

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

### PROVIDENCE WOMEN'S COLLEGE

2019-2020

#### **Faculty**

Renu G., Ananya G., and Swathi H. join as guest faculty in June. Swathi H. leaves in September, and Gopika O. joins in October.

Elizabeth Antony joined for PhD at NIT Kozhikode on 8th July 2019.

#### **JRF/NET Qualification**

Manisha K., Twinkle Janardhanan, Amrutha M.T., Keerthi N., and Aparna Valsaraj cleared the NET exam. Alicia Jacob and Aiswarya P. got awarded JRF. Neena Varghese of 2017 PG batch cleared the SET, Kerala.

#### **Diotima's**

The Department published its annual academic journal **DIOTIMA'S: A Journal of New Readings**, edited by Dr. Surya K. The thrust area of the issue was "Popular Culture".

#### **Student Achievements**

- Aiswarya P. gets second rank in the MA English university examination 2019.
- On June 18th 2019, Hanan and Anagha of II BA English came first in the Reading Day Quiz, Gulmohur, conducted by the college union.
- On June 18th 2019, Gayathri Muraleedharan of II BA English won the first prize in the Malayalam Reading Competition conducted as part of Reading Week.

- As part of Reading Day celebrations, the college union and the NSS unit awarded prizes to Dr. Shanthi Vijayan and Sr. Sneha Sebastian of III BA English for being the teacher and student respectively who read the most number of books during the previous academic year.
- Fathima Fida, Nandana Jayaprakash, and Nehal Shine won the first, second, and third prizes respectively in the English versification competition conducted by the college NSS unit on the occasion of Ozone Day (September 16, 2019).
- Aarya K of III BA English participated in the AISTC (All India Thal Sainik Camp) 2019 at Delhi from September 15th to September 26th 2019. She was one among 89 cadets to represent the Kerala and Lakshadweep Directorate. She also received a rank upgrade from Corporal to Under Officer.
- On 19 December 2019, Sneha Prasad of I BA English won the third prize in the debate competition on the Citizenship Amendment Bill conducted by the History department.
- On 15 January 2020, Ruby Sherin and Fathima Fida of I BA English placed first in the Mathrubhumi Literature Quiz conducted on campus.
- On 29 February 2020, Greeshma K. of II BA English won the silver medal in the Calicut University Inter-zone Taekwondo championship held at MES Ponnani.
- I PG student Mufeeda won I and II prize respectively in Story Writing and RJ Hunt in the Litfest organised by St Xavier's College, Calicut.
- Anaswara of II PG got selected as Soft Skills Trainer in the campus placement drive conducted by Goan Institute of Communication, Cochin.
- Aldin Teena Peter of I BA English was part of the team that came second in the Calicut University inter-collegiate handball championship held at Vimala College, Thrissur, on 15-16 October 2019, and participated in the junior national handball championship held at Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, on 1-11 February 2020.

## Academic Talks in the Department



English association inauguration by Dr. Ashley N.P.



PG Seminar keynote by Mr. Shivshankar Rajmohan A.K.



Research workshop by Dr. Ratheesh Radhakrishnan



Orientation on “Citizen Skill Enhancement” course by Mr. Prajam



Foundation course on UG and PG syllabus by Dr. Robin Xavier

## **Academic Activities**

- The activities of the English association were inaugurated with a talk by Dr. N.P. Ashley, St. Stephen's College, New Delhi, on the topic "Undoing an Institution: English Studies after New Historicism".
- In November 2019, the department was upgraded to a **research center**.
- A foundation course on the new UG and PG course regulations was conducted by Robin Xavier, St. Joseph's College, Devagiri, for I BA and I MA English students.
- A workshop on "Research in Literature and the Arts" was conducted by Dr. Ratheesh Radhakrishnan, Associate Professor, IIT Bombay.
- On 18 December 2019, a discussion on the Citizenship Amendment Bill was conducted by the students of the department under the aegis of the English Literature association.
- **The PG students' national seminar Con-Texts 2020** was organised by the Dept. on the topic "New Discourses: Trends, Perspectives, and Politics" on 31 January 2020. The Keynote address on "Truth, Theory and the Subject" was delivered by Mr. Shivshankar Rajmohan AK, Researcher, Kannur University. A total of 30 presenters from colleges and Universities within Kerala and outside presented their research papers.

