

# eManaswini

Gargi College Alumni e-newsletter

Volume 2, 2014



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## Editorial Board

**Editor** : Dr. Gita Mathur

**Joint Editor** : Ms. Seema Sirpal

**Reporter** : Ms. Rajni

## Principal's Note



I am happy to learn that Alumni Association of Gargi College is trying to increase its alumina base and bringing out next issue of its newsletter called e-Manaswini.

Our college students are spread across the world as scientists, professors, journalists, civil servants, entrepreneurs, lawyers, sports persons, army persons, and doctors. Some of our students do visit their Alma Mater and attribute their success in life to the training they got at Gargi. It gives encouragement to our present students and satisfaction to the staff. Some may not be in touch with the college or with their classmates. Alumni Association through its newsletter will help them in making new connections and will keep them informed about the new developments taking place in their Alma Mater. I am sure our alumni with their suggestions can be of great help in taking college to great heights.

I congratulate the entire editorial team and the contributors for their efforts. I look forward to reading the next issue of e-Manaswini.

Dr. SHASHI TYAGI  
Principal (Officiating)

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## Editor's Message



The newsletter, 'eManaswini' of Gargi College Alumni Association called 'Manaswini', was published for the first time in April, 2013 on the College Annual Day.

eManaswini Vol. 1 was sent by email to a long emailing list and also emailed to many alumni who sent a request at [gargialumni@gmail.com](mailto:gargialumni@gmail.com). The link to the newsletter was also put on Facebook pages 'Gargi College' and 'Gargi Manaswini'. The request for contributions to the second volume was also sent around and the response is very heartening.

This association was started in 2003 and the first Alumni meet was held in 2005. Ever since the association was gradually growing and maturing under the leadership of Dr. Sheela K.S. as its president helped by an executive committee and a teacher's committee. Since two years I have taken over as the president. We understand that our alumni are very busy with their current tasks-at-hand and hence find it difficult to visit Gargi, let us meet in cyberspace. This newsletter is one step in this direction. This will be sent to alumni by email and they can further email it to all their Gargi contacts. The very idea of this e-newsletter is to build-up a network of alumni and to suggest various options to them regarding their involvement in college life. Here are some suggestions:

- ◆ Adopt a student for financial support.
- ◆ Give scholarships to meritorious students.
- ◆ Mentor students; help selected individuals.
- ◆ Generally come & talk to students about enhancement of skills.
- ◆ Alumni contributions may be included in the College Magazine.

- ◆ Achievements of alumni could be included in the Principal's annual report and the college prospectus.
- ◆ A separate website could be created for the Alumni Association.
- ◆ Extended Students Committee could add more members who are interested in getting involved with the above mentioned activities.

**Hope you can select what suits you the most and enjoy keeping the link with your alma mater.**

**I am grateful to Ms. Seema Sirpal for volunteering to help me with bringing out this Volume 2 of the newsletter as the joint editor and to Ms. Rajni for collecting information about all the events of different departments as the reporter of eManaswini.**

Your comments and suggestions about this newsletter eManaswini are most welcome. An email ID, a Facebook page and a Google group should help us build an interactive alumni association. You may send me a few lines about your achievements to be included in the next issue of eManaswini.

### **Dr. Gita Mathur**

President, Alumni Association of Gargi College  
and Editor, eManaswini

### **Editorial Team : eManaswini 2014 Vol.2.**

**Editor : Dr. Gita Mathur**

**Joint Editor : Ms. Seema Sirpal**

**Reporter : Ms. Rajni**

**Email ID: gargialumni@gmail.com**

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# Departmental Events

## B.Sc. PROGRAMME ASSOCIATION

### ZENITH (2013-2014)

#### ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ Poster making competition on 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2013
- ◆ Talent Hunt on 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2013

