pandemic, we have carried on with hope and courage in our mission of education. The most significant change in our functioning at this time has been the many webinars that every department has been hosting and attending through the lockdown. It was a very useful way to continue to update our knowledge and stay in touch with fellow academics in India and across the globe. Several webinars were held for both faculty and students.

The following slides give you a listing of the webinars hosted by departments and offices.

INTERNATIONAL WEBINARS

Sociology

Cycles of Violence – Understanding domestic violence and battered women syndrome | 22 May 2020

COVID-19 – Stress and relationships | 09 June 2020

Well-being with sound | 12 June 2020

Mathematics

Some interesting aspects of Fuzzy Mathematics | 11, 12, 15 & 16 June 2020

Recent advancements in Discrete Mathematics | 22-25 June 2020

Botany

Conflict and co-operation | 26 February 2021

Commerce Shift I

The future of business in the changing world | 06 July 2020

Psychology at work in the corporate world | 25 August 2020

Introduction to finance and the impact of news | 27 October 2020

Commerce Shift II

ICT tools for teaching, testing and evaluation | 25 May 2020

Computer Science

Artificial Intelligence with NLP – Game changer beyond future | 16 November 2020

French

Avec nos profs, c'est facile d'apprendre le français – avenir et Champs d'intérêt."

(It is easier to learn French with our profs – avenues and opportunities) | 25 May 2020

Biotechnology

Decoding COVID-19 – Ground realities of the new virus | 11 May 2020

Insights on epigenetic regulation of skeletal muscle development and muscular tumour | 15 June 2020

Library (in collaboration with NKT College of Education)

Research within reach | 15-17 July 2020

Stella Centre for Effective Education and Development (SCEED)

Collaborative effort for effective research | 08 July 2020

NATIONAL WEBINARS

History

Tourism and Hospitality in the aftermath of the pandemic – Strategies for a rebound | 21 May 2020

Rediscovering the timeless heritage of South India | 22 May 2020

Lionising the Pallavas – Simhavyalas and lion bases in Mamallapuram monuments | 11 June 2020

The Sri Lankan tourism experience – pre and post COVID-19 | 12 June 2020

Economics

Effective online pedagogy | 14-15 May 2020

Qualitative Response Regression models using R statistical software | 22-23 May 2020

Physics

Recent trends in Material Science and training on related software tools | 1-3 June 2020

Chemistry

Molecular architecture and landscape through Spectroscopy – Introductory lectures | 4-6 June 2020

Application of ICT in Chemistry for undergraduates | 14 May 2020

Botany

Biodiversity and antiviral properties of medicinal plants in India | 15 May 2020

Zoology

Online teaching of Zoology using digital platforms | 15 May 2020

Wetland Ecology of Chennai (in collaboration with Care Earth Trust) | 13 & 23 February 2021

Commerce Shift I

Managing your finances and investments in COVID times | 21 May 2020

Post COVID-19 scenario: Strategies to counter its impact on Human Resources | 25 May 2020

Pandemic Positivity COVID-19: Self-care and mindfulness | 18 June 2020

Career options in the current economic scenario and post COVID-19 scenario (conducted by T.I.M.E Education Institute) | 31 December 2020

B.Voc.

Food, nutrition and health – Keys to proactive health | 14 May 2020

Need of the hour – Foods that enhance Immunity | 23 May 2020

Energy, water and resources savings – How to go about sustainability? |
23 May 2020

Awareness on COVID-19 (in collaboration with Directorate of Public Health and
Preventive Medicine, Govt. of Tamil Nadu) | 24 February 2021

Hindi

Learning language tools and online courses | 02 June 2020

International Studies

Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the global political, security and economic orders
| 14-15 May 2020

Alumnae webinar series:

Journey of a humanitarian worker: Sylvain Lefort | 23 May 2020

Impact of the pandemic on the urban deprived communities of Tamil Nadu: Vanessa
Peter | 26 May 2020

Culture and International Relations – A trend analysis of the evolving paradigms:
Anupama Sekar | 3 June 2020

India-China relations and research as a career: M.S. Prathibha | 18 June 2020

Bioinformatics

Computational perspectives in handling biological data | 21 May 2020

COLLEGIATE WEBINARS

History

Tourism and hospitality in the aftermath of the pandemic – Strategies for a rebound | 21 May 2020

Rediscovering the timeless heritage of South India | 22 May 2020

Overview of Civil Services in India | 6 February 2021

Economics

Effective online pedagogy | 14-15 May 2020

Qualitative response regression models using R statistical software | 22-23 May 2020