## **Co Curricular Activities**

### **ASAP: The Additional Skill Acquisition Programme**

The ASAP Foundation Course co-ordinated by Elizabeth Antony has two batches running to its credit. The batch of 19 students that was formed in 2019 is running successfully. A new batch of 35 first year students is formed in 2020. A total of 180 hours will form the Foundation Module comprising of communication skills and I.T. skills. The classes are handled by the Skill Development Executive of ASAP, Ms. Keerty R.

## **Research and Development Cell**

The R & D Cell conducted a study on the depiction of nature in literature by Neha Raj, Sanjana R. Das, and Shivangi Shankar K, as part of a Mega Project on environmental awareness. A project presentation was conducted by former students Abhirami Prem and Ayisha T.K. The Cell also prepared exhibits on eminent literary figures for the exhibition organised by the R & D Cell of the college.

## **Activities Organized by the Clubs**

### **Environment Club: Grassroots**

An Environmental awareness programme was conducted, including a poster exhibition and sale of cloth dolls created by the students of the department, the proceeds of which were donated to the flood relief effort. Gayathri Muraleedharan, Jain Ann of second year and Nayanthara of first year participated in an interaction with the Indian agronomist, Prof. K.P. Prabhakaran Nair organised as part of the making of a documentary film based on him.

### **Film Club: Mis-en-scene**

Mr. Zahir Khan conducted a workshop on Short Film Making for students of the department, based on which students came up with a complete script for a short film. Several nationally and internationally renown films were screened in the department.

### **Radio Club: Transvision**

A workshop on “Professional Compering Skills” was conducted by Mr. Boby C. Mathews, Senior Announcer, All India Radio, in which all the members of the department participated, along with 17 students from other departments. 28 students participated in 4 different sessions of Calling the Youth at All India Radio, Kozhikode.

### **Reader's club: Bookscape**

An exhibition-cum-sale of literary bookmarks made by students was conducted. Students had a reading session where they read aloud the short story "The Handsomest Drowned Man in the World" by Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

### **The Debating Club, Crossfire**

The annual Debating Club competition was conducted on the topic "The development of stuff artificial intelligence is beneficial to humanity". Ayisha Anis and Fiza Fathima of the Commerce department won the prize for the best team. The Prof. Radha S. Nair prize for the best debater 2020 was awarded to Ayisha Anis of II BCom. A workshop was conducted on Debating Skills led by our former French faculty, Mr. Manmadhan. Bindu Amat conducted a debating activity in the IPG class based on the topic, "Is Nehru the architect of modern India" in the light of the prescribed prose piece by Nehru, 'What is Culture?'

### **The Theatre Club, Repertoire**

Students staged productions of Mahesh Dattani's *Tara* and an adaptation of Anton Chekhov's short story "The Death of a Clerk".

## Club Activities



Exhibition and sale of Chekutty dolls



Workshop on Professional  
Compering Skills by Mr. Bobby  
C. Mathew



Short film-making workshop by Mr. Zahir Khan



Debating workshop by Mr. Manmadhan



Literary bookmark  
exhibition and sale



Prof. Radha S. Nair annual debate competition



I BA students working at SUMAN rehabilitation centre



Debate on “Is Nehru the architect of modern India?” by PG students



Production of Mahesh Dattani’s *Tara*



Students participating in Calling the Youth programme at All India Radio



### **Excursions and Study Trips**

PG final year students made a tour to Ooty accompanied by Aparna Nandakumar, and UG final year students made a trip to Goa, accompanied by Surya K. and Preethy Mary George.