## B.A. PROGRAMME

- ◆ B.A. Programme union called Navdrishti, this year also handled newly formed maths Department. In October Navdrishti organized experimental Learning Programme (ELP) at Ayar jungle camp, Nainital. This camp was open for all departments in Gargi.
- ◆ Experimental Education is a methodology in which educators purposefully engage with learners in direct experience and focused reflection in order to increase knowledge, develop skills and clarify values. ELP uses experimental education and real world experiences to reinforce the social skills, values and clinical goals set.
- ◆ The programme is committed to awakening in young people a connection to nature and the spirit within, a capacity for conscious living and compassion. The tools and activities incorporated in ELP help to bring out the passion and inspiration already present or bring to the surface what may be buried underneath waiting to be discovered.
- ◆ Adventures activities ranging from caving, rappelling, flying fox, trekking were also enjoyed by the students.

- ◆ Navdrishti newsletter “**VIBGYOR**” shall be released in the coming month. Student from Maths and BA Programme shall have competition ranging from poster competition Photograph Competition and Best article award. **VIBGYOR** shall be released on the much awaited BA Programme Fest 2014.
- ◆ The union 2013-2014 has been known to be student friendly and Approachable. From organizing the Maths orientation where students were escorted by “*friendly seniors*”- a new concept to promote transparency and approachability amongst fellow seniors and juniors has been initiated.
- ◆ The freshers were also given welcome cards along with all the union members.

## DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

### CHEMISTRY SOCIETY “RASGANDHAYAN”

#### ACHIEVEMENTS (2013-2014)

- ◆ Best teacher Award - **Dr. Indu T. Sidhwani**

#### SEMINARS

- ◆ Dr. Ram S. Mohan on “**GREEN CHEMISTRY**”
- ◆ Dr. Suresh Garg on “**WERNER’S CONTRIBUTION To CO-ORDINATION CHEMISTRY**”
- ◆ Dr. Ram S. Mohan on “**GREEN SOLVENT**”

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The Department of Commerce, Gargi College is focused on providing new opportunities to students and encouraging participation amongst students. The students of the Commerce Department have been active participants in all inter-college competitions with Shreya Jain and Bhakti bagging 2<sup>nd</sup> position in Inframania, an infrastructure simulation hosted by Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies.

Our students Pragya Gandhi, Gauri Singh and Surbhi Vijay have also bagged 1<sup>st</sup> position in the product Wizard Competition organized by the Marketing Society of SRCC. Our students have also been actively participating in various cultural fests as members of different cultural societies.

The Department of Commerce hosted a seminar on 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 to enlighten the students on the New Company Law, 2013. The lecture was delivered by Professor J.P. Sharma, Head and Dean-Commerce, Delhi School of Economics.

The Commerce Department has also planned to conduct a National Seminar during the annual Commerce fest *CASCADE*. The theme for this year's Cascade was “*21<sup>st</sup> Century Marketing: Opportunities and Challenges*”. The event was held on 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2014.

The inaugural session of the event was graced by Dr. Mithileshwar Jha, Professor of Marketing, IIM-B as the keynote speaker. This was followed by a Panel Discussion graced by various eminent personalities. It was followed by the informal session which consisted of various competitions like B-Plan, Ad-Mad, Product Designing and Singing and Painting Competition.

The annual magazine *COMASCENT* was also released on this occasion. The theme for *Comascent* was consistent with the theme of *Cascade*.

Our students have also been placed at Ernst & Young and with some more reputed companies still set to come to campus for placements, we are hoping a lot more students to be placed.



## DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Political Science Department has had a very busy year, because of the various events and guest lectures that were organized for the students.