Sociology

Cyber-crimes and security | 20 October 2020

Representation of women and gender minorities in Media | 20 January 2021

Fine Arts

Gender fluidity in Tamil theatre: Therukoothu | 19 May 2020

Challenges to moving online – Visual Arts subjects at Liverpool Hope University | 20 May 2020

Physics

ICT for effective Physics teaching, learning and evaluation | 18 May 2020

Chemistry

Need for nuclear energy as a public awareness programme | 03 February 2021

Psychology

Wellness during the pandemic | 20 & 23 May 2020

Invest in yourself make your mental health a priority | 12 October 2020

Running on the hot wheels of stress: Grease to make the ride smoother | 14 October 2020

Gender and mental health – Through a socio-cultural lens | 23 October 2020

Commerce Shift II

Safeguarding savings in pandemic times | 13 May 2020

Thought leadership in MSME reforms | 20 May 2020

Importance of Business Analytics in a competitive business landscape | 20 June 2020

Entrepreneurship with a social cause | 24 June 2020

Cost Management practices in industries | 17 October 2020

Current issues in accounting and auditing | November 2020

Careers in securities market | 20 November 2020

Union Budget 2021 – An overview | 12 February 2021

Content marketing | 24 February 2021

Social Work

(In collaboration with the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and Thozhamai, an NGO) Risk Communication and engagement during COVID-19 | 14 May 2020

Forgotten Aspects of Classical Economics and their Relevance Today | 16 May 2020

COVID-19 – Addressing Stigma and Discrimination | 11 June 2020

Sharing of Best Practices in CSR Interventions during COVID-19 | 10 July 2020

Impact of COVID-19 on Migration | 16 July 2020

Migration and Children | 23 July 2020

Migration and Reverse Migration in the age of COVID-19 | 30 July 2020

Social Work intervention during COVID-19 – Role of community and tele-counselling | 18 May 2020

Maternity benefits in Tamil Nadu | 11 July 2020

COVID-19 and Breastfeeding (in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Forum for Creche and Childcare Services - TN-Forces) | 11 July 2020

Migration policy – During pandemic and beyond (in collaboration with UNICEF) | 6 August 2020

Industrialisation, globalisation, urbanisation and its impact on environment | 01 September 2020

Grooming young minds for a challenging tomorrow (in collaboration with HRM) | 21 October 2020

Effective decision making (in collaboration with Department of Employment & Training, State Career Guidance Centre and SMCDRIVE | 21 October 2020

B.Voc.

ICT as a pedagogical tool for renewable energy | 15 May 2020

A Farm to Palm view of the food value chain and greens nutrition | 10-12 September 2020

Public Relations

Environment and sustainability | 28 December 2020

Biotechnology

ICT as a pedagogy tool for renewable energy | 13 May 2020

Value Education

Confronting challenges with faith and compassion – Christian leadership in a time of global crisis | 25 May 2020

Foregrounding ethics and human values in remote classroom teaching and learning | 26 May 2020

NSS and YRC

Being a superwoman during times of crisis | 23 May 2020

For earth's sake (in collaboration with Project Future India and Namdhesam Foundation) | 22 August 2020

Women's equality (in collaboration with SMCDRIVE) | 26 August 2020

Healthy living – the priority of life | 29 August 2020

Role of youth as NSS/YRC volunteers (in collaboration with the University of Madras) | 24 September 2020

General awareness on suicide prevention (organised by Sneha Foundation) | 25 September 2020

Importance of mental health (in collaboration with SMCDRIVE) | 22 October 2020

Library

Timeless treasure | 09 June 2020

Centre for Women's Studies (CWS)

Shadow Pandemic – Increasing Gender Inequality in India (in collaboration with Stella Maris College Gender Centre) | 25 July 2020

Bystander intervention | 09 November 2020

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)

Teach digital, reach glocal | 27-28 May 2020

National Education Policy: Implementation plans | 24 November 2020

Stella Centre for Effective Education and Development (SCEED)

Use of GIP | 07 May 2020

Research-scientific thinking and academic integrity | 22 May 2020

Nuances of scholarly writing and manuscript preparation | 18 May 2020

The present and future of technology in education

(UGC Paramarsh Scheme) | 20-21 May 2020

Libreoffice (in collaboration with IIT Bombay) | 08 May 2020

Development of educational videos | 25 May 2020

Assessment and evaluation in outcomes-based education | 26 May 2020

Tutorial on NAAC accreditation framework | 30 June 2020

Four international conferences, one faculty development programme at the national level, one international and two national workshops were held this academic year.