### **Extra Curricular Activities**

- The following students from the department were elected to the College Union:
  - Neha Balachandran - Fine Arts secretary
  - Namratha Sreenivasan - Third year overall representative
  - Meghna Francis - Association Secretary
  - Greeshma K - General Captain
- Students of III Year B.A. released their Manuscript Magazine.
- Students organised the Welcome and Farewell functions for the new and outgoing batches.
- Students participated vibrantly in the Fine Arts Day, Sports Day, Onam celebrations, and Christmas Day programmes.
- Fida Subair and Chithrangada K.P. of I BA English were volunteers for the Kerala Literature Festival. UG and PG students attended several sessions.

### **Skill Development**

In June 2019, the skill coordinator, Shanthi Vijayan in tie up with Shine Driving School, West Hill, organized driving classes for students. Six students have been enrolled and twelve have appeared for Learner's Test.

On 15 July 2019, the skill development centre in association with ASAP and the college union organised Talentia, a skill demo show as part of the World Youth Skills Day. Apart from students presenting a variety of talents on stage, the programme also included a cake making and poster making competition.

As part of the activities of the Skill Development Centre, Shanthi Vijayan organised an orientation talk by Mr. Prajam of MPower Institute on July 18, 2019 regarding the introduction of a certificate course, "Citizen Skill Enhancement", the result of signing an MoU with ASCERT which will commence in October 2019. A 28-hour course structure was prepared, including Employability enhancement, soft skills, confidence building, life and time management, stress management.

On 16 November 2019 , Shanthi Vijayan was the external resource person of the Walk with the Scholar programme of Govt. Arts and Science College, and conducted a workshop on gender sentiization.

### **Career Guidance**

Bindu Amat organized a Session on Enhancing Employability for the UG students with HR Trainer K.P. Sunil as resource person.

On 27 November 2019 a career guidance session was organised in association with British Council, Chennai, on ELT opportunities and English Language Tests, for the students of the department.

On 2 December 2019, a career guidance session was conducted by UK-based career consultant Neil Prem for III BA English students.

On 16 January 2020, Bindu Amat organised a campus selection for Soft Skills Trainers in association with Goan Institute of Communication, Cochin.

On 28 January 2020, Bindu Amat organised a seminar on opportunities in the Banking Sector for the UG and PG students of the department.

On 28-29 January 2020, Smrithy N Manoj, Meghna Francis, Mariya John, Sanjana R. Das, Neha Raj, Sneha P., Arundhati Nirmal, Fida Subair, Chitrangada K.P., Fathima Riluvana, Ruby Sherin, Fathima Fida, Archana Vijayakumar, R.J. Muskaan, Sneha Prasad, and Nayanthara Thilak participated in a workshop by the United States India Education Foundation at UL Cyberpark, interacting with 10 representatives of US universities.

### **Extension Activities**

Students of the department helped members of SUMAN rehabilitation centre to produce and market umbrellas. Faculty and students also participated as volunteers at the flood relief camp held at the college.

### **Add-On Course**

The Add-On Course in Communicative English was conducted for UG students by Renu G.

### **Student Participation in Inter College and Inter Dept. Events**

- On the 11th and 12th of July 2019, 20 students of II PG attended the national seminar at Brennen College, Thalassery.
- On 8 August, Mufeeda K. of I PG attended the seminar on The Works of Girish Karnad at PSMO College, Tirurangadi.
- On 21-22 August 2019, 8 students of I MA English attended a seminar at Vimala College, Thrissur, titled La Ricerca: Perspectives in Research.

- On 1st October 2019, Arundhati Nirmal of I BA English attended the ICT Academy of Kerala meet at Thrissur.
- 8 students of I MA English and 6 students of II MA English attended the National Seminar on "Memory Archives and Evolving Literary Sensibility" at Govt. College, Mokeri on 30 September and 1 October.
- 9 students of I MA English attended the seminar on "Rethinking Translation: Practice-Oriented Approaches to Translation Studies" organised by the Department of English, Dayapuram Arts and Science College held on 11th October 2019.
- On 29 October 2019 3 UG and 4 PG students attended the subaltern festival "Moolakkam" held at the Kozhikode Town Hall.
- On 6-7 November 2019 PG students attended the 2-day National Seminar on Post-Truth organised by the Department of English, Govt. Arts and Science College, Meenchanda.
- PG students attended the National Seminar on Narratives: The Contemporary Turn organised by the Dept. of English, Govt. College, Mokeri during 4-5 December 2019.
- PG students attended the two day National Seminar on Minority Literature in Post-independence India at Govt. College, Kunnamangalam.
- On 6-8 December 2019, Fida Subair of I BA English attended a literary camp organised by Mathrubhumi at Monroe Island, Ernakulam.
- Smrithy N Manoj of III BA English attended the International Film Festival of Kerala held during 7-13 December 2019.
- On 9-12 December 2019, Arundhati Nirmal of I BA English participated in the workshop on Design Thinking at IIT Madras.
- On 10-11 December 2019, the PG students attended the 2 day international conference held on Gender Faultlines and New Feminisms at Zamorin's Guruvayurappan College.

