Geared up for NAAC Re-accreditation

Ahmednagar College has always tried for excellence. National Assessment and Accreditation Council, Bangalore (NAAC) is an autonomous body of UGC to evaluate universities and colleges. Our college has gone through evaluation before the inception of NAAC in year 1967. Thereafter in year 2004, Ahmednagar College applied for NAAC evaluation and secured ‘A’ grade with remarkable score of 88.69. In year 2010, college applied for Re-accreditation. An editorial board has been established in January 2010 for the same. Under the guidance of Principal Dr. R. J. Barnabas, administrative council has formed editorial board. Dr. S. B. Iyer, coordinator; Dr. Kamalakar Bhat, Dr. Ravindra Deshkulkar, Dr. Balasaheb Gaykar; Mr. Ashok Lagad, Mr. Pritam Bedarkar and Dr. Pradip Shelke are the members of editorial committee.

After extensive work on documentation and infrastructure, SSR report has been prepared in three volumes including SSR-I, SSR-II and Evaluative Report of Departments. Dr. S. B. Iyer and Dr. Kamalakar Bhat visited to NAAC office, Bangalore to submit the report in first week of September 2010. Dr. N. M. Aston, Chairman, BPH.E. Society felicitated Members of the editorial board with mementos.

To continue the reaccreditation process, Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) has been established in an independent office. IQAC room consists of coordinator’s room, discussion place, reading place, shelves for records and computer with printer, LCD projector and a board to display the schedule, bulletin and photos. IQAC Room has been inaugurated at the hands of Principal Dr. R. J. Barnabas. In the month of April 2010, board members of the B.P.H.E. Society visited to IQAC Room. Dr. S. B. Iyer, coordinator explained the functioning of IQAC. Dr. R. M. Aston, Chairman, B.P.H.E. Society; appreciated the functioning of IQAC and gave best wishes for activities being scheduled in due course.

Best College Magazine Award

Award of Best Magazine to ‘Pratibimba’ by University of Pune. Our college received the Best College Magazine Award 2009-2010 for our Annual Magazine ‘Pratibimba’ by the University of Pune. Principal Dr. R. J. Barnabas conceptualized the cover design which included two prominent personalities i.e. Mother Teresa who received the Noble Peace Prize for her humanitarian work; Mr. Abhinav Bindra who won the Olympic gold medal in shooting. ‘Chandrayaan’ the space craft which was launched by India for the moon mission. This feature was helpful in judging the Best Magazine Award.

Picnic / Study Tour

A Picnic was organized by the commerce department to Shriwarwad and Murud Janjira Fort. Study tour was also organized for M.Com students to Mapro Factory in Mahabaleshwar.

The Chronicle

Not Things But Men: I Dare You

Vol. VI Issue: 1
April 2011

Ahmednagar College, Ahmednagar

Advisory Board:
Mr. Philip Barnabas
Secretary, B.P.H.E.

Dr. Gurula Barnabas

Editorial Board
Prof. Vinay Kanaware
Prof. Pritam Bedarkar
Prof. Noel Parge
Dr. Kamalakar Bhat

The Principal
Ahmednagar College
Station Road,
Ahmednagar - 414 001 (India)
Tel: 0241-2395571,
Fax: 0241-232245
E-mail : hplnewswlr.etn@梵hamrin.in
Website: www.aca.edsin
From the Principal's Desk

It gives me great pleasure to introduce The Chronicle 2010-11 to our readers. As we look back we feel proud of what we have achieved during the year gone by at Ahmednagar College. Chronicle gives us an opportunity to cherish those achievements. This year we have prepared for the visit of NAAC committee. The self study report has already been submitted at NAAC office, Bangalore. The peer team is expected in the first half of next academic year. I am glad to inform that the IQAC has now got its own fully equipped state of the art office.

We have introduced two new UGC sponsored courses under the career oriented programme; a) Certificate Course in Computer Applications, b) Certificate Course in Mushroom Cultivation. Also the UGC sponsored Remedial Coaching Classes and University of Pune sponsored Women Cell activities continued to benefit our students.

An MoU was signed between a College and NIFA (National Institute of Finance Association) for the launch of certificate course in computerized accounting and taxation. We are particularly proud of receiving a grant of Rs. 10 lakhs from the UGC for conducting certificate courses, seminars, and workshops under the aegis of the recently started Gandhian Studies Centre. We are also planning to start two new post graduate courses in Psychology and Biotechnology for the forth coming academic year i.e. 2011-12.

