

**Annual Report (2013-14):**

The Group Discussion Cell began the activities for this academic year by conducting an inaugural orientation programme for the Degree College Students. The same was well attended by the enthusiastic students. The elimination rounds for the Degree College students commenced immediately.

**Junior College:**

Given the enthusiastic response received from the students of the junior college, Rostrum Spectrum was organized by the GDC for the students of the junior college for the first time in the history of its activities. The Junior Intra college Rostrum Spectrum was organized with a view to enhance the public speaking abilities of the junior college aspirants so as to empower them better for the times to come.

The Chairperson of the GDC, Prof. (Mrs.) Leena Ramani addressed over 120 students who had registered for the GDC by delivering a talk on the importance of public speaking along with the nuances of public speaking including the dos and don'ts in the same.

A series of Debates, Elocutions and Group Discussions were conducted as a part of the Junior Intra College Rostrum Spectrum. The overwhelming response of the students resulted in several quality sessions of elimination rounds in each of the debates, elocutions as well as group discussions. After the difficult elimination rounds were the semi-final rounds of each. All these rounds of eliminations and the semi-finals were conducted exhaustively from the month of August onwards. The judges for these rounds included erudite professors of the Junior College and Degree College of R. A. Podar College as well as eminent ex-students of the college.

Following this was the Grand Finale of the Junior Intra College Rostrum Spectrum which was held on the 16th of September, 2013 (Monday.) The Top 10 discussants battled it out in a war of words during the Group Discussion Finale, the Top 2 teams competed for the coveted award of being the Best Junior College Debate Team for the year 2013-14 and the Top 5 speakers tussled to emerge as The Best Speaker of the Junior College for the year 2013-14 during the exciting Grand Finale.

The Grand Finale was graced by Mrs. Lalita Paranjpe (Retired HOD English Dept. Ruia College), Mrs. Vidya Hattangadi (Former Director Allana Institute Of Management) and Ms. Rita D'soza (Retired Vice Principal of R A Podar College) who not only judged the budding young orators but also gave them plenty of food for thought with their words of inspiration and wisdom.

**Senior College:**

Similarly, due to the overwhelming response received from the F.Y.B.Com. students, 12 rounds of Group Discussion Eliminations with 8-10 participants in each round were conducted. The topics for the same ranged from current issues like the current Rupee

Crisis and generic topics relating to general Economics and Finance to abstract topics like Black and Grey; providing a wide exposure to the discussants.

Post the extensive elimination rounds, 20 deserving discussants qualified for the semifinal rounds. 2 semifinal rounds were conducted with 10 discussants in each semifinal. 9 worthy discussants were shortlisted and selected as finalists of the F.Y.B.Com. Intra-collegiate Group Discussion Competition.

The Final of the Intra-collegiate Group Discussion Competition for F.Y.B.Com. was conducted on 21st September, 2013. The same had a packed audience who were enthralled with the Final Discussion on an abstract topic which witnessed several unique and innovative ideas being presented by the finalists. The top 3 finalists who scored the most were adjudicated as the best discussants of F.Y.B.Com.

The judges of these rounds were ex-students of our college and ex-office bearers of The Group Discussion Cell with varying formats and durations depending on the topic, number of discussants, discretion of the judges and the round in consideration.

Correspondingly, elimination, semi-final and final rounds were conducted for the students of S.Y.B.Com. and T.Y.B.Com. as well.

### **Inter-Collegiate Activities:**

#### **ROSTRUM SPECTRUM 2013-14 | ONE FOR ALL, ALL FOR ONE:**

The 6 winners of the Intra Degree-College Group Discussion Competitions got the esteemed opportunity to represent the college in Rostrum Spectrum 2013-14 | One for All, All for One, Mumbai's only exclusive inter collegiate literary festival which was conducted on the 11th of January, 2014 (Saturday.) During the same, 3 rounds of Group Discussions were conducted for students from across the city including colleges like NMIMS, Jai Hind, KEM Medical Institute, Seth GSMC, D. J. Sanghavi College, Mithibai College, S.I.E.S. Engineering College to name a few.

The Elimination Rounds commenced at 9:00 A.M. which were judged by past office bearers of The Group Discussion Cell. The Final round witnessed 9 of the best discussants of the city deeply discussing on the topic 'FDI in Education – A hindrance to Inclusive Growth.' The Final was judged by Mrs. Shilpa (Founder of V Shilpa Foundation) and Mrs. Ami Mody (Trinity Certified Professional and Trainer in Public speaking & dramatics.) The event was a grand success as promised and all the participants had an elevating experience during the same.

### **MONETA 2013:**

Moneta 2013, India's largest financial festival was hosted by the college from 6th to 9th of December, 2013 which witnessed over 40 colleges from across the country participating in the various competitions, seminars and workshops conducted during the event.

The Competitions – The Boardroom Challenge was presented by the Group Discussion Cell of the college. The Boardroom Challenge witnessed a variant form of Group Discussion wherein the discussants assumed the role of a Board Member each and tackled various situations that were posed to him/her while negotiating and convincing the other Board Members in his/her favour. The Final Round of The Boardroom Challenge was judged by the esteemed panel comprising of dignitaries from the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (Mr. S. N. Ananthasubramaniam – President, Mr. Gopalachalam – Dean, Mr. S. V. Subramaniam – Chairman of the Secretarial Standards Board, Mrs. Shashikala – Faculty.)

All the activities conducted by the Group Discussion Cell during the academic year 2013-14 for the Junior College, Degree College, Rostrum Spectrum 2013-14 and Moneta 2013 were enlightening, enriching, educational, entertaining, heartening and informative for the participants and organizers alike.