### Participation of Faculty in Seminars

<b>Seminar</b>	<b>Organised by</b>	<b>Participants</b>
Workshop on NAAC Accreditation initiatives by Dr. Selvam, 24th July 2019	IQAC, Providence Women's College	All permanent faculty
Workshop on BA English Language and Literature Syllabus Revision, 12 June 2019	Board of Studies of English (UG), University of Calicut.	Shyama E.
One day National Workshop on Research Writing, 17 August 2019	Dept. of English, Malabar Christian College	Preethy Mary George
District Committee Meeting of Principals and Coordinators of the institutions of Additional Skill Acquisition Programme, 4th September 2019	ASAP	Elizabeth Antony
International Seminar on "Beyond Secular/Sacred: Logic of Counter Discourses" sponsored by DCE and HEC, 23-25 September 2019	Department of English, Govt. Brennan College, Thalassery	Shanthi Vijayan, Aparna Nandakumar, Elizabeth Antony
Curriculum Editing Workshop, 27 September 2019	Kerala SCERT	Bindu Amat
2-day National Seminar on Post-Truth, 6-7 November 2019	Department of English, Govt. Arts and Science College, Meenchanda	Ramani C.E., Shanthi Vijayan, Surya K.
3-day International Seminar on Family, Private Property and the State: Kerala Experiences with Feminism, 13-15 November 2019	Department of Malayalam, Govt. Arts and Science College, Meenchanda	Aparna Nandakumar, Elizabeth Antony

International Film Festival of India, 20-28 November 2019	Directorate of Film Festivals	Aparna Nandakumar
2-day National Seminar on Minority Literature in Post-independence India	Govt. College, Kunnamangalam	Shyama E., Surya K.
International Film Festival of Kerala, 7-13 December 2019.	Kerala State Chalachitra Academy	Shanthi Vijayan
2-day international conference on Gender Faultlines and New Feminisms, 10-11 December 2019	Department of English, Zamorin's Guruvayurappan College	Shyama E., Ramani C.E., Surya K.
Kerala Literature Festival, 16-20 January 2020	DC Books	All faculty members
Women's International Film Festival of Kerala, 21-25 January 2020	Kerala State Chalachitra Academy	Shyama E., Shanthi Vijayan
Singularities International Conference on Time, 4 February 2020	MES College, Mampad	Bindu Amat
Workshop on new NAAC accreditation process by Prof. Selvam, 14 February 2020	IQAC, Providence Women's College	Shyama E., Bindu Amat, Shanthi Vijayan, Preethy Mary George
UGC sponsored International Symposium on Media and Method in 21st Century, 17 February 2020	St. Thomas College, Thrissur	Bindu Amat

IQAC Paramarsh talk by Dr. Sudheer	IQAC, Providence Women's College	Shyama E., Bindu Amat, Shanthi Vijayan, Aparna Nandakumar
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### Participation of Faculty in Academic Activities and Consultancy/Extension Services

#### **Shyama E:**

External examiner for IV Semester MA Viva Voce Examination June 2019 at St. Joseph's College, Devagiri.

Engaged a session on Syntactic Models at the refresher course conducted by asc, calicut university on 27 November 2019.

Moderated "Book Talk" sessions with authors Roanna Gonsalves and Nishi Chawla at the Kerala Literature Festival on 16 January 2020.

