

## **MM School of Architecture, Ambala: Achievements and Events' 2016 at a glance**

**So a fruitful year is about to come to an end with a hope for the future....** We are ushering into another wonderful year with gleam in our eyes to have a better society, better India and further a better world. This year has been the year of reforms with our honourable PM, Modi taking a historic step to enforce demonetization to curb corruption in India. For MM School of Architecture, it has been another wonderful year with our students bringing laurels to the college by winning awards/trophies in various competitions, participating in workshops/ seminars to hone up their academic skills etc. This year, the energy of the students was simply overflowing with carrying the torch of MMSOA in the entire region.

*Our students under the able guidance of our distinguished faculty showed good academic results in the end semester exams as well.....*

Of course, dear students, you all deserve kudos!!

Let's have a look at the achievements/activities of our college at local and the regional levels this year:

The year saw **winning of IInd prize in prestigious INSDAG design competition** organised by Steel Authority India Limited (SAIL) by our college students' team of Sarathchandran PS, Radhesh Bathini, Mukesh and Md. Naeem (IVth Year). This was a great moment for our college students to receive cash award of Rs. 25,000/- from eminent jury members!



**Our students held the head of their college high again by winning the 'Best College Trophy' in the event Archventure-2016 held in Gateway College of Architecture and Design, Sonipat.**



Another feather in the cap of MMSOA was added by the students when they lifted **first position in Fashion and third position in Rostrum trophies at ZONASA held at Manav Rachna International University, Faridabad.** Around 60 colleges participated in the annual event.



A team of four students (Vartika, Apaar, Navneet and Aniket) started a project (Shuddhiparyay) of renovation of Indira Park, Ambala Cantt for the social upliftment of the park and the surrounding areas using waste material. This project was a part of **International Westminster Design competition 2016-17** transforming 100 public spaces in South Asia. The team has got special mention in the list of award winning projects! Well done students, we are proud of you!!



8<sup>th</sup> student chapter of IGBC (Indian Green Building Council) was launched on 28<sup>th</sup> January in our college by eminent personalities of the region. On this occasion, few lectures were organised to appraise the students about the activities of IGBC.



MMSOA organises expert lectures regularly to upgrade the knowledge base of the students as well as faculty. Ar. D.S.Rao, an eminent architect working in Muscat, Oman delivered special lecture on **'Future Trends in Green Interiors'** on 18<sup>th</sup> January. He quoted instances from his own experiences of working with different companies and clients like IKEA.



A guest lecture by Ar. Sangeet Sharma, a practising architect from Chandigarh was organised on the topic **'Architecture- A way of life'**. Ar. Sangeet who is always keen to interact



with the students, discussed various aspects of the field with the young minds. Many more expert lectures by Ar. Chitrarekha Kabre (Dean, Dept. of Architecture, DCRUST, Murthal) and Ar. Surinder Bahga (eminent practising architect from Chandigarh) were organised.

Most interesting of all was a one day workshop on **'SWARAJ- Sustainable Development in the Indian way'** conducted by Ar. Gaurav Shorey (Energy Efficient 3D modelling expert from Delhi). He kept the students glued to their seats by his magical oratory skills and presentation on understanding vernacular aspects of Indian culture. Another workshop on the construction of different types of Brick arches was conducted for the Ist year students for making them understand various aspects of construction like laying foundation, casting shuttering,



mixing of the mortar, laying the bricks etc. In all, it was a great learning experience for the Ist semester students. **Our II year students designed and constructed on-site live model of Suspension Bridge in front of the college building under the guidance of Rohit.**

Educational tours were organised for the students of all the batches to Delhi, Agra, Fatehpur Sikri (Ist year), Auroville, Pondicherry, Cochin, Goa (II year) and Rajasthan (IIRD year) in the month of February. Few short trips were also organised to MM international hotel, Mullana; Capitol Complex, Chandigarh and INTACH Heritage Academy, Delhi to be a part of the Exhibition - **‘Heritage Awards for Excellence in Documentation 2016’**.

This year, our students attended two **GIAN** workshops being organised by IIT Kharagpur (attended by Vartika and Shreya) and NIT Raipur (attended by Apaar, Himanshu, Prakhar and Vartika). We wish that our students attend more of GIAN workshops in the future to sharpen their research skills! Our IVth year students along with faculty member, Ar. Priya attended Hettich Workshop at Chandigarh organised by IIID, Chandigarh Chapter. Our students also participated in quiz organised by Ethos at SPA, Delhi.