International conferences

Mathematics, Physics, Computer Science

The 28th International Conference (Virtual) of Forum for Interdisciplinary Mathematics (FIM) - *Synergies in Computational, Mathematical, Statistical and Physical Sciences (FIM 28: SCMSPS 2020)* was organized by Stella Maris College in collaboration with Sri Sivasubramaniya Nadar College of Engineering from 23-27 of November 2020. The Departments of Mathematics, Physics and Computer Science conducted the conference. Ms. Apoorva IAS, Principal Secretary to

government, Higher Education Department, Govt. of TN inaugurated the conference and delivered the Inaugural address. There were 6 keynote addresses, 15 plenary sessions, 13 invited special sessions, 20 symposia and 5 paper presentation sessions. The prestigious Prof. R. S. Varma best paper award competition was held and research scholars of the Department of Mathematics – Ms. Rini and Ms. Sindhiya won the best paper award (first prize) and Ms. Arul Roselett won the second prize.

Commerce Shift II

Colloquium on Harnessing Synergies in Promoting Business as a Force for Social Good (in collaboration with the International Justice Mission) | 10 December 2020

Physics

International Symposia on Common Resource, Water – Restoration, Conservation, Sustainability in India | 03 October 2020

Social Work

The Environment and Sustainable Futures | 09-10 December 2020

National Level Programme

Commerce Shift II

Faculty Development Programme on Resurgence of Business During and Post - COVID-19 | 10–16 June 2020

Workshops: International

Biotechnology

The significance of snakebites and venoms for life science education (in collaboration with University of Reading, UK) | 26 February 2021

Workshops: National

Botany

The Art of Nurturing Greenery | 18-19 May 2020

Mathematics

LaTeX | 24, 25, 28 & 29 April 2020

Workshops: Collegiate

Physics

ICT for effective physics teaching, learning and evaluation | 18 May 2020

International Studies

Workshop on gender, children and refugees | 23 February 2021

English, Sociology, Psychology, Fine Arts

Teaching and Learning Online (in collaboration with Christ University) | 11-14 & 18 May 2020

Mathematics

Workshop on Computational Complexity of Graph Algorithms | 18 February 2021

Online certificate programmes were initiated by the following departments

Sociology

Self-healing with Sound and Art Therapy

Commerce Shift II

An Introduction on Analytics

Explore the Entrepreneur in you

Nine faculty members received their doctoral degrees this academic year.

B.Voc.

Dr. Subshree

Dr. Vincent Femilaa

English

Dr. Ajie George

International Studies

Dr. Rajeshwari Thilagan

Dr. Priya Suresh

Commerce Shift II

Dr. Lucia Babitha

Dr. Vemulapalli Aparna

Physics

Ms. Anceila D.

Mathematics

Dr. Benazir Obilia X. A.

Dr. Shilaja, Coordinator English (Shift II), has been recognised as doctoral supervisor by the University of Madras.

Dr. Stella Mary Kashmir fmm, Dean of Student Affairs has been selected for the United Board Fellowship 2020-2022 to participate in the United Board Fellows Program.

Faculty have published chapters in books and numerous research papers in reputed high impact journals like Elsevier, Web of Science and Springer as well as in Scopus indexed and other UGC care listed journals.

Computer Science

Ms. A.R. Charulatha – book chapter in Springer book series

Ms. D. Renuka Devi – book chapter in Taylor Francis series

Bioinformatics

Dr. M. Sharanya – book chapter in Springer Publications

Ms. R. Sagaya Jansi – five research publications

Ms. S. Aishwarya – six research publications

B. Voc – Sustainable Energy Management

Dr. Rekha Pachaiappan – two research publications and one book chapter

Biotechnology

Dr. J. Anbumalarmathi – two book chapters and three research publications

Dr. Aruna Sharmili. S. – one book chapter and one research publication

Dr. K. Veena Gayathri – three book chapter and fourteen research publications

Dr. S. Jayashree – one book chapter and one research publication

Physics

Dr. Belina Xavier – four research publications

Dr. Sr Francisco Nirmala – one research publication

Dr. Anceila D. – one research publication

Ms. Christy Preetha – one research publication

Dr. Shiny Febena – three research publications

Mathematics

Dr. Felbin C. Kennedy – two research publications

Dr. V. Jude Annie Cynthia – eight research publications

Ms. Fancy V. F. – two research publications

Dr. S. Teresa Arockiamary – one research publication

Dr. A. S. Shanthi – three research publications

Dr. S. Sarah Surya – two research publications

Ms. Sindiya Therese S – two research publications

Dr. S. Chinthamani – one research publication

Faculty Achievements

Dr. Sr. Rosy Joseph received the Glad Heads-up Award for Academic Leadership under the International Glad Awards 2021 by the Global Learners Academy of Development.