Subject expert for the promotion interview of Ms. Bishara M, Dept of English, from stage 2 to stage 3 under CAS at WMO Arts & Science college, Muttil.

External examiner for PG viva at Zamorin's Guruvayurappan College, Malabar Christian College, SNG College Chelannur and GC Mokeri, and UG project viva at Markaz College of Arts and Science, Kunnamangalam.

#### **Ramani C E:**

Coordinated various activities of the Radio Club, Transvision.

Coordinated extension activities of the department.

Member of the PTA Executive Committee and the Calendar Committee.

External examiner for UG project viva at IHRD College of Applied Science, Kozhikode.

**Bindu Amat:**

Coordinated various activities of the Debating Club of the department and the Career Guidance cell.

Member of the IQAC of the college and conducted various mentoring sessions on NAAC accreditation as part of the MHRD's Paramarsh scheme.

Member of the PTA Executive Committee.

Faculty for a Foundation Course programme for I year MBBS students at Malabar Medical College, Calicut.

Moderator for a discussion with author and historian Manu S. Pillai on his book *The Courtesan, The Mahatma, and the Italian Brahmin*, organised by DC Books at Focus Mall, Kozhikode.

Inaugurated the Literature Association of the PG Department of English, Holy Cross College, Calicut and delivered a talk on the topic 'Undoing the Norm'.

Chaired the Scrutiny Board Meeting of the I Sem UG Exams at the Kerala University.

Resource person at the Workshop on curriculum development at SCERT, Trivandrum.

Resource person at a session on Transformative Teaching at the Refresher Course for HSE teachers at the University of Calicut.

Conducted the State Level Quiz, Infifest, at Dayapuram Arts and Science College, Calicut.

Engaged sessions on Gender Sensitisation and Environmental Consciousness for the WSS participants of RSM SNDP Yogam College, Koyilandy.

Attended the valuation camp for the III Semester exams of the Dept of English, University of Calicut.

Delivered a talk on AIR Calicut on "A Don Quixote for Our Times: A Review of Salman Rushdie's *Quichotte*".

Moderated sessions on Crime Writing, Women in Politics and New Fiction at the Kerala Literature Festival.

Attended the CV Camp for the I Sem Exams of MA Women's Studies at the University of Calicut.

Engaged mentoring sessions on NAAC Accreditation in five unaccredited colleges as part of the MHRD's Paramarsh Scheme.



Resource Person at the RUSA funded Workshop on Teaching English Language to the Visually Impaired at Farook College, Calicut.

External examiner for PG viva at Zamorin's Guruvayurappan College, Malabar Christian College, SNG College Chelannur and GC Mokeri, and UG project viva at SNG College Chelannur.

**Shanthi Vijayan:**

Coordinated various activities of the film club of the department and the Skill Development Centre of the college.

Additional Superintendent of University Examinations for 2019-20.

Attended the ICT Academy of Kerala meet at Thrissur in connection with the premium member launch.

Chaired a session at the 2-day National Seminar on Post-Truth organised by the Department of English, Govt. Arts and Science College, Meenchanda.

External resource person of the Walk with the Scholar programme of Govt. Arts and Science College, and conducted a workshop on gender sensitisation.

Internal examiner for UG project viva.

External examiner for PG viva at WMO College, Muttill, Dayapuram Arts and Science College, and Holy Cross College, Eranhipalam, and UG project viva at MES College of Arts and Science, Chathamangalam.

**Surya K:**

Coordinated various activities of the environment club and the Research and Development Cell of the department.

Edited a volume of the department's annual research journal Diotima's, with a focus on "Popular Culture".

Faculty coordinator for the PG Students' annual national seminar, Con-texts 2020, on the topic "New Discourses: Trends, Perspectives, and Politics".

Attended the Refresher Course in Gender Studies held at HRDC, Calicut University, on 15-28 November 2019.

Chaired a plenary session at the two day National Seminar on Minority Literature in Post-independence India at Kunnamangalam Govt. College on 6 December 2019.