The events organized were:

- ◆ Guest Lecture by **Nivedita Menon** on the topic: “*being a Feminist Today*” on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2013
- ◆ Guest Lecture by **Dr. Ashok Acharya** on the topic: “*Global Justice*” on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2013
- ◆ **Intra Departmental Quiz** on Current Affairs: 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2013
- ◆ Departmental Trip to KOLAD, MAHARASHTRA. 5<sup>th</sup> October to 9<sup>th</sup> October 2013
- ◆ Annual Departmental Fest: **POL POURRI 2013** on the theme: “*Emerging trends in Indian Elections*” on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

The events of the Fest were:

- ◆ **Panel Discussion:** The following eminent speakers were present:
  - Professor Pushpesh Pant
  - Professor M.P. Singh
  - Paronjoy Guha Thakurta
- ◆ Conventional Debate: THBT a Third Front Govt. would do more harm than good.
- ◆ Quiz
- ◆ Slogan Writing
- ◆ Poster Making
- ◆ JAM- Just a Minute



## DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

***Najsiyaat*** - the association of the Psychology department organized a number of events in the academic year of 2013-2014. The activities involved seminars, workshops lectures as well as interactive sessions.

In the month of August two key events were organized-Fresher's Party and a talk by ***Dr. Girishwar Misra***. The fresher's Party was a much looked for event since it encouraged interaction among all the years. The talk on self was very interesting and presented with a learning opportunity. Students understood the several connotations of self, their significance and meaning in a cultural context.

The month of September began with a talk conducted by Mr. Pradeep Dutt on ***Time Management***. He raised the question 'is time management our real issue or energy management?' His talk received positive response from all the students. After this we screened 'Sher' since all of the students wanted to watch a movie or TV show related to psychology.

In October a BBC documentary on Brain was screened in the department. A short departmental trip was organized to Dharamshala. Chaitali Sinha presented her research at a high level. Moreover several students interned at various clinical and counseling set ups.

Thus ***Najsiyaat*** has encouraged participation and interaction among all the three years.

## BOTANY DEPARTMENT

### **Gargi College Botanical Society: TARU**

#### **Inaugural Talk:**

The Gargi College Botanical Society started its activities for the session with a lecture by Dr. Renu Deswal of the Department of Botany, Delhi University, on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2013.

The lecture entitled "***Understanding the Regulation of Cold Stress – Adaptome***"

provided insights into the post-translational regulation of proteins and cold responsive expression in apoplast.

### **Botanical Excursion:**

An educational trip was organized to Shimla and Chail (Himachal Pradesh) for the students of B.Sc (Hons), Botany and B.Sc Life Sciences classes. Faculty members Dr. Usha Prasad, Dr. Gita Mathur, Dr. Kiran Prabha, Dr. Geeta Mehta and Dr. Aparijita Mohanty accompanied the students. Students were helped to learn and appreciate the diversity of plants in their natural habitat. The excursion also helped the students to be sensitized to preservation of nature and conservation of environment.

### **Science Festival Events:**

During the college science festival “*Scintillations*” held on 19-20<sup>th</sup> February 2014, TARU hosted two events, viz., “*Botanical Rangoli*” and a “*Memory Game*”. The festival witnessed huge participation and tremendous appreciation. More than 70 students participated in the Memory Game, and around 25 teams participated in the Botanical Rangoli. The participants enjoyed the events and were appreciative of the Society’s initiative in organizing these events.

### **Valedictory Lecture:**

The Society organized a valedictory lecture entitled “Orchids: Wonder Plants” on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2014. The eminent scientist, Dr. C. Sathish Kumar of the Botanical garden and Research Institute, Thiruvananthapuram, delivered the lecture. The lecture created a lot of interest in the students, who got an opportunity to learn about the varieties of orchids through a beautiful pictorial presentation on the subject.

### **Annual Publication:**

The Society brought out the 9<sup>th</sup> volume of its annual publication ANTHESIS in the form of an e-publication.



# Back to Gargi as Faculty

## A never ending love affair with Gargi...

**Dr. Poonam Phogat**

The name Gargi is so special in my life that I can never think about my life without it. Gargi has been like the attachment of the child with mother where the umbilical cord has never been cut. I remember taking admission in Gargi with a sense of ambiguity as I wanted to pursue another subject which I could not get and hence after much running around in different colleges finally took admission in Psychology. I now look back at the decisive days of my life and thank The Almighty for this.