Dr. Cinthia Jude, Department of History has been conferred the Best Teacher Award 2020, Women of Excellence Award for Outstanding Performance, Best Researcher Award, Women of Excellence Award 2021, and Award for Appreciation and Motivation.

Dr. Shan Eugene Palakkal, Department of History has been conferred with the Research Excellence Award 2020.

Dr. J. Sasitha, Head, Department of Sociology, was a panelist (virtual presentation) at the 14th UN Congress on Crime, Prevention and Justice in 2030: The UN and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, held at Kyoto, Japan.

The Department of Economics was selected for the Best Academic Department Award – 2020 by the Dr. Kalam Educational Trust for Tribal, Chennai.

Dr. Felbin C. Kennedy was an invited speaker, at the 28th International Conference of Forum for Interdisciplinary Mathematics (FIM) – Synergies in Computational, Mathematical, Statistical and Physical Sciences (FIM 28: SCMSPS 2020) from 23-27 November 2020. She also delivered the keynote address in virtual mode at the Seventh International Conference ISME2020, Japan.

Dr. Belina Xavier, Head, Department of Physics, was invited to be Convenor of the event and to chair a session at the Global Symposium, organized by the Department of Environmental Conservation, University of Massachusetts, USA.

Dr. Mary N.L. Head, Department of Chemistry, received the Innovative Teacher Award by the Rotary Club of Madras Coromandel RID 3232.

Dr. S.A. Vidhya, Department of Zoology, was invited as a panelist at the CitSci India 2020 conference, India's first-of-its-kind conference on citizen science approaches in biodiversity organised by the Citizen Biodiversity Collaborative and the National Mission on Biodiversity and Human Well-being Programme.

Faculty from the Department of Commerce (Shift II) received awards from the Dr. Kalam Educational Trust for Tribal. Ms. Evangel Aazhima, Dr. Renuka Devi S.V. and Ms. Lydia Arockia Mary received the Best Teaching Faculty Award and Dr. Ayeswarya R.B. and Ms. Violet Glady received the Young Women Scientist Award.

Dr. Srabani Bhattacharyya, Department of Hindi received Pandit Kamalapati Tripathi Hindi *Seva Samman* and a cash award of Rs. 25,000 from Kamalapati Tripathi Foundation, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. She is also the recipient of the *Bharatendu Harishchandra Hindi Seva Samman* from the *Akhil Bharatiya Shahitya Manthan Shodh Sansthan*.

Dr. Veena Gayathri of the Department of Biotechnology has won seven Best Paper Awards for paper presentations at various forums.

Departments have taken several initiatives to strengthen academic programmes with co-curricular activities:

In March 2021 students from the Department of Fine Arts painted murals on the campus walls using biodiversity and plant ecology as the concept through referencing the Gond folk art style.

As a design consultancy for Goethe Institute, Chennai, II MA and IV BVA students designed and developed multilingual logo options for the German title MÄNNERBILDER to have a relevance and context in India. The design option by Fathima of II MA has been chosen.

The online international conference hosted by the Department of Mathematics had an overwhelming response with participants from 19 countries. A two-day lecture series on Mathematics and its Applications using ICT was organised for undergraduate students. The MSc. Data Science initiated by the Department in partnership with GITAA an incubated cell of IIT Madras Research Park and Liverpool Hope University began this academic year. The first batch of students has finished their course at Stella Maris and will be proceeding to LHU for the second year of the programme.

The Department of Zoology organised the ‘Big Butterfly Month at Stella Maris College’ with webinars, a virtual campus butterfly-walk and competitions relating to butterflies.

In addition to hosting webinars, the Department of Psychology promoted awareness on social media during Mental Health Week. The faculty members of the Department offered tele-counselling sessions to students of the College and also the public.

The Department of Commerce Shift II, in association with Department of Commerce, University of Madras and the Departments of Commerce and Management Studies, BSA Crescent Institute of Science and Technology, organised a three-part virtual summit series. The first part was on Supply and Logistics

Management, the second part was on Human Resource Management and the third was on Financial Implications on account of Business Disruptions.

In addition to the many webinars conducted for faculty and students, the Department of Social Work partnered with Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) for tracing of COVID-19 and tele-counselling. It was taken up as an internship programme by BSW students and second MSW students, from April to May 2020. The students traced COVID-19 cases and offered tele-counselling to many people. A State-level consultation on Decent Work and Labour Codes was organised in collaboration with Action Aid India.