Presented a paper titled "Redefining Gendered Selves: The Diasporic Space in Interpreter of Maladies and The Namesake" at the 2 day international conference on Gender Faultlines and New Feminisms at Zamorin's Guruvayurappan College on 10-11 December 2019.

Engaged several classes on research methodology for the III BA and II PG students.

External examiner for PG viva at Zamorin's Guruvayurappan College, Malabar Christian College, SNG College Chelannur and GC Mokeri, and UG project viva at SNG College of Advanced Studies, Chelannur.

### **Aparna Nandakumar:**

Coordinated various activities of the readers' club of the department.

Additional Superintendent of University Examinations for 2019-20.

Published an article titled "Communism, Enthusiasm, and the Transformative Power of Money: Tracing Enchantment in Lal Salaam" in the August 2019 issue of *Chalachitra Sameeksha*, the film studies journal published by the Kerala State Chalachitra Academy.

Resource Person at the international seminar on "Beyond Secular/Sacred: Logic of Counter Discourses" organised by the Department of English, Govt. Brennan College, Thalassery, sponsored by DCE and HEC, on 23-25 September 2019.

Published an article titled "Call Me by My Name: Self, Romance, and Fidelity in Chemmeen" in the October 2019 issue of *Chalachitra Sameeksha*.

Discussant for a session at the 3-day International Seminar on “Family, Private Property, and the State: Kerala Experiences with Feminism” organised by the Dept. of Malayalam, Govt. Arts and Science College, Meenchanda, on 13-15 November 2019.

External examiner for PG viva at Zamorin’s Guruvayurappan College, Malabar Christian College, SNG College Chelannur and GC Mokeri, and UG project viva at GC Kunnamangalam.

**Elizabeth Antony:**

Coordinated various activities of the theatre club of the department, and the Additional Skills Acquisition Programme of the college.

Organised an ASAP orientation programme for the first year students on 18 September 2019.

External examiner for UG project viva at MAMO College, Mukkam.

**Preethy Mary George**

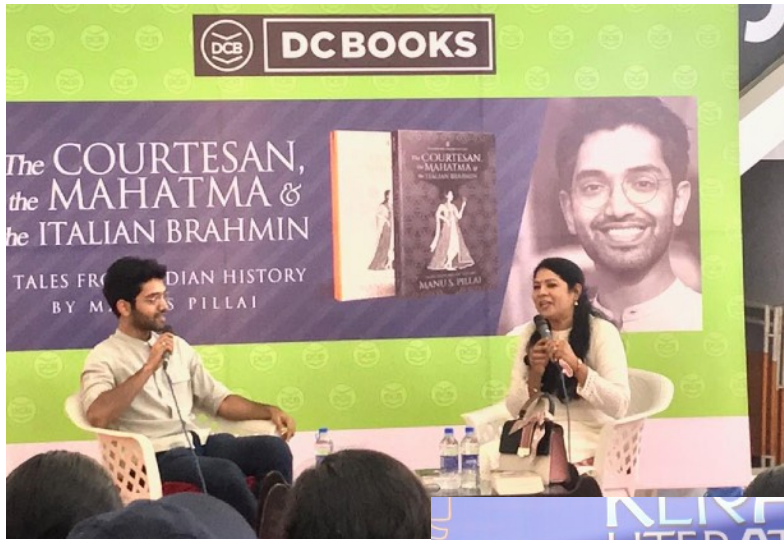
Coordinated various activities of the NSS Unit of the College, including the NSS camp at Ichannur AUP School on 21-27 December 2019.

Participated in the short-term course on Soft Skills Development for Assistant Professors conducted by the UGC-HRDC, University of Calicut, on 7-13 February 2020.

Successfully completed the NPTEL courses on Film Studies and History of English Language and Literature.

Completed the Annual Research Programme in English Language Teaching (ARPIT).

**Teachers in Consultancy/Extension Activities**



**Bindu Amat interviewing Manu S. Pillai**

**Shyama E. interviewing Roanna Gonsalves at Kerala**



**Bindu Amat interviewing Jaya Jaitley at Kerala Literature Festival**