Our teachers and students continue to excel in the fields of academic, research, sports and cultural activities and they uphold the glorious tradition that we have always possessed. I am glad to inform that two of our faculty members have received their Ph.D. degree. Our staff members have published around eighteen Research Articles in national and international journals of repute. Our college has also organized number of district, state and national level seminars and workshops, including seminar for Non-Teaching staff. We are proud that three of our students participated in state level AVISHKAR-10 poster/project presentation competition. One of them has received first prize in Engineering and Technology discipline.

We had eminent personality, Lt. General Noble Thamburaj, former Vice Chief of Army Staff as our Chief Guest for the Annual Prize Distribution function. Our college was also visited by eminent personalities just a mention a few, Dr. Raghunath Shegaonkar; Vice Chancellor, University of Pune, Dr. N.M.Kud, Jt. DE, Maharashtra State., Dr. Rajendra Singh, Ramon Magsaysay Award winner, Dr. Sudhir Tambe, Member, Maharashtra Legislative Council,. and renowned Poet Dr. Grace. We look forward to the coming year with fresh vigor, enthusiasm, and we also hope to continue to uphold the glorious values and tradition for which our College has always stood for.

I congratulate the editing team of Chronicle for doing such magnificent job.

God bless this great institution of ours.

Dr. R. J. Barnabas
Principal

UGC Sponsored Courses / programme / activities Introduced:

Career Oriented Courses: This year the College started two Career Oriented Courses sponsored by the University Grants Commission, New Delhi: i. Certificate Course in Computer Application (Department of Physics); ii. Certificate Course in Mushroom Cultivation (Department of Botany). The College has received a grant of Rs. 10 lakhs from the UGC for these programmes.

Remedial Coaching Classes: The College has received grants from the UGC to start Remedial Coaching Classes for SC, ST, OBC and Minorities under XI Plan. The Centre started functioning from the academic year 2010-2011. One hundred thirty students from various categories have registered for the remedial coaching. Expert teachers from the College as well as from other institutions are involved in providing the students with quality remedial education.

Gandhian Studies Centre: The College received the UGC sanction to open a Gandhian Studies Centre. The centre started functioning from the academic year 2010-2011. The Centre has been inaugurated at the hands of Shri Krishna Prakash, Superintendent of Police Ahmednagar. Forty students have registered at the centre. The Centre undertakes various activities like lecture series, adaptation of Zillah Parashad schools and disseminating Gandhian thoughts among school children. A field visit to Hirvare Bazar, an ideal village, was arranged to acquaint the students with the dream of Mahatma Gandhi for the rural society. The Centre has organised 24 lectures on Gandhi’s thoughts by eminent personalities, scholars, social activists and Gandhians. The centre has conducted drawing and essay competition for the students of the adopted Zillah Parashad schools and the response was overwhelming.

A proposal has been sent to the University of Pune for starting the following courses at the centre:
1. Certificate Course in Gandhian thoughts (for Students)
2. Certificate Course in Gandhian thoughts (for Professionals)
3. Diploma Course in Gandhian thoughts.

Women’s Studies Centre: The Department of Political Science of the College has started a Women’s Studies Centre in association with the University of Pune. This year fifty three students applied to the centre for taking admission to the certificate course. Out of which thirty four students were selected for the course.

The Centre holds lecture sessions of this course twice a week. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Kambale, Mr. Anil Jaybhyaj, Ms. Deepta Tak from the Women’s Studies Centre of the University of Pune delivered lectures on various women issues. Books and required resource materials were given by the University of Pune to the students.

Other Sponsored Activities/Courses/Programmes:
The College in association with the Ford Foundation’s Pathways Coll, Bangalore, has launched a special program to facilitate access to education to students from disadvantaged backgrounds. As part of this programme various activities including seminars, workshops, competitions were conducted. A special workshop on the use of computers for better education was organized in which students were trained in the use of modern computer technology, creating blog, use
of audio and video recording on a computer. The College will receive from the Ford Foundation a grant of Rs. 5 lakhs over three academic years. The following activities have been conducted under the Pathway cell:

1. Guest lecture on ‘Social Justice through education’ by Prof. Umesh Bagade, HOD, Department of History, Dr. B.A.M.U., Aurangabad, on 18.01.2011
2. Intercollegiate poster competition on 07th March 2011
3. Intercollegiate essay competition on 06th March 2011

4. A seminar on Social Justice with four speakers: Dr. Girish Kulkarni, founder director of Snehalaya, ‘A’ nagar on ‘Globalization’s challenges to Social Justice’. Dr. Harish Jagtap, Department of Political Science, University of Pune, on ‘Historical Achievements of Dalit Movement’. Mr. Tej Chavan, YASHADA, Pune, on ‘Social Justice and Development of Disadvantaged’. Dr. Sambodhi Deshpande, Chopda College, on Inter-caste Marriages and Caste System.