The Department of B.Voc. FPQC programme, conducted an online quiz to commemorate World Food Safety Day. Around 900 students from different colleges participated. A three-day intercollegiate programme, Food Pro 2020-Bite-O-Fit, was conducted in collaboration with Nestle India.

The Department of Bioinformatics conducted a poster competition on various topics of COVID-19 such as Genes, Genomics, Diagnostics and Treatments for undergraduate, postgraduate students and research scholars.

The Department of Value Education conducted online Guest lectures on Meditation, Yoga, Prayer and Legal Rights.

Internationalisation of education has become increasingly popular the world over and in keeping with this trend, several representatives of foreign and Indian higher education institutions and research and industry have visited Stella Maris for establishing partnerships and collaborations. In the academic year 2020-2021, the

College has signed nineteen MoUs for faculty and student exchange programmes, internships, joint academic programmes and other collaborative endeavours.

1. St. Thomas College, Thrissur signed a MoU for three years towards exchange of faculty, collaboration in teaching, research and consultancy studies.
2. IRCOM Lyon, France signed a MoU to collaborate in the field of languages, promote faculty exchange, encourage student exchange and explore possibilities in Masters of Humanities.
3. The MoU with Providence University, Taiwan towards student exchange, interns, faculty, staff, joint programmes and research activities and publications was renewed
4. Butterfly Gandhimathy Appliances Ltd., Chennai renewed their MoU for physical training, internship, consultation and support for B.Com. Honours Programme
5. The MoU with Yopozone Consulting Private Ltd., Chennai for physical training/Internship/consultation and Support for B.Com. Honours Programme was renewed
6. Kaay Labs Pvt. Ltd., Chennai renewed MoU towards physical training, internship, consultation and support for B.Com. Honours Programme
7. MoU with International Centre for Clean Water (ICCW), Chennai was signed for three years to enhance learning opportunities for students and create a groundwater-based database with recognised standards of quality assurance
8. Banyan, Chennai renewed their MoU for two years to utilize the expertise and services of the Banyan-Nalam model of care in the catchment area of community around Stella Maris College

9. *Gnanam* Institute for Training in Advanced Analytics Pvt. Ltd (GITAA) an incubated centre of IIT Madras, Chennai signed the MoU for the Data Science Post Graduate Certificate
10. Nottingham Trent University, UK extended their MoU for a duration of three years to explore further opportunities for collaboration in teaching and research
11. MoU with International Skill Development Corporation (ISDC), UK Business Analytics BBA IOA Bangalore was renewed to train, develop and encourage skills development in students
12. TNQ Publishing Pvt. Ltd., Chennai initiated their yearly renewal for the Certificate Course in Scientific Language Editing Programme for students during 4th and 5th semesters
13. Care Renewables Pvt. Ltd., Coimbatore signed the MoU for a period of three years for training, internship and placement
14. Radicle Eco Systems Pvt. Ltd, Chennai extended their MoU for training towards internship and placement for students
15. Arunika Green Energy Pvt. Ltd., Chennai signed the MoU for training towards internship and placement for students
16. Armats Biotek Training and Research Institute (ABTRI), Chennai and SMC signed a MoU for training towards internship and placement for students
17. Institut d'Economie Scientifique Et de Gestion (IESEG), Lille, France renewed the MoU to continue the existing exchange programmes
18. Nin Energy India Pvt. Ltd., Chennai signed a MoU for training towards internship and placement for students
19. Liverpool Hope University, UK renewed the MoU to continue the existing IMBA Programme and also launch new programmes in future.

Several students have done the College proud with their achievements academically and in co-curricular activities. We present details in the following slides:

Sociology

Linda Maan Gangmei from the Department of Sociology has been selected to represent the NSS unit of Stella Maris College, in the inter-state tribal youth exchange programme organised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India at Guwahati, Assam.

Economics

Vandhana Ramesh, III BA Economics, received Social Media Choice Award from Fearless Phoenix National Women's Debate Tribe Tomorrow Network.

English

Six postgraduate students from the Department of English have passed the UGC National Eligibility Test in 2020.

Fine Arts

Sudhhiksha H.V., Premi Jovitta X., Rija Taskeen Senoor, Lipi Wadhawan and S. Sarika Lakshmi were awarded the first place in the Saksham Graffiti Wall Painting and Social Media Campaign organised by the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. in association with The Hindu.

Sandhya M. of II BVA was placed second in the poster competition organised by the Election Commission of India on the occasion of National Voter's Day.

Mathematics

Diana Grace Thomas, research scholar was awarded Science, Health and Engineering (SHEN) Best Research Award 2020 for honourable achievement in innovative research.