Our students not only participate in competitions but also participate in all the decision making activities of the college. Second student council of our college was elected by students’ voting on 14<sup>th</sup> September. The council members took a pledge to take the college to further new heights by the joint participation of all the stakeholders.

Since our college is a wide platform for cultural exchange between the students who come from all parts of India, hence important festivals are organised within the college premises to foster the feeling of brotherhood among the students. This year too, Lohri, Holi, Janmashtami, Ganesh Chaturthi, Diwali were celebrated with full fervour and zeal



by the students and faculty.

Srijan' 16 was organised in which students exhibited their hidden talents in various art and architecture events. On this occasion, academic awards in 8 categories were given to the students of all the batches to motivate them to do further better in their life and academic career. This year we started the good practice of awarding scholarships to first position holders in each class. A sum of Rs. 1100/- was given away as cash prize to each of the meritorious students.



Orientation Day'16 and Swagatam'16 were organised to welcome freshers to the college. These programmes are organised by MMSOA every year to make the first year students friendly with the new environment.



A Tree plantation drive was successfully carried out by our college in association with Ambala IIA Sub Centre. Around 50 saplings were planted by the local architects, students and the staff in MMU campus. Our students also celebrated Earth Day on 21<sup>st</sup> April by planting saplings in the central courtyard.



MMSOA believes that Students' skills can be sharpened by skilled faculty who not only recognise the potential of each student but also give them right direction! Hence, regular FDPs are being organised by the college to hone up the teachers' teaching skills. This year too, MMSOA took initiative to organise few FDPs for the faculty. Ar. Anil Kumar, Director, Gateway School of Architecture, Sonipat conducted one day workshop for the faculty on '**Teaching Architecture: Basic Guide for Teachers**'. His vast experience of the academics and interactive way of teaching helped MMSOA faculty grasp the effective teaching methodology. MM SOA also organised 3 days FDP on '**Qualitative Teaching in Higher Education**' from 20-22 June for the faculty of MMU. Around 50 faculty members from all the departments of the university participated in the programme.



Our faculty is also encouraged to participate in workshops/ training programmes/seminars/conferences organised by other colleges/COA. This year many of our teachers attended such programmes. Ms. Harveen Bhandari participated in three days International Conference held at **Institute of Tourism Studies, Lucknow University, Lucknow, UP, India**. Her two papers titled **“Assessing the values of Cultural Heritage-A step towards Redefining the Pilgrim Experience”** and **“Goddess Pilgrimage Sites: A study of forms of Goddess worship in Himachal Pradesh”** were selected for presentation. Ar. Ravi Mahajan and Ar. Vipasha Sharma participated in symposium on **‘Hill Architecture’** held at NIT, Hamirpur along with 18 IIIrd year students. Ar. Parul Gupta participated in a two day training cum workshop on **‘Green Building rating systems’** conducted by IGBC at CII, Chandigarh on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. Ar. Shaluza Mittal and Ar. Ravi Mahajan participated in 6 days Short Term Course on **‘Sustainable Built Environment: Issues and Options’** at NIT Hamirpur from 01-06 July. A five days Faculty development programme for young and to be teacher of Architecture organised by NIASA at Sushant School of Art and Architecture, Gurgaon was attended by Ar. Gurdeep Singh and Ar. Priya Tyagi. A joint paper by Ar. Aradhana Jindal and Ar. Harveen Bhandari and another paper by Ar. Kanika Bansal were published in the conference proceedings of **AGORA, National Conference on Disaster and Risk Management** organised by School of Plng. and Architecture, GD Goenka University, Gurgaon.

Prof. Aradhana Jindal, Principal was elected as member of Board of UG education of Council of Architecture for the duration of 3 years (2016-1019). Prof. Aradhana Jindal was also elected unanimously as Chairperson of Ambala IIA Sub centre for the term 2016-17.

Our first 2011 batch passed out this year with flying colours..... Geetika cleared the GATE examination and started pursuing her masters from NIT Hamirpur! Well done students!!



MMSOA is planning to start Masters in Environmental Architecture from the next academic year as a part of its another 5 year planning to make the college as a premier centre of research activities. We have many plans for the future.....We will not stop till our last breath because we believe that....

*Woods are lovely, dark and deep*

*But I have promises to keep*

*Miles to go before I sleep,*

*Miles to go before I sleep....*

Well after briefing about the achievements/activities, we all shall not pause and celebrate the success but still try to add more and more feathers to the cap of MMSOA in the coming years!!!!



Jai Hind!