Research, Development & Consultancy Cell
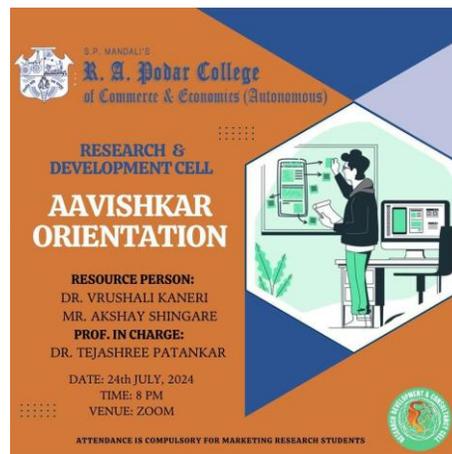
Annual Report-2024-25

Teacher In-Charge: Dr. (Mrs.) Tejashree Patankar

Student Secretary: Ms. Aditi Nikam

About the forum:

The Research and Development Cell at Podar, aims to help its students understand the importance of research. The cell aims to develop a questioning attitude, foster and nurture the curious young minds of students and help them develop a strong research base that would help them in their future endeavors. "Necessity is the mother of all invention" holds to the core of the Research and Development Cell and with that same spirit the cell wishes to encourage the students of R.A. Podar College of Commerce & Economics to step up and undertake research on a multitude of topics.

Event 1: Aavishkar Convention Orientation

Day & date: 24th July, 2024

Time & venue: 8 pm onwards, online

No. of Attendees: 33

Description:

Aavishkar Orientation is an introductory session organized to acquaint students with Aavishkar, the intercollegiate research convention held under the University of Mumbai. The orientation typically highlights the objectives of the convention, guidelines for participation, and the various categories and disciplines available for research submissions. It also serves to motivate students to engage in innovative and interdisciplinary research, providing an overview of the benefits and opportunities that come with participating in such a prestigious academic event.
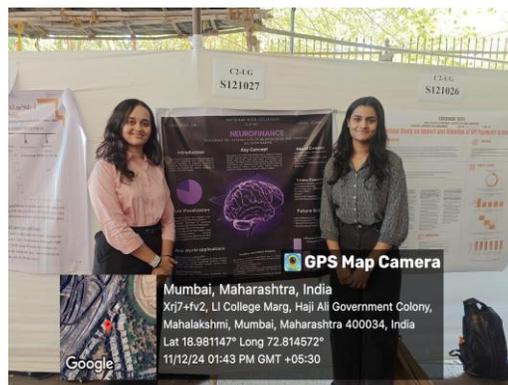
Event 2: Inquest 4.0

Day & date: 27th and 28th September 2024 **Time & venue**: 11:59 am onwards, H.R college **No. of Participants:** 10 male, 10 female

Description:

Inquest 4.0 was a research-based fest organized by H.R. College, where students from our college participated actively and achieved remarkable success, securing the 2nd podium and winning several awards across various categories.

Event 5: Aavishkar 2024-25

Day & date: 11th December 2024

Time & venue: 9 am onwards, Mumbai University, Churchgate

No. of Participants: 12 male, 8 female

Description:

Aavishkar, a prestigious university-level competition, provided a platform for students to showcase their research and presentation skills. The event centered around research papers and presentations, fostering an environment for intellectual exploration and exchange. One of the defining features of Avishkar was the diversity of topics presented by participating teams. Ranging from scientific breakthroughs to social phenomena, the competition captured the breadth of academic interests among the student community. Topics such as Neurofinance: Exploring the Intersection of Neuroscience and Financial Decision Making, Data Privacy in Digital Commerce, and Public-Private Partnership Models in Enhancing Elderly Care Services in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region at the 19th Aavishkar Research Convention (Zonal Round) organized by the University of Mumbai.

Event 6: Guru Nanak College of Arts, Science & Commerce (Autonomous) organized an Inter-Collegiate Research Paper Presentation Competition
Day & date: February 8, 2025

Time & venue:Guru Nanak College of Arts, Science & Commerce (Autonomous)
No. of Attendees: 15
Description:

Guru Nanak College of Arts, Science & Commerce (Autonomous) organized an Inter-Collegiate Research Paper Presentation Competition on February 8, 2025, focusing on "Digital Transformation in Marketing." The event, hosted by the Department of Commerce, provided a platform for students to showcase their research. Members of the Research, Development & Consultancy (RDC) Cell and students from R.A. Podar College of Commerce & Economics participated and won the Consolation Prize, reflecting their commitment to academic excellence and research innovation.