Ms. P. Subbulakshmi, research scholar was awarded the Best Scholar Award by the International Multidisciplinary Research Foundation (IMRF) and Excellent Researcher Award (Female) in the Second International Academic and Research Excellence Awards 2020 organized by the GISR Foundation.

V. M. Priyadharshini, I B.Sc. Maths won first place in 5 by 5 speedcubing and has created multiple National Records in the fastest times to solve Rubik's cube in Red Bull Rubik's Cube World Cup 2020 at Mumbai, in November 2020. She is currently No.1 in the world rankings of female speedcubers and 2nd in world ranking of speedcubers in mixed category.

Physics

Varsha Unni P.K., II M.Sc. Physics received the Most Distinguished International Young Researcher Award by ESN Publications.

Chemistry

Two postgraduate students Poovitha R. and Rose Mary James have been selected for the Summer Research INSA Fellowship programme 2021 and will be doing their internship at CLRI, Chennai and IICT, Hyderabad in May and June 2021.

Commerce Shift II

Cianna Joseph of III B.Com. (A & F) was second runner-up of the EY Corporate Finance Woman of the Year for India

Fathima Zahra of PGDGBF has become a CIMA Affiliate in January 2021 by clearing all the professional level papers in CIMA

Prarthana Prasad, Nisha and Cindy Tony Kunnumpuram of II M.Com. have cleared UGC-NET in Commerce in December 2020

Parvathi Bimal, pursuing ACCA, has secured National Rank I and World Rank IV in the paper Advanced Performance Management; and National Rank II and World Rank VIII in the paper Strategic Business Reporting.

N-List Programme

The College is ranked among the Top 10 College users of N-List Programme for the 7th consecutive time among 3379 Govt./ Govt.-aided colleges covered under the section 12B of UGC Act as well as Non-Aided colleges. Our College was ranked 4th based on February 2021 usage statistics.

Facilitated by the College Library, fourteen students have passed the SWAYAM–NPTEL examination for January-April 2020 for which modified certificates were given based on assignments submitted as end semester examination was not conducted because of the pandemic.

Faculty and students enrolled for the Coursera for Campus Program. There were 2232 enrolments. Special mention should be made of Dr. Jude Cinthia, Assistant Professor Department of History who completed 25 courses from various

disciplines. Sherly T. and Nishalini, students of the Department of Mathematics completed 129 and 128 courses and guided projects respectively.

Students' Union activities

A leadership programme was conducted for all the Students' Union members, Club-office Bearers, Executive Representatives, Class Representatives and Assistant Class Representatives.

The Impulse Speaks, a podcast exclusively for Stella Marians was launched by the Students' Union. The podcast will be on a weekly basis in two languages – Tamil and English. The first podcast was based on friendship and went live on 31 July 2020, on Friendship Day.

India's Independence Day and Stella Maris' Birthday were celebrated with the official YouTube Channel being launched. Teacher's Day celebrations were organised through the virtual arena with the celebrations including club performances, and games for the teachers.

The Club Fair was conducted online on and a website was created by the Students' Union. Fresher's Talent Hunt was held in September. The birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi was commemorated by the Students' Union in their official Instagram page reminding all the students of the sacrifices made by the freedom fighters during the Freedom Movement.

The feast of the Patron Saint of our College, St. Francis of Assisi was commemorated on 4 October 2020. The Students' Union highlighted the theme chosen for the academic year, 'Compassion' and related it to the compassion shown by St. Francis of Assisi towards nature and the environment. A podcast was also released on the Union's Instagram page. The Clubs conducted a number of activities and competitions for their members, most of them online. There were workshops, competitions, training programmes and various events conducted for all members.

NSS and YRC

World Environment day was celebrated in collaboration with the Department of Higher Education, Department of Human Resource Development, Government of India and Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education. NSS and YRC volunteers conducted a field engagement component of *Swachhta* Action Plan. The *Gandagi Mukh Bharat* Campaign was organised. In accordance with the campaign, the College conducted three major events—tree planting, essay writing and drawing competitions.

On 8 August 2020, The NSS and YRC Unit participated in the inauguration of the *Rashtriya Swachhata* Kendra launched by the Honourable Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi. More than ninety NSS and YRC volunteers of the College participated enthusiastically.

A webinar on suicide prevention was organised by Sneha Foundation and was conducted by the NSS and YRC Units of Stella Maris College on 25 September 2020.

A talk on Gandhian Philosophy and Values was organised by the NSS and YRC on 2 October 2020. More than 100 NSS volunteers participated in this online event.