As I remember my first day in college in 1997, I see myself standing in a huge group of 'freshers' with a lipstick mark on our foreheads and being asked to give an introduction. After that we were taken out of the college gate on the road and made to form a marching battalion. We had to sing as well as march to the popular Bollywood song, "Sandesh aate hai" from the movie "Border". It was really funny as all passer-by's and people driving smiled at us. I enjoyed the day thoroughly and nothing unpleasant was asked by anyone. It was all in good fun.

Our class was small, with a good mix of students. It was interesting to know all of them. We looked forward to meeting each other every day as we didn't have mobiles and internet during that time. We would take U-specials and chat all through the way. Even the U-special drivers were so different from the normal drivers. Our favourite pass-time was singing jingles of popular advertisements, playing word games, dumb charades. I now look back that it was essential in creating strong bonds amongst us.

Our teachers were the right amalgamation of strictness and nurturance. They always welcomed us for any queries. I remember during our times there were strikes very often, in spite to that our teachers took their work seriously and even took extra classes to finish the syllabus. Our lab staff was very generous and treated us as their kids. They were always telling us how to go about doing our work, using the equipment and maintaining the lab as well. It was all about imparting the right values. We never had issues with discipline. We respected the teachers a lot.

Our principal, Dr.Hema Raghavan was always encouraging us to take decision for ourselves and work hard to be independent and have our own opinions of things. I remember she was so petite yet her ideas were big. We would often cross her moving very fast in the corridors talking to each student and asking if everything within and outside the college (in their personal lives) was fine. She would listen patiently to everyone with a smiling face. I believe she has been a strong force in shaping us.



I also fondly remember the farewell given to us by our dear teachers. The photos we clicked, the emotions we shared and the bonding developed are eternal.



### **FAREWELL - CLASS 2000**

As times passed, I somehow never separated from Gargi and its family. I joined Dr. Tucker in her UGC's project during my Masters in 2002 Delhi University. She always supported me and guided me. Finally immediately after my Masters, I cleared my JRF in 2003 and joined for Ph.D. under Dr. Tucker and started teaching on ad-hoc basis in Gargi College. It was overwhelming to see the love the teachers gave me and provided me the platform to work. I felt awkward to sit with the teachers and interact with them as colleagues. However, they always made me comfortable and we were all like a family. I kept on working and finally with the god's wishes and teacher's blessing I got a permanent appointment in Gargi.



**DR.RAGHAVAN, DR.CHATTERJEE, AND MS. DIXIT  
GIVING UNIV POSITION AWARD**



**PSYCHOLOGY FESTIVAL IN OLD  
SEMINAR HALL 1999**

Retrospectively, I see many changes in Gargi. Though structurally we now have a huge auditorium, even though I loved my older seminar hall also as it provided a very close feeling with all the people present. The administration staff was very polite to us as students and would go to any extent to help us. They seem to be very professional now.

Even the teachers are very professional. We even used to go out with our teachers on educational outings in Delhi. Now I see that even though the students do go to the out station trips, however the personal bond is not very strong. Students want to hang-out alone and enjoy their own space. Also the number of students coming from other states have increased. They miss their families and without guidance, they engage into wrong habits which harm them. "Mithas" used to be the only place for us to celebrate and during those days there were hardly any girls smoking. However, now you cross it once and you see different groups passing their time by smoking.

The kind of respect we had for our teachers and elders is missing in students these days. I have heard of instances when students have been rude and extremely disrespectful. Not even that, they are rude and even violent with each other. I feel extremely perturbed to see this. They use abusive language with each other and engage in physical brawls. This kind of change is uncalled for. We as teachers and parents are missing on something very big that our students are turning out to be like this.