Collaborations
Zoology: An Indo-German collaborative venture, “Research project on Drosophila,” is in progress. Similarly, an Indo-Israel (Jaffa University) collaborative venture is being planned and will be finalized in November 2010, when Professors Haiim, Ashkenazi and Yvan visit Ahmednagar College.

Biochemistry: Dr. R. D. Tak and Mr. N. S. Gaikwad have academic collaboration for their research projects with the Institute of Science, Mumbai, and MPKV Rahuri respectively.

F) Ph.D. Award
1. Mr. Sudhir Suryavanshi, Junior College, was awarded the Ph.D. in Botany by the University of Pune in March 2011. He worked on ‘Phycorediversity of Water Bodies from Ahmednagar and surrounding areas’ under the guidance of Dr. S. D. Pingale and Co-guide Dr. V. B. Gaikwad

2. Capt. Shamrat Kharat, Vice Principal of Junior College, was awarded the Ph.D. by the University of Pune in April 2011. He worked on ‘A Study of Administration of Urban Cooperative Bank in Ahmednagar District’ under the guidance of Dr. M. R. Mehta, director, IMSCDBR.

Two students successfully completed their Ph.D. under the guidance of Dr. Maya Unde and Dr. Simon Bernabas. Currently 35 students are pursuing their doctoral degrees in various subjects at the College research centres.

MoU
A memorandum has been signed by Ahmednagar College and NIFA (National Institute of Finance Association) for the launch of Certificate Course in Computerized Accounting and Taxation (CAT). Mr. Kale is looking after the functioning of the courses under this MoU.

L) Staff Achievements
1. Dr. S.B. Iyengar, was conferred with the ‘Best Project Guide Award’ by the Indian Physics Association, Pune Chapter on the occasion of Teacher Day. Also he appointed as the academic research coordinator by BCUI, University of Pune, for the three years.

2. Mr. S.B. Wadekar attended a one-month associates’ programme at the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla (IIPS).

AVISHKAR - 2010
For the third consecutive year the college was chosen by the University of Pune to organise the zonal research competition AVISHKAR. The competition was held on 5th & 6th December 2010. In all, 80 projects of the students from Ahmednagar district were on display. Fifteen projects by students from Ahmednagar College were selected for the University level competition out of which 3 projects got selected for the state level inter-university competition held on 21st and 22nd January 2011 at Nashik:

1. Ms. Madhav Jadhav, “Flood Risk Analysis of River Godavari” under the guidance of Dr. Maya Unde.

2. Mr. Hemant Kedare “Robotic Hand” under the guidance of Dr. S.B. Iyengar. He won the first prize at the State level which included certificate of appreciation, memento and a cash prize of Rs. 5000/-.

3. Mr. Stephen Gaikwad, “Mid Day Meal” under the guidance of Dr. VD Barve. Apart from these three, Mr. Bharat Kanojia and Ms. Ayushi Shahid participated in the University level competition under the guidance of Dr. Kamalakar Bhat. Ms. Anshulka Vishvakarma project under the guidance of Mr. Pritam Bedarkar was shortlisted for the state level competition.

G) Publications
Research Articles: A total of 24 research articles have been published by faculty members of various disciplines. Details are given below:


freshwater pulmonate snail Lymnaea acuminata (Lamarck,1822) (Gastropoda:Mollusca), The Biscoon. 5(4) 549-554.


Book Published
Deshmukh Ravindra ‘Marketing Management’, (Marathi Ed.), Pune, Nirlali Publisher.