A panel discussion on International Girl Child Day was organised in collaboration with SMCDRIVE. The theme for this year's discussion was My Voice, Our Equal Future.

NCC

The Officers and the Cadets of Stella Maris NCC attended the online training programme on 'COVID-19 Training for NCC cadets' through IGOT DHIKSHA.

Five Naval Cadets received an appreciation certificate from the Deputy Director General Commodore Malay K. Kukreti for participating in the NCC Yogdan for providing immediate COVID-19 response by stitching masks.

Naval Cadet Manasvini Kannan of II B.Com. (A & F) won first place in Classical Dance and second place in Debate in the *Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharath* Camp that was conducted online during August 2020.

Cadet Captain Daisy V. of III B.A. History and Tourism and Cadet Captain Falak Kochar of III B.Sc. Zoology attended the Army Attachment Camp at Officers Training Academy, Chennai.

The Annual NCC Day was celebrated through virtual mode. Lt Col. B. Bharat Singh, Administrative Officer, four TN BN NCC addressed the cadets on this occasion.

Senior under Officer Angeline M., III B.Sc. Mathematics, Shift I secured the award for the Best Outgoing Cadet for the year 2020-21.

Senior under Officer Darnel Jenu R. was adjudged Best Cado Leader, Army Wing

Cadet Captain Falak Kochar, Best Cado Leader, Naval Wing, and

Flight Cadet P. J. Roubel, Best Cado Leader, Air Wing.

Cadet Captain Daisy V. was awarded a Special Commendation Award for participating in NCC Yogdhan and contributing to COVID-19 Relief Measures during lock down.

Sports and Games

D.K. Vedhalakshmi of I B.Com. Secured runner up position in the Tamil Nadu State Table Tennis Championship held from 11-14 December 2020 at Chennai.

Maria Akshita C. of III B.A. History secured first place in Foil in Chennai district Fencing Championship held at Chennai.

V. Hindhuja of III B.A History secured first place in Epee in Chennai district Fencing Championship.

Surekha Ponnuragan of II B.Com. CS has been conferred Best Young Awardee in Archery in Orange World Record Programme. She also received the OWR National Dayachand Sports Award in recognition of her achievements in archery.

Lalithangi R of II B.com (general) secured Gold in 200 meters in the 6th State Youth Rural Games at Namakkal.

Kavya Gopal of III B.Sc. Zoology won the silver medal in the Junior Nationals Young Riders Dressage (equestrian event) in Delhi.

Activities

United Board Project

The second MSW students were trained in Ecology and Disaster Management and taken to the field area – Pulicat to apply the PRA technique in Disaster Vulnerability and Disaster Risk Reduction and educate the community.

The third BSW, first and second MSW students underwent a one-day training Programme in Psychosocial Care and Preparedness in Disasters by the Centre for Psychosocial Support in Disaster Management, NIMHANS, Bengaluru. The second MSW students applied this learning with the children in Pulicat.

Stella Maris Gender Centre

The Stella Maris Gender Centre, in collaboration with SAATHII and Nirangal, organised a panel discussion on problems faced by gender minorities in educational settings and workplaces.

Centre for Women's Studies

The Centre for Women's Studies and the Gender Centre, in collaboration with YMCA and Thozhi, an NGO for Transwomen, organised the celebration of International Women's Day. The Damini Club, the student wing of the Centre conducted various competitions to raise awareness among students regarding women's issues.

SMCDRIVE

A workshop on the Importance of Self and Positive Thinking was conducted for 1500 self-help group women of Don Bosco Social Service Society, Chennai to educate, empower and enable women.

To combat the distress and mental health problems caused due to COVID-19 pandemic, tele counselling was offered with 498 clients having been helped from March 2020 to February 2021.

A 30-hour one Credit Certificate Course on Employability Skills, webinars and online sessions were conducted for Stella Maris students, other college and school students, NGOs and the vulnerable groups of the society. 12,411 participants benefited.

‘We Teach! You Speak!’ a certificate course in Spoken English was conducted for 35 participants. SMCDRIVE and Arpanam Trust, an NGO, distributed dry ration kits for 130 deserving families in collaboration with Bank of New York Mellon, International Association for Human Values and Hyatt Hotel, Chennai.

CGC

The Career Guidance Cell conducted student orientations. CGC members connected with student groups and briefed them about the training programmes and placement processes planned for the year. 588 students from both the undergraduate and postgraduate streams have registered for placements. Several virtual training programmes and a series of career talks were conducted. The CGC officials addressed a number of colleges on Managing the Placement Cell effectively as part of the UGC *Paramarsh* Scheme. Companies such as Deloitte, KPMG, Mckinsey,

EY India, Infosys, Natwest Group, HCL Statestreet, ICICI bank, Sutherland have selected about 100 students this academic year.