I believe strongly that the values that we imbibe will make us turn into the same kind of human beings. I only wish that we change something in our system that we have strong females with highest values. Only then one can attain true success in life.

I wish all students, passing through this wonderful and very short phase of life, enjoy it and make the most of it and are able to keep away from all ills around them.

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# Alumni Achievers : Awards

Indian researcher in US wins international 'Dance Your PhD' contest !

Ambalika Khadria we at **Gargi** are proud of you!



**Vidya Subramanian**

Feeling very proud to share the news that one of our own, **Ambalika S Khadria** (Batch of 2005), has won a most innovative contest - The 'Dance Your PhD' contest in the Chemistry category. The contest is organised every year by Science magazine.

Please join me in congratulating Ambalika on this wonderfully innovative achievement!

Cheers! 😊

<http://news.sciencemag.org/scientific-community/2013/11/dance-your-ph.d.-and-winner-%E2%80%A6?rss=1>



**Dance Your Ph.D.: And the Winner Is ... | Science/AAAS | News**

[news.sciencemag.org](http://news.sciencemag.org)

The votes are in, and the top prize for the 2013 "Dance Your Ph.D." contest goes to ... Cedric Tan, a biologist at...

Like · Comment · Share · November 21, 2013 at 10:36pm

👍 Geetka Joshi, Anjali Khandelwal Chowdhry and 12 others    👁 Seen by 67



**Ambalika S Khadria** Dear Gita Mathur ma'am. Thanks a lot! I will try my best to write up something by Dec 15. Am in Delhi for about 2 weeks only, so time is a little tight but I'll try. Meanwhile, hindustan times did cover my story, in case you'd like to see 😊 i had written about gargi, but they chose just to mention my school!

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/.../article1-1156001.aspx>



**Indian researcher in US wins international 'Dance Your PhD' contest - Hindustan Times**

[www.hindustantimes.com](http://www.hindustantimes.com)

A young Indian researcher in the US has transported her experimental work in the... See More

December 1, 2013 at 1:04am · Like · 🔄 1



**Gita Mathur** Absolutely amazing dear! Proud of you. This will go into eManaswini Vol. 2, 2014. You may send a para on how you got this type of idea in college.

December 1, 2013 at 7:29pm · Like · 🔄 1

Indian researcher in US wins international 'Dance Your PhD' contest *Vanita Srivastava*, **Hindustan Times New Delhi, November 26, 2013**

A young Indian researcher in the US has transported her experimental work in the laboratory to an artistic dance and won the international 'Dance Your PhD' contest in Chemistry category for the year.

Ambalika Khadria, a biochemistry PhD student at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, demonstrated her experiment on whether proteins are linked together in pairs.



Khadria, who is from Delhi, managed this with a dance display jazzed up by coloured masks, dancers and fluorescent lights. The results of the contest were announced last week.

The '*Dance Your PhD*' competition is a unique contest sponsored by Science magazine. Students across the world use interpretative dance to explain their PhD research topics. Participants are required to upload a video of their dance accompanied with a written explanation for the viewer.

"My research is towards the larger goal of being able to control bacterial growth in these times of ever-evolving multidrug resistant bacteria. My dance illustrates an experimental protocol that has been developed in the laboratory," Khadaria said.

"The dancers represent peptide molecules being synthesised, purified and labelled with fluorescent dyes," Khadaria, who did her schooling from DPS, Vasant Kunj, added. For her presentation, a student started a peptide synthesis reaction in a test-tube. The focus then moved on to dancers depicting protein molecules.

They wore helix costumes made of duct tape to represent the shape of these proteins. "The rest of the dance takes you through each of the steps I carry out in my lab," said Khadria.

There is an interesting backstory to how she got into the competition. "My mother-in-law sent me a news article that was published in an Indian newspaper. Since I did not have much time, I made a rough sketch and then planned the moves." The contest gave Khadria a chance to blend a scientific contest with creative art.