Event 7: Anvikshanam
Day & date: 3rd August, 2024

Time & venue: 8 am onwards, College Premises

No. of Attendees: 1000 Students from 35 Schools, (533 Male, 467 Female)

Description:
Anvikshanam is a prominent fest aimed at advancing intellectual discourse and social engagement in research through its two distinct phases: one for colleges and one for schools. Anvikshanam for

Schools (AFS), conducted on 3rd August 2024, marked the inaugural phase of this fest's School Edition. This segment was specifically designed to engage school students in critical thinking and research activities, encouraging them to explore and present on various topics. The purpose of AFS was to introduce young minds to the value of research, foster a spirit of inquiry, and provide a platform for their ideas and insights. The Theme for AFS was "Drishtikon: Vision of Illumination." This theme guided the event's focus on fostering a deeper understanding and innovative perspectives among young participants. The theme aimed to illuminate various facets of knowledge and inquiry, encouraging students to explore new ideas and contribute to the broader discourse through their research and presentations.

Events conducted are as follows:

1) Research Paper: The Research Paper event was conducted as a team activity involving four participants per team: one teacher and three students. Teams were required to prepare a research paper adhering to the prescribed format provided by Team Anvikshanam. This format included conducting interviews, surveys, and field visits, among other research methods. Each team developed a research paper on interdisciplinary topics relevant to their syllabus. Following the preparation of their papers, participants created a PowerPoint presentation to explain their findings to a panel of judges. The presentation required them to clearly articulate their research process and conclusions. A panel of judges was set up to evaluate the research papers and

presentations. The panel assessed the clarity, depth, and originality of the research, as well as the effectiveness of the presentation.

Judges:
 i) Dr. Dixita Dave Khan
ii) Dr. Kirti Nakhare

2) Quiz: The Quiz event was structured into three distinct rounds, each designed to test various aspects of participants' knowledge and skills.
Elimination Round: This initial round was a pen-and-paper activity where participants were given an outline of a story with certain gaps. Questions were presented via a PowerPoint presentation, and participants needed to fill in the missing information to complete the story accurately. The participants who completed the story in the shortest time with the most accurate answers advanced to the next round.
Round 1: In this round, participants engaged in two games: Jumping Monkey and Fletters. In Jumping Monkey, participants used a device to launch monkeys onto a tree. Successfully hanging a monkey allowed them to answer a question. In Fletters, participants formed five-letter words from letters displayed on cards.Each correct answer earned points, and teams with the highest scores qualified for the subsequent round.
Round 2: The final round was Jeopardy-style, where participants selected categories and

answered questions based on their choices. This round featured a mix of rapid-fire questions, audio-visual queries, and a buzzer round. Participants selected from a list of categories with varying point values, where higher points indicated greater difficulty.

3) Cluedo: The Cluedo event was designed to challenge participants' research and problem-solving skills through a series of structured tasks. Each participant was provided with a research case file containing various topics with incomplete details. They were also given a map of the college premises and clues regarding the locations of volunteers stationed throughout the campus. Participants utilized the map to locate the volunteers, from whom they needed to gather the missing information to complete their research case files. To obtain this information, participants were required to perform specific tasks as outlined in the event instructions. This process had to be completed within a stipulated time limit. Once the time limit expired, participants reconvened in the assigned classroom. They were then given 15 minutes to compile the information they had gathered, finalize their research case files, and prepare for their presentations. After this preparation period, participants presented their completed case files to their peers and judges. They were also required to field questions from other participants, demonstrating their ability to respond effectively and articulate their findings clearly. **Judge:**
i) Mrs. Maya Gopal

4) Devil's Advocate:
The Devil's Advocate event was conducted as a group discussion activity designed to test participants' debating and critical thinking skills. Prior to the event, participants were provided with a list of topics and were expected to prepare arguments both for and against each topic. On the day of the event, the organizing team announced the final topic, and each participant was

assigned a position, either for or against the topic. The discussion commenced with each participant presenting their arguments from their assigned point of view. Following the initial presentations, a rebuttal round was held, allowing participants to challenge and counter each other's arguments. A situational twist was introduced, which required participants to address a specific scenario relevant to the discussion topic. In their concluding remarks, participants were required to incorporate their responses to the given situation, while also addressing the arguments presented during the discussion. This twist aimed to test their ability to integrate new information and adapt their arguments accordingly.
Judges: i) Mrs. Kalpana Shah

ii) Mr. Amandeep Oberoi
iii) Mr. Kedar Kakotay
iv) Mrs. Molina Thakur

5) MUN: The Model United Nations (MUN) event provided participants with an opportunity to engage in role-playing as delegates representing various nations. Each participant was assigned a specific country and was required to present and advocate for that nation's perspective on a

range of topics. The event featured two distinct committees, each focusing on different areas of international discussion:

• DISEC (Disarmament and International Security Committee): This committee addressed issues related to global disarmament and international security. Participants engaged in discussions on policies and strategies to promote peace and security among nations.

• OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development): This committee focused on economic development and cooperation among member countries. Participants deliberated on economic policies and strategies to foster international economic collaboration and growth. Each committee comprised 15 participants, who debated the topics from their assigned nation's viewpoint. The discussions aimed to simulate real-world diplomatic negotiations and foster a deeper understanding of international relations and global issues.

Judges:

i) Ms. Nidhi Kamlapurkar
ii) Ms. Dhwani Gaikwad
iii) Mr. Harshwardhan K
iv) Mr. Kirti Nakhare

6) PR Events:

The PR Events were designed as engaging and informative activities aimed at providing both educational and recreational experiences for students. A total of 500 students participated in various events, including group discussions and fun-and-learn activities.

a) Group Discussion: Participants were assigned topics on the spot and engaged in discussions, exploring various viewpoints and arguments related to the given topics. This event fostered critical thinking and effective communication.

b) Mafia: In this activity, participants drew chits to determine their roles, with one participant secretly assigned as the mafia. The remaining participants had to discuss among themselves and vote to identify and eliminate the mafia member from the group.

c) Spin the Wheel: A custom-built wheel, created by Team Anvikshanam, featured various tasks. Participants spun the wheel and completed the task it landed on, adding an element of surprise and spontaneity to the event.

d) Save Your Castle: Participants were divided into two teams, each consisting of two members. One team constructed a castle by stacking cups, while the opposing team attempted to destroy the castle by throwing balls at it. This event emphasized teamwork and coordination.

e) Heads Up: In this game, Team Anvikshanam prepared various placards with words or phrases. Participants took turns enacting the words or phrases on the placards while others guessed what was being enacted, promoting creativity and quick thinking.

Institute Social Responsibility (ISR) Activities:

Anvikshanam incorporated two impactful Institute Social Responsibility (ISR) activities.
1) The first activity involved a cow feeding initiative in Ulhasnagar, where participants engaged in the care and nourishment of cows, reflecting a commitment to animal welfare. Anvikshanam's student-run ISR initiative successfully organized a visit to Swami Shanti Prakash Gaushala in Ulhasnagar. under the guidance of the teacher in charge, Ms. Tejashree Patankar, students distributed a generous donation of 400 dozen bananas and 100 chapatis to the 1,800 cows residing there, ensuring the animals were well-fed and cared for.
2) The second ISR activity was a visit to a blind school, aimed at supporting and interacting with visually impaired students, demonstrating the fest's dedication to community service and inclusion. Anvikshanam successfully conducted a ISR initiative at the Kamla Mehta Dadar Blind School, aimed at providing immediate relief and fostering a long-lasting impact on the lives of visually impaired students.

Seminar for School Students:

Mr. Sushil Mungekar, a renowned speaker, education transformist, and entrepreneur, honored the occasion of Anvikshanam for Schools (AFS) with his presence, delivering a seminar that left a lasting impact on all attendees. The seminar, titled "Think Innovation," centered on the critical role of innovation in entrepreneurship. Mr. Mungekar eloquently discussed how innovation serves as the driving force behind successful entrepreneurial ventures, urging the young minds present to embrace creativity, research, and forward-thinking as essential components of their future success. His insightful words were met with great appreciation, and his guidance was warmly received by all participants, marking his presence as one of the key highlights of the event.

Core Team of Anvikshanam:

Ms. Swara Bhanushali Chairperson Mst.
Hemin Motta Secretary
Ms. Anvitha Raghavan Treasurer
Ms. Kavleen Kaur Vice-Chairperson (Content)
Mst. Atharva Chindarkar Vice-Chairperson (Content)
Mst. Kaushik Lad Vice-Chairperson (Promotions)
Ms. Mahima Pagdhare Vice-Chairperson (Marketing)
Mst. Siddhant Mohite Vice-Chairperson (Working)