AASMC

Students of our College have been volunteering with Teach for India and conducting classes on a daily basis for economically disadvantaged students studying in under-resourced schools. They worked on enhancing reading comprehension and offered remedial services for all subjects. They also created online teaching material, resources and assessments.

Research and International Programmes

A number of capacity-building programmes were conducted by the Research Centre in November and December 2020 for faculty members. A two-day webinar series on 'Research Matters' was held in June 2020.

A Research Ethics Committee was formulated on 30 December 2020 to review research projects, check for plagiarism and to establish ethical standards in all research undertakings. The College purchased Urkund Plagiarism software. Training on the implementation of the software was conducted in March 2021.

International Collaborations

Several of our international programmes were not implemented due to the lockdown. However, online programmes were organised. In November 2020, the 5th International Leadership Conference on Post-Pandemic Leadership on Healthcare, Education, Business and Social systems was jointly held virtually by SMC and Trinity Western University, Canada. Notable speakers were Prof. S. Gowri, Vice Chancellor, University of Madras, Dr. Mark Husbands, President, TWU, Mr.

Krishnan, and Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu, Finance, Dr. Laird and Dr. Adrienne Castellan.

A Facilitated Academic Resource and Research (FARR) Centre was instituted to initiate courses in Research and Leadership. The two-year Masters' programme in Leadership continues to be conducted on online formatted mode and the admissions for 2021 has commenced.

This year, Stella Maris will launch *Samudra*, an international double-blind peer reviewed online journal. This theme-based journal aims to encourage original research articles, both discipline specific and interdisciplinary, in the humanities, social sciences and commerce. *Samudra* will be published initially as an open access e-journal hosted on the website of the College.

The College has disbursed Rs. 99,22,901/ in Management Scholarships for 1045 students (ninety-nine lakhs, twenty-two thousand, nine hundred and one)

Rs. 29,22,472/ in Private Scholarships for 279 students (Twenty-nine lakhs, twenty-two thousand, four hundred and seventy-two)

Rs. 34,29,535/ in Government Scholarships for 1,943 students (thirty-four lakhs, twenty-nine thousand five hundred and thirty-five)

All run up to a grand total of 1, 62, 74,908/- for 2007 students (One crore, sixty-two lakhs, seventy-four thousand, nine hundred and eight).

The Management of the College reached out to faculty and students who were facing financial difficulties during the lockdown. A total of Rs 3, 28,000 was given in assistance to 11 faculty members, Rs. 19, 25,000 to 408 students and Rs.1,32,000 to 26 non-teaching staff.

As I conclude this report, I thank God Almighty for accompanying us through this eventful journey. My special thanks to Dr. Sr. Francisco Nirmala, Provincial, and to all the Sisters at Stella Maris.

As we forge ahead, we reaffirm our commitment to our vision and the continuing search for truth. I place on record the many organisations especially the UGC, DBT and DST, Government of India, the Department of Higher Education, Government of Tamil Nadu, the University of Madras, and the United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia, for their support and encouragement.

I extend my gratitude to all those who have made our achievements possible. I am immensely grateful to the Vice Principals, Deans, Heads of Departments and faculty members, the Controller and Associate Controller of Examinations, the IQAC Coordinator, the NCC Coordinator, NSS Programme Officers, Director of Physical Education and the Sports Officer, the Librarian, Archivist, Director SCEED, the Public Relations Officer, administrative and support staff. A special word of thanks to Sr. Hilda and Sr. Arul and the administrative and support staff. I thank Sr. Veera and her team for their meticulous management of finances. I also thank very specially the club advisors for their support and involvement in the activities of the various clubs. My deep gratitude to the hostel wardens for their selfless service to the residents on campus.

Thank you, dear parents, benefactors and well-wishers, for your interest, generosity and for your presence here this evening to participate in our celebration.

A special word of thanks to Dr. S. Gowri for gracing the occasion with his presence and for delivering the College Day address.

My gratitude goes out to the members of the Organising Committee for overseeing the logistics for College Day: Dr. Dhanalakshmi V. of the Department of Mathematics, Ms. Mary Shantha Joseph of the Department of Psychology and Ms. Theresa Priyadarshini E. of the Department of Commerce (Shift II).

Thank you all once again for being here with us on this important occasion.

May the Star of the Sea be the beacon that guides us as we continue our journey of discovery.

Thank you and God bless!