Seminars Organized by the College
The College organized two district-level, two state-level and two national-level seminars.


ii. Social Science Departments: Interdisciplinary national seminar on ‘Post Liberalization Structural Changes in India’ on 17, 18 & 19 February, 2011.

iii. Department of Physics: A Two-day state-level
workshop on ‘Computer interfaced TVBS: Physics Practicals’ sponsored by BCUID, University of Pune, on 7th and 8th January 2011.
iv. Department of English: A two-day state-level seminar ‘Drama in the Classroom: Pedagogical Possibilities’ sponsored by BCUID, University of Pune, on 19th & 20th January 2011.
v. Department of Marathi: A one-day district-level seminar on ‘Lalit Gadya: Swaroop ani Prakar’, sponsored by BCUID, University of Pune, on 20th Dec 2010.
vi. Department of Commerce: A one-day district-level seminar on ‘New Direct Tax Code’, sponsored by BCUID, University of Pune, on 5th January 2011.

National Workshop organized

The department of geography has organized a 6 days national level workshop on Geoinformatics: Prospects and Applications during 06th to 11th December 2011. The workshop was sponsored by CSR, New Delhi.

Total 20 number of the Ph.D students from all over India have been participated in this workshop. Prof. P.G. Saptarshi has given a key note address to the workshop. Dr. Maya Hede Co-ordinated the workshop.

Conferences/Seminar/Symposia/Workshop attended by faculty:

I. Dr. Simon Bernabas presented papers at two international conferences held in Chennai and Hyderabad in August 2010 and January 2011, respectively. He also presented a paper at a national seminar held at Satara. He was a resource person at the state-level seminar held at Sheenav in January 2011.

ii. Dr. Kamalakar Bhat presented a paper at an international conference on ‘Fables of Fear’ held at Thrissur, Kerala, in August 2010. He also presented a paper at the international conference on ‘Memory, Identity and Culture’ at Kolkata in December 2010.

iii. Mr. K. Swarnakant has presented a paper at the state-level seminar on ‘Drama in the Classroom’ held in Ahmednagar College on 19th January 2011.
iv. Dr. Prabhakar J.D. was a resource person at the state-level seminar on ‘Recent trends in Fishery Science’ organized by Chhattarpuri Shriji College at Junnar, on 23rd & 24th February 2011.

v. Dr. Arif Shahid delivered a plenary talk at a national seminar on ‘Social Work response to HIV/AIDS’ organized by CSIR-SSR, Ahmednagar on 18th to 26th Feb. 2011. He was a resource person at a national seminar on ‘Environmental monitoring-Issues and Challenges’ organized by Madras Christian College, Chennai on 6th February 2011 and at a state-level seminar on ‘Recent trends in Biological Control’ organized by Dada Patil Mahavidyalaya, Kargut on 21st to 22nd January 2011.

vi. Mr. S.K. Gailawad, presented a paper entitled ‘Effect of Shelajist on the Heart of Daphnia’ in the ‘Fourth World Ayurveda Conference’ held at Bangalore from 16th to 17th December 2010.

vii. Mr. V.K. Holobanwar was selected as a member of the organizing committee of the national level workshop on ‘Medical Statistics & Clinical Trials’ organized by Modern College, Shrivajinagar, Pune from 18th to 20th December 2010.

viii. Dr. VM. Harpale presented a paper entitled, ‘Raman Spectroscopic investigation of multicomponent aerosols from the environment of sugar factory’ in an international symposium on ‘Advanced atmospheric aerosols’ held at Florence, Italy during 19-22 September 2010. The paper has also been published in ‘Chemical Engineering Transactions’.


x. Mr. Pratikumar Bedarkar was invited for a panel discussion on ‘Women and Mental Health’, in a national conference on ‘Well-being’ organized by Government College, Malherkdga (Punjab) on 23rd and 24th October 2010. He also chaired a session at a state-level seminar on ‘Mental Health’ organized by Dr. D.Y.Patil College, Pimpri on 04th and 05th February 2011.

xi. Dr. Richa Sharma was an invited resource person at a state-level seminar held at Jamshed College, Jamshed, on 22nd February 2011.

Lectures at Refresher Courses

Dr. Simon Bernabas was a resource person at the 15th Refresher Course in English organized by Dr. B.A.M University, Aurangabad.

ii. Kamaikumar J.D was a resource person at the Refresher Course on English Studies in India held at ASC, MS University, Baroda in March 2011.

Earn & Learn Scheme

This year 32 students availed the University sponsored ‘Earn & Learn’ scheme. As the senior wing of the College has a student strength in excess of 3000 students, we are eligible to receive a grant of Rs. 3 lakhs from the University.

