



November 2009

Vol. 1 Issue 5

the mcc newsletter

Madras Christian College (Autonomous)
Tambaram, Chennai 600 059



Symposium

Sahitya Akademi, the National Academy of letters, which strives to enrich the literature of all Indian languages, organized a one-day Symposium in collaboration with the Department of Tamil on “Panmozhi Pulavar Ka Appadurai” at Anderson Hall.

The multi-lingual scholar's birth centenary was celebrated on 29th November, 2009. Dr. Moses Michael Faraday, Head, Department of Tamil welcomed the gathering. Dr. R. Mohan, Head of the Department of Tamil, Madurai-Kamaraj University delivered the presidential address. The Principal, Dr. R.W. Alexander Jesudasan, gave the special address. Dr. V. Gnanasigamani, former Professor of Tamil Christian Literature, University of Madras was felicitated. The keynote address was given by Dr. Rama Gurunathan, Member of Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi. Prof Arul Padmarajan gave the vote of thanks.

In the three academic sessions that were held, ten Tamil scholars presented their papers. The valedictory address was given by eminent Tamil Scholar Dr. Erode Tamizhanban and Mr. Srinivasan, of Sahitya Akademi proposed the vote of thanks.

The Tamil Department, which is known for its rich contribution to the development of Tamil literature has added another feather to its cap by organizing this Symposium.

Silver Joy for Campus School

The Campus School will be turning 25 this academic year. The school which had ten students and two staff in its first year in 1985, has come a long way since its inception. The school was initially housed in the St. Thomas's Hall annexe. The institution which is now recognized by the Government of Tamil Nadu is located on a four acre plot in the northeastern corner of the campus. The driving force behind the development of the school in its early years was Mrs. Anne Dayanandan.

The campus school is an inclusive school catering to the needs of children from all sections of society. Drawing its inspiration from the motto “Learning with joy and love of learning”, the school has been able to develop new models in education and foster creativity among its pupils. Classes in the school are named after national and international festivals like Ramzan, Deepavali, Baisakhi, Chusuk, Omisoka, Hina Matsuri and Pongal. Each class celebrates its festival at the appropriate time.

This year the school has taken its first step to achieve the long cherished dream of upgrading the school to a Senior Secondary School by including classes VI and VII. The school wishes to continue being a “model inclusive school” in Tambaram. It also offers a diploma course in ‘Montessori and Primary School Teaching’ in the MCC School of Continuing Education. Being a model program this course has attracted many aspiring teachers.

In July this year, Dr. Vasanthi Vijayakumar, Associate Professor in History took over as the Correspondent. Ms. Erin Clement is the Headmistress of the School and she has been with the institution since its inception.



Faculty Accomplishments

Mrs. Miriam Samuel gave the keynote address at the Global Learning Symposium organised by Dr. Julie Drolet of Thompson Rivers University, Canada and the Centre for International Social Work, MCC on the 19th November 2009 held at Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, Canada.

Dr. P. David Prabhakar, Department of Tamil, presented a paper on 'Computer Analysis for Tamil Verb Forms' in the 8th Tamil Internet Conference held at the University of Cologne, Germany, from 23rd to 25th October 2009. He also presented a paper on 'Language of Valluvar' in the National Seminar on 'Tamil Didactic Literature: Growth and Dimensions' organised by Indian Institute for Indian Languages at the Bharathidasan University College, Perambalur on 25th November 2009.

Mrs. V. Mahalakshmi, Department of Microbiology, presented a paper on "Biodegradation of Plastics" at the 7th National Level Conference on "Microbiology and its Impact on Environment Protection in Relation to Health and Geological Sustainability" organized by Indian Association of Applied Microbiologists held at SRM College of Arts and Science, Kattankulathur, Chennai on 11th and 12th December, 2009. She also won the second prize for her research presentation.

Ms. K. Kavitha, Department of Microbiology, who holds a post of Executive member in "Indian Association of Applied Microbiology", served as a Chairperson for the oral presentation of scientific paper session, held at SRM College of Arts and Science, Chennai on 11th and 12th of December 2009.

Dr. R. Wilfred Sugumar, Department of Chemistry, presented a paper on "Recycling using Household Chemicals" in 'The 6th International Conference on Hands on Science (HSCI 2009)- Science for All: Quest for Excellence' at the Science City, Ahmedabad from 27th to 31st October 2009.