"A science theme was something I had thought of in college, where I wanted to show the periodic table and bonds and reactions between the different elements through dance. This competition gave me a unique platform to choreograph my own PhD dissertation. It has been a truly amazing experience."

There were two entries from India for the contest and both were really good, she said. "One on how bacteria evolve and the other, a very innovative idea of using ghunghroos to cure toe walking."

[\*The 'FRETting' tendency of the bacterial protein!\*](#) from [Ambalika Khadria](#) on [Vimeo](#). Copy and paste the above link into your browser and watch the amazing video.

**Compiled by Dr. Gita Mathur**

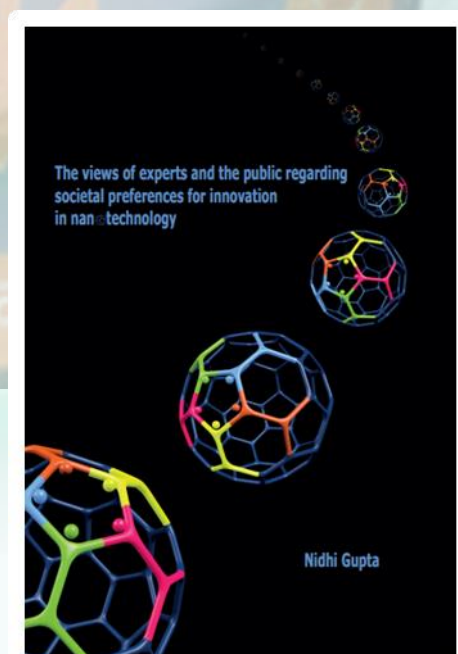
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## **Nidhi Gupta, Ph.D.**

Nidhi has been conferred the degree of PhD, from Wageningen University, The Netherlands in 2013. Her thesis focussed on “experts and public view on societal responses to innovations in nanotechnology”. During her PhD research she has been invited to present papers at various international conferences. In 2011, she was invited to present a guest seminar at the Australian Centre of Excellence for Risk Analysis, Melbourne and at the Institute of Environmental Science and Research Ltd. (ESR), New Zealand. In 2013, she was invited to be the guest speaker at the European Commission “Workshop on Nanotechnology” in Madrid, Spain. One of her publications on expert opinion on nanotechnology was picked as research highlight in Nature Nanotechnology. Recently, she has been a co-author of a book entitled “Governing Nano Foods: Principles Based Responsive Regulation”.

Nidhi Gupta Studied B.Sc. Hons. Botany. at Gargi College.



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## Our Alumni Write Back

I joined Gargi College in the year 1993 for B.Sc. (G) Group 'B' Course. I studied here for three glorious years and gained a lot of knowledge from the best of academic faculty in Delhi University.



The faculty members were always helpful and ever embracing. A rare fortune struck and I became a permanent staff member of my esteemed Alma mater. I was appointed for the post of Laboratory Attendant in the Department of Botany in the year 2007 and later got promotion as a laboratory Assistant in the year 2012. An enriching experience of learning and working together with the department has been a constant part of my life.

I cherish beautiful memories of attending seminars and enjoying annual cultural festivals and departmental functions.

Various research activities are being actively carried out which enable the students to update themselves with the recent trends going on in the field of Biology. Lecture sessions by the eminent speakers are a regular activity of the department. It is a pleasure to learn as you work. Fellow staff members also contribute to my growth in my professional sphere. After seven years it feels like a family to work here.

I am also on the editorial board of eManaswani as the reporter and Joint Treasurer of our college's Alumni Association, "Manaswini". I have been enjoying working for the association and compiling all the activities held by various associations and departments throughout the year.

**Rajni**

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# NO KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT COLLEGE

COLLEGE.....WOOooooooooOOT...