Grants Received

University Grants Commission (XI plan) 66.78 lakhs
In addition to that grants received for Major and Minor research projects from UGC, DST, Ministry of Earth Science, Ministry of Environment & Earth Science, ESRO and University of Pune.
Ford Foundation Pathway 02.5 lakhs (total receivable 5.0 lakhs)

Research Projects

i. Dr. Arif Shaik of Zoology department has received a grant for Rs. 90 lakhs for a minor research project entitled ‘Karyotype analysis of squirrel and shrew from Ahmednagar’ for the period 2010-12.

ii. Dr. Ralegansankar S.D. has received a grant of Rs. 1.8 lakhs for a minor research project entitled, ‘Nio absorption of heavy metals by treated and nontreated mushroom biomass’, from the UGC for the period 2011-2012.

Educational Tour

The postgraduate students of the department of English went on an educational tour to Hyderabad in February 2011. Mr. K. Swarnakant accompanied 15 students from MA I & II on the tour.

Visit of Rejendra Singh

Dr. Rajendra Singh, the man who ‘divined’ water in the arid regions of eastern Rajasthan by building water-harvesting structures, is the winner of the 2001 Ramon Magsaysay Award for Community Leadership. The non-governmental organisation Tarun Bharat Sangh (TBS), which Rajendra Singh leads as its general secretary, has since 1985 built some 4,500 earthen check dams, or johads, to collect rainwater in nearly 850 villages in 11 districts of the State. Dr. Singh visited the College in February 2011.

Visits Abroad

Dr. P.B. Shekhe, from the Department of Physics, was awarded a Scholarship to visit the University of Amsterdam, Netherlands, for a period of two months from 01st June to 31st July 2010. Under this staff exchange programme, he carried out research in the field of soft matter physics using computer simulation techniques.
NSS
Blood Donation Camp: A Blood donation camp was organized on 12th September 2010 by the College NSS unit in association with Jankalyan Blood Bank, Anagars. Fifty two bottles of blood were collected in the camp. Mr. Abhay Sheligram and Mr. Sharad Borude were the coordinators of the camp.
Camp: The College NSS unit organized a seven-day special winter camp in the village Manjar-Sumbha. 107 boy and girl volunteers participated in this camp. Activities in this camp included road construction of 1.060 km length, 947 pits for plantation, coloring of 1600 trunks of the trees, cleanliness awareness campaign etc. In addition to this, cultural activities and orientation programme for students were conducted. Mr. Pritamkumar Bedekar spoke on personality development and Mr. Madhav Jadhav on GIS mapping. Mr. Abhay Sheligram and Mr. Sharad Borude were the Programme Officers. Ms. Laxmi Prabheda Ughade, Ms. Hemlata Tare, Mr. Raviendra Mate and Mr. Gokuldas Galkwad assisted in organizing the camp.

Independence Day:
Ahmednagar College celebrated the 65th Independence Day with Principal Dr. R.J. Barnabas hoisting the national flag and delivering a speech to the faculty, students and the assembled citizens.

Republic Day:
The College celebrated the Republic Day of the nation.
Principal Dr. R.J. Barnabas hoisted the flag. NCC students presented a guard of honor. Teaching and non-teaching staff and students from all the three institutes of the RPHE society attended the program.

Founder’s Day:
On 22nd February 2011, Founder’s Day was celebrated by the staff and students of Ahmednagar College and its sister institutes. Dr. PS. Jacob, former Principal of Ahmednagar College, was the chief guest at the function.

Annual Prize Distribution:
Lieutenant General Noble Thamburaj, former vice chief of Army Staff was the chief guest at the Annual Prize Distribution function held on 31st January 2011. The chief guest of the function was presented with a the guard of honor by the College NCC cadets and the Army band. The College magazine, PRATIBIMBA, was released at the function. Prizes were distributed to achievers in academic, sports and co-curricular activities at the hands of the Chief guest.

Students Welfare Scheme
One day workshop on Personality development of girls: For the purpose of overall personality development of the girls, a one-day workshop was organized under the students welfare scheme on 08th February 2011. Mr. Abhay Sheligram coordinated this workshop. Dr. Anagha Pargamkar and Ms. Laxmi Koharagare, Dy.SP Ahmednagar, interacted with the students.

X) Dr Sudhakar Shelar: Marathi department has developed a website www.sudhakarselar.shelarpage.com containing number of references of Marathi literature useful for Marathi researcher.
Annual Day