Dr. K. Mohandoss, Department of Chemistry, who served as a faculty of the Department of Applied Sciences (Chemistry Section), Higher College of Technology, Muscat for a year returned to MCC on 13 November 2009.

Dr. P. S. Raghavan, Department of Chemistry, delivered a guest lecture on 'Designing New Electrical Conductors for Future' for the students of the Sairam Institute of Technology, Chennai on 24th October 2009.

Dr. R. Chandrasekaran, Department of Statistics, gave a talk on Classification and Cluster Analysis using SPSS in the National Workshop on Mathematical Softwares held at SRM University, Chennai from 22nd to 23rd October 2009.

Dr. Jayakishore Panda, Mr. Iyappan, Mrs. Nimmy Edwin, Mr. Prince Edwin Das, Mrs. Amirthavalli, Mrs. Jaba Priya and Dr. Mary Verghese of the Department of Chemistry participated in a workshop on "The Basics of Biotechnology for non-Biology faculty" organised by the Department of Zoology, Madras Christian College from 26th to 27th October 2009. The faculty also participated in the workshop conducted by the Department of Plant Biology and Plant Biotechnology, Madras Christian College on the same topic from 30th to 31st November 2009.

Mrs. T. Jaba Priya, Department of Chemistry, presented a paper on "Recycling using Household Chemicals" in the Sixth International Conference on 'Hands on Science (HSCI 2009) - Science for All: Quest for Excellence' at the Science City, Ahmedabad from 27th to 31st October 2009.

Dr. R. Chandrasekaran, Department of Statistics, gave a Special Address on the Usage of Statistical Software Tools for Engineering Problems at the National Seminar on Scope of Research, Methodology, Analysis and Evaluation held from 8th to 9th December 2009 organised by the Department of Biomedical Engineering, SSN College of Engineering, Chennai.

Dr. N. Gnanamalar David, Department of Mathematics, participated in the International Workshop on Combinatorial Image Analysis (IWCA 2009) at Cancun, Mexico from 24th to 27th November 2009 and presented a paper on "Parallel Contextual Hexagonal Array Grammars and Languages".

He also visited the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Bremen, Germany from 1st to 5th December, 2009 and gave a lecture in the area of theoretical computer science. He had a fruitful meeting with Prof. Hand-Jorg Kreowski and his colleagues.

Dr. D. Gnanaraj Thomas, Department of Mathematics, participated in the International Conference on Nature and Biology Inspired Computing Conference (NaBIC 2009) at PSG college of Technology, Coimbatore on 9th December 2009 and presented a research paper on "t- Communicating Iso-Array P System".

Ph.D Viva Voce

The Public Viva Voce of Ms. Deepthi, a doctoral research student working under the supervision of Prof. M. K. Viswanath, retired Professor of Mathematics was held on 28th October 2009. The Public Viva Voce of Ms. Geetha Lakshmi, a doctoral research student of Department of Mathematics was held on the 11th of November, 2009. The thesis was done under the supervision of Dr. K. G. Subramanian, retired Professor of Mathematics.

Alumni Chapter Visit



The Principal rounded off his visit to the southern chapters of the Alumni Association by visiting Visakhapatnam and Bangalore.

The alumni of the Visakhapatnam chapter met on the 28th of October and the Bangalore chapter on 28th November. Both the meetings saw many members of the alumni attending. The Principal, Dr. R. W. Alexander Jesudasan, the Joint Secretary of MCC Alumni Association, Dr. C. Selvaraj (Head, Department of Economics) and the Alumni & Public Relations Officer, Mr. John Rajkumar Devanboo were present at the meetings.

Enigma'09



The Department of Mathematics(SFS) organised 'Enigma'09, an inter-school mathematics competition on the 30th of November 2009. Twenty five schools from all over Chennai participated in the event. D.A.V school, Gopalapuram won the overall championship. Dr. Indira Raja Singh, Head of the Department of Mathematics of Loyola College was the chief guest.

New Appointments

Following were the appointments made in the month of November 2009. Mr. Kannan was appointed as Farm Manager, Mr. Jeba Praveen was appointed as House Keeper of the International Guest House and Mr. Kamalesh as Civil Supervisor.

World Quality Day

The Department of Statistics in association with the Indian Association for Productivity, Quality and Reliability (IAPQR) conducted a seminar on "Quality and Reliability of the Hard and Soft" as part of the World Quality Day program on 12th November 2009.