The Journey began from 16<sup>th</sup> of July 2006 when I stepped into GARGI COLLEGE campus for the first time. Standing near main arch, excited and perplexed both at the same time. Joined hands with many fellows who were my companions for three years and friends for ever. That was a big transitional phase of my



life. In college I came to know people from diverse backgrounds and cultures which gave me the knowledge about the diversity of concepts of general life and made me from the most vulnerable to the adaptable person to the different environments and facets of society.

I have made many friends who have made their mark on my mind, heart and soul. I am proud to have the most cooperative faculty which have crafted my personality beautifully, provide me freedom and made me a creative and critical thinker. They exerted my creativity and provided necessary tools to hone my skills in the area of my interest. They made me assertive and aware about my surroundings.

I have experienced my personal growth which helped me to build up my confidence in myself. In the last year, I contested for a post in G.C.B.S and got elected as Vice President of the Society. That gave me many opportunities to polish my practical skills. My father always used to tell me 'No Knowledge without College' and it proved right for me.

Beside all this, I also had my fair share of fun. I still miss the fests: Ficus and REVERIE. I miss the wonderful times I spent with my friends and the tough times we all sailed through together... and not to forget the gossips...long talks... and the career goals we all crafted for us together. There are many significant strings which are binding me with GARGI. Nice to walk the memory lane. YO GARGIIIIIIII!!!!!!!

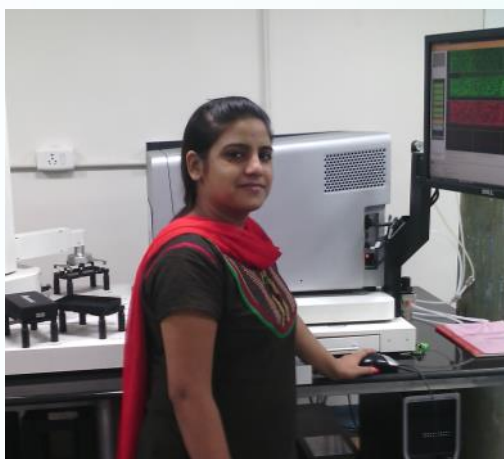
## Manasvini Baldodia

Batch 2006-2009

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## “Survival of the fittest”

Sir Darwin’s line suits my present phase of life a lot, because after passing out from Gargi College I have realized how tough life is to show that we are best in our field.



Surely, at this point of time if I am somewhere standing out in the crowd and have a spirit to work hard, then the credit goes to a place where the foundation of my strong determined nature was laid i.e., Gargi College. Here, I came as a shy, introvert person but passed out as a confident, self-determining one. The college provides an inclusive and supportive environment where students feel valued therefore; they enjoy lectures and are well motivated towards extra-curricular activities also.

Teachers in the college demonstrate an ability to transform and extend knowledge, rather than merely transmitting it.

I am really lucky to be taught by such lovely teachers who are really concerned with developing their student’s critical-thinking skills during practical’s, problem-solving skills during theory and creative skills during other activities (i.e., fest competitions, quiz etc.) At last, I want to conclude my view that college time is the most precious time.

I would like to request all my juniors to attend lectures sincerely, have fun during the free time to have good memories with friends for the future and please make full use of the resourceful library, specialized equipment and techniques during practical classes.

**Kavita**

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Hi there I am writing in my contribution for the Newsletter. This one is for my department. I was too apprehensive to join Gargi college coming from a co-ed education system for 14 yrs. I "chose" Gargi over others for it "Looked good". I know it is too lame a reason but then at that time I really had no clue why I was taking up Botany, likewise the choice of college was no different.



This is notwithstanding the respect I have for schools kids who are so aware of their careers. Although a lame way of deciding the college it was the best decision I have made for my life (both professional and personally). We were never told what is the best way forward but were taught how to decide what we want. The best comes to you when you have a guided exposure to all options around and unbiased expert opinions. It is in such environment can anyone take an informed decision. A simple example to this is, that while we were studying Botany at the same time we were actively participating in solid waste management drive at the nearby locality. This is how at least I think I was driven into research in science in a very organized way.