Visitors to Campus

Mr. Vinod Daniel, Head of the cultural heritage and science initiatives, Australian Museum, Sydney, visited the college to interact with the Department of History and Archaeology on the 19th of November 2009. He is also a board member of the Australia – India council.



Dr. Donald E. Messer, Executive Director of the Center for the Church and Global AIDS, Denver, USA visited the college on 20th November 2009. Dr. Messer, an alumnus of the college, is known for his work on global HIV/AIDS, world hunger, and clean water. He has written several books, the most popular of them being "Breaking the Conspiracy of Silence: Christian Churches and the Global AIDS Crisis". Dr. Messer was instrumental in arranging funds for the AIDS/HIV national conferences held in the college in 2006-07. During his visit to the campus, Dr. Messer also had wide-ranging discussions with faculty to explore new academic initiatives.

Training Program

The Department of Social Work and International Justice Mission jointly organised the Freedom Training Program for 12 families released from forced bonded labour. Mrs. Miriam Samuel, Head, Department of Social Work and Mr. Prince Solomon, Faculty, Department of Social Work addressed issues on family relationships and domestic violence. The training program was held from 23rd to 27th November 2009.

Social Work Project

The Department of Social Work was awarded 8 lakh rupees by the National Thermal Power Corporation for a Socio-Economic Survey at their project site in Marakkanam, Villupuram District, Tamil Nadu. Mr. Prince Annadurai, Faculty, Department of Social Work is the Principal Consultant for the project.



The shepherds went their hasty way,
And found the lowly stable-shed
Where the Virgin-Mother lay:
And now they checked their eager tread,
For to the Babe, that at her bosom clung,
A Mother's song the Virgin-Mother sung.

They told her how a glorious light,
Streaming from a heavenly throng,
Around them shone, suspending night!
While sweeter than a mother's song,
Blest Angels heralded the Savior's birth,
Glory to God on high! and Peace on Earth.

She listened to the tale divine,
And closer still the Babe she pressed:
And while she cried, the Babe is mine!
The milk rushed faster to her breast:
Joy rose within her, like a summer's morn;
Peace, Peace on Earth! the Prince of Peace is born.

Thou Mother of the Prince of Peace,
Poor, simple, and of low estate!
That strife should vanish, battle cease,
O why should this thy soul elate?
Sweet Music's loudest note, the Poet's story,
Didst thou ne'er love to hear of fame and glory?

Make it Snow!

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

We wish you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year

Christmas Schedule '09

- 19.12.09 SWAWSA-Christmas Programme
Anderson Hall 3.30pm
- 20.12.09 Holy Communion Service, English
Bp.Heber Chapel 7.30am
- 20.12.09 Holy Communion Service, Tamil
Bp.Heber Chapel 9.15am
- 21.12.09 Community Christmas Get-together
Anderson Hall 12.30pm
- 22.12.09 Campus Carol rounds
Campus 6.00pm
- 25.12.09 Christmas service, Common fellowship Breakfast
Bp.Heber Chapel 5.30am
- 27.12.09 Holy Communion Service, English
Bp.Heber Chapel 7.30am
- 31.12.09 New Year Covenant Service (Holy Communion)
Bp.Heber Chapel 11.30pm
- 03.01.10 Holy Communion Service, English
Bp.Heber Chapel 7.30am
- 04.01.10 Reopening day Holy Communion
Bp.Heber Chapel 7.30am
- 09.01.10 Retreat for Institutions
Anderson Hall 8.30am



Burger Europas

A group of twenty eight Germans as part of "Burger Europas" (Citizen Europe) visited the college on 20th November 2009. The visit was sponsored by the European Union and DAAD (German Academic Exchange Services). Young journalists, film makers, teachers and civil servants who were part of the team met the representatives of the College Union Society to discuss various challenges facing modern India.

Meeting with NAAC

The Principal Dr. R. W. Alexander Jesudasan and the IQAC (Internal Quality Assurance Cell) Co-ordinator Dr. C. Selvaraj (Head, Department of Economics) met the NAAC officials during their recent visit to Bangalore on 30th November 2009.

Editorial Board

Mr. John Rajkumar Devanboo (Convener)
Mr. Surendran Purushotham, Dr. James Kurian, Mr. Jojan Job,
Ms. Blessy, Rhea Abraham and Blaisen Bonney Tom

Mail news and forthcoming events to: apro@mcc.edu.in
Ph: 044 - 22397731