While some of us took to pure sciences there were so many who have found other spheres of work. I guess we were educated, beyond just academics. I learnt "Its ok to not be perfect but its absolutely necessary to be aware of yourself and be proud of it". On a personal front, like any college, life at Gargi was fun too with a BIG twist of long class hours, however those were fun too. Our college prospectus published in 2000 had this line "We turn girls into confident young women" which was second reason of my joining Gargi, for it was something my mom was looking forward to.

However, I remember and appreciate it now, as it certainly came true for me (I hope). I would take this opportunity to thank my teachers and also the lab staff from the bottom of my heart. The very fact I can't name a few favourite teachers goes to say that everyone of the faculty was ABSOLUTELY fantabulous and ohhhh soooooooooo awesome!!!!.

I wish all the luck to the girls at Gargi for a bright future. With a hope that we could extend what we know to the society at large.

Best Wishes Priyanka Srivastava Botany Hons (2000-2003)

P.S : I am married now I am giving my old name in hope that my teachers remember me.

**Priyanka Dhakate**

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# Facebook Page: Gargi Manaswini

## Some Clips

Compiled by Seema Sripal

### Sùmãñ Pãñdëý

Works at Indian Institute of Remote Sensing,



### Noor Jaikhani

Works at Harvard Medical School



### Padma Akkapeddi

Works at University of Cambridge and Instituto de Medicina Molecular



### Sneh Bansal

Teacher at Manav Rachna International School,



### Manisha Gupta

Works at Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai Show





## **Anjali Khandelwal Chowdhry**

**Executive Director at BNI**



## **Madhura Sarkar**

**Boston, Massachusetts**



## **Geetika Joshi**

**University of California, Davis**



## **Nidhi Gupta**

**Wageningen University and Research Centre**



## **Aditi Mehta**

**Max-Planck-Institut für Herz- und Lungen-  
forschung**



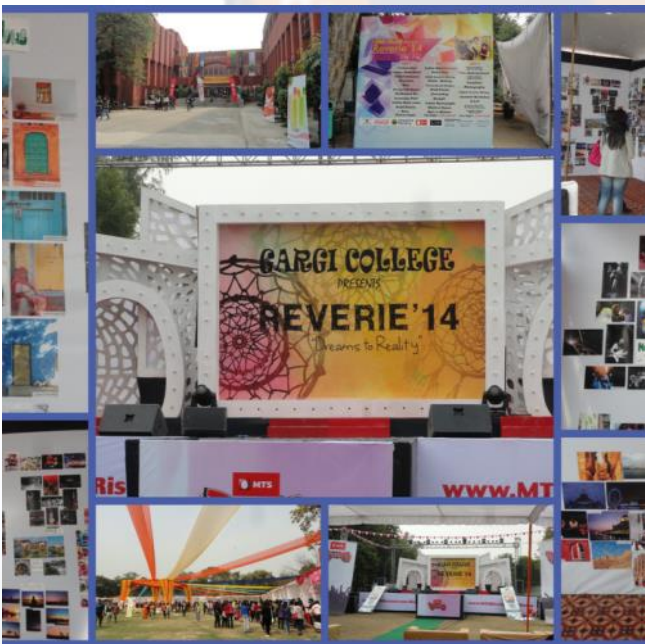
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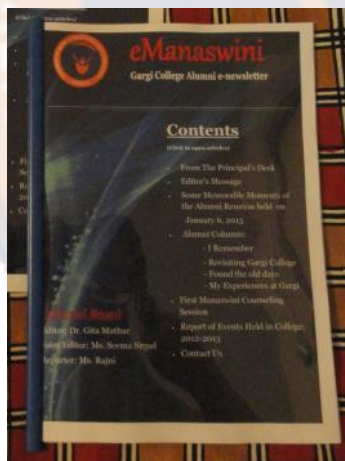


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